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Additional Notes on Willows in the University Herbarium.

By F. BUCHANAN WHITE, M.D., F.L.S.

(Read 12th December 1889.)

In the notes on Willows in the University Herbarium, which I had the honour of submitting to the Society last session, I mentioned the existence of a specimen of *Salix Lapponum*, collected by Greville at Colinton near Edinburgh, which as it has ♀ catkins, dispelled the slight doubt, as to the species, suggested in the "Student's Flora." Since the notes in question were in type some additional specimens of willows have been found in the herbarium, and have been kindly submitted to me by Professor Bayley Balfour.

Amongst these are three more specimens of *Salix Lapponum* from the Edinburgh district, and three specimens of hybrids of that species. The collector's name is not mentioned, but the writing is, I think, that of the late Professor J. H. Balfour.

The examples of *S. Lapponum* include two from "near Craigerook, 1832," and one from "Dalkeith Woods, 19 May, 1838."

The hybrids are with *S. aurita* and with *S. cinerea*. Of the first there is a specimen with a ♀ catkin from Colinton, and another (which, though it has no flowers, is from the structure of the leaves scarcely doubtful) from Craigerook. The *S. cinerea* hybrid is labelled as from "Carlowrie, 1838."

We have thus proof that *Salix Lapponum* has been gathered in three localities near Edinburgh, namely, Colinton, Craigerook, and Dalkeith Woods, whilst the occurrence of a hybrid of it at Carlowrie suggests that it also grew there.

Considering that this species very rarely occurs as a wild plant below an altitude of 2000 feet above sea-level, I fear that there can be little doubt but that it is only an introduced plant in these localities. Whether it is still to be found the investigations of local botanists must decide.

But though the nativity of the species must be regarded with suspicion, there is no good reason why the hybrids should not be of spontaneous origin. *S. aurita* and *S. cinerea* are both common willows, and probably grow or grew

in all the localities. Indeed there are in the herbarium specimens of *S. aurita* from Colinton.

The hybrid *S. aurita-Lapponum*, Wimm. (*S. Læstadiana*, Hartm. β *opaca*, 2° *subaurita*, And.), has been found in both northern and central Europe. Its characters show a combination of those of its parents, but it much resembles the hybrid of *cinerea* with *Lapponum*, from which the rugosity, especially of the young leaves, best distinguishes it and indicates its affinity with *S. aurita*. Since its parents not unfrequently grow at no great distance from each other on many of the Highland hills, its occurrence in Scotland might be expected, but previous to these Edinburgh specimens I had seen one only which might possibly be it. This is a specimen of a willow—in Kew Herbarium—collected by Lightfoot, but without locality or date.

The hybrid with *S. cinerea*, *S. cinerea-limosa*, Læstad (*S. cinerea-Lapponum*, Wimm.; *S. Læstadiana*, Hartm. β *opaca*, 1° *subcinerea*, And.) is a much rarer form, and has been found in northern Europe only. The Carlowrie specimen, which I am inclined to refer to this, has numerous ♀ catkins, but the leaves are only quite young. It is very like *S. aurita-Lapponum*, but I think that from the densely black-pubescent twigs, the abundant rusty *cinerea*-like hairs on the under side of some of the leaves, and the absence of the rugosity of *S. aurita*, that the latter species has been replaced by *S. cinerea*. It is much to be wished that the plant could be rediscovered.

S. latifolia, Forbes.—Of this—which is a hybrid between *S. Caprea* and *S. nigricans*—there is a specimen labelled “S. W. corner of Duddingston Loch, a small tree 16 feet high,” but without date or collector’s name. This hybrid seems to be of rare occurrence. The majority of the few British specimens I have seen were collected in Perthshire.

S. Sadleri, Syme.—Having, during the past summer, found in Perthshire a hybrid between *S. lanata* and *S. reticulata* (or what seems almost certainly so), I have again made a study of *S. Sadleri*. *S. Sadleri* has been supposed to be a hybrid of *S. lanata* with *S. reticulata*, and for lack of a better explanation of its origin, I was content to temporarily accept it as such, though its affinity with *reticulata* is extremely obscure. I now think that it must be regarded as a variety of *S. lanata*, and not as a hybrid form. By a “variety” amongst willows I

mean forms which other botanists might perhaps call "sub-species."

S. spuria, Willd.—To this—which is *S. Lapponum* $\times$ *S. Arbuscula*—I referred in my previous notes a willow (on sheet 330) from Glen Dole, Clova, and mentioned that the Rev. E. F. Linton had found it in Clova more recently. I have lately seen a series of similar specimens collected in Clova by Rev. W. R. Linton, and now perceive that Mr Linton's specimens are hybrids of *Lapponum* with *herbacea* (= *S. sobrina*, B.W.) and not with *Arbuscula*. I suspect therefore that the specimen on sheet 330, which has leaves only, is the same. In the meantime, at any rate, it must be considered as doubtful.