Report on Temperatures and Open-Air Vegetation at the Royal Botanic Garden, Edinburgh, from November 1881 till July 1882. Compiled from Notes read at Meetings of the Society

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To cite this article: John Sadler Curator F.R.Ph.S. (1883) Report on Temperatures and Open-Air Vegetation at the Royal Botanic Garden, Edinburgh, from November 1881 till July 1882. Compiled from Notes read at Meetings of the Society, Transactions of the Botanical Society of Edinburgh, 14:1-4, 371-374, DOI: [10.1080/03746608309468428](https://doi.org/10.1080/03746608309468428)

To link to this article: <http://dx.doi.org/10.1080/03746608309468428>

Published online: 01 Dec 2010.

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peculiar structure of the calyx; but the leaflets are not coriaceous, the pedicles longer, the calyces twice as long, thus reaching much higher up to the corolla, and the teeth of the column are neither rounded nor retuse-truncate; the fruits are likely also different.

This noble and singular tree is dedicated to Dr. Rudolph Schiffner of Vienna, who for many years has been the president of the great and highly scientific Pharmaceutical Society of Austria.

Report on Temperatures and Open-Air Vegetation at the Royal Botanic Garden, Edinburgh, from November 1881 till July 1882. Compiled from Notes read at Meetings of the Society. By the late JOHN SADLER, F.R.Ph.S., Curator.

The forest trees and shrubs flowered remarkably well during the early summer of 1881, and most of them produced fruit. The garden suffered very little from the great storm of October 1881.

In *November* 1881 the thermometer was seven times at or below 32°. On two occasions it stood at 25°. The dates of these low temperatures were the 1st, 2nd, 4th, 8th, 18th, and 26th.

Upwards of thirty species and varieties of plants were in full flower in the rock garden; Christmas roses blooming for two or three weeks.

In *December* the thermometer was at or below the freezing-point on sixteen occasions. The greatest frost was on the 22nd and 23rd, when 26° and 23° were respectively registered. These were relatively high readings, when compared with the same month, as well as that of November 1880.

In *January* 1882 the thermometer fell below the freezing-point on six occasions, as compared with twenty-seven occasions in January 1881. On the 4th and on the 29th, 28° and 26° were respectively registered.

In the rock garden fifty-two species and varieties of plants had flowered, including fourteen species of Hellebore, as well as mignonette, besides crocuses, pansies, and roses.

In *February* the thermometer was at or below the freezing-point on eight occasions, as against twenty in 1881. The lowest readings for the month were—1st, 32°; 2nd, 29°; 3rd, 30°; 7th, 28°; 9th, 29°; 16th, 29°; 19th, 30°; 28th, 32°. The three highest morning readings (9 A.M.) were on the 8th and 9th (48° and 51° respectively).

Forty-seven species and varieties of plants came into flower in the rock garden, amongst them were *Galanthus plicatus*, *G. Elwesii*, *Crocus biflorus*, *C. etruscus*, *C. imperati*, *Leucojum vernum*, *Bulbocodium vernum*, &c. There also flowered *Helleborus colchicus*, white and blue Hepaticas, the Botanic Garden purple variety of the common primrose, as well as yaws, and certain species of *Alnus*, hazel, &c.

In *March* the thermometer was at or below the freezing-point on seven different occasions. The dates were as follows:—1st, 32°; 7th, 30°; 21st, 31°; 22nd, 30°; 23rd, 29°; 25th, 32°; and 26th, 32°.

Vegetation was six weeks in advance on the 9th inst. of what it was at the same period in 1881 in the rock garden; and specimens of the following plants in flower were exhibited at the March meeting of the Botanical Society.

Sisyrinchium grandiflorum (white and purple).	Viola species, yellow variety.
Iris reticulata.	Lithospermum prostratum.
Helleborus foetidus.	Andromeda calyculata latifolia.
„ angustifolius.	„ media.
„ guttatus.	Omphalodes verna.
„ orientalis.	Arabis procurrens.
„ purpurascens minor.	„ albida.
„ viridis.	Thlaspi prostrata.
„ olympicus albus.	Symplocarpus foetidus.
„ colchicus.	Anemone coronaria.
Hepatica angulosa.	„ fulgens.
Daphne Mezereum.	Primula denticulata.
Draba aizoon.	„ dark variety.
„ aizoides.	„ intermedia.
Dentaria enneaphylla.	Saxifraga crassifolia.
Aubrietia purpurea.	„ rubra.
„ grandiflora.	„ media.
„ coelestis.	Primula marginata.
„ Hendersoni.	„ vulgaris.
	„ „ (single white).

