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About the Institute

The Hunt Institute for Botanical Documentation, a research division of Carnegie Mellon University, specializes in the history of botany and all aspects of plant science and serves the international scientific community through research and documentation. To this end, the Institute acquires and maintains authoritative collections of books, plant images, manuscripts, portraits and data files, and provides publications and other modes of information service. The Institute meets the reference needs of botanists, biologists, historians, conservationists, librarians, bibliographers and the public at large, especially those concerned with any aspect of the North American flora.

Hunt Institute was dedicated in 1961 as the Rachel McMasters Miller Hunt Botanical Library, an international center for bibliographical research and service in the interests of botany and horticulture, as well as a center for the study of all aspects of the history of the plant sciences. By 1971 the Library's activities had so diversified that the name was changed to Hunt Institute for Botanical Documentation. Growth in collections and research projects led to the establishment of four programmatic departments: Archives, Art, Bibliography and the Library.

An 5

"Herbals"
R

Kerner	1, 3, 5
Parkinson. (Biographical)	6
Parkinson's Herbal	7-19
Dodson & Henry Lyte (biographical)	20
Dodson's Herbal	21-31
Turner's "British Physician"	33
Pliny the Elder	35
Gerard, Fuchs, Dioscorides (biographical)	36
"Phylogonoi" (Lucian)	37
Sachs History of Botany	39
Greens Herbal	43
Paradisi in sole John Parkinson	45
Plantarum Historia - Lobel	53
Johnson & Gerard Biographical	54
Gerard's Herbal	55
Anonymous Anonymous Herbal (1525)	63
Bauhins	67
Culpeper	69
Foxglove. Hooker. 28 Dodson 29 Gerard 59 Culpeper 77	
Histoire des Plantes de l'Europe (Bauhins)	71
Willis - Turner's Herbal	97
Thomas Hill (Practical Art of Gardening)	98
Coll. of Herbs at S.W. Polytechnic	101
Letter for Prof. Hooker	102

Herbals & Herbalists

Agnes Robertson
Sept. 1901.

Kerner's Natural History of Plants
Phylogonoi. A guild in Ancient Greece whose members collected & prepared such roots & herbs as were considered to be curative & either sold them themselves, or caused them to be sold by the Apothecaries.
As late as the sixteenth century plants were looked at from a purely utilitarian point of view. People clung to the notion that everything upon the earth was created for the sake of mankind, & in particular that in every plant there were forces lying dormant, which if liberated would conduce either to the welfare or the injury of man.
Doctrine of Signatures. Highest dev. in writings of Paracelsus (1493-1541)
Theophrastus Natural History of Plants. about 300 BC
At the time of the Roman Empire & in the Middle Ages, no one troubled himself about plants other than those known to be in some way useful. There was a renaissance of Science as well as Art & Literature in the 15th century. People turned with youthful enthusiasm to the great writings on Natural History. The effect of the

was to arouse a passion for the search for all kinds of plants. The results are preserved in a number of bulky herbals, dating for the most part from the first half of the sixteenth century. "Plants native to the soil, herbs which flowered in gardens or had been reared from seed purchased from itinerant vendors of antidotes, or plants whose fruits were brought to Europe as curiosities from the New World recently discovered — all these were jumbled together in a confused medley." As researches were then limited to the native land of the students, they had scarcely any idea how the floras of different countries differed. They assumed that the plants described by Theophrastus, Dioscorides, or Pliny could be identified in the more northerly countries. The German "Father of Botany" (Brunfels 1495 circa-1534 Bock 1498-1554 Fuchs 1501-1566) applied the Greek & Latin names without scruple to the species growing in their own localities. Gradually these fruitless debates concerning the Greek & Latin names of plants were abandoned. In Hieronymus Bock's Herbal (1546) there is a discussion as to whether the Latin name *Crucifera* is applicable to the German Beeth or not, in the midst of which the author says "the plants we know best were the least known to the Latins," rat

Herbarium. A collection of dried plants; an herbarium
made by Cassiodorus died AD 575 (Lewis & Clark)

last he exclaims, "Be our health the same as *Urtica* or not, it is in any case a pretty & sturdy little shrub, beset with numerous brown rounded branches, which are clothed all over with small green leaves; & its appearance is like that of the sweet-smelling Lavender Cotton."

Clusius the Belgian (1526-1609) was the first man to emancipate himself entirely from those hair-splitting controversies, & also abandoned the utilitarian standpoint. Just at the time he published his herbal, collections of dried plants began to be made. Clusius was the first man who travelled for Botanical purposes - he roamed over Europe from the Sierras of Spain to the borders of Hungary, & from the seacoast to the highlands of the Tyrol.

Linnaeus (1707-1778) sifted & arranged the chaotic mass of material that had been accumulated. The Linnaean system took immediate possession of the civilized world. Linnaean botany was recommended, especially to ladies, as a harmless pastime, not overtaxing to the mind.

John Parkinson. b. London 1567. Apothecary to King James I., & botanist to Charles I
Pallmer's "Regnum Vegetabile":—

"In Parkinson's works we also find the name of Mrs. Thomasin Tenstat, a lady whom he celebrates, not only for her taste in cultivating a garden which was well stored with exotics, but for her knowledge of English botany, & her discoveries of several curious vegetables found about Ingleborough Hill, in Lancashire; which were not known before to grow in England."

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Parkinson's herbarium was the last of any importance in which wood cuts were used in England

The first Herbarium with wooden cuts was probably the Book of Nature printed at Augsburg in 1478
The blocks for Parkinson's Theatrum & Paradisus were probably cut in England. Those for the first were copied from Gerard

The Theater of Plantae or an Universall & Compleate Herbal
Composed by John Parkinson apothecary of London, & the Kings Herbarist. 1640

Introduction To the Kings most excellent Majesty
"Slaving by long paines & endeavours, composed this
Manlike Wake of Herbes & Plants, most gracious Sovereigne
(as I formerly did a Feminine of Flowers, & presented it to
the Quenes most excellent Majesty)

The Classes or Tribes contained in this Worke, are these:

1. Plantae Odoratae. Sweete smelling Plant
2. Catharticae sine Purgantes. Purging Plants
3. Venenosae, Narcoticae, Procucae & Alexipharmacae.
Venomous, Sleepy, & Hurtfull Plants, & their Counterpoisons
4. Saxifragae Plantae, Nephriticae Sive Calculum purgantes.
Saxifrage, or Breakestone Plant
5. Plantae Vulnerariae & Ferruminantes, id est, Consolidantes.
Vulnerary or Wound Herbes
6. Plantae Refrigerantes & Intubacae. Cooling &
Succory-like Herbes
7. Plantae Calidae & Aeres. Hot & Sharp biting Plants.
8. Umbelliferae. Umbelliferous Plants
9. Cardui & Spinosa Plantae. Thistles & Thorny Plants
10. Filices & Herbae Capillares. Feares & Capillary Herbes
11. Legumina. Pulses.
12. Cerealia. Cornes
13. Gramina, Junci & Arundines. Grasses, Rushes & Reeds
14. Plantae Paludosae Aquaticae & Marinae, Musci & Fungi
Marsh, Water & Sea Plants, & Mushes, & Mushrooms.
15. Miscelanea. The Unordered Tribe
16. Arbores & Frutices. Trees & Shrubbos
17. Exoticae & Punginae Plantae. Strange & Outlandish
Plants.

