CATALOGUE OF THE PHÆNOGAMOUS AND VASCULAR CRYPTOGAMOUS PLANTS OF WORCESTER COUNTY, MASSACHUSETTS

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Catalogue of the phænogamous and vascular cryptogamous plants of Worcester County, Massachusetts by $\,$ Joseph Jackson $\,$

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JOSEPH JACKSON

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WORCESTER COUNTY,

MASSACHUSETTS.

WORCESTER NATURAL HISTORY SOCIETY.
WORCESTER, MASS., U. S. A.

1888.





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JOSEPH JACKSON,

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PREFACE.

It was at first the intention of the writer to prepare a Catalogue of the Plants of Millbury, one of the towns in the southern part of Worcester County, in which his own collections had been quite carefully made during the past four The number of plants to be found in the or five years. small area comprised within the limits of one town could thus be easily shown. While departing somewhat from the original plan, the present catalogue may be made a little more useful from its broader scope, although lacking in the completeness which it might have attained on the smaller basis. It is hoped that the publication of the present catalogue may lead to further additions to our knowledge of the flora, both phenogamic and cryptogamic, of the county, so that as complete a catalogue as possible may within a few years be prepared.

The present list contains eight hundred and twelve species and well-marked varieties, distributed among three hundred and eighty-seven genera. Of this number six hundred and twenty-five species are found in Millbury. The locality of those found elsewhere has been indicated, so far as known, by at least one reference.

Worcester County extends across the State of Massachusetts from north to south. On its southern or Rhode Island margin it is allied by its flora to Southern New England. On its northern or New Hampshire margin it is allied to Northern New England. It lies at altitudes varying from 200 ft. to 2,500 ft. above the sea level. Only one point, Mt. Wachusett, reaches the latter height. The surface is greatly diversified by ranges of hills, within the valleys formed by which are the water-courses so largely

used for manufacturing purposes, and the natural or artificial reservoirs used for water-supply. It is a thickly-wooded region, with many kinds of valuable timber trees, as the white pine, white ash, white oak, hickory, chestnut, rock maple, &c.

The intervales along the rivers are rich, but the soil of most uplands and pastures is poor, yet not without a due reward to the labor of the industrious husbandman.

In the preparation of this list, so far as it contains names of plants found in other towns than Millbury, the writer is under great obligations to Prof. T. E. N. Eaton of Worcester, who has botanized extensively in the county, and furnished valuable aid, as will be seen by referring to the list itself. For the list of species under the genera Naias and Potamogeton, he is indebted to the courtesy of Rev. Thomas Morong of Ashland, who has collected those genera very extensively and has also had access to the collection and papers of the late Dr. Robbins of Uxbridge; the series of Potamogetons presented to the Worcester Natural History Society by Miss Emily W. Sargent of Worcester was also of great use.

Mr. E. Adams Hartwell of Fitchburg, Prof. James E. Vose of Ashburnham, Capt. V. P. Parkhurst of East Templeton, and Miss Annie E. Tucker of Spencer, either kindly contributed living specimens of plants not found in this locality, or gave authentic information with regard to them. The late Mr. Cyrus Kilburn of Lunenburg, the veteran botanist of the northern part of the county, sent us specimens of the Linnaea, Raphanus, and Arrhenatherum, and had promised us further help, but, alas!

Eheu! fugaces, Postume, Postume, Labuntur anni, nec pietas moram Rugis et instanti senectae Affert Indomitaeque morti.

Our thanks are due and are herewith tendered to the kind friends whose assistance has rendered our work possible. It is our hope that the present publication of this list may stimulate some of the young citizens of our towns and of the county to a further search in wood, pasture and meadow, lake and river, on hill-side and in the valley for the beauties, and no less for those inconspicuous and often overlooked plants, which a kindly Nature has distributed with so lavish a hand over every part of our limits, and that at the same time they may carefully record the names and habits of every plant so found. The work of the Worcester Natural History Society would be greatly aided by the presentation of specimens of the flora of the county, prepared for the herbarium, so that there might be at least one place in the county in which a citizen of this region might find a representative of every plant to be found within the limits of its work.

It may be remarked that the names in this catalogue are the same as in the last edition of Gray's Manual of the Botany of the Northern United States.

It is not thought wise to use names which are found in recent works not easily accessible to Students; otherwise *Rhodora Canadensis* would have appeared as *Rhododend-ron Rhodora*, and both our Azaleas would have appeared under the same genus, with many similar changes. No attempt has been made to distinguish between indigenous and introduced plants, as that work is completely done in the Manual.

WORCESTER, MASS.,

September, 1883.