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IV. Notes on the Flora of Helvellyn, Cumberland

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been growing for the last ten years. Besides the tufts which grow from the sides, some also proceed from beneath. The branches push through the green paint on the outside, as well as through the bottom, which has been tarred both inside and outside. It has not been ascertained how the plant got into these tubs. If increased by spores, none have been seen growing on the neighbouring tubs, although several of the tubs are much decayed, nor am I aware of any pot-plant of *Psilotum* ever standing in the Palm-house.

The *Psilotum* is also growing on the surface of several pots standing in a detached plant pit. It is chiefly on pots in which seedling bamboo canes were growing, where the roots had filled the pots, so that little room was left for soil. It is also growing close to the stem of a South American Euphorbiaceous plant (*Pedilanthus tithymaloides*). All the plants which come up naturally are 8 inches long, being smaller than the ordinary form of *Psilotum*, and finer in habit, with somewhat pendent tops, not unlike the *Psilotum dichotomum* of Willd. When taken from the tubs and cultivated in pots the plant becomes stronger, resembling the true *P. triquetrum*, except in the extremities, which still remain pendent. The original plant of *P. triquetrum*, about 1 foot in height, stands in a separate plant pit, with a collection of Lycopods and Ferns, but shows no symptoms of increasing, no young plants having ever been seen in any of the neighbouring pots.

IV. Notes on the Flora of Helvellyn, Cumberland. By JAMES F. ROBINSON.

The author gave an account of an excursion which he had made to Helvellyn, a mountain 3055 feet above the level of the sea, and noted the principal plants he met with. In conclusion, he stated:—"One object of my visit was to ascertain if the same flora existed near the summit as was reported nearly fifty years ago. I missed several species, such as *Saxifraga nivalis*, *Asplenium germanicum*, *Sedum dasphyllum*, and *Woodsia ilvensis*. It is very doubtful if the *Woodsia* was ever found on the mountain, and I think *S. nivalis* has been mistaken for a

form of *Saxifraga stellaris*. I have, however, seen a specimen of *Asplenium germanicum* said to have been collected on the Striding Edge, but after a most careful search I failed to find it. I think some error has been committed with respect to *Sedum dasyphyllum*. I doubt if it is even 'wild' at Conway; it may be as genuine a native as *Smyrnium Olusatrum*, at Conway Castle. Most of the species I noticed were tolerably abundant, with the exception of the *Hieracia*, *Thalictrum Kochii*, *Viola stagnina*, *Asplenium viride*, *Veronicas*, *Hymenophyllum Wilsoni*, and *Arenaria verna*."

V. Notes on some British Fungi. By JOHN SADLER.

Lepista nuda, Bull.; Amethyst Lepista.—This fine mushroom has appeared in great abundance for months past on a large heap of turf in the Royal Botanic Garden. In progress of growth it changes its colour and form in a remarkable degree.

Agaricus (Mycena) corticola, Schum.; Bark Mycena.—On a rotten elm stump in the Royal Botanic Garden. It is of a delicate white, bluish, or flesh colour.

Agaricus (Mycena) alcalinus, Fr.; Stump Mycena.—This strong scented mushroom is not uncommon on trunks of trees near Edinburgh, and is abundant on the old willow tree in the Royal Botanic Garden, where it grows throughout the whole year.

Ustilago urceolorum, Tul.; Sedge Smut.—Generally found on the fruit of Carices. In August 1872 I met with it in great plenty growing on *Scirpus cespitosus*, between White Water and Little Gilrannoch, Forfarshire. Specimens issued in Cooke's "Fungi Britannici," Fasc. vi.

Ascomyces Vaccinii, on *Vaccinium Vitis-Idæa*, at Dunkeld and Killin, Perthshire, and Clova, Forfarshire.

Stereum spadiceum, Fr.; Bright Brown Stereum.—Not uncommon on old trunks and branches in the Royal Botanic Garden.

Nectria cinnabarina, Fr.; Vermilion Nectria.—Figured by Greville under the genus *Cucurbitaria*. Not uncommon near Edinburgh on dead branches.