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VI. Notice of Trees struck by Lightning

Mr James M'Nab

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- Jungermannia bicuspidata*, L. Beld Craig.
Jungermannia setacea, Web. Moors near Loch Skene.
Jungermannia trichophylla, L. Grey Mare's Tail.
Lophocolea heterophylla, Nees. Do.
Lejeunia serpyllifolia, Lib. Grey Mare's Tail.
Pellia epiphylla, Raddi. Beld Craig.
Pellia calycina, Tayl. Do.
Aneura pinguis, Dumort. White Coomb.
Aneura multifida, Dumort. do.
Metzgeria furcata, Raddi. Grey Mare's Tail.

LICHENES.

- Sticta pulmonaria*. Beld Craig.
Sticta fuliginosa. Do.
Nephroma resupinatum. Do.
Squamaria hypnorum. Do.
Cetraria islandica. Hartfell.
Cladonia uncialis. Do.
Cladonia rangiferina. Do.
Cladonia cervicornis. Do.
Endocarpon latevirens. Moors near Loch Skene.
Collema lacerum. Grey Mare's Tail.

VI. Notice of Trees struck by Lightning. By Mr JAMES M'NAB.

Mr M'Nab read a letter from Mr Anderson, gardener at Oxenford Castle, in which he gave the particulars connected with two ash trees which had been struck with lightning in the farm of Fordel, one during 1853, and the other—not 100 yards distant from the first—on the 16th of June last (1858). This tree had a stem 7 feet 3 inches in circumference, and about 30 feet high. The electric fluid first struck the tree on the south side, immediately under the junction of three branches, where a large oval portion of the tree seemed entirely taken out. It then travelled in a slight curve, passing through the tree from one side to the other, the bark still remaining on the side on which it entered; while, on the opposite side, all the bark was torn off, varying from 1 to 2 feet broad. One of the main branches is still entire, although much shaken.

Mr M'Nab stated that he was still in quest of information regarding lightning-struck trees in Great Britain, in consequence of the generally received opinion, that neither the beech nor the birch have ever been noticed to be injured with lightning. For the last fifteen years he has communicated to the Botanical Society the names of various lightning-struck trees, but neither beech nor birch were among the number. He formerly stated to the Society that the inhabitants of America generally resorted to beech trees during a thunder storm, from the fact of their not being liable to be struck with lightning. This he found to be the case through large tracts of country, and it induced him to institute an inquiry in Britain, which up to this period agrees with the information he received in America.

VII. *Remarks on the Applications of Photography to Botany.*

By A. J. MACFARLAN, Esq.

The applications of photography to botany may conveniently be considered under three divisions,—1st, The delineation by the ordinary camera of trees, shrubs, &c., on a reduced scale; 2d, The photographic printing of ferns or leaves, the natural size; and, 3d, The micro-photographic process of obtaining magnified representations of the various tissues composing plants.

As we have, during the past winter, heard a good deal about the first division of this subject, I need not now say anything regarding it, further than to remark, that those who at the April meeting saw the photograph which illustrated Dr Balfour's paper on the *Narthex Assafetida*, must have been convinced of the great use this department of photography may be to botany, especially when we call in the aid of the microscope; and were further proof required, Professor P. Smyth's views of the Great Dragon Tree of Orotava, &c., at once afford it.

As regards the photographic printing of ferns, although the results may not be so beautiful as those obtained by "nature printing," and although the process is a little tedious, yet it is so easily managed that it might more frequently be taken advantage of than it is, where accurate impressions