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Transactions of the Botanical Society of Edinburgh

Publication details, including instructions for authors and subscription information:

<http://www.tandfonline.com/loi/tped18>

I. Report On Temperature And Vegetation During July, August, September, And October

Robert Lindsay Curator

Published online: 01 Dec 2010.

To cite this article: Robert Lindsay Curator (1896) I. Report On Temperature And Vegetation During July, August, September, And October, Transactions of the Botanical Society of Edinburgh, 20:1-4, 7-11, DOI: [10.1080/03746609609468805](https://doi.org/10.1080/03746609609468805)

To link to this article: <http://dx.doi.org/10.1080/03746609609468805>

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and where a few things were found, such as *Loiseleuria procumbens*, Desv., *Lobelia Dortmanna*, Linn., and *Isoetes lacustris*, Linn. Abundance of *Meum Athamanticum*, Jacq., was growing near the hotel.

NOTES FROM THE ROYAL BOTANIC GARDEN, EDINBURGH.

I. REPORT ON TEMPERATURE AND VEGETATION DURING JULY, AUGUST, SEPTEMBER, AND OCTOBER. By ROBERT LINDSAY, Curator.

JULY.

The month of July was, on the whole, favourable. Rain fell on 18 days during the month. This was much needed after the long spell of fine dry weather during preceding months. The lowest night temperature was 42°, which occurred on the 6th of the month, and the highest 55°, on the 10th. The lowest day temperature was 61°, on the 4th, and the highest 76°, on the 23rd.

The common lime-tree was laden with blossom more abundantly than usual during the month, and the New Zealand shrub, *Olearia Haastii*, was completely covered with masses of sweet-scented white flowers, both of which were highly attractive to bees.

On the rock-garden 112 species and well-marked varieties came into flower, as against 237 for the corresponding month last year. A few of the best flowered were:—*Anemone rivularis*, *Anemonopsis macrophylla*, *Aubrietia macrostylis*, *Aster Thomsonii*, *Alyssum argenteum*, *Campanula macrantha alba*, *C. isophylla alba*, *Cistus formosus*, *Cineraria geifolia*, *Coronilla iberica*, *Chrysanthemum maximum*, *Dianthus Atkinsoni*, *Fuchsia Riccartoni*, *Gentiana asclepiadea alba*, *Helichrysum anatolicum*, *Hypericum coris*, *Lilium canadense flavum*, *Micromeria piperella*, *Monarda Kalmiana*, *Meconopsis Wallichii*, *Oenothera Sellowii*, *Potentilla verna fl. pl.*, *Rosa viridiflora*, *Scrophularia sambucifolia*, *Rhododendron anthopogon*.

Readings of exposed Thermometers at the Rock-Garden.

Date.	Minimum.	9 A.M.	Maximum.	Date.	Minimum.	9 A.M.	Maximum.
1st	46°	54°	65°	17th	49°	63°	70°
2nd	51	60	72	18th	49	62	75
3rd	53	57	64	19th	49	63	75
4th	50	54	61	20th	45	64	68
5th	49	54	66	21st	43	63	71
6th	42	61	67	22nd	46	60	70
7th	55	66	70	23rd	49	64	76
8th	52	64	67	24th	49	54	73
9th	53	65	70	25th	47	51	69
10th	55	61	71	26th	50	61	71
11th	49	58	67	27th	42	60	70
12th	52	53	67	28th	42	55	72
13th	47	54	62	29th	50	60	71
14th	47	57	71	30th	45	53	70
15th	48	58	70	31st	46	61	69
16th	46	61	73				

AUGUST.

August was an exceedingly warm month, there was an entire absence of anything like cold weather throughout. Rain and thunderstorms were rather frequent, but the month, on the whole, was a most favourable one. The lowest night temperature was 38°, which occurred on the 28th of the month, and the highest 58°, on the 16th. The lowest day temperature was 63°, on the 31st of the month, and the highest 87°, on the 15th and 16th.

On the rock-garden 73 species and varieties of hardy plants came into flower, as against 103 during the previous August. Amongst the most interesting were:—*Allium glaucum*, *Campanula floribunda*, *Centaurea alpina*, *Colchicum speciosum*, *Coreopsis verticillata*, *Carlina subcaulescens*, *Cyclamen europæum*, *Erica Lawsoniana*, *E. Watsoni*, *Delphinium sulphureum*, *Gladiolus Saundersii*, *Hypericum Elæoides*, *H. patulum*, *Montbretia crocosmæflora*, *Origanum Dictamnus*, *Polygonum capitatum*, *P. vacciniifolium*, *Senecio compacta*, *Statice minuta*, *Sedum latifolium*, *Veronica longifolia sub-sessilis*, *Zauschneria californica*.

Readings of exposed Thermometers at the Rock-Garden.

