

poisoning. Many experiments on man and other animals has proved conclusively that no ill effect results from eating the roots. The flowers and leaves do, however, sometimes produce dermatitis when brought in contact with damp skin, some persons are also affected by the carrot in the same way.

One would hardly expect to find poisonous plants among the *Ericaceæ*, but all the species of *Kalmia* are very poisonous, and *K. angustifolia*, Sheep Laurel, and *K. latifolia*, Mountain Laurel, destroy many sheep and cattle, and chickens are said to have been poisoned by eating the vomited matter from poisoned animals. The flesh of partridge is said to be rendered poisonous when the birds eat the buds, and honey derived from the nectar of the flowers appears to be poisonous. Many of the *Solanaceæ* plants are more or less poisonous, but the genus *Solanum* is the only one that causes much injury. The berries of *S. nigrum*, Common Nightshade, are often cooked for food, but when green are poisonous to man, and cattle are poisoned by eating the leaves of either this species or *S. Dulcamara*.

A few species of *Compositæ* are poisonous. Among these *Senecio Jacobaea* has done the greatest damage, though its bad effects on cattle seem so far to be confined to parts of Nova Scotia and New Brunswick, where it is supposed to be the cause of what is known as Pictou disease. It is most dangerous in its young state. *Helenium autumnale* also occasionally causes death when eaten by cattle, and many genera such as *Artemisia* and *Tanacetum* are poisonous to man if the volatile oils are taken in large doses. *Eupatorium urticæfolium*, White Snake Root, is generally believed to cause the "trembles" in cattle, horses and sheep and milk sickness in man. The trembles cause many deaths among cattle, and butter and cheese made from the milk of affected animals is poisonous to man. Until quite recently there seemed to be no doubt that *Eupatorium* was responsible for the trembles, but recent investigators do not believe this to be the case unless it should be at times the carrier of some pathogenic organism. The pollen of several composite plants such as ragweed, goldenrod and chrysanthemum are said to cause hay fever. *Ambrosia artemisiifolia* is regarded as specially troublesome as an exciting cause with reference to hay fever. There is as yet, however, no conclusive proof that hay fever is ever caused by pollen or that pollen has any greater irritating effect on the air passages of sensitive people than any other dust of an organic character.

In the discussion which followed the above review some interesting observations were made as to the action of various plants which were believed to produce poisonous effects in man or beast.

The common rhubarb was claimed by Mr. White to be