"There is much controversie among our moderne writers, what
herbe should certainly be the *Thymbra* of Dioscorides,
which in his time as it should seeme was most familiarly
known, & therefore with no further description thereof,
then that it was like unto *Tyme*, but lesse & more tender,
having heads of greene flowers, & that it grew in rough
& stony places. *Matthiæus* with us one, *Lebel* another,
Clusius a third, & each entitle theirs the *vera* &
legitima: *Matthiæus*, because it was sent forth, *Pena*
because he found it growing on *Saint Julian's Rocks*
in the *Florentine* dominion, & *Clusius*, because *Honourius*
Belles sent him the seed from *Candyæ*, who saith
that the *Laudit* Greeks call it to this day usually
Throbi or *Thrumbi*: but it is certain, that neither
our winter or summer *Savvy* doe answer unto the
Thymbra of *Dioscorides*, for that neither of them is like, or
lesser then *Tyme*, although they are familiarly eaten by
divers nations being put unto brothes, meates, etc. as
Dioscorides saith of his garden *Thymbra*.
Parkinson finally agrees with *Clusius*' identification of
Dioscorides plant, saying "no other that we know
comming neere therunto."

A Thyme with variegated leaves is called "Gilded or embroidered Thyme"

Cuscuta. Dodder. "Under this title of Dodder, I comprehend not only Epithymum as the chiefest kind thereof; but all the ^{other} sorts of laces or threads, that grow either upon herbs & shrubbes, etc., or upon the ground."

"It first from seeds groweth roots in the ground, which shoot forth threads or strings, grosser or finer, as the property of the plants whereon it groweth, & the climate doth suffer, (although Matthiolius & others have thought it to grow without roots) once past spreading on that plant whereon it fasteneth, be it high or low, closing the very gasse if it meete with none else (although Ruellius saith it groweth not on the ground, but on herbs) as upon some vines also in Barbary, as Pena saith he observed: these strings have no leaves at all upon them, but wind & entangle themselves so thick of themselves upon a small plant, that it taketh away all comfort (as one would thinke) of the Sun from it, & ready to choake or strangle it; after these strings are risen up to that height, that they may draw nourishment from the plant, you shall scarce

See any appearance of shirgs from the ground, they being broken off, either by the strength of their rising, or withered by the heate of the Sunne, (& if they meete with no herbe or plant whereon to spreade, they will soon perish of themselves, as I have tryed myselfe, by sowing the seedes in a pot by themselves, & so observed their springing) from whence divers have imagined, that it might grow as Mousse upon trees, or like Trisselto; but I think rather as Ivie, by drawing nourishment insensibly from the plants whereon it groweth, & thereby partaketh of the nature of the same plants. x x x

By this I have fully related it, & assure plainly to any, that neither Iyme, Savoy, or any other herbe, doe naturally of their owne seede bring these stranges or laces, but that they spring from their owne seede, either shed or scattered of themselves upon the ground, or coming among the seedes of other herbes that are sowne.

Marjoram "Our dauntles women doe put it to still among their other sweet herbs, to make sweet washing water."
 "Theophrastus in his first booke, & eighth chapter, de de causis plantarū, saith that Bissell growing in a place too much exposed to the heate of the Sunne, changeth into

17
 Scopyllum, or wilds Tyme, by the overmuch dryness
 thereof, for the leaf becometh smaller, & the scent stronger
 thereby: but these Metamorphoses or changes of Herbes
 one into another, is very frequent both with him, Pliny,
 yea, & Gallen too, as well as divers others of the ancient
 Writers, which sheweth in what errours men of judgement
 & learning have been conversant & confident in.

"The Arabian Physicians have extolled the virtues of Baulme, for the
 passions of the heart in a wonderfull manner, which the
 Greeks have not remembered; for Serapis saith, it is the
 best part of Baulme, to cause the inward heart to become
 merry, * * * * * to strengthen the weaknesse of the
 spirit & heart, & to comfort them."

Mullein "The elder age used the stalks dypp'd in Suet to
 cure."

"The golden flowers of the blacke mullein boyled in eye,
 dyeth the haire of the head yellow; & maketh the
 face smooth."

Cypresse Spruce or Welcome to our house

Jointed glasswort

This jointed Kali riseth up usually, but with one upright round thick, almost transparent stalk, a foot high or better, thick set, full of joints or knots, without any leaves at all on them, but shooting forth joints, one out of another, with short cuds at the heads of them, & also such like smaller branches on all sides, & they also divided into other smaller ones: this is thought to bear neither flower nor seeds, the root is small long & kneddie."

Grass of Parnassus is included in Turkey, so cut with open Jobs leaves

Includes Corals & sponges, but says "Beside the Sponges themselves, which are of sundry differing formes & colours, there are also many other sea Recrements (whether I should call them plants or no I know not well)."

Dodoens. Born at Mechlin 1518. Studied at Louvain & the principal universities of Europe, & settled at Antwerp. First physician to Maximilian II & Rudolph II. Held the chair of medicine at Leyden from 1582 till his death.

Henry Lyte. Born in Somersetshire 1529. Studied at Oxford, travelled in foreign countries, & having collected a number of rare plants, on his return founded one of the first botanical gardens in England. d. 1607.

Pulleney's progress of botany in Engl^d:-

Dodoens Collected works were published in 1583.

He divides plants into

1. a number of dissimilar plants in alphabetical order
2. Flower garden plants; & the umbelliferous tribe
3. Medicinal roots: purgative plants: climbing & poisonous plants: ferns, mosses, & fungi
4. Grain: pulse: grasses: water & marsh plants.
5. Edible plants: ground plants: esculent roots: Heracious: thistles & spiny plants
6. Shrubs & trees.

Lyte in his translation borrowed his figures from Fuchsius, adding a few new ones

A new Herball, a Historie of Plants: wherein is contained the whole discourse & perfect description of all sortes of Herbes & Plantes; their divers & sundry kinds: their strange Figures, Fashions, & Shapes: their Names, Natures, Operations, & Vertues: & that not only of those which are here growing in this our Countrey of Englande, but of all others also of forrayne Realmes, commonly used in Physicke. First set forth in the Dutch or Almayne tongue, by that learned D. Rembert Dodoens, Physitian to the Emperour; and now first translated out of French into English, by Henry Lyte Esqyer.

Woodcut much better & more accurate than Parkinson.
Wonderfully freely drawn
The order is all!

Southernwood; Wormwood; Bayles, Dogg's tongue
Borage, Altiburr, Maywate, Tansy
Artemisia vulgaris. "Whoever shall carry this herbe about him (as Plinie saith) no venomous beast, or any like thing shall hurt him, & if he travell upon the way, he shall not be weary."

Cotopost & Bullbur come together; Great & smallcelandine,

Drash mangled come together

The first kinde of Geranium or Storches bill, his leaves are cut & jagged in many pieces, like to Crowfoote, his stalkes be slender, & parted into sundry branches, upon which groweth smal flowers somewhat like roses, or the flowers of Mallows, of a light murrey or redde colour: after them cometh little round heades, with smal long billes, like Redels, or like the beakes of Cranes & Beavens, wherein the seed is contayned: The root is thicke, round, short, & knobby, with ^{contayne small strange fragrant seeds.}

Jutsan "this herbe groweth not in this Countrey, except in gardens where it is"

Yellow & purple Loosestrife come together
(= bellwort!)

