



Early Journal Content on JSTOR, Free to Anyone in the World

This article is one of nearly 500,000 scholarly works digitized and made freely available to everyone in the world by JSTOR.

Known as the Early Journal Content, this set of works include research articles, news, letters, and other writings published in more than 200 of the oldest leading academic journals. The works date from the mid-seventeenth to the early twentieth centuries.

We encourage people to read and share the Early Journal Content openly and to tell others that this resource exists. People may post this content online or redistribute in any way for non-commercial purposes.

Read more about Early Journal Content at <http://about.jstor.org/participate-jstor/individuals/early-journal-content>.

JSTOR is a digital library of academic journals, books, and primary source objects. JSTOR helps people discover, use, and build upon a wide range of content through a powerful research and teaching platform, and preserves this content for future generations. JSTOR is part of ITHAKA, a not-for-profit organization that also includes Ithaka S+R and Portico. For more information about JSTOR, please contact support@jstor.org.

demonstrate, as these authors had concluded, the synthesis of carbon dioxide and water.

Warner and Wager both cautiously raise the question whether in green leaves a photo-decomposition of chlorophyll gives rise to formaldehyde which is then polymerized into sugars, instead of there being a direct synthesis of carbon dioxide and water into formaldehyde.

It is to be noted that a number of the experiments described seem suitable as laboratory exercises and lecture demonstrations.

W. G. M.

NEWS ITEMS.

The Board of Managers and the Women's Auxiliary of the New York Botanical Garden held a reception and spring inspection of the grounds, buildings and collections on the afternoon of Thursday, May 7, from three until six o'clock. Tea was served in the museum building at 5.20 P.M. About 250 guests motored through the grounds and speeches were made by Dr. W. Gilman Thompson, one of the committee of the board of managers, and by the director, Dr. N. L. Britton.

"After a lapse of over twenty-one years a botanic garden at the Cape is once again an established fact. It is described by the *Kew Bulletin* as 'thoroughly worthy of a United South Africa.' The choice of the Kirstenbosch estate as the site for the National Botanic Garden was a particularly happy one, and there can be no doubt that the selection of this site for the purpose would have met with the approval of Cecil Rhodes himself. The existence of so suitable a site for the garden as is this portion of the Rhodes estate would, however, have been of little value but for the farsightedness of General Botha and his government, in consequence of which the scheme has passed from the region of proposition and discussion into the realm of fact. The control of the garden is to be exercised by a board of five trustees, of whom three are nominated by the Government, one by the Corporation of Capetown, and one by the Botanical Society. The

site granted for the garden is a farm about 400 acres in extent on the eastern slopes of Table Mountain, which has been neglected for some years. Though it is largely overgrown with poplars and pines, there still exist on it specimens of nearly every native tree to be found in Southern Cape Colony, west of the Knysna forests. The general situation of the garden is all that could be desired. A feature of very great importance is the presence of permanent water, and there are two constant streams, which will be of the utmost value for irrigation purposes, and will, no doubt, also be capable of effective treatment from the scenic point of view, especially as the gorges are richly wooded with native vegetation. There is also a heavy winter rainfall, and the garden is practically completely sheltered from the drying southeast wind."

Mr. W. W. Eggleston left New York May 8 for a trip, during May and June, to the Manti, Fillmore and Fish Lake Forests, Utah and the Kaibab Forest, northern Arizona. This latter region, north of the Grand Canon, Arizona, is very little known botanically, having been visited by Mr. Ivar Tidestrom in 1909, but perhaps not previously, by botanists.

Dr. N. L. Britton and Mr. Stewardson Brown left New York on May 20 for Bermuda where they will study the vegetation, returning about June 8.

Dr. H. A. Gleason, of the University of Michigan, has returned from a trip around the world begun last September. He will teach the coming summer at the biological laboratory of the University of Michigan. Dr. Gleason expects to spend the month of September at the New York Botanical Garden studying the genus *Vernonia*.

It will be a source of regret to local botanists to hear that within a short time there will be practically no natural vegetation left on the Hempstead Plains. A corporation is now ploughing up the virgin prairie with traction machinery and only that part of the plains south of the Motor Parkway remains in its original state. The corporation intends to plough all the plains as rapidly as possible, leasing the ploughed land for agricultural purposes.

On the afternoon of May 23, a conference was held at the Brooklyn Botanic Garden between the garden staff and some high school teachers of biology of Greater New York, as represented by the New York Association of Biology Teachers. The purpose of the conference was to offer an opportunity for the members of the association to become better acquainted with the aims, equipment, and work of the garden, and to enable the latter to secure from the teachers practical suggestions as to how the garden may render the largest service to the teaching of botany in New York City and vicinity. Following the conference there was an inspection of the first section of the laboratory building and the first two sections of the conservatories. The second section of the conservatories devoted to tropical economic plants, was opened to visitors for the first time on the occasion, and will hereafter be open to the public daily.