

gathered for cultivation. *Prunus pumila* was found to occur in some abundance round the rocky base of Rockcliffe, and *Astragalus Cooperi* was not uncommon. Several species of *Aster* and *Solidago* were examined, and the only locality in the neighbourhood, so far found, for *Ceanothus Americurus* the New Jersey Tea, was pointed out.

SEVENTEENTH.—A party belonging to the Botanical Section made an expedition on 8th October to Beechwood to look for *Aplectrum hiemale*, a rare orchid. They were, however, unsuccessful in their quest, but were well repaid by the discovery of many other plants. Mr. Fletcher explained the theories with regard to the growth of parasitic and saprophytic plants. Fine specimens were collected of *Comandra umbellata* growing attached to the roots of *Amelanchier Canadensis*. Root's of *Monotropa uniflora* were found showing, in some instances, a new bud for next year's growth. Attention was drawn to the similarity of the seeds of some of the Ericaceae to those of Orchids.

EIGHTEENTH.—Another expedition was made on 15th October for the same purpose as the preceding; Lieut.-Col. White, who had already found *Aplectrum hiemale*, was with the party and led them to the locality where he had discovered it. After a short search beneath the fallen leaves Mr. Fred. Magee succeeded in finding a fine patch of three plants—two of these bore two leaves each. This curious plant throws up in the autumn a large handsome ribbed leaf somewhat like the Lily of the Valley, it is dark green above and purple beneath. In the following summer a tall spike of purplish flowers appears in June or July, and then when this is mature an underground stem is produced bearing at its tip a bud which gradually is enlarged till it becomes a solid corm. From this the autumn leaf is borne. Sometimes, as in two of the plants referred to above, there are two of these bulbs on a plant. The old bulbs remain a year or two in the ground before decaying, so that there are thus sometimes three or four connected. The popular name of this plant is "Putty-root" or "Adam and Eve," the latter refers to the old and new bulbs being found connected. This kind of root is not, however, an uncommon occurrence amongst Orchids. Many of our common species have twin roots as we find in *Habenaria Hookeri* and many others.