

# A List of Flowering Plants, Ferns, and Horse-Tails of the Isle of Man.

By CYRIL I. PATON.

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## PREFACE.

The first list of the flowering plants of the Isle of Man was made by that great Manks genius, Edward Forbes. It was compiled, according to H. C. Watson's *Topographical Botany*, about 1833 or 1834. This list was much added to and brought up to date in the year 1900, when a good catalogue of the flowering plants, excluding, however, the sedges and grasses, was published by the late Rev. S. A. P. Kermode in *Yn Lloer Manninagh* (the organ of the Isle of Man Natural History and Antiquarian Society), vol. ii, pp. 273-291. In 1910 a list of the grasses was added by Mr G. A. Holt (*Y.L.M.*, vol. iv, pp. 20 and 58), who presented the Society with specimens illustrating the list.

Since the year 1900 much has been done by various workers, particularly by Mr G. A. Holt and by Messrs J. A. Wheldon and J. W. Hartley, and a revised list has long been due in which detached records should be embodied and the whole, including the vexed question of nomenclature, be brought up to date. In the following list the current edition (the eleventh) of the *London Catalogue* has been, with a few exceptions, followed. Besides the flowering plants it includes lists of the ferns, horse-tails, and club mosses.

In these days of the splitting-up of what are known as "critical species," some will think that this "segregation" has gone too far, and others that there has been too much "aggregation," but the writer has done his best to follow the *London Catalogue* as far as his material permitted. It is not always possible in the absence of specimens to tell what species was intended by an old record. In Forbes' time, to take an instance, the water plantain was known as *Alisma Plantago-aquatica*. Nowadays there are two species of water plantain recognised, *A. Plantago-aquatica* and *A. lanceolatum*, and one cannot be certain which was intended by Forbes.

In a few cases, such as the Mouse-ear Hawkweed, being unable to satisfy myself as to the proper "segregate" names in the *London Catalogue*, I have used the old "aggregate" names.

The appendix contains a list of plants accidentally introduced to the Island and some others which, though in some cases probably native, appear to need confirmation. It is often quite impossible to decide what is or is not a native plant, and no doubt some names in the general list might have been included in the appendix, but where this is the case it will usually be found that a caution has been inserted.

The Island is, I think, fairly free from the mischievous activity of those who "plant-out" wild flowers; sometimes under the mistaken impression that they are in some way or other helping forward the study of natural history, or are "beautifying the countryside." The true object is best secured by leaving things alone.

Though the peat-bogs show that parts of the Island were once well wooded, trees in historic times were scarce up to the 18th century. Bishop Hildesley imported many from Leicestershire. Writing in 1760 he says that Sycamore, Ash, Elm and Abele thrive well, and adds that oaks were scarce. He had some firs on his land, probably planted by his predecessor, Bishop Wilson, who also planted some other trees. Those mentioned by Bishop Hildesley were "thriving" before he had himself begun to plant. I know of no very large or ancient trees on the Island.

In some cases the Manks name of the plant has been given, but it is often very difficult to be certain that the name has been correctly assigned to the plant. Dictionary names must be used with much caution. The authors use plant names in a very vague way. "Fire-bright or clary," for example, is the translation given of "lus-y-taun" in Cregeen's dictionary. There is a tendency, also, to translate English names into Manks, or to attempt to do so. Burnet has probably no Manks name, but "lus-yn-aile" (fire-herb) is given, probably on account of the first syllable of the English name. The same Manks name has in a few cases been given to two very distinct plants used for the same purpose. "Luss-y-steep" usually means the Lesser Spearwort, which was used for curdling milk, but it shares the name with Butterwort, which has the same property.

That perplexing group, the Rubi (Blackberries), needs bringing up to date. Many of the species here given are admitted on the authority of H. C. Watson's *Topographical Botany*, 2nd ed., 1883, which, so far as the Rubi are concerned, is in its turn dependent on Babington's *British Rubi* with the additions which he has since obtained.

In order to aid students and to certify the accuracy of the list an asterisk has been placed against such species as are represented by specimens in the Manks National Museum, Douglas; and a † against such as are to be found at the Natural History Museum, S. Kensington.

A specific name in square brackets followed by a varietal name means that the variety only, not the type, is found in the Island. Square brackets are also used in a few cases where the compiler believes that the record is due to some error, but does not wish to include the species in the appendix.

Three note-books, the basis of the present list, giving fuller details as to authorities and localities, are deposited with the collections at the Manks Museum.

