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I. Report On Vegetation During The Month Of April 1895

Robert Lindsay Curator

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MEETING OF THE SOCIETY,

Thursday, May 9, 1895.

SYMINGTON GRIEVE, Vice-President, in the Chair.

The desirability of altering the hour of some of the meetings of the Society, to suit the convenience of country members, having been brought before the Council, the question was submitted to the members at this meeting for consideration and discussion. Ultimately it was resolved, on the motion of Professor BAYLEY BALFOUR, seconded by Mr. SYMINGTON GRIEVE, to refer the matter back to the Council, with an instruction to obtain a direct expression of opinion from the whole Society by post card or otherwise.

Mr. TAGG exhibited from the Museum of the Royal Botanic Garden specimens of pine weevil (*Hylobius abietis*) upon spruce, received from Mr. GUNN, Strathpeffer, and taken from a young plantation at Fornabrock, which it had greatly destroyed.

Mr. ROBERT TURNBULL commented upon hybrids in flower between the swede turnip and the green kail, which had been grown in the Royal Botanic Garden from the plants exhibited by him to the Society at the meeting in January.

Professor BAYLEY BALFOUR exhibited a monstrous flower of *Cypripedium*, in which the right labellar staminode had developed as a perfect stamen with filament and two-lobed anther, whilst the two normally perfect stamens were also developed to form distinct filaments bearing anthers.

Mr. CAMPBELL sent for exhibition from his garden at Ledaig, Argyllshire, blooms of the following plants:—*Orchis mascula*, *Trollius europæus*, *Lychnis diurna*, *Potentilla alba*, *Pyrus japonica alba*, *Azalea pontica*, *Erica mediterranea*, *Escallonia macrantha*, *Narcissus poeticus*, and *Phlox setacea*.

A collection of alpine plants in flower from the Royal Botanic Garden was exhibited, and also the following plants in flower:—*Petrea volubilis*, *Clavija Ernstii*, *Ruellia formosa*, *Begonia* "President Carnot," *Masdevallia ignea*, *M. amabilis*, and *Mesembryanthemum pugioniforme*.

Mr. CUTHBERT DAY exhibited some barley corns, which, after being steeped for the usual time before malting, were frozen hard for fourteen days and then carefully thawed, and when placed subsequently in condition suitable for germination had sprouted.

A collection of dried plants from South Australia, sent by Mr. KILGOUR, Portobello, was exhibited.

The following papers were read:—

NOTES FROM THE ROYAL BOTANIC GARDEN, EDINBURGH.

I. REPORT ON VEGETATION DURING THE MONTH OF APRIL 1895. By ROBERT LINDSAY, Curator.

During the month of April vegetation generally made fairly good progress, particularly during the latter portion of the month. The continuance of cold winds, together with a succession of frosty nights during the early part of the month, prevented any very rapid progress from being made, consequently the season is still very late. There was no very marked change in the leafage of deciduous trees till the 20th of the month, after which time the foliage began to develop rapidly, in marked contrast to their condition at the same date last year, when the hawthorn, for instance, was not only in full leaf, but in

flower also, as early as the 29th of April. Fruit trees and bushes, such as pear, apple, cherry, currant, and gooseberry, look very promising, being well set with flower buds, and, the season being so late, they are more likely to escape injury from late frost, and thus bear good crops of fruit.

On the rock-garden 133 species of alpine and herbaceous plants came into flower during the month, as against 153 for April of last year. Among the more interesting were:—*Anemone nemorosa*, var. *Robinsoniana*, *A. Pulsatilla*, var. *bracteata*, *Androsace Laggeri*, *Arnebia echiioides*, *Aretia Vitaliana*, *Aubrietia Hendersoni*, *Bryanthu serectus*, *Corydalis angustifolia*, *C. nobilis*, *C. Scouleri*, *Dentaria pentaphylla*, *Dielytra formosa*, *Doronicum caucasicum*, *Erythronium giganteum*, *Helonias bullata*, *Iberis petraea*, *Lathyrus vernus*, *L. cyaneus*, *Menziesia caerulea*, *M. empetrifolius*, *Narcissus calathinus*, *N. cyclamineus*, *N. juncifolius*, *Podophyllum Emodi*, *Primula ciliata purpurata* seedlings, *Ranunculus amplexicaulis*, *Rhododendron ciliatum*, *R. Grievei*, *Sanguinaria canadensis*, *Saxifraga imbricata*, *S. oppositifolia*, *S. retusa bryoides*, *Thlaspi alpestre*, *Soldanella alpina*, *S. montana*, *Trillium erectum*, *T. grandiflorum*, *Xanthorrhiza apiifolia*, *Synthyris reniformis*, etc.

