

without either of the authors being aware of the existence of a *Schizonotus* Raf.

In *Index Kewensis* the *Schizonotus* of Lindley and of Rafinesque are not discriminated, but wrongly united under *Schizonotus* Lindl.; while *Schizonotus* Gray is enumerated as valid. Also the *Thecanisia discolor* Raf. is there erroneously made a synonym of *Spiraea discolor*, but it is an herbaceous plant allied to *Ulmaria rubra*, and probably based on escaped plants of the European *U. pentapetala* Gilib. (*Spiraea Ulmaria* Linn.)

It will be clear that on account of priority as well as of usage the name *Sorbaria* ought to be considered as the valid name, with *Schizonotus* Lindl. (1830) and *Basilima* Raf. (1836) as synonyms; while *Holodiscus* (Koch) Maxim. should be substituted for *Schizonotus* Raf., at least by those who follow the Rochester rules in accordance with article IV, and by others on account of expediency, to avoid all possible confusion with the other two genera, of which one is liable to be revived under certain rules of nomenclature.

Sorbaria of course will not enter into the American flora if *Chamaebatiaria* is considered as constituting a distinct genus, which it may be, though structural differences in flower and fruit are hardly present. In foliage and habit, however, it is strikingly different. The observation of Rafinesque that *Sorbaria sorbifolia* is a native of North-west America seems not to be based upon any reliable source, at least it has not been found again on American soil, neither has *S. grandiflora* Maxim. (*Basilima pygmaea* Raf.), which was suspected by him to occur probably somewhere in the same region.—ALFRED REHDER, *Arnold Arboretum*.

POTAMOGETON POLYGONIFOLIUS IN NEWFOUNDLAND.

THE only note of the occurrence of this species in North America I know of is contained in *Linnaea* 2: 216. 1827; where Chamisso has the following: "Hujus loci forsitan est: Potamogeton de St. Pierre Miquelon près Terrebonne in Herb. Brogniart, sed major." I have not seen the specimens in Brogniart's herbarium, which is at Paris.

In the *Journal of Botany* for June of this year, I record it from Sable island, about 100 miles off the coast of Nova Scotia. I have now to record it from Newfoundland, from whence I find specimens in the Kew herbarium from the herbarium of Harvard University.

As this was gathered by American botanists I record it in an American journal, the more so as I wish to point out that there is some hope it may occur in Massachusetts in the neighborhood of where *Calluna vulgaris* L. occurs. The label of the Newfoundland specimens runs thus:

No. 231. *P. heterophyllus* Schreb. Muddy banks of brooks. Whitbourne. 17. 8. 1890. Coll. B. L. Robinson (and) H. Schrenk. Distributed from the Herbarium of Harvard University.

The two specimens are not *P. heterophyllus*, however, but *P. polygonifolius* in its usual "heath" form. As this is the first time it appears in American books it may be well to give the synonymy and distribution.

P. POLYGONIFOLIUS Pourr. in Acad. Toul. 3:325. 1788.

P. oblongus Viv. Anal. Bot. 2:102. 1802; also in Fragm. Fl. It. 1:1. *pl.* 2. 1808.

P. plantago Batard, Fl. dep. Maine et Loire 64. 1809.

P. parnassifolius Schrad. (ined. 1818) ex Mert. et Koch, Deut. Fl. 1:839. 1823.

P. uliginosus et *affine* Boenning ex Cham. in Linnaea 2:216. 1827.

P. paludosus Bory in sched. ex Cham. *l. c.*

P. natans intermedius Mert. et Koch, Deut. Fl. *l. c.*

P. microcarpus Reut. et Boiss. Diag. Pl. Nov. Hisp. 2:24. 1842 is a variety, or perhaps a subspecies.

DIST. EUROPE: Iceland to Piedmont, and Holland to Russia.

ASIA: Siberia altai (Led.) to Mongolia, and China to India and Japan.

AFRICA: Morocco to Transvaal? (Wilms), and Madagascar.

AUSTRALIA: New Zealand.

The species varies greatly, the var. γ *ericetorum* Syme, Eng. Bot. ed. 3, 9:28. 1869, representing the small heath form, often growing in mud, the var. β *pseudo fluitans* Syme, *l. c.*, the other extreme, *i. e.*, a fluitant form often in deep or running water with thin translucent submerged leaves and coriaceous upper leaves.

It may be distinguished from *natans* by the small fruit, the blunt stipules, the base of the leaves never having the flexible joint of *natans* (there are no "strings" in the leaf of *polygonifolius*) which enables that species to turn its leaves in any direction; from *heterophyllus* by the style being central, by the nervation of the leaves, etc.

I hope to send specimens of this species to various American botanists next fall, so that they may know it and keep it in view.—ARTHUR BENNETT, *Croydon, England.*