

## ARTICLE III.

## REPORT OF THE BOTANICAL SECTION.

THE Committee on Botany has to report excellent results from those engaged in the investigation of plants in the Province for the past year. Not only has the range of rare and local plants been extended, but in addition sixty species and varieties, not hitherto known to exist in the Province, have been added to its flora.

The value of the Herbarium has been largely increased by a gift from Mr. G. F. Matthew, who has presented to the Society his entire collection of plants, consisting of over two thousand species, chiefly European. These, with the excellent collection of New Brunswick plants already at our disposal, will make the society's herbarium a valuable one to the student of botany. The publication of a systematic catalogue of Canadian plants has been commenced by Prof. Macoun, of which Part I. — Polypetalae, has appeared. This will prove especially useful to the Canadian botanist, referring him to forms that are unsettled, and which require special attention. Of the 243 genera of the Polypetalae, described in Macoun's List, 128, or a little more than half, occur in New Brunswick; and of the 907 species, 263, or nearly a third, are found in this Province. It is desirable that a revised list of the plants of New Brunswick should be published at the close of the season of 1884. The additions to our flora since the publication of Fowler's List in 1878 (about 150 species of Phanerogams), and the mass of information accumulating since on the distribution of rare and local species, render a new catalogue almost indispensable. The botanists at work in the Province would gratefully extend to Prof. Fowler all the assistance in their power towards publishing a revised and more complete catalogue of New Brunswick plants.

Scarcely a beginning has been made here, as yet, in the study of many important groups of plants — such as the Fungi and their

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