

Where the frond is widest, some way above the middle, in fact where it arches over to form the wide lip of the "vase" it so closely resembles, the pinnae are extremely long and narrow, tapering gradually to a pointed extremity; they look like long streamers or pennants; these pinnae are pinnatifid into narrow oblong pinnules, something like the ultimate divisions of the Cinnamon Fern but narrower. The plant spreads freely by slender underground stolons; as you walk along some shady path through the woods, you will often see a great patch of wet ground filled as with a shrubbery by these immense tufts of ostrich plumes—a wealth of green in riotous profusion. Looked at through the undergrowth and brushwood of maples and other light-foliaged trees, the scene is one of tropical luxuriance, you think of a New Zealand forest of tree-ferns, or a jungle of dwarf palms in Brazil.

About the *Osmundas* I have already spoken; and I shall defer mention of the Adder's Tongue family with its two genera of *Ophioglossum* and *Botrychium* to a sequel, in it I hope to extend the list of species already mentioned from about 20 to 36. The paper will deal with two seasons of fern-hunting, chiefly from headquarters on the Rideau, though once or twice involving a day's journey by rail to points as far distant as Niagara, Muskoka and the Algonquin Park.

TWO KINDS OF WAR—ONE IS CONSIDERED NECESSARY AND THE OTHER IS NOT.

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War is said to be hell and it may be interesting to find at least a partial reason why this is so. One of the factors in making this lurid fire and brimstone condition, where death lurks, is what may be called armament, consisting of various kinds of death-dealing devices. This, however, is not the most important factor as man's devices do not succeed nearly so well as those created by nature. The great death-dealing combination in war times is made up of three animals and a plant. The plant is exceedingly small and it takes the highest powers of the microscope to elucidate it properly. It goes by the name of *Bacillus typhosus* and causes typhoid fever. The smallest of the three animals is a protozoan, and it is also very small, as it destroys the red corpuscles of the blood, and they are less than one three-thousandeth of an inch in diameter. This animal is known as the *Plasmodium malariae*. The other two factors are insects and they are very common ones, the mosquito and the