

**ASPECTS OF PLANT LIFE;
WITH SPECIAL REFERENCE
TO THE BRITISH FLORA;
NATURE LOVER'S SERIES**

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Aspects of plant life; with special reference to the British flora; Nature lover's series by Robert Lloyd Praeger

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ROBERT LLOYD PRAEGER

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NATURE LOVER'S SERIES

ASPECTS OF
PLANT LIFE

WITH SPECIAL REFERENCE TO
THE BRITISH FLORA

BY

ROBERT LLOYD PRAEGER

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"A TOURIST'S FLORA OF THE WEST OF IRELAND,"

"WEEDS," ETC.

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PREFACE

IN the following chapters an attempt is made to deal, in a quite elementary way, with some of the wider aspects of plant life—to discuss questions which arise in the mind from a contemplation of the vegetation which clothes with a green mantle the surface of our own country. No essay is made to enumerate or define the plants to be met with in the different types of ground, or in the different geographical areas, which go to make up the British Isles: there are already plenty of excellent handbooks and local floras in which that aspect of native plant life is treated. The vegetation is taken rather as a whole, and its whence, and when, and how are considered with as little of technical phraseology as the subject allows. The influence on plants of their physical environment, and the intimate inter-relations of the vegetable kingdom with the other great manifestation of organic life, the animal kingdom, are briefly considered, as is also the unique relation existing between the plant world and the human race.

These chapters are intended to be used in conjunction with simple observations in the field, such as any person of enquiring mind, unversed in science, may

be tempted to make during idle hours on a summer holiday.

To Professor G. H. Carpenter and Mr. W. B. Wright I am indebted for suggestions and emendations where I have trespassed on the domains of zoology and geology respectively.

R. L. P.

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