"Some have written, that three rootes of Plantayne, taken with wine water, doth cure the feverishness: & foure rootes so taken do cure the fever quartayne"

Of Horse Tayle or Shavegrasse
We have the great Shavegrasse or Horstayle beginneth

to sprung, it burgeth forth round naked, & hollow stemmes,
rough & full of joyntes: yea their roughness is such,
that Turners Cutlers, & other Drificiers, do use them to
polish, & make playne, & smooth their workes, as the
hefte of Keyes & Daggers etc."

A Chapter is devoted to "certaine Herbes that fleete or swimme
upon the water." These he describes are Pondweed, water
violet, Frog bit, duckweed, & water crowfoot

A good description of the heterophylly of the water crowfoot

"Amongst the fleeting herbes, there is also a certayne
herbe which some call water Lyverworte, at the rookes
wherof there are many beards springe like water, the
which both oftentimes change his uppermost leaves
according to the places where as it groweth. That
whiche groweth within the water, carrieth, upon
slender stalkes, his leaves very small cut, much like
the leaves of the Common Cammomill, but before they
be under the water, & growing above ~~and~~ about the
toppe of the stalkes, it beareth small rounde leaves,
somewhat dected, or unevenly cut about. That
kind whiche groweth out of the water in the
borders of Ditches, hath none other but the small
jagged leaves. That whiche groweth adjoining to

The water, is sometimes drenched or overwhelmed with water, hath also at the top of the stalkes, small rounde leaves, but much more dentid than the round leaves of that which groweth always in the water."

Alyson "hanged in the house, or at the gate, or entry, keepeth both man & beast from enchantments & witching.

Crosby, ashy & purnoses are described as small mullins

"Addus tongue is an herbe of a marvelous strange nature, it bringeth forth but one leaf of the length of ones finger, in which groweth a littell stemme, bearing a littell long, narrow, tongue, like to a Serpent. x x x This leaf is found with his littell tongue, in April & May: the while he be vanissheth away in June."

"The garden violets are of a fayre darke or shining deepe blew colour, & a very pleasant & amiable smell"

Describes Wallflowers under the name of *Viola lutea* of French violet, & Damie's violet

Hooker's Students' Flora

Digitalis, Town. Foxglove

Tall, biennial or perennial herbs. Lower leaves crowded, pelted; upper alternate. Flowers in terminal racemes, purple orange yellow or white, spotted inside, honeyed, proterandrous; throat bearded. Calyx 5-partite.

Corolla declinate, tube campanulate or ventricose, constricted above the throat, upper lobe short, spreading, notched or 2-fid, lower longer, horizontal. Stamens 4, ascending; anthers in pairs, cells at first parallel contiguous, then divaricate. Style 2-lobed. Capsule cephalically 2-valved, valves entire with inflexed margins, separating from the seed-bearing column. Seeds minute, oblong, angled.

"The seeds of the garden Larkes^s spurre drunken is very good agaynst the stinging of Scorpions, & in deede his vertue is so great agaynst their poyson, that the only herbe thrown before the Scorpions, doth cause them to be without force or power to do hurte, so that they may not move or sturre, untill this herbe be taken from them."

Of Foxglove [see p. 60]

Foxglove hath long broad swart greene leaves, somewhat dented about the edges, somewhat like the leaves of wild Thudleyne, amongst the whiche spryngeth up a straight rounde stem of twoo Caldesting or three above, by one side wherof, from the middle to the very toppe, there growe fayre long round hollow floures, fashioned like finger stales, of colour sometimes carnation, & speckled, in the inside with white spots, & sometimes all white, & sometimes yellow. When they are fallen of, there appeareth rounde sharpe pynted huskes in which is conteyned the seeds; of a bitter taste. The root is black & full of thready string.

Of Floure de luce or Rio

The greater Rio, or floure de luce his leaves be long & large, not much unlike to the blade of a two edged sword,

amongst the which there springeth up playne & smooth
 little stalkes of two foote long or more, bearing flowers
 made of six leaves joyned together, whereof the three that
 stande upright, are bent inward one towards another:
 & most commonly in the leaves that hang downewards,
 there are certaine rough or hearie wettes lyke unto a
 mans browes, growing or rising from the nether part
 of the leafe upwards, almost of a yellow colour. The roots
 be thicke, long & knobby, with many strings, as if
 were hearie threedes hanging at them."

Each plant has The Description

The Place

The Time

The Names

The Nature

The Vertues

Sonne Dewe is included among mosses "This herbe is of
 very strange nature & marvelous: for although that the
 Sonne do shine heate, & a long time thereon, yet you
 shall finde it alwayes moist & bedewed, & the small
 beards thereof alwayes full of little droppes of water."
 The grasses are described together, including Job's Tears

"The Robert Turner was one of the Ashbourn
Herbals

BOTANOPHIA The British Physician or
The Nature & Vertues of English Plants.

Robert Turner. 1664

"For what Climate soever is subject to any particular Disease,
in the same place there grows a cure."

"God hath imprinted upon the Plants, Herbs, & Flowers, as
it were in Hieroglyphicks, the very signature of their vertues;
as the learned Grollius is thus well observe; as, the
Kutmy being cut, resembles the brain."

The plants are alphabetically arranged; no wood cuts
Ground Ivy = *May not a Gill - so - by - ground*

Devil's Bit. "The root is black, thick, hard, & short, with
many shreddy strings fastned to it; & about the middle
a piece seemeth to be bitten out of it, & the root almost
bitten in two; which (if old Savaes be true) the Devil
did for envy, because the herb is so beneficial for
the health of mankind."

Lilly Cornwallly or Lilly of the valley "greweth upon Hamsted
Heath"

Pliny the Elder
"Botany & Medicine are said to have been invented
by Chiron; a" He

John Geraerde - Belgian Surgeon b. Nantwich
b. 1545 d. 1607

Leonard Fuchs or Fuchsius - Bavarian physician & botanist.
b. 1501 d. 1566 Professor at Tubingen 35 years -

Dioscorides physician Born in Cilicia in first
century of Christian era, & was the author of work
on *Materia Medica*, in which all the vegetable
substances then used as medicines are described
& catalogued. "This work held its ground as
fact & sole authority on the subject of which it
treats for 1600 years, its infallibility & completeness
being almost as hard to shake & deprive as that
of Aristotle or the Pope. It was printed by Aldus
in 1499."

Lucian's Dialogues of the Gods XIII

"A dispute between Hercules & Asclepius on a question
of precedence"

Hercules: "But you are a Rhysdromos & a wandering quack;
though you be useful in treating sick men with drugs, yet
you don't display ^{an atom of} manliness"

Sachs History of Botany

To the authors of the oldest herbals of the 16th century plants were mainly vehicles of medicinal virtues; to them plants were the ingredients in compound medicines, were therefore called "simples" i.e. simple constituents of medicaments.

"The descriptions were at first extremely marshy & unmethodical."

The first perception of natural groups is found in Boeck.

