

A.—Date of spring-budding in case of shrubs, and sprouting or appearance of new shoots from the rhizomes of herbaceous plants.

B.—Date when plant was found in leaf, i.e., when leaves of the season were fairly developed.

C.—When first found in flower.

D.—When specimens were found with ripe seeds.

E.—Autumn withering of foliage, or defoliation.

F.—Particulars as to the nature of the habitat of each species, or spot where found growing—especially with respect to proximity to, or distance from, the sea-shore, elevation above sea-level, whether in exposed hilly situations, or sheltered, or protected amongst rocks or in water-courses, etc.; general character of soil, whether gravelly, sandy, compact, or peaty, and whether moist or dry, etc. Northern plants have a special tendency to assume luxuriant forms when grown in sheltered spots where the air is kept moist by waterfalls, rapid streams, or even rocky brooks.

Corresponding observations of these several phenomena in the same species of plants in any other locality or country will enable a comparison to be made of its climate, so far as it affects vegetation, with that of Cape Prince of Wales. The variations of seasons in different years in the same locality may also be determined from such observations.

The names of all the species were determined from a careful examination by myself of Mr. Payne's specimens. The condition of the plants, as to progress of seasonal growth at the several dates, as noted by Mr. Payne at the time, was also ratified in each case by examination of the specimens. The abundant ripening of seeds is one of the features of Mr. Payne's collection, showing a marked difference from some of the collections taken to England by exploring expeditions. In less hospitable regions, although plants grow even luxuriantly, they are not known to ripen seeds sufficiently for germination. This has led to the belief that within the Arctic circle the permanent continuance of vegetation is dependent upon fertile seeds ripened farther south and transported to the belt of the Arctic flora. However this may be, it is interesting to note that in all the specimens from Cape Prince of Wales that were sufficiently advanced, the seeds were plump and perfect.

Additional collections have been received, but too late to be included in this paper. The results of an examination of these, as well as the consideration of some general questions regarding the northern shore flora, must consequently be deferred.