

day was spent in collecting plants and insects. Here again the white butterfly (*N. Menapia*) which had been observed in such large numbers around the Bull pines in the Okanagan Valley, was seen in countless numbers flying around the Douglas fir. The trees had been perceptibly injured by the caterpillars which had transformed into the butterflies now seen, but of which there were still some feeding on the foliage, or letting themselves down from the tops of the tall trees by means of silken threads; in some instances these threads must have been of the remarkable length of 100 feet or more. The green and white chrysalids were found on the undergrowth, ferns, shrubs, etc., in large numbers. Many caterpillars also doubtless pupated in the trees without descending. I was pleased to detect here specimens of a parasitic Ichneumon fly (*Theronia fulvescens*), which was by far the more numerous of three parasites I had observed depredating on this insect in the upper country, and of which I had bred many specimens from the pupae of the butterfly. Many rare ferns and other plants were secured at this interesting locality. In a small swamp numerous specimens were found of the rare *Gentiana septem*, and the sweet scented orchid *Habenaria leucostachys*, called locally "wild hyacinth." In the woods tall bushes of the beautiful scarlet-berry "wine berry," *Vaccinium parvifolium*, covered with fruit, presented a striking appearance. No less noticeable were heavily loaded bushes of the Salal berry (*Gaultheria shallon*) and the Oregon grape (*Berberis aquifolium*).

The beauty and charm of the deep luxuriant woods on Vancouver Island cannot be described in words; they must be seen to be appreciated. Towering above are gigantic conifers, cedars, firs, spruces, pines and hemlocks raising their heads 200 and 300 feet in the air, with trunks many of them from 6 to 8 feet in diameter, and in exceptional specimens of cedar, more than double that size. Beneath these giants smaller trees and bushes flourish. Of the smaller trees, perhaps the most remarkable is the graceful and useful western flowering dogwood (*Cornus Nuttallii*), which forms a stately, slender tree from 40 to 60 feet in height, and spreads out its many long branches with the tip of each little branchlet surmounted by one large involucre flower cluster, in shape not unlike an enormous white daisy; the showy white petuloid involucre are sometimes 6 inches in diameter, and when fully mature are of a snowy whiteness. In the dim light beneath the tall conifers these flowers gleam like stars of silver. The bark of this dogwood furnishes a valuable remedy for ague, which is well known and has been often used by travellers as a substitute for quinine. Another tree of which specimens were collected in Vancouver Island was *Rhamnus Purshiana*, valuable for its ornamental foliage and even more so for medicinal qualities, for from this tree is produced the drug *Cascara Sagrada*, or sacred bark. Many flowering shrubs highly esteemed in gardens are found growing wild in the woods and on the mountain sides in Vancouver Island. *Philadelphus Lewisii*, familiar under the horticultural name of *Syringa*, grows in the greatest profusion, mingled with the flowering currant (*Ribes sanguineum*), the salmon berry (*Rubus spectabilis*), and the most beautiful of the meadow-sweets *Spiraea discolor* (var) *ariaefolia*, a tall bush covered with feathery masses of white flowers. With the above grew many shrubs and herbaceous plants of great beauty, too numerous to mention, lilies, lupines of several species, *Delphiniums*, *Asters*, orchids, and last but not least, an almost tropical growth of ferns and mosses, which together give a profusion of vegetation of the greatest interest to botanists and lovers of flowers, not to be surpassed, I believe, in any other part of the world.

I beg here to gratefully acknowledge the valuable assistance and many courtesies received during my short stay in Vancouver Island, from Mr. J. R. Anderson, the Deputy Minister of Agriculture, and Mr. R. M. Palmer, by which I was enabled to save much time and learn far more about matters of use to me in my official duties, than would otherwise have been possible.

On the evening of the 11th of August, I reluctantly left this land of beauty and turned my steps homeward. Owing to the peculiar arrangements of the steamship service, I did not arrive in New Westminster until 7 o'clock the following evening, instead of at the same hour in the morning. I thus missed my train and was

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