The series of Botanical works published in Germany & the Netherlands from 1530 to 1623 from Brunfels to

Kasper Bauhin show how the perception of a

grouping by affinity grew more & more distinct.

The idea of natural groups was arrived at by the Germans instinctively. "The fact of natural affinity presented itself unsought as an incidental & indefinite impression, to which no great value was at first attached."

The Italian botanist Cesalpino on the contrary was led to distribute all natural vegetable forms into definite groups on philosophic grounds. He wanted to arrive at a classification which should satisfy the understanding. So from the very first beginnings of systematic botany there were two opposing elements, not easy to reconcile for "it was not

possible by the use of arbitrary principles of classification which satisfied the understanding & do justice at the same time to the instinctive feeling for natural affinity which would not be argued away.

Greene's Herbal. 1820

At end of introduction a long account of how to
gather & preserve herbs, & the preparations of them
which will retain their virtues

"Nature has, in this country, as well as in all others,
provided, in the herbs of its own growth, the remedies
for the several diseases to which it is most subject"

C. S. dock & shipping article

Title of Parkinson's work is a pun on his name!

The first work which separately described & figured the subjects of the flower garden.

Dedicated to dear Henrietta Maria

Many of the plates copied from Clusius & Lobel

Parkinson's "Theatrum" describes nearly 3800 plants as against 2,800 in Johnson's Gerard published seven years previously, but his cuts, inferior English copies of those of Johnson,

only number about 2,600 as against 2700 in his

predecessor's work. The work is however more original than that of Johnson or Gerard

Det. Nat. Biog.

Paradisi in Sole Paradiseus Terrestis

or garden of all sorts of pleasant flowers which our English ayre will permitt to be noursed up.

John Parkinson Apothecary of London 1629

"The ancient Heathens did appropriate the first invention of the knowledge of Herbes, so consequently of Physicke, some unto Chiron the Centaure, others unto Asclepius or Esculapius his soune."

"Now further to informe the courteous Reader, betwixt the occasion that led me on to this work, & the other occurrences to it. First, having perused many Herbals in Latine, I observed that most of them have either neglected or not knowen the many diversities of the flower Plants, & rare fruits are known to us at this time, & (except Clusius) have made mention but of a very few. In English likewise we have some excellent, as Turner & Dodonaeus translated, who have said little of Flowers, Gerard who is last, hath no doubt given us the knowledge of as many as he attained unto in his time, but since his dates

we have had many more varieties, then he or they
 ever heard of, as may be perceived by the store
 I have here produced. And none of them have
 particularly severed those that are beautifull
 flower plants, fit to store a garden of delight &
 pleasure, from the wilde & unfit: but have
 interlaed many, one among another, whereby
 many that have desired to have faire flowers,
 have not known either what to choose, or what
 to desire. * * * * * To satisfy therefore their
 desires that are lovers of such Delights, I look
 upon ^{upon} ~~see~~ this labour & charge, as ^{to have been selected &}
 set forth a garden full the chiefest for choyce, &
 fairest for shew; from among all the severall Tubes &
 Hundreds of Natures beauty."

* * * * *

Thine in what he may

John Parkinson

Parkinson shews that you cannot make flowers grow
 double by planting or transplanting at a before the
 new or full moon, for he "made tryall at many times,
 & in many sorts of plants." Also he gives the method

by which it is said the colour & scent of flowers can be altered, "First (they say) if you shall steep your seedes in the lees of red Wine, you shall have the flowers of those plants to be of a purple colour. If you will have Lillies or Yello flowers to be of a Scarlet red colour, you shall put Vermillion or Lynaber betwene the roots & the small heads growing above the root: x . x .

x . x . x . Some againe doe advise to open the head of the roote, & poure into it water the plants you would have changed, with such coloured liquor as the you desire the flower to be of. Also to make Roses to be yellow, that you should graft a white Rose (some say a Damask) upon a Broom stalk. x .

x . . In the like manner for sent, they have set downe in their writings, that by putting Cloves, Muske, Cinamon, Benzoin, or any other such sweete thing, bruised with Rosewater, between the bark & the body of trees, the fruit of them will smell & taste of the same that is put unto them." . . . " They are all but more idle tales & fancies"

"The Frankiske, or Fodish Cowslip: Or Jacke an apes on horse backe." The name is called Fantastike

or Turkish, because it beareth at the toppe of the stalks
a bush or tuft of small long green leaves, with some
yellow leaves, as it were peeces of flowers broken, standing
among the green leaves.

"Bonage & Baylone grow onely in Gardens with us."

Genny ~~the~~ flower = Fritillary
The melancholy Gentleman = a kind of stock

Bears ear Samole

The leaves & ~~the~~ taste a little bit, if one of them be
taste white, without burning, on the cheek of any
tender skined woman, it will raise an orient red
colour, & ~~the~~ which will passe away without any
manner of harme."

Of Flemish extraction. From the age of fifteen
examined with the love of plants

Plantarum seu Stirpium Historia
Matthiae de Label

Antwerp. 1576

In Latin with exquisite wood cuts

Byjus with rushes & grasses then bulbous plants

Fyuis describes an immense number of Orchidaceous plants

Then a number of Cruciferous plants, with an occasional
umbelliferous ^{visida} mixed in among them. Then composite
plants. Coming to lettuce, he next describes Cabbages

Describes Herb Paris as a kind of solanum. Puts
Mandrages & Benbore near the solanum

Lunaria & Ophryglossum are put among the ^{ferns} ferns,
but on the same page with them occurs a crucifer (?)
with leaves somewhat resembling them of lunaria
Sunder occurs between the wall rue & Faba mas
& Faba femina. Acanthus with the Thistle

Thomas Johnson, Editor of Gerard's Herbal, was an acquaintance of Parkinson

Gerard's garden in Holborn contained near 1100 sorts of plants

Johnson was bred an apothecary in London. He afterwards kept a herbals shop on Snow Hill. He was killed at the siege of Basing fighting on the Royalist side.

Johnson, if not the first, was among the earliest Botanists who visited Wales & Saundon,

with the sole intention of discovering the rarities of that country in the vegetable kingdom. He first found the yellow poppy, papaver Cambricum, the mountain saw-wort & the rose root, rhodola rosea

The Herball or Generall Historie of Plants
Gathered by John Gerard of London Master in Chirurgery.

Very much enlarged & amended by Thomas Johnson Citizen & Apothecary of London 1633

(First published 1597)

Johnson's preface
He quotes Turner, & Lyte's translation of Dodonæus say, there has been nothing since

Justus Solomon, Theophrastus, Dioscorides, Aristotellus
Pliny Galen

Fuchius "his generall method is after the Greek Alphabet"

"he hath taken many of his descriptions as they were word for word out of the Arabians."

Matthiæus "runs into many errors, & some of them wilfull ones, as when he gives figures framed by his own fancy, & falsified otherwise in part, the better to make them agree with Dioscorid. his description."

Cesalpinius "maketh the chief affinity of Plants to consist in the similitude of their seeds & seed vessels"
Gerard bases his herball, without acknowledgment, on Priests translation of Dodonæus collected works.

"In three books therefore, as in three gardens, all our Plants are bestowed; sited as neere as might be in kindred & neighbourhood.

The first booke hath Grasses, Rushes, Corne, Reeds, Flax, Bulbous or Onion-rooted Plants.