The revision could not have been carried out without aid from many willing helpers. My thanks are due to the late Mr P. M. C. Kermode (Curator of the Manks Museum), at whose request the work was undertaken; to Mr P. G. Ralfe, who gave much help, especially as to localities; to Dr E. Drabble; to the Rev. H. J. Riddelsdell; to Mr H. W. Pugsley; and to Mr A. J. Wilmott, of the British Museum (Natural

History), who besides naming many specimens, has kindly gone through the MS. and made several useful suggestions and alterations.

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ABBREVIATIONS.

- E.D. = Dr E. Drabble.  
 F. = Edward Forbes, circa 1833 or 1834.  
 G. = Rev. S. Gasking, see List in *Research*, 1889.  
 H. = W. P. Hiern, *Journal of Botany*, January 1897.  
 J.B. = *Journal of Botany*.  
 Ht. = G. A. Holt.  
 K. = P. M. C. Kermode.  
 M. = Rev. R. P. Murray.  
 P. = C. I. Paton.  
 R. = P. G. Ralfe.  
 S.K. = Rev. S. A. P. Kermode, *Yn Lioar Manninagh*, Vol. ii, 1900.  
 St. = Rev. Hugh Stowell, *Phytologist*, iv, 161-169 (1860).  
 T. = Rev. T. Talbot.  
 Tr. = W. R. Teare.  
 W. = H. C. Watson, *Topographical Botany*, 2nd ed., 1883.  
 Wh. = J. A. Wheldon and J. W. Hartley.  
 Y.L.M. = *Yn Lioar Manninagh*. The organ of the Isle of Man Natural History and Antiquarian Society.

A specific name in square brackets followed by a varietal name signifies that the variety only—not the type form—has been recorded for the Island.

\* = Specimen at Manks National Museum.

† = Specimen at Natural History Museum, S. Kensington.

PHÆNOGAMIA.

RANUNCULACEAE.

ANEMONE L.

A. NEMOROSA L. \* † Wood Anemone. Windflower.  
 Glens—Laxey, etc. Usually native, but said to have been introduced into Colby Glen.  
 Common in the eastern glens.  
 Manks—Lus-ny-geayee.

RANUNCULUS L.

R. [TRICHOPHYLLUS Chaix], b. DROUETII F. Schultz. Water Crowfoot.  
 Scarlett, H. Strandhall, Tr.

R. HETEROPHYLLUS Weber emend. Bab. \* †  
 Gat-y-whing, Andreas, P.

R. PELTATUS Schrank. \* †  
Andreas, P.; Ht.

R. BAUDOTII Godr. \* †  
Andreas, P. Sulby Curraghs, P.  
Common.

R. LENORMANDI F. Schultz. \* †  
Widely distributed and common.

R. HEDERACEUS L. \* †  
Andreas. St John's.  
Not common.

Ivy-leaved Crowfoot

R. SCCELERATUS L. \* †  
The Rhaa, Lonan, T. Scarlett, P. (1930). Castletown, S.K.  
Rare.

Celery-leaved Crowfoot

R. FLAMMULA L. \* †  
Common. Very large specimens at Gat-y-whing in Andreas and at  
Ballaghaine, Jurby.  
Formerly used to curdle milk. I have been told, however, that it was  
used *with rennet*.  
Manks—Lus-y-steep.

Lesser Spearwort

R. LINGUA L. \*  
The Lhen, Andreas, R.; Tr. Very local.

Greater Spearwort

R. ACRIS L. \* †  
Common.  
Var. c. BORÆANUS Jord. Wh.

Meadow Buttercup

R. REPENS L. \* †  
Common.

Creeping Buttercup

R. BULBOSUS L. \* †  
Common.

Bulbous Buttercup

R. PARVIFLORUS L. †  
Langness, G. The only record. G.'s specimen at the British Museum

Small-flowered Buttercup

R. ARVENSIS L.  
Malew, Miss Moore-Lane, *I.O.M. Nat. Hist. Proc.*, vol. i, No. 9  
No other record.

Corn Buttercup

R. FICARIA L. \* †  
Ramsey, etc. Common.

Lesser Celandine. Lesser Pigwort

#### CALTHA L.

C. PALUSTRIS L. \* †  
The Lhen, etc. Common.

King-cup. Mayflower

Formerly strewn on doorsteps, with other yellow flowers, on Old May Day, to keep witches, etc., away.  
Manks—Booaliught; Bhullught.

*NYMPHAEACEAE.*

*NUPHAR* Sm.

*N. LUTEA* Sibth. & Sm. \* † Yellow Water-lily.  
Ponds and curraghs in the North of the Island. Local.

*NYMPHÆA* L.

*N. ALBA* L. \* † White Water-lily.  
Andreas (Gat-y-whing and Curragh-y-Cowle). Local.

*PAPAVERACEAE.*

*PAPAVER* L.