Of the forty spring-flowering plants whose dates of flowering are annually recorded, the following sixteen came into flower during April, viz.:—*Tussilago nivea*, on 3rd April; *T. alba*, 5th; *Scilla bifolia taurica*, 5th; *Mandragora officinalis*, 6th; *Erythronium Dens-canis*, 8th; *Corydalis solida*, 9th; *Draba aizoides*, 10th; *Narcissus Pseudo-Narcissus*, 10th; *Hyoscyamus Scopolia*, 11th; *Adonis vernalis*, 11th; *Ribes sanguineum*, 13th; *Sisyrinchium grandiflorum*, 18th; *S. grandiflorum album*, 15th; *Symphytum caucasicum*, 16th; *Aubrietia grandiflora*, 16th; *Omphalodes verna*, 22nd; and *Fritillaria imperialis*, on 5th May: thus completing the list which was completed last year on the 25th of March.

REGISTER OF SPRING-FLOWERING PLANTS, SHOWING DATES
OF FLOWERING, AT THE ROYAL BOTANIC GARDEN, EDINBURGH,
DURING THE YEARS 1894 AND 1895.

No.	Names of Plants.	First Flowers opened.	
		1894.	1895.
1	<i>Adonis vernalis</i> ,	March 24	April 11
2	<i>Arabis alba</i> ,	February 20	March 27
3	<i>Aubrietia grandiflora</i> ,	March 16	April 16
4	<i>Bulbocodium vernum</i> ,	January 12	March 13
5	<i>Corydalis solida</i> ,	March 22	April 9
6	<i>Corylus Avellana</i> ,	February 8	March 7
7	<i>Crocus susianus</i> ,	" 6	" 15
8	" <i>vernus</i> ,	" 12	" 17
9	<i>Daphne Mezereum</i> ,	" 19	" 25
10	<i>Dondia Epipactis</i> ,	Dec. 28 (1893)	" 11
11	<i>Draba aizoides</i> ,	March 14	April 10
12	<i>Eranthis hyemalis</i> ,	January 19	March 1
13	<i>Erythronium Dens-canis</i> ,	March 14	April 8
14	<i>Fritillaria imperialis</i> ,	" 25	May 5
15	<i>Galanthus nivalis</i> ,	January 16	March 1
16	" <i>plicatus</i> ,	" 22	" 4
17	<i>Hyoscyamus Scopolia</i> ,	March 22	April 11
18	<i>Iris reticulata</i> ,	February 19	March 25
19	<i>Leucojum vernum</i> ,	January 18	" 10
20	<i>Mandragora officinalis</i> ,	February 26	April 6
21	<i>Narcissus Pseudo-Narcissus</i> ,	March 20	" 10
22	" <i>pumilus</i> ,	" 6	March 27
23	<i>Nordmannia cordifolia</i> ,	February 14	" 16
24	<i>Omphalodes verna</i> ,	March 13	April 22
25	<i>Orobis vernus</i> ,	" 6	March 28
26	<i>Rhododendron atrovirens</i> ,	January 24	" 26
27	" <i>Nobleanum</i> ,	February 3	" 31
28	<i>Ribes sanguineum</i> ,	March 19	April 13
29	<i>Scilla bifolia</i> ,	February 5	March 30
30	" <i>alba</i> ,	March 6	" 30
31	" <i>præcox</i> ,	January 22	" 11
32	" <i>sibirica</i> ,	" 22	" 18
33	" <i>taurica</i> ,	March 6	April 5
34	<i>Sisyrinchium grandiflorum</i> ,	" 18	" 18
35	" <i>album</i> ,	" 12	" 15
36	<i>Symphytum caucasicum</i> ,	" 22	" 16
37	<i>Symplocarpus foetidus</i> ,	February 13	March 24
38	<i>Tussilago alba</i> ,	March 2	April 5
39	" <i>fragrans</i> ,	Dec. 25 (1893)	March 15
40	" <i>nivea</i> ,	February 19	April 3