The second, most sorts of herbes used for meate, medicine, or sweet smelling.

The third hath Trees, Shrubs, Bushes, Fruit-bearing Plants, Rosins, Gummes, Roses, Beethes, Mosses, Mushrooms, Corall, & their severall kinds."

Digitized by Hunt Institute for Botanical Documentation

(Note the wild hyacinth, the hare bell

Figure of Sarcocolla, copied from Clusius, who says he received the figure with one dried leaf from an apothecary of Paris who himself received it from Lisbon. Gerard gives the figure "for the sarsaparilla thereof, but hopes that some or other that travell unto foraine parts may finde this elegant plant, & know it by this small expression, & bring it home with them, that so we may come to a perfect knowledge thereof."

Many of the figures are taken direct from earlier herbals such as Lobel's.

1800 wood cuts, only 16 of which are original
Dietrich & Bosc

Linnaeus. "The whole plant before it come to flower
so much resembleth *Essula minor*, (synonym) "that
the one is hardly knowne from the other, but by this do
esse *Essula* with milke doth flow,

Toad-flax without milke doth grow."

This is Johnson's English translation of the Latin
quotation used by Gerard.

The last thing in the Herballs is "The goose tree,
Barnack tree, or the tree bearing geese,"
"This wonder of England."

Johnson gives a note on the real name of the
geese.

Of Fox-gloves

Fox-glove with the purple flower is most common;
the leaves whereof are long, nicked in the edges, of a
light greene, in manner like those of mullein, but
lesser, & not so downie: the stalk is straight, from
the middle whereof to the top stand the flowers, set in
a course one by another upon one side of the stalk,
hanging downwards with the bottome upwards, in
forme long, like almost to fungus stalks, whereof

61
It took his name Digitalis, for red purple colour,
with certaine white spots dash'd within the flower;
after which come up round heads, in which lies the
seed, somewhat browne, as small as those of Tyme.
The roots are many slender strings

Here byynneth a newe mater, the whiche sheweth
 & treateth of ye vertues & properties of herbes, the
 whiche is cabled an Herball

1525

No wood cuts. Blank letter. Plants described in
 alphabetical order.

Very little descriptions of the plants, nearly all about
 their vertues

Bursa pastoris

This herbe Bursa pastoris is called Shepherdes purse.

This herbe hathe a small stalk full of braunches
 & ragged leues, & a whyte flower. The seedes
 thereof be lyke a purse

Plantago

This is called Plantayne. . . . For head ache
 take Plantayne & bynde it aboute thy necke &
 ye ache shall go out of thy head."

Rosemary

Take the flowers & make powder thereof &
 bynde it to the ryght arme in a linnen clothe,
 & it shall make the light & merry. . . .
 Also boyle the leues in whyte wyne & washe
 thy face therewith, Thou shall
 have a fayre face. Also put the leues under

65 3
thy beddes head, & thou shalt be deliyvered of all
evyll dreames. - Also make the a box of the
wood & smell to it & it shall preserve thy youthe

67 3

Caspari Bauhini Theatri Botanici Liber primus

155 156 LVIII

in Latin Basle 1658

1st volume

Section I Grasses

II Juncus, Nardus, Gyperis, Galanga
Sparganium, Urtica maurea Equisetum

III Arundo Papyrus Typha

IV Triticum Secale Hordeum Secale avena
Ustilago Oryza Milium, Panicum
Phalaris

V Aphodias, Phalangium

VI Xyris, Iris, Acorus, Galanga, Zingiber
Zedoaria, Costus, Curcuma, Acorus Indicus

Culpepper's Herbal Published 1652

One of the astrological herbarists

Culpepper's Works Vol I 1802 edition)

" he that would know the Reason of the operation of Herbs, must look up as high as the Stars, astrologically. I always found the Disease vary according to the various motions of the Stars; & this is enough, we would think, to teach a man by the Effect where the Cause lies. Then to find out the Reason of the operation of Herbs, Plants, etc. by the Stars went I, wherein I could find but few Authors, but these so full of nonsense & contradiction, as an egg is full of meat; this not being pleasing, & so profitable to me, I consulted with my two Brothers, Dr. Reason, & Dr. Experience, & took a voyage to visit my Mother Nature, by whose advice, together with the help of Dr. Diligence, I at last obtained my desire, & being wain'd by Dr. Honesty, a stranger in our days, to publish it to the World, I have done it.

From Nicholas Culpepper's 1653 preface

Cont. p. 77

70

Histoire des Plantes de L'Europe

rangée suivant l'ordre du Pinax de Gaspar
Bauhain

1766

à Lyon chez Pierre Duplain

71

In two volumes exactly of the type of herbaria of 100
years before! The order exactly follows Bauhin's
Theatrum Botanicum; at least I have compared
this in Bk I of Bauhin which is the only one
I have seen. (P. 67) Woodcuts, some very good

Digitized by Hunt Institute for Botanical Documentation

Bk I Sep p 67

I Bulbar plants

III Pot herbs

IV Chiefly umbelliferae

V Poisonous plants

VI Wall flowers & sweet smelling plants

VII Plants like Chamædrys, hairy plants,
antidotal plants, wound plants, & thick leaved
plants

VIII Climbing plants & others

IX Plants with whorled leaves, like rice, leguminous
plants

- X Ferns, water plants, mosses, fungi, many miscellaneous plants, spring plants
- XI Forest trees, fruit-trees, & aromatic trees
- XII Shrubs

Lemma palustris Duckweed

It is a moss like lentil: its leaves are round & very small, lentil shaped, whence it takes its name, they are attached to little hair like threads & ~~can~~ swim on stagnant water. When the water overflows they follow them; when they touch the bank, they put out roots, & grow so much that they become a big water cross.

Callitha palustris is a kind of Callitriche! This shows how much they were by the leaf & how little flower. *Dentaria* & *Salthia* similar, both described as kinds of *Dentaria*, on account of the similarity of their rhizomes.

The figure of *Gymnocalyx* is upside down like the one in Gerard! How they copied each other cross "Oubande" labours to kill this plant, put in the four corners of the field branches of *Rhodo-*
scandens.

Flora Londinensis

or Plates & Descriptions of such Plants as grow wild in
the environs of London

by William Curtis

Demonstrator of Botany to the Company of Apothecaries

1777

Antirrhinum cymbalatum grows "at the sides of the
stream running under Vauxhall Turnpike."

~~*Dentaria* & *Lathraea* both described as kinds of *Plantago*~~

Culpeper

See p. 69

Fox-glove Dyclatio

Description. - It has many long broad leaves lying upon the ground, dented upon the edges, a little soft or woolly, & of a hoary green colour, among which rise up sometimes sundry stalks, but one very often bearing such leaves hereon from the bottom to the middle, from whence to the top it is studded with large & long bell-shaped reddish purple flowers, a little more long at the lower edge, with some white spots within them, one above another, with small green leaves at every one, but all of them turning their heads one way, changing downwards, having some threads also in the middle, from whence rise round heads, pointed sharp at the ends, wherein small brown seed lies. The roots are so many small fibres, & some greater shins among them; the flowers have no scent, but the leaves have a bitter but taste.