*P. RHŒAS* L. \* † Corn Poppy.  
Common.

*P. DUBIUM* L. \* † Long-headed Poppy.  
Perhaps the most common poppy.

*P. ARGEMONE* L. \* † Pale Poppy.  
Common. Often much dwarfed.

*P. HYBRIDUM* L. Rough Poppy.  
S.K.; G.; H. Port St Mary, R. Not common.

*GLAUCIUM* Hill.

*G. FLAVUM* Crantz. \* † Horned Poppy. Sea Poppy.  
Castletown. Poylvaaish. Dalby. Point of Ayre. Formerly at Dog-mills, now extinct there. Local.

*CHELIDONIUM* L.

*C. MAJUS* L. \* † Greater Celandine. Swallow-wort.  
Near houses. Not common but widely distributed.

*FUMARIACEAE.*

*CORYDALIS* Vent.

*C. CLAVICULATA* DC. Climbing Corydalis.  
Recorded by the Rev. H. Stowell, 1860, but not since noted. I have seen no specimen.

*FUMARIA* L.

(Specimens, from the localities cited, confirmed by H. W. Pugsley).  
*F. CAPREOLATA* L. \* † Rampant Fumitory.  
Andreas. Common.

*F. PURPUREA* Pugsl.

Port Erin (Herb. H.), H. W. Pugsley.

*F. BASTARDII* Bor. \* †

Ramsey. Jurby. Andreas.

*F. BORÆI* Jord. †

Derbyhaven.

*F. OFFICINALIS* L. \* †

Andreas.

Common Pudding

### CRUCIFERÆ.

#### NASTURTIUM Br.

*N. OFFICINALE* R. Br. \* †

Common.

Manks—Burley (S.G. biolair).

Watercress

#### BARBAREA Br.

*B. VULGARIS* R. Br. \* †

Ballaugh. Andreas. Common.

Wintercress

### CARDAMINE L.

*C. PRATENSIS* L. \* †

Manks—Losserey-y-Boaldyn.

A beautiful double aberration \* occurs near the Slock, and on the old Staarvey Road, South of Kirk Michael, P. The type form is common.

Cuckoo-flower. Lady's-smock.

*C. HIRSUTA* L. \* †

Common.

Hairy Cress.

*C. FLEXUOSA* With. \*

Ht., 1916.

### EROPHILA DC.

*E. VERNA* E. Meyer.

W.; R. Derby Haven. Cass ny Hawin. Arbory, Tr.

Whitlow-grass

### COCHLEARIA L.

*C. OFFICINALIS* L. \* †

Common.

Manks—Guilley-bing.

Scurvy-grass

*C. DANICA* L. \* †

Common.

Danish Scurvy-grass.

*C. (?) GRÆNLANDICA* (auct. angl.). \* †

Common.

Greenland Scurvy-grass.

"Not the true *grænländica*," A. J. Wilmott.

FLORA OF THE ISLE OF MAN.

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SISYMBRIUM L.

*S. THALIANUM* Gay. \* Thale Cress.  
Port Skillion. Colby. Peel, P. Not very common.

*S. OFFICINALE* Scop. \* † Hedge Mustard.  
Common.

*S. ALLIARIA* Scop. Jack-by-the-hedge. Hedge Garlic.  
G.; W.; R.; Tr. Balladoole (in Arbory), Lhen, *Y.L.M.*, iv, p. 132.  
Rare.

ERYSIMUM L.

*E. CHEIRANTHOIDES* L. \* † Treacle Mustard.  
Possibly introduced, but, if so, it is well established. In 1929 it still  
grew at Ballaugh where Edward Forbes found it about 1834. Lhen,  
1919. Local.

BRASSICA L.

*B. CAMPESTRIS* L. ? = *B. RAPA* L. of *Lond. Cat.*, xith ed. (141).  
Field Cabbage.

S.K. No specimen. Probably not truly native.

*B. MONENSIS* Huds. \* † Isle of Man Cabbage.  
The Lhen, Andreas. Cranstal Point. The Mooragh, Ramsey. Point  
of Ayre. Formerly also at Douglas—now extinct there. Ray pro-  
bably found this plant (which he mentions as Manks) at the  
Mooragh, which was then the landing place for Ramsey. It still  
grows there.

*B. NIGRA* Koch. \* Black Mustard.  
W. "Common near Castletown," *Ht.*, 1912.

*B. ARVENSIS* O. Kuntze. (= *SINAPISTRUM* Boiss.). \* † Charlock.  
Only too common.  
Manks—Brashlagh.

*B. ALBA* Boiss. \* White Mustard.  
Note:—Possibly none of the species of *Brassica*, except *B. monensis*,  
can be considered as true natives. The others are weeds of culti-  
vation.

