

FLORA OTTAWAENSIS.

BY JAMES FLETCHER, F.R.S.C., F.L.S.

It is now eight years since my first list of the plants of this district was prepared for the members of the club. This was merely a bare list of the names of 810 species collected by the writer during the summer of 1879. "This district" was then understood to mean a radius of about twelve miles from the City of Ottawa, and was defined as the country lying between the following points:—Meech's Lake, in the Chelsea Mountains, on the one side, and the Mer Bleue on the other; down the Ottawa River East Templeton and Green's Creek were included, and up the river Britannia and the islands above Aylmer. Latterly, however, by general consent of the botanists of the club, this radius has been extended to about thirty miles, so as to include Casselman on the one side and Wakefield on the other, and up the river as far as the Chats Rapids and down to Buckingham.

Previous to the appearance of the above-mentioned list there had been printed by the Ottawa Natural History Society a "List of plants collected by Mr. B. Billings in the vicinity of the City of Ottawa during the summer of 1866." This contained the names of 404 species, with the dates of their inflorescence, which appear in the present list marked (B).

The following collections had also been made previous to 1879:—By Mr. B. Billings (1866-7) which is now in the museum of the Ottawa Literary and Scientific Society; by Mr. A. H. Moore, an energetic collector, and one who added largely to our knowledge of the flora of the vicinity (1870-78.) Through the generosity of the last named gentleman this collection now forms part of my own herbarium. By Mr. Robert Whyte and Dr. H. B. Small, who began to collect about 1875, and are still active members of the botanical branch of the club. The present list contains every species up to this time found in the district and identified with certainty. Further additions will be published annually as they are reported. It has been prepared at the request of the Council, more especially as an aid for those beginning to study our flora.

The 1879 list gave merely the names of all species at that time known to have been found at Ottawa, but gave no information upon some of the most important points the local botanist requires to know