

Cambridge University Press

978-1-108-06172-8 - A Catalogue of British Plants Arranged According to the Natural System: With the Synonyms of De Candolle, Smith, and Lindley

John Stevens Henslow

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### **A Catalogue of British Plants Arranged According to the Natural System**

In 1829, botany had much to prove. A prominent lecturer, John Lindley, noted that 'it has been very much the fashion of late years, in this country, to undervalue the importance of this science, and to consider it an amusement for ladies rather than an occupation for the serious thoughts of man'. In the three documents reissued here, Cambridge botany professor John Stevens Henslow (1796–1861) demonstrates the exacting standards of his course. The work contains an 1829 catalogue of British plants, the skeleton structure of sixteen lectures for 1833 and an 1851 list of potential examination questions. Students were expected to differentiate between 'an indefinite and a definite inflorescence', to recognise 'albuminous seeds', and describe 'nectariferous appendages'. With a strongly Linnaean approach to taxonomy, this collection offers researchers a window into the growth of academic botany prior to the revolution occasioned by Henslow's pupil, Charles Darwin.

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University Printing House, Cambridge, CB2 8BS, United Kingdom

Published in the United States of America by Cambridge University Press, New York

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Information on this title: [www.cambridge.org/9781108061728](http://www.cambridge.org/9781108061728)

© in this compilation Cambridge University Press 2013

This edition first published 1829

This digitally printed version 2013

ISBN 978-1-108-06172-8 Paperback

This book reproduces the text of the original edition. The content and language reflect the beliefs, practices and terminology of their time, and have not been updated.

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DE CANDOLLE, SMITH, AND LINDLEY.



BY THE

Rev. J. S. HENSLOW, M.A.

PROFESSOR OF BOTANY

IN THE UNIVERSITY OF CAMBRIDGE.



**Cambridge:**

Printed by James Hodson, Trinity Street.

SOLD BY J. AND J. J. DEIGHTON, AND T. STEVENSON, CAMBRIDGE;

AND C. J. G. AND F. RIVINGTON, AND HATCHARD

AND SON, LONDON.

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This Catalogue being intended chiefly for the use of those Students who attend the Botanical Lectures in the University of Cambridge, all the "Species" not hitherto met with in the County have been printed in *Italics*, to mark the extent of our local flora.

It may be made serviceable during a Botanical excursion in any distant part of the kingdom, by preventing the traveller from burdening himself unnecessarily by drying those plants which he might procure nearer home. A third use which this Catalogue may be made to serve, is for a list upon which to mark off the several species as they are placed in the herbarium. If interleaved it may be useful for registering, during the year, the times of flowering or peculiar habitats of the rarer species.

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E R R A T A.

- Page 3. After *SENEBIERA didyma* add,  
(*pinnatifida*. D. C.)
5. For *STAPHYLEÆ*, read *STAPHYLEA*.
10. *SAXIFRAGA* 7. "oppositifolia" should be in *Italics*.
15. For *Empetrum nigrum* read *EMPETRUM nigrum*.
24. For *SCHÆNUS*, read *SCHÆNUS*.
26. For *PHLEUM*, 9. read *PHLEUM*, 6.