

## Wyre Forest Station to Bewdley. Fourth Half-day Walk. Thursday, 18th July, 1895

WORCESTERSHIRE NATURALISTS CLUB

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The fourth afternoon walk for the season 1895 was held on Thursday, the 18th of July, at Wyre Forest, when the members started from the Forest Station and after crossing Dowles Brook into the neighbouring county of Salop the walk through the forest commenced. Scarcely had the entomologists commenced their work before the record of a good capture was made, viz: *Geometra papilionaria* (The Large Emerald) to be followed a little later by one of the uncommon Dragon-flies *Cordulegaster annulatus*. The bogs bordering on Dowles Brook were carefully searched and another capture of *C. annulatus* and a male *Aeschna cyanea* were made whilst *Argynnis adippe* (High-brown Fritillary) and *Paphia* (Silver-washed Fritillary) greeted the members' sight at every sunny spot hovering over the flowers of *Carduus acanthoides* (Wetland Thistle) (the white variety of which was in almost as great abundance as the common purple type) and the waving heads of *Eriophorum angustifolium* (Cotton-grass) there also *Carex*

*fulva* and *echinata* were noticed in great abundance and *Valeriana dioica* (Marsh Valerian). After proceeding for some mile or more the members again crossed Dowles Brook into Worcestershire and proceeded to the Great Bog. There a charming sight met their eyes, the fragrance of which was delicious, for the lovely *Habenaria conopsea* (Fragrant Orchid) was in full blossom intermixed with a few elegant racemes of *Epipactis palustris* (Marsh Helleborine), the curious lime secreting *Chara fragilis* was also noticed and the leaves of *Anagallis tenella* (Bog Pimpernel). Leaving the bog the members proceeded on their way to Bewdley after recrossing Dowles Brook and from thence to its outfall into the Severn nothing was noted. The members then proceeded down the Severn to Bewdley and after gathering some fine specimens of *Coronilla varia*, which seems to have been for many years thoroughly established there, arrived in time to catch the last train home. In addition to the plants and insects above recorded we may mention – *Equisetum silvaticum* (Wood Horsetail), *Epilobium angustifolium* (Rosebay Willow-herb), *Solidago virgaurea* (Golden-rod), *Serratula tinctoria* (Saw-wort), *Calopteryx virgo*, *Lycaena argiolus* (Holly Blue), and *Sphagnum cymbifolium* (Blunt-leaved Bog Moss).



*Coronilla varia* (now *Securigera varia*) Crown Vetch growing beside the River Severn, July 2018.

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