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increasing severity of the seasons had been forcing the southwestern migrations. But, if our climate is or has been growing milder, we should expect to find the New England flora advancing, and northern forms receding before it. Though the matter is by no means so simple as this, there are certain facts which seem to show that the latter is nearest to the true state of the case.

One ground for this opinion is found in the widely separated stations and scattered growth of plants of a northern range. Of a list of about one hundred and forty species that are more abundant elsewhere than within our province, nearly one hundred are of distinctly northern or northwestern distribution. Such a large majority seems to prove that the causes, whatever they are, which hinder such scattered plants from growing abundantly here are acting most strongly upon those of a northern range.

What at first appears as an objection to the argument is the fact that there are twelve southern species in this list of scarce plants. They are as follows:

Lechea minor,	Polygonum hydropiperoides,
Spergularia rubra,	P. arifolium,
Ilex verticillata,	Xyris flexuosa, var. pusilla,
Gaylussacia dumosa,	Cyperus esculentus (= phymatodes),
Fraxinus pubescens,	Scirpus atrovirens,
Limnanthemum lacunosum.	S. Clintonii.

Add to these Eleocharis Robbinsii, found in one locality in New Brunswick, and not yet reported in Maine, and we have a list of thirteen scattered southern forms. But it will be found that all but one of them are plants growing in water or in wet places, and just such as could be most easily carried by aquatic birds; and it may be argued that their seeds were brought here as plentifully at earlier times when birds of passage would have been as abundant as at present, and that a higher summer temperature is only now beginning to admit of their growth.

The continued existence of an isolated group of northwestern plants in the St. John valley is evidence that our climate has not since glacial times been very much warmer than at present;

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