

gation of the Flora of Buffalo and the formation of an Herbarium, for its illustration. At the close of the year 1863, two seasons having been spent in the field, the Committee had detected and identified 936 species, or well-marked varieties, of phænogamous plants. A list of these, and of 40 species of vascular cryptogams, which had also been collected, was prepared by Judge CLINTON and published in the spring of 1864.

The investigation thus begun, although not always prosecuted with the assiduity which at first characterized it, has never since ceased. At the present time the plants which have been collected in our region, and of which specimens are contained in the Herbarium of the Society, amount to not less than 2800 species. It is confidently believed that except in the lower orders of the *Cryptogamae*, the number of species belonging here, and which still remain to be discovered, is comparatively small. Hence, the Society has deemed the present time a proper one to give to the botanical world a Catalogue of "THE PLANTS OF BUFFALO AND ITS VICINITY."

In preparing such a catalogue for publication, it has been thought well that it should embody the results (so far as they have proved accessible) of the efforts of all persons, whether connected with the Society or not, who, at any time, or in any degree, have contributed to make a knowledge of our Flora more complete. For all such assistance it has been intended that due credit should be given. But it would be unpardonable if the declaration were not here placed upon record, that to the tireless energy and zeal of the Society's first President, we are indebted for much the largest and most valuable part of the labors epitomized in the Catalogue. From the foundation of the Society until his recent removal from our city, Judge CLINTON freely gave to the exploration of our Flora, not only the assiduous attention of a profound and discriminating mind, but also such unremitting, physical labor as only the most devoted student of nature could have bestowed. By his hands, specimens of all the plants, except Algae, here enumerated, as well as some 20,000 more, the product of other regions, procured by him for the Society, have been labeled and arranged in its botanical collections, henceforth, in grateful recognition of his services, to be known as "THE CLINTON HERBARIUM."