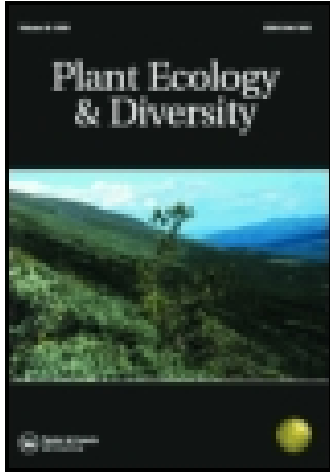


This article was downloaded by: [New York University]

On: 04 February 2015, At: 17:33

Publisher: Taylor & Francis

Informa Ltd Registered in England and Wales Registered Number:
1072954 Registered office: Mortimer House, 37-41 Mortimer Street,
London W1T 3JH, UK



Transactions of the Botanical Society of Edinburgh

Publication details, including instructions for authors and subscription information:

<http://www.tandfonline.com/loi/tped18>

Some Mosses And Hepatics From The Isle Of May

William Evans F.R.S.E.

Published online: 29 Nov 2010.

To cite this article: William Evans F.R.S.E. (1908) Some Mosses And Hepatics From The Isle Of May, Transactions of the Botanical Society of Edinburgh, 23:1-4, 348-352, DOI: [10.1080/03746600809469183](https://doi.org/10.1080/03746600809469183)

To link to this article: <http://dx.doi.org/10.1080/03746600809469183>

PLEASE SCROLL DOWN FOR ARTICLE

Taylor & Francis makes every effort to ensure the accuracy of all the information (the "Content") contained in the publications on our platform. However, Taylor & Francis, our agents, and our licensors make no representations or warranties whatsoever as to the accuracy, completeness, or suitability for any purpose of the Content. Any opinions and views expressed in this publication are the opinions and views of the authors, and are not the views of or endorsed by Taylor & Francis. The accuracy of the Content should not be relied upon and should be independently verified with primary sources of information. Taylor and Francis shall not be liable for any losses, actions, claims, proceedings, demands, costs, expenses, damages, and other liabilities whatsoever or howsoever caused arising directly or indirectly in connection with, in relation to or arising out of the use of the Content.

This article may be used for research, teaching, and private study purposes. Any substantial or systematic reproduction, redistribution, reselling, loan, sub-licensing, systematic supply, or distribution in any form to anyone is expressly forbidden. Terms & Conditions of access and use can be found at <http://www.tandfonline.com/page/terms-and-conditions>

MEETING OF THE SOCIETY.

July 9, 1908.

J. RUTHERFORD HILL, Esq., President, in the Chair.

Mr. CECIL B. CRAMPTON, M.B., C.M., was proposed as a Resident Fellow.

The following communication was read:—

SOME MOSSES AND HEPATICS FROM THE ISLE OF MAY.

By WILLIAM EVANS, F.R.S.E.

The object of the present communication is to put on record a few mosses and hepatics which I have at odd times obtained on the Isle of May, at the mouth of the Firth of Forth. The fact of the May being the most seaward as well as the largest of the few islands on the east coast of Scotland, makes it of considerable interest to the biologist, be he botanist or zoologist, and renders a full list of its flora and fauna desirable.

The island has been visited by botanists on various occasions. Patrick Neill landed on it in August 1811, as appears from his note in the "Scots Magazine" at the time. In 1827 Professor J. H. Balfour read a paper on its natural history before the Plinian Society: this paper, I understand, was never published. In the eleventh volume of the "Transactions" of our Society (1873, pp. 390-392) there is a paper by the late John Sadler on the Flora of the Isle of May, in which he gives a list of plants observed there by himself and others on 11th August 1871. Only one moss, however, *Schistidium maritimum*, is recorded; and it is mentioned that "one Jungermanniaceous plant was found but the species remained undetermined." Then, in the Society's "Transactions" for 1884 (Vol. XVI. pp. 115-121) we have a paper by Mr. J. Rattray on the "Phanerogams and Higher Cryptogams" of the island.

