

**FLORA OF THE BLUE HILLS,
MIDDLESEX FELS, STONY BROOK
AND BEAVER BROOK RESERVATIONS,
OF THE METROPOLITAN PARK
COMMISSION, MASSACHUSETTS**

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MASSACHUSETTS METROPOLITAN PARK COMMISSION

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FLORA

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OF THE

BLUE HILLS, MIDDLESEX FELLS, STONY
BROOK AND BEAVER BROOK
RESERVATIONS,

OF THE

METROPOLITAN PARK COMMISSION,
MASSACHUSETTS.

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TO W. B. DE LAS CASAS, ESQ.,

Chairman Metropolitan Park Commission.

Sir:—In obedience to Orders of the Commission, dated January 26th and June 12th, 1895, and February 28th, March 11th, and May 6th, 1896, we hand you herewith the following preliminary list of the plants of the woodland reservations. This list is the product of volunteer work on the part of many botanists organized for this purpose by Mr. Warren H. Manning, lately a principal assistant in our office. The Commission, the public and the co-operating botanists are especially to be congratulated in that the list has been compiled and edited by Mr. Walter Deane.

Respectfully submitted,

OLMSTED, OLMSTED & ELIOT.

Brookline, Mass.,

May 15, 1896.



PREFACE.

The following list has been compiled at the request of the Metropolitan Park Commission in order to put on record the present condition of the vegetation of the new public reservations as a basis for comparison in the future. The acreage of Blue Hills Reservation is about 4,000 acres, Middlesex Fells Reservation 3,000 acres, Stony Brook Reservation 450 acres, Beaver Brook Reservation 58 acres. The diversified character of the lands embraced in the reservations gives rise to a most interesting flora. The height of Great Blue Hill is 635 feet, and throughout the reservations hills alternate with valleys and swamps, and clearings with woods, while ponds and brooks afford a rich aquatic vegetation. *Pogonia verticillata*, Nutt., *Habenaria fimbriata*, R. Br., *Epigæa repens*, L. and *Kalmia latifolia*, L. in the Blue Hills, and *Conopholis Americana*, Wallroth, in the Fells, are of the greatest interest, while in Monatiquot Stream which skirts the southern base of the Blue Hills are found the rare *Lemna Valdiviana*, Philippi, and the polymorphous *Sium Carsonii*, Durand. The public should be exhorted, if they come across such plants as these, to preserve them rigidly. The true botanist and lover of nature needs no such exhortation.

Direct botanical work in the reservations has been systematically prosecuted during the past two years only, and the record of plants is necessarily far from complete. This is especially true of Stony Brook and Beaver Brook Reservations. It has, nevertheless, been deemed best to

publish the list at this time, in order that it may be used as a basis on which to build an exhaustive edition.

To enable me to compile the present list, the collections of the past two years, forming the nucleus of a Reservations Herbarium, have been placed in my hands, together with a large card catalogue of valuable notes by botanists who have studied the flora about Boston for years. Mr. M. L. Fernald kindly took charge of naming the Compositæ, and Dr. C. W. Swan the Junci, Cyperaceæ and Gramineæ. Dr. Swan has been much aided by Prof. F. Lamson-Scribner in the grasses, and Prof. L. H. Bailey in the genus *Carex*. I hold myself responsible for the rest of the Phanerogams, as I have examined them all with the exception of a few which were submitted to Dr. B. L. Robinson and Mr. M. L. Fernald. In the naming of these plants I have been assisted especially by the co-operation of Dr. G. G. Kennedy, Judge J. R. Churchill, Mr. L. L. Dame and Mr. E. F. Williams. Mr. George E. Davenport has taken charge of the Pteridophyta, Mr. E. L. Rand of the Bryophyta, Mr. J. W. Blankinship of the Characeæ, Mr. F. S. Collins of the Algæ, Miss Clara E. Cummings of the Lichens, and Prof. A. B. Seymour and Mrs. Flora W. Patterson of the Fungi. The list of Thallophytes is a small one, as but little work has as yet been done in this direction. Mr. E. L. Rand and Dr. B. L. Robinson have rendered most efficient assistance in regard to the form of the list, and Miss Mary A. Day, Librarian at the Gray Herbarium, has been most courteous in facilitating the work done in the Library. Mr. Warren H. Manning's large collections of plants, and his notes on the trees and shrubs have been of great service; and the general field notes of Mr. W. P. Rich, added to his extensive contributions to the

herbarium, have been of especial value in regard to the habitat and distribution of the plants, particularly of the Fells. Judge J. R. Churchill, Dr. G. G. Kennedy, Messrs. C. E. Faxon, E. Faxon, L. L. Dame, F. S. Collins, E. F. Williams, H. A. Purdie, Dr. J. R. Webster, and Mrs. P. D. Richards have aided by their notes on the flora of the various reservations. To all the above and to those who have assisted by collecting in the reservations, contributing to the herbarium, or in any other way, my hearty thanks are extended.

Owing to the fact that this list is in reality a record of the plants growing in four separate reservations, a plan embracing clearness and brevity had to be considered. The list rests upon the authority of the Reservations Herbarium, various private herbaria, notably those of Messrs. C. E. and E. Faxon, W. P. Rich, F. S. Collins, E. F. Williams, Dr. G. G. Kennedy, Judge J. R. Churchill, the Gray Herbarium and my own, and lastly the reports of a few botanists, already mentioned, who have spent much time in studying the distribution of the plants of the reservations. I have also used my own field notes made during the past few years.

The names of plants indigenous to the reservations are printed in heavy full-faced type, while the names of plants introduced either into North America, or into the reservations from this country, or cultivated in old gardens, by roadsides and the like, are printed in small capitals. Synonyms are printed in italics.

After each species and its common name, if it has any, follows a statement of the general habitat of the plant as it occurs in New England. This ends with the period, separate observations being divided by semicolons. Then follow observations on each reservation. The following