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I. Description of *Hieracium collinum*, of Fries, a new British Plant

Professor Balfour

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Erlangen ; Carl Heinrich Schultz, Zweibrucken ; Cavalliere Tineo, Palermo.

Resignations—Resident Fellows.—Dr W. A. F. Browne, John Duncan, jun., Thomas Stewart Robertson, James P. Falkner.

Cancelled.—Andrew Taylor, Thomas Robson.

The following Communications were read :—

I. *Description of Hieracium collinum, of Fries, a new British Plant.* By Professor BALFOUR. (Specimens and drawings of the plant were exhibited.) (Plate I.)

On Saturday 27th June 1868, I took a botanical trip to Selkirk with some of my students, and while walking along the sandy banks of the Ettrick, between Selkirk and Philiphaugh, a *Hieracium* was gathered by my zealous pupil, Mr Mawson, which at once attracted my notice. It was quite distinct from any of the British *Hieracia*, and it was obviously growing in a wild station. Although, on account of the hot weather of last summer, many of the specimens were in a shrivelled state, still a sufficient number remained in a condition fit for examination, and I determined it to be *Hieracium collinum*, of Fries. I subsequently sent a specimen to Professor Babington, who agreed with me as to the species.

The following are the characters of the plant :—*Hieracium collinum*, Fries, Symbolæ ad Hist. Hieraciorum, p. 29 ; viride (raro glaucescens) ; caule inferne paucifolio apice cymoso-corymboso furcatove ; foliis lanceolatis linearibusve acuminatis hirsutis, subtus cano-floccosis, infimis lingulatis obtusis ; anthela discreta involucrisque e globoso-ovalibus cano-floccosis glandulosoque-hispidis, squamis unicoloribus obtusis, siccitate nigricantibus.—*Pilosella major erecta*, Bauh. Pin. p. 262. *H. dubium*, Fl. Dan. t. 1044 ; Wahlenb. Suec. n. 872 (non Linn.), *H. cymosum*, var. *dubium*, Fries, Nov. p. 253. *H. collinum*, Germ. auctor. pro parte. *H. pratense*, Ledeb. Fl. Rossica. *H. præcaltum*, var. *hirsutum*, Koch, Synopsis, 3d ed. p. 383. *H. fallax*, Hartman, Skand. Flora, p. 19.

It occurs in Northern Europe, and after *H. Pilosella*, Linn.

and *H. Auricula*, Linn., it is the most common species in dry mountains throughout the middle and north of Sweden, as far as Lapland, and also in the interior of Norway, up to Finmark. It is rare in the mountains of Germany. It flowers in June.

The root is descending, oblique, and premorse, usually giving off stolons. The stem is hollow, straight, with 1–3 leaves, reddish, with stellate, hoary, glandular pubescence. The primary leaves are obtuse, the rest are lanceolate-acute, covered with hairs which are often crowded and give a floccose appearance to the leaves. The heads of flowers are clustered, the peduncles and involucre being densely hoary-floccose and usually glandular. The capitula ovate-oblong at first, and afterwards more or less globose, becoming black by dryness. The scales of the involucre are floccose and hairy. The achenes are small and brownish-black, with a whitish pappus.

The species belongs to section "*C. Stirps Hieracii præalti*," and in the subdivision "*Viridi-canescens*" of Fries' "*Symbolæ*." It is placed near *H. præaltum*. In its habit, the arrangement of its capitula, its dark phyllaries, and its hoary floccose aspect, it differs from the other British species. It may be looked upon therefore as a well-marked and interesting addition to the British flora.

In Smith's "*English Flora*" (vol. iii. p. 356) there is a species of *Hieracium* described as *H. dubium*, L. It is figured in Eng. Bot. t. 2332, and its history is investigated in Smith's "*Observations respecting several British species of Hieracium*," published in the Transactions of the Linnean Society, vol. ix. p. 226. Smith states it to be *H. Auricula*, Flora Dan. t. 1111. It is said to have been found in Westmoreland, by Hudson, and to have been gathered in Scotland by George Don. It wants the hairy floccose appearance of *H. collinum*.

Another species, *H. Auricula*, L., is mentioned by Smith as having been found by Hudson, on Dalehead, near Grassmere, Westmoreland. He gives, as a synonym, *H. dubium*, Flora Dan. t. 1044, and remarks regarding it, "the most uncertain plant, perhaps, in our whole British catalogue, whose place in the English Flora depends on Mr Hudson's authority alone, for no other person has met with anything

in Britain answering to his description." In examining Hudson's description as given by Smith, I do not find that it corresponds with *H. collinum*.

Hooker and Arnott in their "British Flora" (p. 209) say, "we omit here *H. dubium*, Huds., not L., as it is quite uncertain what plant was intended; the description given by Woodward, in Withering's 'Botanical Arrangement,' and the figure in English Bot. t. 2332, both of garden specimens, belonging to *H. stoloniferum*, W. and K., while Smith's description in the 'English Flora' is taken from *H. Auricula*, L. We also omit *H. Auricula*, L., said to have been found in Westmoreland, the description and figure, Eng. Bot. t. 2368, given by Smith, being taken from a Swiss specimen of *H. glaciale*, Lach."

EXPLANATION OF PLATE I.; representing *Hieracium collinum*, Fries, from specimens collected on the banks of the Ettrick, Selkirkshire.—Fig. 1. The plant, natural size. 2. A flower. 3. Bifid termination of a style. 4. A hair of the pappus. Figs. 2, 3, and 4 magnified.

II. Notice of *Grimmia contorta* of *Schimper*, a New British Moss. By Professor DICKIE.

This moss was discovered for the first time in Britain by Mr John Sim, Gateside, Strachan, growing in considerable abundance on the exposed south and west sides of the great granite rock of Clochnaben, Kincardineshire, in June 1868.* It is the *Dicranum contortum* of Wahl., and *Grimmia uncinata* of Kaulf., Bryo. Europ., vol. iii. t. 248. The following description of the species is from Schimper's "Synopsis Muscorum Europæorum," p. 209:—

"Cæspitulosæ, cæspituli molles saturate virides inferne nigricantes et eximie discolorës, stupa radiculosa basilari cohærentes. Folia patenti-incurva, sicca crispula, e lanceolato lineali-subulata, apice diaphana vel brevipila, basi carinato-concava margine recurva, dehinc subcomplicato-carinata, sola juniora viridia, cætera nigricantia vel fuscescentia; rete e cellulis formatum majoribus, apice sinuoso-quadratis basi elongatis hexagono-rectangulis diaphanis. Perichæstium 8–9-phyllum, longe productum, folia peri-

* This moss had been previously gathered on the Cheviots in May 1868 by Mr James Hardy.—J. H. B.

W. Fitch, del. et lith.

Hieracium collinum, Fr.

Vincent Brooks, Day & Son, Imp.