

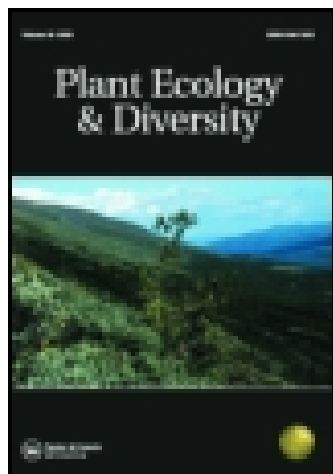
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Mr John Sadler

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them. From these regions a vast amount of novelties may yet be procured, the discovery of which would amply repay an enterprising collector.

II. *Note on Perichæna (Phelonitis) strobilina of Fries.*

By Mr JOHN SADLER.

Mr Sadler stated that during a recent visit to Arniston woods, near Edinburgh, he found many old cones of *Abies excelsa* affected with the rare fungus *Perichæna strobilina*. It was discovered in Britain by Captain Carmichael, at Appin, Argyleshire, and he was not aware of its having been found in any other British locality. On the Continent it is also of rare occurrence. Dr Greville figured and described the plant from Captain Carmichael's specimens, in his "Scottish Cryptogamic Flora," vol. v. t. 275, 1827. It is produced principally on the upper surface of the cone scales, in aggregated masses of peridia of a reddish brown colour. The sporidia are oval, of a dull yellow, and contain round sporidiola. The fungus seems to be confined to *Abies excelsa*, as Mr Sadler had examined many cones of *Pinus Strobus*, which were equally abundant in Arniston woods, but he failed in finding one affected with the *Perichæna*. Cones and drawings were exhibited.

III. *Report on the Open-Air Vegetation at the Royal Botanic Garden* (No. II. 1872). By Mr M'NAB, Curator.

Since the meeting of February 8, open-air vegetation has progressed rapidly, owing to the mildness of the weather. From that date, the thermometer has only been five times at or below the freezing point, viz., on 17th, 20th, 22d, 24th, 27th February, and on 10th March, when it registered respectively, 30°, 33°, 31°, 32°, 30°, and 27°. The highest morning thermometer ranges being on 11th February, and 1st, 3d, 4th, 12th, and 14th of March, standing at 8 A.M., as follows, 42°, 41°, 46°, 43°, 43°, and 43°.

A large number of plants is now in flower, but those here recorded are chiefly such as I have noticed for the