

## REVIEWS.

*Alpine Flora of the Canadian Rocky Mountains*, by Stewardson Brown. Illustrated with 31 water-color drawings and 91 other illustrations by Mrs. Charles Schaeffer, pp. 352. Putnam's Sons, New York. \$3.00.

*Contributions to a Catalogue of the Flora of the Canadian Rocky Mountains and the Selkirk Range*, by Edith M. Farr. Contr. from the Bot. Lab. of the Univ. of Penn. Vol. III. pp. 1-88. Bot. Dept., Univ. of Penn. \$1.00.

Among those who visit the Canadian mountains the greater number perhaps go chiefly to revel in the unrivalled scenery of the Rockies and Selkirks or to climb the peaks that tempt them on every hand. But there are few who can spend even one day in the mountains without feeling the desire to know at least the common names of some of the beautiful wild flowers that fill the woods and meadows and cover the mountain slopes with masses of brilliant color. Mrs. Henshaw's "Mountain Wild Flowers of Canada"\* will long remain the "popular guide to the names and descriptions of the flowers that bloom above the clouds." Written by a good botanist and one who is an ardent lover of flowers it appeals to the Nature lover in a way that no "Flora" or "Catalogue" can do, and Mrs. Henshaw seems always to have found the exact word to describe the characteristic beauty of the plant she may be writing about, a matter of greater difficulty than is realized by one who has not attempted it.

While Prof. Brown's book is very far from being a complete "Flora" of the Rocky Mountains it is strictly "scientific" as far as it goes, and the amateur botanist who so dearly loves to "analyse" and "classify" the plants he collects will find that he can with this book identify all the commoner species at least, that he will find in the Rockies or Selkirks, for though the title covers only the Rocky Mountains the matter includes the Selkirks as well. The average tourist, however, will prefer Mrs. Henshaw's simpler, if not very scientific, arrangement of the alpine flowers in groups according to their color, as by this means he can in a very short time learn the names of the plants he has collected. Beginning with a general key to the families, Prof. Brown gives briefly and clearly the characters of each family and of the genera into which they are divided. The number of species in each genus is as a rule so small that the characters separating these are not given in the form of a key but will be found in the descriptions of the species themselves. These descriptions are with very few exceptions accurate and not unnecessarily long. The habitat of each species is also given

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\* Reviewed in the Ottawa Naturalist, Vol. XX, p. 114.