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## BOTANY.

**Bog-Trotting for Orchids**<sup>1</sup> is the title of a popular book dealing with the swamp flora of the Hoosac Valley. It gives a pleasant, diary-like account of the author's rambles for three seasons, in the course of which are given descriptions and other information regarding her various finds. An appendix of 44 pages presents a systematic account of the genera and species of New England Orchidaceæ, and there is an admirably full index. The illustrations are photographic, many of them excellent; some are colored, not always to advantage, and a considerable proportion are of landscape views or objects other than orchids. As one reads the rambling narrative one cannot but sympathize with the writer's enthusiasm, and is sure to get refreshing whiffs of out-door air. Despite occasional inaccuracies, showing the lack of expert revision, and the inclusion of considerable material of rather more personal than general interest, the book has the charm and value which belong to a faithful record of first-hand impressions, and which will doubtless render it an inspiring help to many amateurs.

F. L. S.

**Agriculture for Schools.**—Two interesting attempts to meet the demand for instruction in matters of special importance to farming communities, are found in a handbook of exercises edited by Prof. Hays<sup>2</sup> and an elementary text-book by Profs. Burkett, Stevens and Hill.<sup>3</sup>

The hand-book consists of 237 exercises of an eminently practical nature as may be judged from the following sample titles taken at random: Food stored in seeds; Making maps of public roads; Transpiration of water by plants; Teeth of domestic animals; Bow-line knot; Sharpening pocket knives; Classes of chickens; Classi-

<sup>1</sup> Niles, Grace Graylock.—*Bog-Trotting for Orchids*. New York, C. P. Putnam's Sons, 1904. xiv + 310 pp., 72 pls.

<sup>2</sup> Hays, Willet M.—*Rural School Agriculture*. Bulletin No. 1. *Exercises in Agriculture and Housekeeping for Rural Schools*. St. Anthony Park, Minn., Department of Agriculture, University of Minnesota, 1903. 12mo, viii + 196, 79 figs.

<sup>3</sup> Burkett, C. W., Stevens, F. L., and Hill, D. H.—*Agriculture for Beginners*. Boston, Ginn & Company, 1903. 12mo, xii + 267, 215 figs.