The chief feature of this second paper is the list of Algae. The mosses given are:—*Schistidium maritimum*, *Orthotrichum* (sp. ?), *Hyppnum chrysophyllum*, *H. confertum*, and *H. proelongum*; and there is a solitary liverwort, namely, *Fegatella conica*. A few Fungi, collected on the May last autumn by Misses Baxter and Rintoul, have recently been recorded by Mr. A. B. Steele ("Ann. Scot. Nat. Hist.," 1908, p. 58).

Except for a visit of ten days in September 1885, for the purpose of observing birds on migration, my only opportunities of collecting on the Isle of May have been during the short time allowed on shore from the excursion steamers. On several of these occasions I made a point of securing any Bryophytes that came under my notice, and the specimens thus obtained, together with a few kindly sent to me in April last by Mr. Ross, the lighthouse superintendent, furnish the following list of eighteen mosses and seven hepatics.

Two of the species recorded by Mr. Rattray, namely, *Hyppnum* (*Eurhynchium*) *confertum* and *H. chrysophyllum*, have not been met with by me.

MOSSES.

Polytrichum juniperinum, Willd.—A few rather small barren plants, April 1908.

Dicranella heteromalla (Dill.), Schimp.—Gathered in September 1885, August 1897, etc. A fine patch, covered with ripe capsules, received from Mr. Ross in April last.

Fissidens viridulus (Swartz), Wahl.—I found a little of this small moss in the barren state on 4th August 1904.

Grimmia maritima, Turn. (*Schistidium maritimum* of the lists of Sadler and Rattray).—Common, and fruiting freely on the low rocks on the east side of the island; September 1879, September 1885, July 1897, etc.

Grimmia Stirtoni, Schimp.—A few small tufts on rocks, 15th July 1897.

Trichostomum flavovirens, Bruch.—September 1885 and August 1897.

Ulota phyllantha, Brid.—In the same situations as *Grimmia maritima*; September 1885 and July 1897; barren as usual. Perhaps this is the *Orthotrichum* referred to in Rattray's list.

Physcomitrium pyriforme (L.), Brid.—A fruiting patch of this moss was found by my father in September 1879, and I gathered it again in September 1885.

Webera nutans (Schreb.), Hedw.?—A *Webera* coming into fruit, April 1908, is probably this common species, but without fully formed capsules one cannot be quite certain.

Bryum inclinatum (Sw.), Bland.?—August 1904; “probably *inclinatum*, but impossible to say certainly in absence of fruit” (Dixon, *in lit.*). On other occasions I have gathered a similar plant on the island, but always in the barren state.

Bryum alpinum, Huds.—September 1885, a little, and 15th June 1899; barren. On the latter occasion a pretty form, approaching var. *viride* in the colouring and the lax areolation, was growing in luxuriant cushions around a spring.

Mnium hornum, L.—September 1885, July and September 1897 and April 1908; small, as a rule, and barren.

Brachythecium rutabulum (L.), B. and S.—September 1885 and April 1908; scarce and, like the other *Hypnaceae*, barren.

Brachythecium velutinum (L.), B. and S.—September 1885 and August 1897, a little.

Eurhynchium prelongum (L.), B. and S. (*Hypnum prelongum* of Rattray’s list).—September 1885 and July and August 1897, a small form; April 1908, more luxuriant and better developed.

Eurhynchium myosuroides (L.), Schimp.—September 1885 and April 1908; “a large form approaching my var. *brachythecioides*” (Dixon, *in lit.*).

Hypnum cupressiforme, L.—September 1885 and April 1908; all var. *ericetorum* or near it.

Hylocomium squarrosum (L.), B. and S.—September 1885, a very little.

HEPATICS.

Conocephalum conicum (L.), Dum.—Under the name of *Fegatella conica* this well-known liverwort was recorded from the island by Rattray in 1884, and I observed it there in September 1885; further, Mr. Ross has sent me an ample but barren specimen in April this year.

