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IV. Report on the Open-Air Vegetation at the Royal Botanic Garden, Edinburgh

James M'Nab

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puckered, and made a bad quality of tea. My attention is specially directed to reduce the amount of coarse teas as far as possible. Although the past season was most unfavourable, the low class teas of 1873 are 25 to 30 per cent. less than in 1872."

IV. *Report on the Open-Air Vegetation at the Royal Botanic Garden, Edinburgh.* By JAMES M'NAB, Curator.

On February 12th I issued my first list of selected spring plants in flower. From the large number noticed at last meeting, I can only add eight to that list, viz. :—

	1874.	1873.
<i>Narcissus pumilus</i>	Feb. 20	Mar. 14
<i>Scilla bifolia</i> , major	" 28	" 16
<i>Erythronium Dens-canis</i>	Mar. 1	" 22
<i>Scilla bifolia</i> , alba	" 2	" 28
<i>Puschkinia scilloides</i>	" 2	" 22
<i>Ribes sanguineum</i>	" 3	" 24
<i>Scilla bifolia</i> , rubra	" 3	" 20
<i>Muscari botryoides</i>	" 8	April 5

Owing to the comparative mildness of February, many spring plants came into bloom besides those recorded in the selected list. I lay on the table 156 species and varieties of trees, shrubs, and herbs, picked in flower on March 10. Of these, ninety may be considered winter and spring species, the remaining sixty-one summer and autumn plants, whose flowering has been prolonged owing to the mild winter. The temperatures during the past month have been much the same as those noted on February 12. The thermometer was fourteen times at or below freezing point, exactly as in the previous month; the lowest markings being on the mornings of February 19, 20, and 23, and on March 10, 11, and 12—indicating respectively 27°, 26°, 25°, 26°, 22°, and 26°. During this period the highest morning temperatures were on February 14, 21, 22, and 27, and on March 5 and 8—indicating respectively 39°, 40°, 39°, 37°, 41°, and 41°. Vegetation is still about eighteen days in advance of last year, as may be seen above, though not so much as it was in February.