CAPSELLA Medic.

*C. BURSA-PASTORIS* Medic. \* † Shepherd's Purse.  
Common.

CORONOPUS Hall.

*C. PROCUMBENS* Gilib. \* † Swine's Cress. Wart Cress.  
W.(F.). Bride, P. By no means common.

LEPIDIDIUM L.

*L. CAMPESTRE* Br.  
W.(F.); S.K. "Near Jurby," Wh.

L. [HETEROPHYLLUM Benth.], b. CANESCENS Gren. & Godr. (= L. Burrell  
Hook.). \* † Smith's Green  
Very common.

#### THLASPI L.

T. ARVENSE L. \* † Penny Green  
Andreas. Ballaugh. N. Ramsey.  
Not common.

#### CRAMBE L.

C. MARITIMA Scop. \* † Sea Raby  
Dalby, F. S. of Contrary Head, K. "Traie Cabbage" (same place)  
R.; P. Formerly Kirk Michael and N. Ramsey—now extinct there  
Local.

#### CAKILE Mill.

C. MARITIMA L. \* † Sea Rocket  
Common.

#### RAPHANUS L.

R. RAPHANISTRUM L. Wild Radish  
W.; R.  
Sub-var. OCHROCYANEA F. Ger. \* †  
Andreas and the Calf, P. Rare.

R. MARITIMUS Sm. Sea Radish  
Shore at Kirk Michael, S.K.

### RESEDACEAE.

#### RESEDA L.

R. LUTEOLA L. \* † Dyer's Rocket. Yellow weed  
Common, especially in the North.

### VIOLACEAE.

#### VIOLA L.

(The Violas named by Dr Drabble are marked E.D.).

V. PALUSTRIS L. Bog Violet  
Common.

V. SILVESTRIS Lamark. \* Wood Violet  
Colby, P. (E.D.).

V. RIVINIANA Reichb. (E.D.). \* †  
A "dog-violet" in Edward Forbes' schoolboy collection now at the  
British Museum is of the above species, which is the most abundant  
Viola in the Island.

Var. NEMOROSA Newm. W. & M. (E.D.). \*

V. CANINA L. (=V. ERICETORUM Hayne). \* † Dog Violet  
Andreas, P. (E.D.); Northern sand-dunes, E. J. Moore.

V. LACTEA Smith. Cream-coloured Violet.  
S.K.; St. Jurby. Bride. Andreas.  
Probably this is the *V. pumila* and the *V. persicifolia* recorded by S.K.—  
A. J. Wilmott.

V. LLOYDII Jord. \* †  
Ramsey, P. (E.D.). Jurby, P. (? E.D.). Andreas, P. (? E.D.).

V. LEPIDA Jord. \* †  
Peel, R. (E.D.).

V. [AGRESTIS Jord.], var. b. SEGETALIS Jord. \* †  
Ramsey. Laxey, C. H. Waddell (fide E.D.). Large specimens probably  
crossed with some garden pansy, Andreas, P. (E.D.). \* † (May be  
*Lloydii*—A. J. Wilmott.).

V. OBTUSIFOLIA Jord. †  
Ballaugh, P. (E.D.).

V. DESEGLISEI Jord.  
Jurby, P. (Apparently this species, specimen poor, E.D.).

V. ARVATICA Jord.  
Ramsey (C. H. Waddell, fide E.D.).

[V. LUTEA Huds.  
S.K.; W. N. Barrule, St. "On the mountains," F. (I have seen no  
specimen. Possibly the next species.)

V. CURTISII Forst. \* †  
S.K.; St.; R. Ramsey (E.D.). Brooghjiarg, Ballaugh, P.

V. PESNEAUI Lloyd & Foucaud. \* †  
Brooghjiarg, Ballaugh, P. (E.D.). Local.

POLYGALACEAE.

POLYGALA L.

P. VULGARIS L. \* † Milkwort.  
Common.

P. DUBIA Bellynck. (= OXYPTERA auct. angl.).  
W. (?). "Frequent in sandy fields, Ballaugh," F.  
"P. vulgaris, var. minutiflora" Gren. & Godr. was recorded by W. P.  
Hiern in 1896, and then said to be new to the British list. See  
Y.L.M., vol. iii, p. 287. I cannot ascertain what this was. The  
specimen is not in Mr Hiern's collection at the Exeter Museum.

CARYOPHYLLACEAE.

DIANTHUS L.

D. ARMERIA L. \* Deptford Pink.  
T., *Science Gossip*, 1886, p. 9; *Naturalist*, 1886, p. 370. Not since re-  
corded.