Lophozia ventricosa (Dicks.), Dum.—There is a specimen

of this among my September 1885 gatherings, and it is also among those received in April last.

Cephalozia bicuspidata (L.), Dum.—Specimens of this and the next two species were found growing among *Dicranella heteromalla* and *Mnium hornum* received in April. The *Cephalozia* was in fructification.

Kantia Trichomanis (L.), Gray.—A very little, April 1908.

Lepidozia reptans (L.), Dum.—April 1908.

Frullania Tamarisci (L.), Dum.—Mixed with *Brachythecium rutabulum*, September 1885.

Frullania germana, Tayl.—A good sized specimen gathered in September 1879 is in my herbarium.

The Musci have been submitted to Mr. H. N. Dixon, and the Hepaticæ to Mr. S. M. Macvicar, for whose "Census" the *Frullania germana* has furnished the only record (v. c. 85) of the species from the east of Scotland.

The chief points of interest are the occurrence of *Bryum alpinum* and *Frullania germana*, the one being rarely found at a low level in the east of Scotland,¹ and the other what is called an "Atlantic" or west coast species. The record of *Fissidens viridulus*—a little-known plant in this district and *Grimmia Stirtoni*, are also worthy of notice.

There are, no doubt, more species of Bryophyta than the above to be found on the island, but the conditions evidently do not favour the presence of this form of vegetation. It can hardly be owing to any lack of moisture in the atmosphere, but probably want of shelter, an unsuitable soil, and absence of marshy ground, are among the adverse circumstances. Departure from type, it will be noted, is a feature of several of the mosses obtained, and comparatively few were found in fruit.

Mr. PETER FENTON exhibited a series of fruits and seeds from the Bahamas.

Mr. JAMES FRASER showed living plants of *Carrichtera Vella*, *Polypogon monspeliensis* and *P. maritimus* from Leith Docks.

¹ Howie records *Bryum alpinum* from Norman's Law in Fife, and on this side of the Forth it occurs sparingly on Traprain Law and the Dalmahoy Hills.

Mr. R. L. HARROW showed the following plants in flower from the Royal Botanic Garden:— *Anemone Regeliana*, *Asperula hirta*, *Aster himalaicus*, *Campanula Allionii*, *C. Allionii*, var. *hirsuta*, *Crepis aurea*, *Isotirion brachyantherum*, *Myosotis alpestris*, *Primula Bulleyana*, *P. pinnatifida*, *Saxifraga Macnabiana*

PRESIDENTIAL ADDRESS, NOVEMBER 1907.

By the kindness of the Assistant Secretary, I am able to submit the following state of the Roll of the Society:—

Honorary Fellows: Royal 1, British 5, Foreign 25.
Ordinary Fellows: Resident 108, Non-Resident 43. Corresponding Members 61; Associates 9; Lady Members 6.
Total, 258.

During the past year the membership of the Society has been strengthened by the addition of—

Ordinary Fellows: Resident 5. Total, 5.

During the same period 2 Ordinary Fellows have resigned, and we have lost by death:—Ordinary Fellows: Resident 6, Non-Resident 1, Corresponding Members 2. Total, 11.

WILLIAM PETER DRUMMOND.

William Peter Drummond was the youngest and last surviving son of the well-known seedsman, Peter Drummond of Stirling. He was born at Stirling in 1838. He and his brother George came to Edinburgh and started the business of Drummond Brothers, nurserymen and seedsmen, with a warehouse in George Street and nurseries at Longfield, on ground which has now been feued. He became a Fellow of the Society in 1858. On retiring from business a good many years ago, he went to America, and remained there for some years. Returning to Scotland a few years ago, he resumed attendance at meetings of the Society when health permitted. He died at his residence, 8 Wardie Road, Edinburgh, on 18th December 1906, aged 68 years. He is survived by a widow and a son, Peter E. Drummond, who is a member of the engineering staff at the Gordon Memorial College, Khartoum, Egypt.