Primula vulgaris (double white).	Erythronium dens canis.
„ „ rubra.	„ grandiflorum.
Corydalis cava.	Cyclamen Coum vernum.
„ bulbosa rubra.	Corbularia sp. (Maw).
Polygala Chamæbuxus.	Ornithogalum sp. (Maw).
Erica herbacea.	Gagea lutea.
„ carnea alba.	Scilla sibirica.
Mandragora vernalis.	„ præcox.
Iberis petraea.	„ bifolia.
Dondia epipactis.	„ „ taurica.
Soldanella montana.	„ „ rubra.
Vinca minor.	„ „ alba.
Saxifraga oppositifolia.	Puschkinia scilloides.
„ alba.	Bulbocodium vernum.
„ aretioides.	

In *April* the thermometer was at or below the freezing-point on six occasions; it had been on twenty-one during the same month last year. The lowest temperatures were on the following dates:—8th, 32°; 10th, 27°; 12th, 29°; 13th, 31°; 16th, 26°; 27th, 28°. The frosts of this month, owing to the advanced condition of vegetation, did much injury to fruit trees and bushes in flower, as well as to tender shoots in many parts of the country.

During this month 231 species and varieties of plants came into flower in the rock garden, as compared with 52 in April last year.

In the early part of *May*, though the thermometer did not fall to the freezing-point, yet the night temperatures were very low, as shown by the following readings:—1st, 34°; 2nd, 39°; 3rd, 35°; 6th, 34°; 7th, 36°; 8th, 33°; 9th, 34°; 10th, 35°. On the 4th, 5th, and 11th the thermometer registered 43°.

On the 11th of the month 346 species and varieties were in flower on the rock garden, as compared with 158 at the same date last year.

June 1882.—The lowest readings of the thermometer during the month were on the 1st, 41°; 2nd, 41°; 11th, 37°; 12th, 38°; 16th, 35°; 17th, 35°.

Since the last month 173 species and varieties of plants came into flower in the rock garden, making a total of 666 for the season, as compared with 484 at the corresponding date last year (1881). Amongst them were the following:—

Aster graminifolius.
 Anthericum liliago.
 Cathcartia villosa.
 Campanula thyrsoides.
 Cypripedium spectabile.
 Dianthus alpinus.
 „ suavis.
 Eriogonum aureum.
 Gentiana lutea.
 Gorteria acaulis.
 Gillenia trifoliata.
 Kalmia angustifolia.

Lilium Chaixii.
 „ colchicum.
 Linnaea borealis.
 Lonicera tomentella.
 Milla longipes.
 Orchis foliosa.
 „ maculata superba.
 Papaver alpina.
 Primula capitata.
 Spiraea aruncus.
 Stenactis speciosa.
 Wulfenia Amherstiana.

July.—The lowest readings of the thermometer during the month were registered on the mornings of the 5th, 44°; 9th, 45°; 11th, 44°; 12th, 45°; 25th, 46°; 26th, 45°. Since last month 135 species and varieties of plants came into flower in the rock garden, making a total of 801 compared with 561 at the corresponding period of last year. The following were amongst those which came into flower during the month :—

Alstroemeria aurea.
 Baptisia australis.
 Cassinia fulvida.
 Convolvulus lineatus.
 Delphinium velutinum.
 Dianthus cruentus.
 Erica ramulosa.
 Gaillardia grandiflora.
 Gentiana septemfida.

Hypericum empetrifolium.
 Lilium pardalinum.
 Mœhringia muscosa.
 Potentilla formosa.
 Senecio pulcher.
 Lilium auratum.
 „ dalmaticum.
 Mulgedium alpinum.
 Olearia Haastii.

Note on Table of Flowering of Plants in the Royal Botanic Garden, Edinburgh, from 1850 to 1882. By JOHN SADLER, Curator. (With Table).

(Exhibited 13th July 1882.)

The annexed table shows the dates of the flowering of forty plants during three decades and two years. The observations were begun by the late James Macnab, and continued by his successor.