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III. Extraordinary Case of Bleeding in a Hornbeam Tree

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| | |
|-------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Bartramia gracilis, in fruit. | Hypnum lutescens, in fruit. |
| Conostomum boreale. | Halleri, on Cham-a- |
| Habrodon Notarisii. | Creag, the second |
| Cylindrothecium Montagnei. | station in Britain. |
| Leskia moniliformis. | rugosum. |
| rufescens, in fruit. | trifarium, &c. |

Among the Lichens were the following:—

| | |
|--------------------|------------------------|
| Sticta pulmonaria. | Cladonia uncialis. |
| scrobiculata. | furcata. |
| sylvatica. | Scyphophorus deformis. |
| Solorina crocea. | bellidiflorus, &c. |
| Alectoria jubata. | |

Some good Jungermanniaceæ were also collected in fruit by the side of the Finlarig burn.

III. *Extraordinary Case of Bleeding in a Hornbeam Tree.*

By Sir JOHN DON WAUCHOPE, Bart. Communicated by Professor BALFOUR.

Sir John Don Wauchope sent the following notice in regard to a hornbeam tree growing on his property of Edmonstone, the particulars having been furnished by his gardener.

A branch of the tree was broken off, it is supposed, by cattle. The girth of the tree where the large branch comes off, at $7\frac{1}{2}$ feet from the ground, is 8 feet 4 inches. The length of the large branch from which the smaller one was broken off is 28 feet, its girth 1 foot 9 inches. The girth of the small branch at the broken place was $1\frac{1}{2}$ inch.

After the fracture a great quantity of fluid was poured out from the wound. The dropping of the fluid was first noticed on the 14th of April at twelve noon, but it must have been going on for some time before, as the ground around the tree was wet. It ceased on the 17th of April at 1 P.M. A pail was tied to the branch for nine hours, and during that time the quantity of fluid collected was 1 gallon 3 gills. The colour was like that of table-beer. It had no taste, and some cattle drank the whole contents of the pail apparently without any bad consequences.

Various attempts were made to stop the flow—

1. The stump of the small branch was cut straight through, and seared with a red-hot iron bar.

2. The wound was covered with white lead and a piece of soft leather.

3. Archangel tar was applied.

4. Tow dipped in paraffine oil was wound round the stump and kept burning for twenty minutes.

None of these plans were successful, but at length a piece of $1\frac{1}{2}$ -inch gutta-percha hose was put over the stump like a thimble, the upper part of the tube being closed with a round plug and white lead, and this had the desired effect of stopping the bleeding. Sir John sent a portion of the branch of the tree, showing young leaves and catkins, and stated that the tree was bleeding at a place where the twig was cut off.

IV. *Open-Air Vegetation at the Royal Botanic Garden* (No. IV. 1873). By Mr M'NAB.

For upwards of twenty years I have recorded the flowering of certain species of spring plants to show the state of the open-air vegetation. At the April meeting of the Society, out of the 36 plants selected, I was only able to record 32. The following four species complete the series :—

| | | 1873. | 1872. |
|------------------------|-----|----------|----------|
| Narcissus moschatus | . . | April 16 | March 20 |
| Nuttallia cerasiformis | . . | „ 17 | „ 20 |
| Adonis vernalis | . . | „ 21 | „ 13 |
| Fritillaria imperialis | . . | „ 22 | „ 30 |

It is rather unusual that any of the selected plants are carried over for notice till the May meeting. Such, however, occurred during the spring of 1870, which was dry and cold. Vegetation on the 1st of May this year averaged from 15 to 18 days later than last year. This is attributable to the prolonged early frosts, and the cold easterly winds which have recently prevailed.

During the past winter, viz.—from 1st November up to the present time, the thermometer has been 76 times recorded in the daily register at or below the freezing point, the lowest markings being on the mornings of the 5th and 31st December, 25th of January, and 3d, 23d, 24th, 25th,