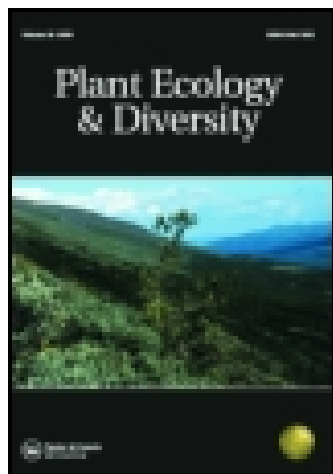


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VII. An Account of some of the Habitats of the *Polygonatum verticillatum*

Dr James Rattray

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14 Dr J. Rattray on the *Polygonatum verticillatum*.

In conclusion, I would observe, that although many eminent botanists, chemists, and histologists have carefully examined the cotton fibre, and have from time to time pointed out the important bearings which a knowledge of its structure has upon such manufacturing operations as dyeing, spinning, &c., there are still some points of great interest that merit attentive investigation. The effect of climate on cotton fibre has not yet been studied at all in its histological relations, although a few experiments which I have recently made on this subject are not without hopeful indications; and we also want reliable information as to the real variations that occur in the cotton fibres afforded by different species and varieties of *Gossypium*.

In such branches of inquiry, we may reasonably hope not only for a few new facts of scientific interest, but for some useful additions to the general stock of technological knowledge.

In illustration of his remarks, Dr Lawson exhibited two specimens of the very finest Sea Island cotton of this year, which had been sent to him by Mr A. Oswald Brodie, of the Ceylon Civil Service.

VI. *Notice of the Discovery of a New Station in Britain for Polygonatum verticillatum.* By the Rev. W. HERDMAN.
Communicated by Professor BALFOUR.

The station is Drimmie Burn Den, near Glen Ericht Cottage, parish of Rattray. Mr Herdman states that it was found at Strone of Cally by Dr Barty some years ago. It has also been long known at Craighall; and the Drimmie station is nearly intermediate in position between these two places, which are about four miles apart. At the same place there is abundance of *Paris quadrifolia*.

VII. *An Account of some of the Habitats of the Polygonatum verticillatum.* By Dr JAMES RATTRAY.

The author remarks:—"This plant was until lately believed to exist only in the grounds of Craighall and in the

Den Rechip; but so well concealed were the habitats by the natural configuration of the ground, that many botanists have failed to obtain it in both localities; and it has even been affirmed, of the latter place especially, that it had been completely extirpated. It, however, still exists in both places. I observed it in the Craighall grounds in the beginning of August last, and I have been informed of its existence in the Den of Rechip by a gentleman who saw it in the course of last summer. Within the last few years it has been found in the den of Airlie, and in two new* situations near Blairgowrie. *Mercurialis perennis* and *Paris quadrifolia* generally grow in profusion about it, and it seems to thrive best in sheltered situations beneath dense brushwood.

"In one of the new Blairgowrie stations† there are no less than six distinct habitats known; and probably more exist, as the grounds have not been completely explored. From this place the specimen in fruit now exhibited, as well as the four roots, which are in the Edinburgh Botanic Garden, were taken. It grows very luxuriantly, some of the plants being above three feet in height, with almost perfectly whorled leaves. This is by far the most abundant station for it. It was discovered by the Rev. Mr Herdman, parish minister of Rattray.

"The larger of the two barren specimens was taken from Craighall. Here, I believe, the plant was first discovered, but at a different part of the grounds, by Dr Balfour.

"Of the other habitat, near Blairgowrie, and the one at Airlie Castle, I can say nothing, except that they are not abundant, and that they were discovered by the Rev. Dr Barty, parish minister of Bendochy."

VIII. *Notice of the Occurrence of Asplenium viride on a wall near Arno's Grove, Southgate, Middlesex.* By V. EDWARD WALKER, Esq. Communicated by Professor BALFOUR. Specimens were shown.

* These are the grounds of Glen Ericht Cottage, and the Strone of Cally, near Bridge of Cally.

† The Glen Ericht station.