Date.	Minimum.	9 A.M.	Maximum.	Date.	Minimum.	9 A.M.	Maximum.
1st	46°	60°	68°	17th	54°	64°	85°
2nd	50	64	72	18th	55	64	81
3rd	49	61	67	19th	51	63	73
4th	49	60	68	20th	54	60	74
5th	46	50	66	21st	52	59	65
6th	45	57	67	22nd	51	61	69
7th	41	56	67	23rd	48	60	71
8th	42	61	78	24th	50	61	69
9th	54	64	80	25th	47	65	70
10th	52	59	74	26th	48	61	69
11th	54	61	73	27th	43	54	65
12th	53	68	75	28th	38	56	64
13th	48	65	76	29th	48	60	72
14th	55	64	81	30th	47	60	71
15th	55	73	87	31st	54	56	63
16th	58	65	87				

SEPTEMBER.

The month of September was cool and unsettled, with heavy falls of rain. The first frost this season took place on the 11th of the month, when the thermometer registered 32°, which was repeated on the 23rd. The lowest day temperature was 50°, on the 23rd, and the highest 72°, on the 2nd of the month.

Most herbaceous plants flowered very well during the month; strawberries and *Gentiana acaulis* were observed in flower for the second time during this month, as were also laburnums and rhododendrons. Autumn tints began to show early in the month, and were most effective on *Pavia flava*, lime-tree, horse-chestnut, and Ghent azaleas.

On the rock-garden a large number of plants were in flower, but only 28 came into flower in September, as against 45 for the corresponding month last year, a few of the most interesting being:—*Adlumia cirrhosa*, *Aster Stracheyi*, *Colchicum maximum*, *Crocus annulatus*, *C. medius*, *C. Salzmanni*, *Dianthus Seguierii*, *Erica Mackiana*, *E. Stuartii*, *Fuchsia sanguinea*, *Gratiola officinalis*, *Potentilla Mooniana*, *Polygonum capitatum*, *Teucrium flavum*, *Thymus striatus*, *Kniphofia nobilis*, *K. Saundersii*, *Sedum Fabaria*, *S. spectabilis*.

Readings of exposed Thermometers at the Rock-Garden.

Date.	Minimum.	9 A.M.	Maximum.	Date.	Minimum.	9 A.M.	Maximum.
1st	48°	54°	66°	16th	43°	59°	64°
2nd	54	64	72	17th	44	56	69
3rd	53	58	63	18th	49	55	65
4th	46	60	72	19th	50	55	64
5th	48	61	70	20th	39	54	62
6th	50	58	68	21st	36	40	59
7th	51	58	68	22nd	37	46	57
8th	49	53	63	23rd	32	39	50
9th	40	46	63	24th	34	49	53
10th	34	49	58	25th	33	46	57
11th	32	35	61	26th	41	45	50
12th	33	36	67	27th	43	48	53
13th	45	60	64	28th	43	49	66
14th	53	61	72	29th	43	48	62
15th	54	60	64	30th	43	53	61

OCTOBER.

The month of October was somewhat mild and changeable, but was a favourable month on the whole. The thermometer was at or below the freezing-point on five occasions, indicating collectively 18° of frost for the month, as against 44° for the corresponding month of last year. The lowest readings were—on the 4th, 30°; 5th, 30°; 9th, 32°; 30th, 27°; 31st, 23°. The lowest day temperature was 50°, on the 26th, and the highest 67°, on the 1st. Autumn tints were very fine this season, though of short duration. The beautiful and varied foliage colouring was most effective on scarlet and Hungarian oaks, various species of *Acer* and *Pyrus*, *Cornus*, *Liriodendron*, *Liquidamber*, *Azalea*, *Ampelopsis*, and *Berberis*. The brown tints on *Biotas* and other conifers are very pronounced this season, and very interesting. Hardy rhododendrons and azaleas are well set with flower-buds for next season. Fruit is plentiful on most trees and shrubs; hollies are rather poorly set with berries; and *Pyrus latifolia*, large trees of which in the garden never have failed, that I remember, to produce great quantities of fruit—the delight of numerous birds that abound in the garden—this year is a notable exception, being almost barren of fruit; probably the very dry weather which prevailed during their flowering

period has prevented the berries from setting. Herbaceous plants and annuals continued to flower freely until the end of the month.

On the rock-garden only 3 plants came into flower during the month, viz.:—*Aconitum californicum*, *Helleborus niger grandiflora*, and *Gyneryum argenteum*. A good many plants have flowered a second time, among which were:—*Rhododendron ferrugineum*, *Ulex europæus*, and *Pyrus japonica*.

Readings of exposed Thermometers at the Rock-Garden.

Date.	Minimum.	9 A.M.	Maximum.	Date.	Minimum.	9 A.M.	Maximum.
1st	45°	55°	67°	17th	45°	49°	63°
2nd	37	55	65	18th	37	48	55
3rd	39	52	60	19th	47	53	62
4th	30	40	57	20th	45	51	63
5th	30	51	57	21st	51	57	63
6th	37	52	60	22nd	37	48	62
7th	40	50	59	23rd	39	49	55
8th	43	48	58	24th	45	55	59
9th	32	45	54	25th	45	55	57
10th	36	49	55	26th	34	39	50
11th	38	50	57	27th	34	44	54
12th	37	49	56	28th	39	52	55
13th	36	44	57	29th	37	39	53
14th	42	54	67	30th	27	33	45
15th	53	59	66	31st	23	32	46
16th	52	58	62				