

wooded pasture near the cliff, where limestone strata cropped out of the grass, were several large plants of the Holly Fern! And some of them actually showing signs of having been chewed by that omnivorous ruminant, the domestic cow. You may well imagine what a rude disillusionment and shock it was to me, when I tell you that the only other time I had seen this fern was 3,000 feet up the steep side of Lone Ben Lui, in the Perthshire Grampians. It is abundant in the Rockies, and all through this limestone district, from Collingwood west to Tobermory, at the head of the Bruce Peninsula, it fairly runs riot. While slowly moving along at the foot of the cliff, I found in the course of a few hundred yards, plants of Purple Cliff-brake, Slender Cliff-brake, Black Spleenwort, and finally, to grace the triumph, a fine colony of Green Spleenwort. This fern is almost identical with the Black, except that the stalk is brown at the base, and then green from the upper part of the stipe to the tip of the frond. It is abundant on mountain heights in Wales, North England and Scotland, and I have seen it once in Ontario, growing on deeply shaded limestone ledges by the Speed, near Rockwood. Later, I found it growing abundantly on detached limestone boulders in the woods below Sydenham Falls, near the opposite cliff that flanks the east of the city. By this time it was late in the afternoon, and I returned to headquarters.

Next day I went out to Sydenham Falls, and rambled in the wood below, with its rich, swampy hollows filled with Narrow-leaved and Silvery Spleenworts, Goldie's Fern and Maidenhair, and found (along with more Holly Fern) the treasure for which the district is noted, the far-famed Hart's Tongue. This fern is very plentiful in the west of England, and in parts of Somerset and Devon fairly chokes the wayside ditches and hedgerows. But on the American continent it is extremely rare, Woodstock in New Brunswick, Central New York and Tennessee providing the only known stations for it outside of Ontario. It belongs to the talus at the foot of limestone cliffs, or to moist shady situations in limestone districts; at one time it was apparently more generally distributed, and specimens are recorded from Niagara, as well as many widely divergent points of Bruce and Grey counties. Among the ferns of temperate regions, the Hart's Tongue is almost unique in form, the frond being simple and entire—like a long, narrow dock leaf—but the surface, like that of the Holly Fern, is smooth and glossy. Near the Sydenham Falls this rarity proved very abundant, both below the cataract and above, the crevices of the limestone floor throughout the extensive woods being filled with plants of this and the Holly Fern. The growth of the fronds below the falls was very luxuriant, sometimes from 24 to 30 inches. Before