

BOOK NOTICES.

CATALOGUE OF CANADIAN PLANTS. PART VI, MUSCI, pp. 295. By JOHN MACOUN, M.A., F.L.S., F.R.S.C., Montreal, 1892.

In the preceding parts, I. to V., of this very valuable work Prof. Macoun has enumerated the various species and varieties of flowering plants, ferns, and fern-allies, native and alien, to be found within the Dominion of Canada and Newfoundland, and has given very fully the geographical distribution of each so far as this is known. The total number of flowering plants, ferns and fern-allies therein recorded being 3,209 species with numerous varieties. Of these 2,340 are Exogens, 771 are Endogens and 98 are Acrogens, added to which is a list of 165 Hepaticæ or scale mosses. The part under review which treats of the Musci or real Mosses is a phenomenal work, one that has probably never been excelled. The commencement of this great undertaking more than a quarter of a century ago, must have been surrounded with difficulties that could only be overcome by great courage and determination. Still, the author has persevered and after 31 years of unremitting labour he is able to present to the scientific world a record of which he and his fellow countrymen have a right to feel proud. To go into minuter details of so voluminous a work would require more space than can be allowed, so that a mere summary can be given. In the present part, Prof. Macoun records 1,070 species and varieties as the total Moss Flora of Canada, so far as this is at present known, giving a much larger record for Canada alone than is given by Lesquereux and James in their valuable "Manual of the Mosses of North America," which included not only the United States, but also Canada; their record being 1,020 species and varieties. But of the 1,070 species and varieties given by Prof. Macoun, 400 are not recorded in "The Manual," so that the author has raised the Moss Flora of America from 1,020 to over 1,420 species and varieties. And what is even more remarkable is this, that of the 400 additional moss plants 200 are new to science,—have never before been recorded,—hence it may be said with truth that Professor Macoun's work has created an epoch in the Bryology of North America. But what stamps this work with even

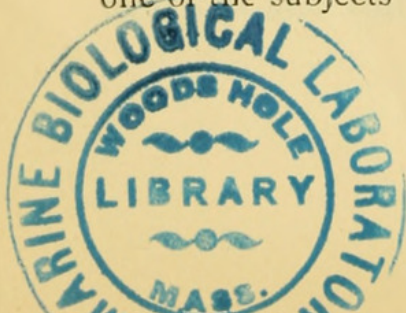
greater value, is this, that Prof. Macoun has not depended, for the determination of his plants, on his own unaided judgment, but has submitted them for confirmation to some of our greatest bryological specialists, such as Profs. Lesquereux and James, Mr. Coe. E. Austin, and Drs. Kindberg, Carl Mueller, Venturi and Warnstoff, thus making assurance more assured. Increased value is given to the work by the full and able descriptions of the new species, and by the many personal notes of the author on those little points of difference that indicate close observation and which are so very helpful to the student. The author is to be congratulated on the thoroughness of his work. The work he had set himself to do was expressed in the first sentence of the preface to Part I. : "The purpose of this work is to place in the hands of Canadian botanists, in a connected form, the knowledge so far obtained, of the extent and distribution of the Flora of Canada." This has been carried out even beyond the author's first expectation, and he has presented to the botanists, not only of Canada, but of the world, a work that will command their respect and admiration, a work that must form the basis of all future floras of Canada, and the author will be esteemed as one who did his work ably and well, carrying out to the fullest the Preacher's precept, "Whatsoever thy hand findeth to do, do it with thy might."

J. E. BAGNALL,

A. L. S.

A TEXT-BOOK OF AGRICULTURAL ENTOMOLOGY, by Eleanor A. Ormerod, F. R. Met. Soc., &c. Small 8vo, pp. 238. Second Edition, London, 1892.

We have much pleasure in announcing the publication, under the above title, of a new and much enlarged edition of Miss Ormerod's Guide to Methods of Insect Life and Means of Prevention of Insect Ravage. During the last decade, owing almost entirely to the efforts of our eminent and highly esteemed corresponding member, the authoress of this work, Economic Entomology has become recognized in England as an important branch of practical agriculture and is now one of the subjects of agricultural instruction, which is being brought





Bagnall, James E. 1892. "Catalogue of Canadian Plants, Part VI, Musci, by John Macoun [Review]." *The Ottawa naturalist* 6(7), 121–122.

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