

nard, wild sarsaparilla, sumac (several species), rose haws, sorrel, ragweed, grass and asparagus. The list shows how little the bluebird depends upon the farm or garden to supply its needs, and indicates that by encouraging the growth of some of these plants, many of which are highly ornamental, the bird can be induced to make its home on the premises.

Bluebirds are so well known that it seems unnecessary to urge anything more in their favor; but in view of the fact that large numbers were destroyed during the storm of 1895, more than ordinary vigilance should be exercised in protecting them until they have regained their normal abundance.

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## BOOK NOTICES.

HIGH SCHOOL BOTANY.<sup>1</sup>—In a new edition of a text-book one naturally seeks to discover (1) what extensions have been made, and (2) how far the errors and objectionable features of earlier editions may have been corrected.

The first part of the book before us, embracing 226 pages, is devoted to the general principles of Morphology and Physiology, with a discussion of type forms of the lower groups of plants, ranging from a fern to Chara. The principles of classification are also dealt with, and the three concluding pages are devoted to directions for the collection of plants and the formation of herbaria. In this portion of the book no extension or alteration has been made; it remains as in the previous revised edition of 1887.

The second part, dealing with the Flora of Canada, has been extended from 162 to 271 pages, and now "includes most of the wild plants of Manitoba and the prairie region generally, as well as those of the older provinces." We observe also, the introduction of a separate and much better glossary, and an alphabetical list of common cultivated plants, which are designated by both common and scientific names. It is in this portion of the book that we note the only extensions and

<sup>1</sup> The Elements of Structural Botany, with special reference to the study of Canadian Plants. H. B. Spotten, M.A., F.L.S. W. J. Gage & Co., Toronto, new edition, pp. 237 and 308, 1897.