

**A HANDBOOK FOR SOUTHPORT,
MEDICAL AND GENERAL, WITH
COPIOUS NOTICES OF THE
NATURAL HISTORY OF THE
DISTRICT**

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A Handbook for Southport, Medical and General, with Copious Notices of the Natural History of the District by David H. McNicoll

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DAVID H. MCNICOLL

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1. ROUND-LEAVED WINTER GREEN
(*Pyrola rotundifolia*)

3. ROUND-LEAVED BELL FLOWER
(*Campanula rotundifolia*)

2. GRASS OF PARNASSUS
(*Parnassia palustris*)

4. YELLOW HORNED PANSY OR HEARTSAASE
(*Viola flabicornis*)

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HANDBOOK FOR SOUTHPORT,

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OF THE DISTRICT.**

BY DAVID H. McNICOLL, M.D.,

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TO THE SOUTHPORT SEA-BATHING INFIRMARY.**

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SECOND EDITION
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P R E F A C E .

THE rapid sale of the first edition of this little Handbook is sufficient evidence of the growing popularity of Southport as a sanitary resort. It has also imposed upon me the duty of improving these pages, which I have done as far as my ability and leisure would permit.

I need not apologise for the Natural History occupying so large a portion of the following pages. The motive has been a desire to encourage useful and agreeable mental occupation on the part of those visitors whose stay is more or less prolonged, and whose minds would, in the absence of some external object of thought, turn and prey upon themselves. This continual contemplation of their own condition—the result of the depression attendant upon disease, and absence from the ordinary engagements of life—needs to be carefully guarded against, and I have not thought it out of place in a medical work to suggest a substitute.

The mode of procedure has been first to record the result of personal enquiry and observation, and then to compare these with previous attempts of the same kind. In this I have received the most essential aid from my venerable friend Mr. Graves, who has been my frequent companion in exploring expeditions, and my constant adviser in difficulties arising from contending authorities. The Botanical list thus procured was collated and enriched by comparison with a MS. list kindly furnished by Dr. J. B. Wood, of Broughton, whose extensive knowledge of the plants of this locality and original labours in certain departments of general Botany, are well known. Mr. Henry Aughton's list, as it is called (though disavowed by him), has been consulted, and he has cheerfully answered all enquiries put to him. Several plants are entered on his sole authority. The list of Birds was made on the same plan of combined observation and testimony, the valuable list of Mr. Tyrer being freely used for the purpose. I have to acknowledge, with thanks, the assistance for which I am indebted to James Glover, Esq., J.P., and to Mr. J. A. Robinson, the latter of whom has obligingly furnished me with the chapter on Excursions in the neighbourhood of Southport.

My special acknowledgments are also due to Mr. Charles H. Brown, who has found time (as may always be done where

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there is the will) to combine due attention to business with pursuits of a refining and elevating tendency, and without whose aid the List of Shells would have been much less perfect.

SOUTH LANE, SOUTHPORT,
June 11th, 1861.