Culpeper copies Parkinson's description of *Salthunt* almost verbatim. There are the only two I have seen like to my own, but deeper the resemblance ^{is} ^{greater}

goes right through. ~~Part~~ Culpeper adds & calls a
long section on the government of the stars & the
virtues e.g.

Woodruffe

"Mars rules it. The green herb should be used. In
this state the Germans put it into their wine as
we do borage & burnet, as a great cordial,
comforter of the spirit, etc

Portrait of Culpeper in the beginning surrounded
by the signs of the Zodiac

He was a Cambridge student

The book was first published till the 1802 edition
Alphabetically arranged.

"The authors original resources, Gerard & Parkinson."

"Seed sown at the wane of the moon, grows either
not at all, or to no purpose."

Trans for Mark letter Franks

The grete Herball whiche giveth parfyt knowlege
 & understandyng of all maner of herbes & there
 gracynous vertues whiche god hath ordeyned for our
 prosperowelfare & helth, for they helpe cure all
 maner of dyseases & sikeneses that fall a
 mysfortune to all maner of creatours of god
 created, practysed by many expert & wise maysters,
 as Avicenna other etc. Also it giveth full parfyt
 understandyng of the booke lately printed by
 me (Peter Trevisio) named the noble experyences
 of the vertuous handwarken of surgery.

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Include the properties of metals, starch, vinegar,
 asphalt, soda, butter with extract of a
 little woman's churning, honey

For lunatyke people.

"This herbe" Apium "is good for lunatyke folk if it be
 bounde to the pacyetes head with a linnen
 clothe dyed red the moore beyng in cresant in
 the sygne of Taurus or Scorpion in ye fyrst parte
 of the sygne, & he shal be hke anon"

Adiantum. Maydenweede

Adiantum is an herbe, some call it gallipicum.

but the herbe byght polibicum is an other

herbe, this herbe adiantum hath leues lyke to
Coryandre, & hath a stalk somewhat blacke &
groweth in hedges, & we use the leues in medycyne &
not the rote for it is good for nothinge.



Ateluya: Wood sorell a
cukewes meate

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Belam is an herbe as some say but other say
that it is a manner of a lypell tree, & that is true
Dyascride saith & other that haue seen it.
It groweth not past the height of two cubytes,
it is founde towarde Babylon, in a feld where
viii wellles or fontaynes be, & is carryed from thence.

In them that ben greued:

To them that ben greued, a dragme of powdere
of bethony & three cyates of veray good wyne
taken three dayes maketh them hale.

In weyrenesse.

To them that be weary of joyng fyve to drynke a
 dragone of this powche with warme water & an
 ounce of oremell.

To make folke merry at ye table.

To make all them in a howe to be merry take
 foure leues & foure rotes of veruayn in wyne,
 than sprynde the wyne all about the howe
 when the eatynge is & they shall be all merry

"Blacte bisantie" is the eye of a fyssh
 moche lyke to snayles & be found in the see

Digitized by Hunt Institute for Botanical Documentation

"Ceruse is the floure of lead. & is made thus.
 Take vesselles as pottes of earthe of a fote longe, &
 somewhat strait above & fyl them halfe full of
 stronge vynege, & lay staves or styckes over
 thwar the bymmes of them. Then take about a
 pounce of lead made in square pyeces & charge
 them within the pottes upon the styckes with
 shredes foure ynche fro the vynege, & cove
 the vesselles well, & set them in a darke place
 & lye them stande for the space of. 1111. monethes.

Cepa somerha, is the common or tame onion

In scaldynge

In scaldynge, take a pounce of unoleked hyme, & put it in a panne & put water thereto, & chaunge it 1x tymes & let it lye at every tyme a quarter of an houre then medle it wth oyle of ve to any gentement, & lay it upon the scaldynge with a fider, & it wylle heale.

Calendula. Many fowles, or ruddes

"Maydens make garland of it when they go to feasts & by dealers because it hath faire & delicate floures ruddy."

"Daucus Dawa is white & drye in the thyrd degree, it is a comyn herbe, & hath a large floure, & in the myddle thereof a lytel red pricke."

Fungi ben muskerous. They be x x x There be two maners of them, one maner is deadly & sletht them that eateth of them & he called Lodesoles, & the other dooth not."

De lapide magnetis

Lapis magnetis is the adamant stone that draweth men. & is a rare It x x x hath myght

to draw men as Aristotle sayth. And is
 founde in the byssnes of the ~~ocean~~ ocean sea.
 And there be bylles of it, & these bylles drawe ye
 shippes that have nayles of iron to them, &
 breke the shippes by drawyng of the nayles out.
 Picture for ship being washed against a pinnace
 of lodestone

(all steps full steps & lines. I have put commas
 for the lines)

90

Flora Danica Order 1766

91

not wooden, but separate metal plates

Den Nederlandschen Herbarius
Amsterdam

Printed by Jan ten Hooft 1698

by Steph. Blankaart

of certain number of full page metal plates. The
plants painted large & often little tiny figures &
a landscape in the distance. This may bear
some relation to the subject, but often none at
all. For instance the *berkebeent* shows you
a field of that crop with a little man looking
at it. Garden scenes plants ^{are generally accompanied} ~~have~~ a scene from
the formal Dutch garden of the period e.g. *Marine*

94

95

De Historia Stirpium Commentarii Iniquos

Fuchsius 1549

Latin with exquisite woodcuts, much better
than the cuts in the Histoire des Plantes de l'Europe

p. 71

Herbal of William Turner. Corrected & enlarged edition
Very decorative wood cuts & initial letters. Alphabetically arr.¹⁶⁷⁸ 1568
"Leopardes bayne layed to a Scorpion, maketh her utterly amazed
& numb."

^{Dedication}
Dedicated to Queen Elizabeth. 1568

"To the most noble & learned Princesse in all kindes
of good learninge
"And because I would not be lyke unto a cryer that cryeth
a loste horse in the marketts, & selleth all the markes &
tokens that he hath, yet never sawe the horse, neither coulde
knowe the horse if he sawe him. I have sent myne ^{servants} ~~servants~~ ^{into} ~~into diverse partes of Germany, to knowe knowe & see the
herbes my selfe~~

The profitable Arte of Gardening, now the
 third tyme set fourth: --- To this annexed, two
 more treatises, the one entituled The marvellous
 Government, properties, & benefite of the Bees,
 with the rare Secrets of the Honey & Waxe
 Englished by Thomas Slite Londoner
 1568

[B.M. 967.6.3]

"No man needeth to doubt, but that Bees
 be a kinde of Beastes, greatly to be set by,
 for mans use, & for mans provision, are
 provided of by Nature, through the
 divided places, which they by great diligence &
 care, preserve from being stopped, for as soon as they
 be stopped, they shortly after die, like as if some
 we may leave, when any candle to fall or light
 into Oyle, which shortly after die, though if
 oyle stopping then their power

Phynic --- witte that of all other Cloven
 beastes, the Bees to be principallye chearished,
 because to mans use they gather a most
 subtile & wholesome Juice, beinge verie sweete

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besydes they frame by a sawelouse skyll & connyng,
theyr colages of waxe unto mans use, that no workeman
(be he never so ingeniose) can doe the lyke

In y^e month of October ---- eate of tyme Aple tartes prepared
with coforable spyces + Sugars, in that they coforte greatlye
the stomache --- cloves with Granon be broffitable
in y^e month

A moste profelable rule for the preseruation
of mans health throughout the twelve monethes
of the yere, after the mynde of diverse Learned
Physicians of the University of Padua.

