

plants requiring much alkali, many other localities must be well suited for species to whose growth lime is more necessary. And again, the different proportions in which lime exists in soils overlying the Silurian and Devonian rocks, make it probable that in many localities the proportion would be so small as to afford suitable habitats for plants preferring non-calcareous soils. However much, then, there may be in the relation existing between plants and the chemical constituents of the soils in which they grow, it seems exceedingly difficult to arrive at any satisfactory conclusions regarding the effect of this relation upon the general distribution of our native plants.

In the above remarks I do not of course include any reference to sea-shore plants, which, without a doubt, derive sustenance from the chloride of sodium, with which both the air and soil, in the vicinity of the coast, are to some extent impregnated. But the very fact that many of these plants are met with in localities far distant from any possible influence of the ocean, clearly shows that this alkali may not be entirely essential to the existence of all maritime species.

Before leaving the subject, a few instances of apparent preferences for particular soils or locations may be cited. The white-wood, *Platanus occidentalis* Linn., is, at London, only met with on the low alluvial flats on either side of the River Thames, and the two or three trees occurring at Toronto exist in a similar situation on the banks of the River Don. At Chatham, and nearer the mouth of the River Thames, this one of the largest of Canadian trees occupies like locations, and is said to attain there a magnificent size. *Pinus rigida* Miller, again, has only been detected among the Thousand Islands—which form the connecting link between the Laurentide hills of Canada and the Adirondacks of New York State—and in the Township of Torbolton on the Upper Ottawa, in the immediate vicinity of which the Laurentian strata are also largely developed. *Corydalis glauca* Pursh, *Raiimia angustifolia* Linn., *Asplenium ebeneum* Aiton, and *Woodsia Ivensis* R. Brown—for the most part easily recognized plants—are, judging by our present knowledge of their distribution in Canada, limited in range to the area occupied by the Laurentian rocks. The distribution of these and other species is not, however, so definitely established as to warrant any perfectly safe conclusions regarding the effects upon them of particular soils and locations, and other reasons already mentioned would further