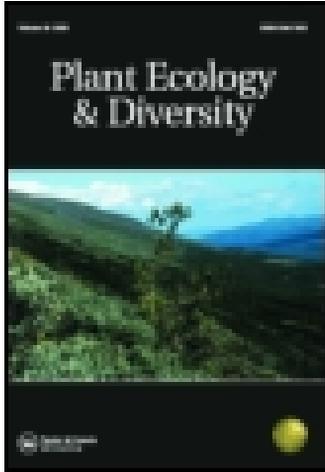


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### I. Notes on Horticultural Experience at Russelconda, South India

Dr William Traill

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14th March 1861.—Professor BALFOUR, V.P., in the Chair.

The following Gentlemen were balloted for and duly elected :—

*As Ordinary Resident Fellows.*

1. THOMAS SPROT, Esq., W.S., 10 Drummond Place.
2. ISAAC ANDERSON-HENRY, Esq., Hay Lodge.
3. HUMPHREY GRAHAM, Esq., W.S., 11 Shandwick Place.

The following Donations to the Herbarium were noticed :—

Specimen of *Isöetes Hystria*, Durieu, from L'Ancrisse Common, Island of Guernsey, presented by Rev. A. M. Norman, Sedgefield.

Specimen of *Plantago Cynops*, L., from Sandhills near Millbrook, St Aubin's Bay, Jersey, presented by J. C. Naylor, Esq., who collected it in June 1859.

The following Donations to the Museum of Economic Botany at the Botanic Garden were announced :—

From Alexander Wylie, Esq.—Specimen of the Flower of *Cheirostemon platanoides*, the Hand-plant or Manita of Mexico, preserved in spirit. The plant has no petals, but a large angular calyx resembling a leather cup, from the centre of which rises a column bearing five narrow curved anthers with a curved style in the middle—these are like a hand furnished with long claws.

From Dr John Ivor Murray, colonial surgeon, Hong-kong—Japanese paper towel ; paper pocket handkerchiefs from Japan ; Jack straws, in great variety, made of pith, which, when thrown on hot water, expand and assume different kinds of figures—many of them exhibit forms of flowers ; a seaweed resembling Corsican moss, used in Japan as an article of food ; vegetable wax from Japan, with specimen of the fruit of the plant which yields it ; peculiar figures in the form of buds of different colours, which, when placed in hot water, expand into flowers ; seeds of "vegetable cloth brush ;" nuts of *Quisqualis indica*, used by the Chinese for worms—they are boiled or roasted, and the kernels or the water in which they are boiled used, from six to twelve a dose, taken every other day for three times.

From Mrs Mackay—Wax Models of Jack-fruit, papaw, citron, and grapes.

The following Communications were read :—

- I. *Notes on Horticultural Experience at Russelconda, South India.* By Dr WILLIAM TRAILL. Communicated by Dr CLEGHORN.

The author described the difficulties of forming a garden

in the wilds of Orissa, the peculiarities of climate, and the results of his experience, which showed how much can be done by a zealous horticulturist in a rather wild country at a small cost. Many Cape and Australian plants, chiefly *Acaciæ* and other *Leguminosæ*, appear to have grown well, and many British species, as *Viola odorata*, *Bellis perennis*, &c. With a little care many annuals ripened their seeds abundantly, nearly as well as in England, such as mignonette, larkspur, &c. A variety of English vegetables, as beetroot, knolekole, cabbages, and onions, were successfully cultivated. Bombay onions from Bellary seeds attained the size of 10½ inches in circumference, and weighed 8¼ oz. He grew tomatos of 7¼ oz. in weight. Cabbages formed solid hearts, and, stripped of the outer leaves, measured 3 feet 4 inches in circumference. The seeds were obtained from the Nilgiris, and proved excellent. On the whole, the author believes Gumsur to be an admirable climate for horticulture, and it seems important that similar observations should be made and recorded at the different stations of our vast Indian empire.

*Tabular list of Annuals, &c., sown at Russelconda in 1858 and 1859, showing their time of germination, flowering, &c.*

Name of Plants.	When Sown.	When up.	When in Flower.	Remarks.
Mignonette .....	Oct. 23	Oct. 29	Dec. 27	} Ripened many seeds.
Do. ....	Nov. 8	Nov. 13	Jan. 3	
Do. ....	— 11	— 16	— 4	
Sweet Peas .....	— 5	— 11	— 31	{ Ripened a few good seeds.
Do., another parcel ...	— 5	— 22	... ..	Did not flower.
Poppy (red) .....	Oct. 25	4	Feb. 5	Ripened many seeds.
Centaurea Cyanus ...	— 25	— 1	Jan. 17	} Ripened many seeds.
Do. ...	Nov. 11	— 14	— 15	
Centaurea depressa....	Oct. 23	— 2	— 23	{ Ripened very few seeds.
Larkspur, purple } and pink } .....	— 23	— 4	— 8	Ripened many seeds.
Antirrhinum majus, } of mixed colours. }	— 25	— 6	Feb. 10	Do. do.
Ten-week Stocks .....	Nov. 11	— 15	Jan. 15	Do. do.
Hollyhock .....	— 17	— 20	Mar. 9	Do. do.
Tropæolum majus ....	— 11	— 22	Jan. 6	Ripened a few seeds.
Nolana prostrata .....	Oct. 25	— 3	Dec. 25	} Ripened many seeds.
Do. do. ....	Nov. 26	Dec. 3	Jan. 15	
China Pink .....	— 11	Nov. 16	Feb. 15	Do. do.
Sweet William .....	— 11	— 17	Mar. 6	Ripened a few seeds.
Globe Amaranth, } orange coloured }	Oct. 27	— 20	Jan. 6	Ripened many seeds.
Geranium, Scarlet ....	— 23	Oct. 29	March	Do. do.