January

Take every morninge a litle quantity of Rised
honye. (This repeated in evny one dd. or agyne
not)

February

To bath in thyo moneth is not hurtfull

March

Bettyng should be often eaten in salads in this
month for the improvement of the sight

Maye

An "washe" of tyme thy face with fayre runnyng
water

June

"Arise always (all that moneth through) from
the table somewhat an hungry. And arise ten
times in the morning, & exercise your body
with some longe walke."

Julye

Beware of eating either Beets or Lettuce in this
moneth, for ther they have than a kinde
of poison in them, whiche of this be righte
perillous."

~~And August~~

Refrayne them from eating any Cabbages, for
that they engender Melancholy

September

And in the moneth of September eat all
manners of meates you like, for that in the
same moneth, all things be in their proper
vertue."

November

And bath not in this moneth, or but a litle if
nede so requireth, for that it is thought to be
the moste perillous moneth to ye give for to
bath in."

On the practical details of Potato culture alone we have many treatises, varying in length and differing in style. They include volumes on new or improved methods of growing the crop, such as the "Jensen" system of earthing up; the proper time to plough and manure the land; the most suitable soil for Potatos;



No. 1.—JOHN GERARDE.

(Reproduced by photography from Gerarde's "Herball.")

FIG. 30.

the varieties adapted for different soils; the manures which ensure the largest marketable return; economical modes of planting, lifting, and storing; and other topics which we are now compelled by stress of time to pass unmentioned.

Loan collection of herbals (Conference of Teachers) - SW Polytechnic 101
Jan 1909

Fuchsius -

Small. Open every good fig. of Delphinium & Joy

Large Fuchsius

Open every good ill. of Oroselinum

15th centy Open as coloured wood block of rose, said to be the original colouring

Chusius - Latin. Open as literature figures

Dutch Doctors Folia in 2 columns. Very good illustrations a Day Cruy

Woodville's Med. Botany. 18th centy 3 vols. all plates

Marthus' Flou ruscia

Collection of Curtis' plates carefully selected by Selwyn Dorey.

The important question of disease-prevention remains for consideration. At the present time, the Potato fungus is fought by two methods, differing fundamentally in principle. By the system originated in France, an effort is being made to frustrate the insidious attacks of the *Phytophthora*, or *Peronospora*. The crop while growing is either sprayed with the liquid Bordeaux



No. 2.—REPRODUCTION OF GERARDE'S ENGRAVING OF VIRGINIAN POTATO FOLIAGE.

FIG. 31.

mixture known as "Bouillie Bordelaise," or the plants are dusted with a powder consisting of similar chemical constituents. The other system is attempting to accomplish the same end by raising and distributing seedlings having a robust constitution, capable of resisting the attacks of the fungus. In this system I have for years taken a deep interest, and it has occurred to me that it might be possible to succeed in popularising this branch of ex-

Loan collection of herbals (Conference of Teachers) - SW Polytechnic Jan 1904 107

Fuchsia -

Small. Open arway good form of Delphinium r Jay

Large Fuchsia

Open arway good ill. of Oreocelinum

15th centy Open at coloured wood block of rose, said to be the original colouring

Chusius - Latin. Open at literature figures

Dutch Doctors Folio in 2 columns. Very good illustrations a Big Gray

Woodville's Med. Botany. 18th centy 3 vols. all plates +

Martius' Flau rusica

Collection of Curtis' plates carefully selected by Selwyn Dorey.

D.D. Know
 the old shipping label
 end: Skellie's atque luteo vincto,
 sed maxima vertice?

OR, May 13th

My Dear Agnes,

Thank you for your English
 Herbaria paper, which I have read
 with pleasure - you know
 Gerard's *Herbarium Speciosum* on *Herb.*
 - what Hunt?

Working on Shakespeare
 matter a few weeks ago, I had oc-
 casion to look up the very subject
 you treat of - I found Alcock's
Botanical Names for English Authors
 1876, very useful, esp. the Introduction
 & the Appendix. Have you done
William Turner justice? You

Compare him I am with Culpeper
 who was a century later. Was of his
 New Herbal publ'd - 1551, & say
 nothing of his libellus de Re Herbaria
novis publ'd - ^{of the New Herbal} London in 1538? - Then
 were 2 more Parts, ^{of the New Herbal} publ'd separately;
 & the three Parts appeared in an vol.
 in 1568.

I dare say you have not
 yet looked at Cook's London
 publ'd. in the Rolls Series? It was a very
 interesting exhibit of Anglo. Home
 Knowledge, esp^l of the medical use
 of herbs - The Epistle was an excellent
Scholar's, & I believe a most accurate
bottom; but of this ^{letter point} you will have an
 opinion worth having, & I have not -
 Tell me sometimes what your opinion is
 if you will be so good - I know him

personally, I want to be made struck
 with his work having -

You know Prof. Earl's little
 book on English Plant. names?

If you come across any of the
 mentions of the Heath site flowers,
 will you kindly note them? - I see
 on Thomas Johnson in 1632 gives
 an account of the plants growing there,
 which account, as far as I know, is the first
 of our Heath flowers.

What are now your actual men-
 -tions of the fact that our island was
 once not severed from the Continent?

Sincerely yours,
 John W. Arden.

Digitized by Hunt Institute for Botanical Documentation

~~French Translation of the Ortus Sanitatis~~
Ortus Sanitatis, translate de Latin en François
paris by A. Verdun. Paris about 1500

Le Jardin de Santé.

paris by Philippe le Noir . refers 1539.
the catalog of the one just mentioned.

Digitized by Hunt Institute for Botanical Documentation

Thesaurus Literarum Botanicae

G.A. Pughel

Lipsia . 1872.

Dioscorides. 15th cent. ms Vienna

Apuleius Platonicus Herbarium. 1. Two Latin mss in
B.M. printed by W. Cockayne in Anglo-Saxon
scripture.

2. printed in Rome soon after 1480

Herbarius (The Latin Herbarius) also called Herbarium
mugurinus, H. palavinus
1st ed. Mainz. 1484

Other Latin edns bet 1484 & 1521
also known as the Italian version etc

Herbarius (The German Herbarius) also called the German
or the Semite, on the
middle other

1st ed Mainz. 1485

Other German edns to 1499

Arbolayre = French translation of the German Herbarius
probably about 1485

Le Grand Herbar. French translation of the German
with additions

The Great Herbal 1526. French translation of the
German Herbarius with additional matter 1547

Ortus Sanitatis. Mainz 1491. Latin
based upon selected
the German Herbarius
with some additions
and some parts of the other
Sanitatis

may later edns include some in German which combined
the German Herbarius with a translation of the Latin part of the other
Sanitatis

ENGLISH HERBALS

BY
AGNES ROBERTSON

[Reprinted from THE POPULAR SCIENCE MONTHLY, May, 1904.]

Digitized by Herbarium Institute for Botanical Documentation

[Reprinted from THE POPULAR SCIENCE MONTHLY, May, 1904.]

ENGLISH HERBALS.

