TRILLIUM.

T. erectum L. Rich woods, occasional in Essex county; Milton, "doubtless introduced" (*C. H. Morss*).

T. cernuum L. Damp woods, common throughout.

T. undulatum Willd. (*T. erythrocarpum* Michx.) Rich woods, rare.

ALETRIS.

A. farinosa L. Sandy roadside, common, Bridgewater (*J. A. Cushman*); formerly in Needham, but exterminated in 1885 (*T. O. Fuller*).

SMILAX.

S. herbacea L. Moist fields and open woods; fairly common, but not reported south of the Blue Hills.

S. rotundifolia L. Woods, very common; more luxuriant in moist situations.

S. glauca Walt. Dry thickets and railroad embankments; Dedham, Hanson, Milton, Roxbury, Weston, Westwood.

C. H. Knowlton
J. A. Cushman
Walter Deane
A. K. Harrison
} *Committee on Local Flora.*

NOTE ON WEIGELA ROSEA.

Mary F. Peirce.

There is a small gland at the base of the blossom of *Weigela rosea*. I knew this forty years ago; but had entirely forgotten it, until, in looking over some old letters a short time ago, I discovered one from a pupil of mine, the niece of Dr. Asa Gray. This reads as follows.—

"I showed Uncle Gray the little gland in *Weigela rosea*. He had

not noticed it before and can not account for it. He can not tell why there is but one, or in fact why it should be there at all. I presume that he will look it up and thanks to you, it will appear in the next Botany.

Yours ever,

ALICE A. GRAY.

Botanic Garden,
June 28th 1867."

On making inquiry at the Botanic Garden, Cambridge, a few days ago, I could not find that Dr. Gray had made any record of the study of the point called to his attention. The *Weigela* is a foreign shrub and therefore has not been included in the Flora of this country.

The gland is small, oblong, and green in a fresh blossom. It lies within and at the base of the monopetalous corolla. It is close to the base of the style, but forms no part of it. It seems to secrete a honey-like substance. The style is very lightly attached to the ovary (which lies below the calyx) and is easily separated from it in the attempt to open the blossom. This makes it easy to mistake the gland for the ovary.

Has this been noticed in any magazine or paper, or has any one attempted to explain its use? After forty-one years of waiting, I should be glad to learn something more about it.

WESTON, MASSACHUSETTS.

[In a search, necessarily hurried, we find the following references to the structure in question: 1) Eichler, Blüthendiagramme, i. 267, where it is mentioned as an anteriorly placed glandular outgrowth of the disk, its position being shown in figure 142 E on page 265. 2) Knuth, Handbook of Flower Pollination (J. R. Ainsworth's translation), ii. 525, where under *Weigela* it is stated that the nectar is "secreted by a green swelling between the base of the style and the corolla." The structure has been examined in fresh material and we are inclined to agree with the authors cited, in believing it to be an elevated outgrowth of the disk, modified to secrete nectar and attract insects, which effect cross-pollination.— Ed.]

Vol. 10, No. 114, including pages 97–116, was issued 15 July, 1908.