

II. completes the polypetalæ and adds forms recognised since the first paper was published. The list affords a few additions to those plants included in Prof. Macoun's "Catalogue of Canadian Plants" mostly from the collections of Moravian missionaries in Northern Labrador. Dr. Eaton, of Yale, New Haven and Prof. Fowler of Queen's Univ., Kingston, Ont., have named most of the 1894 collections. Part II. occupies pp. 84—100, of the Trans. Nova Scotian Inst. of Science, 1896.—H.M.A.

NOTES ON *Cyperus Esculentus* IN ONTARIO.

In the County of Elgin (Mount Salem) is grown a "nut"—Chufa—said to have been introduced from South America.

The nuts are the edible tubers of *Cyperus esculentus*, a native of the shores of the Mediterranean. The taste is a cross between a cocoanut and a chestnut. It is planted in hills like potatoes and is very prolific. Before planting it is soaked for a fortnight in water.

Mons. Vilmorin in his fine work the "Vegetable Garden" says of this plant: "Roots brownish, very numerous, tangled and intermixed with underground shoots, which are swollen into a kind of small scaly tubers of a brownish colour, and with white floury, sweet flesh. The tubers or "nuts" are gathered in October or November. They may easily be kept through the winter if stored in a dry place, sheltered from the frost, and in drying become sweeter and more agreeable to the taste than when eaten newly gathered. The tubers are eaten raw or parched."

It seems questionable whether this "*Cyperus esculentus*, Govan" of M. Vilmorin's book can be the same as *C. esculentus*, Linn. of Macoun's Catalogue, one of our native sedges formerly known as *Cyperus phymatodes*, Muhl. and growing in abundance at the base of Parliament Hill.

*Chufa* is a Spanish word applied to this plant and also to the pea-nut. In German the two plants are called respectively, *Erdmandel* or *Erdkastanie* and *Erdnuss*.—OTTO J. KLOTZ.