BY AGNES ROBERTSON, B. SC.,
UNIVERSITY COLLEGE, LONDON

IN the fifteenth and sixteenth centuries there was a renewal of the scientific spirit, as well as the more obvious revival in art and letters of which we commonly speak as the Renaissance. Among the most striking of the many visible fruits of this revival were numerous herbals, in which all the plants then known were enumerated, described and often beautifully figured. The earliest English example with which I am acquainted is a small, black-letter, anonymous volume published in 1525. The title is 'Here begynneth a newe mater, the whiche sheweth and treateth of ye vertues and propertes of herbes, the whiche is called an Herball.' There are scarcely any descriptions of the plants, but long and elaborate dissertations on their virtues. Even such a commonplace weed as the plantain is credited with considerable powers: "For heed ache take Plantayne and bynde it aboute thy necke and ye ache shall go out of thy heed." Of rosemary we read: "Take the flowres and make powder thereof and bynde it to the ryght arme in a linnen clothe, and it shall make thee lyght and mery. Also boyle the leves in whyte wyne and washe thy face therwith, and thou shall have a fayre face. Also put the leves under thy beddes heed, and thou shal be delyvered of all evyll dremes. Also make thee a box of the wood and smell to it, and it shall preserve thy youthe."

In the following year was published one of the most famous of the old herbals, 'The Grete Herball which geveth parfyte knowlege and understanding of all maner of herbes and there gracyous vertues.' This includes in addition to plants, descriptions of a number of substances, such as gold, silver, asphalt, starch, vinegar, butter, honey and the lodestone! It contains delightful prescriptions for healing all manner of ailments. For instance, Apium 'is good for lunatyke folke yf it be bounde to the pacyentes heed with a linnen clothe dyed reed the moone beyng in cresaunt in the sygne of Taurus or Scorpion in ye fyrst parte of the sygne, and he shal be hole anone'; and as a cure 'for verryesse' we read, "To them that be wery of goynge gyve to drink a dragme of the powdre of Bethony with warm water and an once of orimell." The following statement gives an inkling of the condition of plant-geography at the time: Balsam 'is founde towards Babylon, in a field whereas VII wellles or fountaynes be, and is carried from thens'!

Nearly thirty years later, Henry Lyte translated into English the famous Dutch 'Herbal' of Dodoens. Lyte was an Oxford student who traveled in foreign lands and collected a number of rare plants, and on his return to England founded one of the first botanical gardens in this country. The title of his translation is 'A niewe Herball, or Historie of Plantes: wherein is contayned the whole discourse and perfect description of all sortes of Herbes and Plantes; their divers and sundry kindes: their straunge Figures, Fashions, and Shapes: their Names, Natures, Operations, and Vertues.' The book is most beautifully illustrated, and contains the records of some capital pieces of observation, but it is startling every now and then to meet with statements like this, 'Alysson hanged in the house, or at the gate, or entry, keepeth both man and beast from enchantments, or witching,' and 'The seede of the garden Larekes spurte dronken is very good agaynst the stinging of Scorpions, and indeede his virtue is so great against their poyson, that the herbe thrown before the Scorpions, doth cause them to be without force or power to do hurte, so that they may not move or sturte, until this herbe be taken from them.'

At the very end of the sixteenth century appeared the best known of all the herbals, that of 'John Gerarde, of London, Master in Chirurgerie.' Gerarde seems to have been an unscrupulous plagiarist, for he bases his herbal, quite without acknowledgment, on Priest's translation of Dodoens's collected works. Also of his eighteen hundred wood-cuts, less than twenty are original! So, altogether, his great reputation seems to have been built on somewhat frail foundations. Still he appears to have been a first-rate botanist, and in his garden in Holborn he cultivated more than a thousand different kinds of plants. I can not help thinking how delighted he would have been with a modern botanic garden, and particularly with one of the modern collections of insectivorous plants. For he gives a little figure of *Sarracenia*, the pitcher plant, copied from Clusius, who says he received the drawing with one dried leaf from an apothecary of Paris, who himself received it from Lisbon. Gerarde reproduces the figure 'for the strangeness thereof,' and in the 'hope that some or other that travell into forraine parts may finde this elegant plant, and know it by this small expression, and bring it home with them, that so we may come to a perfecter knowledge thereof.'

Later on the fashion set in of leavening botany with astrology. The best known exponents of this kind of pseudo-science are Culpeper and Turner. Nicholas Culpeper seems to have been afflicted with boundless self-conceit; the following is a sample of his bombastic style: "To find out the Reason of the operation of Herbs, Plants, etc., by the Stars went I, and herein I could find but few Authors, but those as full of nonsense and contradiction as an egg is full of meat; this not being pleasing, and less profitable to me, I consulted with my two Brothers, Dr. Reason, and Dr. Experience, and took a voyage to visit

my Mother Nature, by whose advice, together with the help of Dr. Diligence, I at last obtained my desire, and being warned by Mr. Honesty, a stranger in our days, to publish it to the World, I have done it." Culpeper seems to have been absolutely saturated with his astrological notions; he tells us that 'seed sowed at the wane of the Moon, grows either not at all, or to no purpose!'

Returning to the earliest herbals, we find that the idea of natural relationship between plants, or even of the necessity of any sort of classification, is scarcely existent. The anonymous Herbal of 1525, and the 'Grete Herball' are both arranged alphabetically. But the 'Grete Herball' contains the germ of a classification of the fungi—a classification of the most charming simplicity! "Fungi ben musherons. There be two maners of them, one maner is deadly and sleeth them that eateth of them, and be called todestoles, and the other dooth not." Exactly fifty years after the publication of the 'Grete Herball,' Lobel's 'Herbal' appeared, and from it we gather that during this half century the idea of natural affinity had been in a sort of dim instinctive fashion getting hold of men's minds. He describes in succession rushes, grasses, bulbous plants, orchidaceous plants, crucifers, composite plants, etc. The arrangements adopted by Dodoens and later by Gerarde are similar to that of Lobel, but slightly more natural. Parkinson in 1640 gives a more elaborate classification, and though it seems very primitive when judged by the standard of the present day, especially as regards the stress laid on the 'virtues' of the plants, yet it shows that great progress had been made since the publication of the earliest herbals. He divides all plants into seventeen classes, some of which are quite satisfactory, while others, such as No. 14, which includes 'Marsh, Water and Sea Plants, and Mosses and Mushrooms,' are a trifle too comprehensive! There is something charmingly naive about the titles of his fifteenth and seventeenth classes. These are 'The Unordered Tribe' and 'Strange and Outlandish Plants.'

Early in the next century Linnaeus was born. A vast mass of information had been accumulating for two hundred years, and it needed a luminous intellect like his to reduce it to order. As the fruit of his labor we have his marvelous 'System,' in which he followed a much earlier writer, the Italian botanist, Cesalpino, in attributing the chief importance to the organs of fructification. The day of the herbal proper may be said to have closed with Linnaeus and thenceforward botany proceeded on more strictly scientific lines. The subject sprang into fashion in his time in the most astonishing way, probably owing to the easy method which his 'System' offered of tracking down and identifying plants—from the chosen pursuit of a few enthusiasts it became the heritage of the many—it was dubbed the 'loveliest of the sciences,' and 'recommended especially to ladies, as a harmless pastime, not overtaxing to the mind.'

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