

NOTES ON IRISH PLANTS.

BY GEORGE CLARIDGE DRUCE, M.A., F.L.S.

In June this year I spent a few days in Clare, Galway, and Sligo, when I saw most of the following plants. One or two were found some years ago, but I have not previously recorded them, as they have only recently been identified. The delightful coast scenery of Co. Clare is a feature which no botanist should miss visiting. The plants which are new to *Irish Topographical Botany*, or believed to be additional, are marked with an asterisk. Those which are not native have † prefixed.

Ranunculus trichophyllus, Chaix.—Gort, 15.

R. heterophyllus, Weber.—Newtown, Gort, 15.

R. peltatus, Schrank.—Gort, 15.

Var. **truncatus** (Hiern).—Gort, 15.

Var. **penicillatus** (Dum.)—Gort, River Suck, Loughrea, 15.

R. Baudotii, Godr.—Lough Luirk, near Muckinish, 9.

***R. Steveni**, Andr.—Near Wicklow, 20; near Glasnevin, 21.

R. Auricomus, L.—Near the 'Punchbowl,' Gort, 15.

***Caltha radicans**, Forst.—Shore of Lough Derg near Rossmore, by the River Suck, Gort, Lough Rea, 15; Glencar, 28.

Aquilegia vulgaris, L.—Near Ardrahan, 15.

Papaver hybridum, L.—Near Roo, 15.

Radicula Nasturtium-aquaticum, B. and R., var. **microphylla**, Druce.—Near Ben Bulben, 28.

Barbarea arcuata, Reichb.—Near Gort, 15. The flowers are distinctly larger than those of *B. lyrata*.

†**B. verna**, Asch.—Murrrough, *9; casual.

***Cardamine flexuosa**, With.—Ballyvaughan, 9.

†**Hesperis matronalis**, L.—Base of Ben Bulben, 28; near Claremorris, *26. Well established.

Brassica alba, Boiss.—Ballyvaughan, 9.

Viola canina, L., and a form suggesting traces of *stagnina* parentage.—Margin of Lough Derg, 15.

V. canina × **stagnina**.—Unmistakably this hybrid, near Tirneevin, growing with both parents, *15. *V. stagnina* grew in the dampest part of the turlough, *V. canina* on the upper and drier ground; the hybrid was more frequent in the intermediate part.

V. Curtisii, Forst., var. **Mackail**, Wats.—Murrrough, 9; Wicklow sandhills, 20. Very luxuriant and beautiful in the latter situation.

Polygala serpyllacea, Weihe, var. **major**, Rouy and Fouc. (but not an extreme form).—Base of Ben Bulben, 28. A very beautiful plant. The small area where peat occurs, at the base of the mountain, was the locality. On the limestone cliffs of the mountain *P. vulgaris*, L., var. *grandiflora*, Bab., was in magnificent flower, and really appears to be a sub-species rather than variety. The var. *major* of *P. serpyllacea*, was associated with *Montia*, *Vaccinium Myrtillus*, &c.

- Polygala vulgaris**, L.—A pretty form, with small dark blue flowers, occurs by the railway at Ardrahan, 15
- Silene Cucubalus**, Wib., var. **hirsuta** (Gray).—Castle Taylor, 15.
- Cerastium tetrandum**, Curtis, *forma cæspitosa*.—A densely-tufted dwarf form occurred on walls in Galway town, 16. Very luxuriant at Murrough and Muckinish, 9; also on sandhills south of Wicklow, 20.
- C. arvense**, L., var. **Andrewsii**, Syme.—Slopes of Cappanawalla, 9; a stiff, glabrous plant.
- Arenaria verna**, L.—Local at Black Head and near Cregg, 9.
- A. tenuifolia**, L.—Railway near Castlegrove, 17; abundant near Ardrahan, 15; near Ballindine, *26. An alien species rapidly extending its area along the permanent way of the railway systems like *Linaria minor* and *Senecio squalidus* in England.
- Sagina maritima**, Don, var. **debilis** (Jord.)—Near Maghera, 20.
- Montia fontana**, L. (= *M. lamprosperma*, Cham.)—Rare near Rahelly House, 28.
- Hypericum quadrangulum**, L. (*H. dubium*, Leers).—Cahir valley, 9.
- Rhamnus catharticus**, L., var. **prostrata**.—Leaves small, four-fifths by three-fifths of an inch, plant small, 6-12 in., quite prostrate, growing on the limestone rocks between Gort and Tirneevin, 15. In the *Cyb. Hib.*, p. 79, a prostrate form of *R. Frangula* is said to grow outside Garryland Wood, near Gort, but I did not notice it.
- Potentilla procumbens**, Sibth.—Derrynane, 1; near Wicklow, 20.
- P. fruticosa**, L.—The Irish plant (*f. hibernica*) which grows in the turloughs near Ballyvaughan, has narrower leaf-divisions than the Teesdale plant.
- Achemilla vulgaris**, L., var. **minor**, Huds. (*A. filicanlis*, Buser).—Ballyvaughan, 9.
Var. **glabra**, DC.—Ben Bulbin, 28.
Var. **pratensis** (Schmidt).—Ballyvaughan, 9.
- * **Agriemonia odorata**, Mill.—Near Ardrahan, 15.
- Rosa spinosissima**, L., *forma rosea*.—Petals often dark rose-coloured, near Ballyvaughan, 9; pale-pink on the Wicklow coast, 20.
- Pyrus Aria**, Ehrh.—By the railway (but not planted) between Athenry and Galway, 15.
- Carum Carvi**, L.—Alien by the river at Galway, 16.
- Gallum boreale**, L.—Very small plants at Newtown, Garryland, 15.
- Sherardia arvensis**, L.—Unmistakably native at Black Head, 9.
- † **Inula Helenium**, L.—Newtown, Galway, etc., 15.
- † **Matricaria suaveolens**, Buch.—Lough Rea, 15; Ballandine, *26.
- † **Petasites fragrans**, Presl.—Near Sligo, 28.
- Cirsium arvense**, Scop.—Ascends to 1,600 feet in Sligo.
- Lapsana communis**, L.—Very glandular at Muckinish, 9.
- Crepis taraxacifolia**, Thuill.—Abundant about Ballyvaughan, 9; near Newtown, 15.
- C. virens**, L., *var. **agrestis**, W. and K.—Ardrahan, 15.
- C. blennis**, L.—Ballyvaughan, 9.

- Taraxacum lævigatum**, DC., var. **erythrospermum** (Andr.)—Black Head, 9; Loughrea, 15; Wicklow, 20.
- Tragopogon pratensis**, L.—Ardrahan, 15.
- Statice linearifolia**, Lat.—Black Head, 9; Galway, 16; Sligo Bay 28; Wicklow, 20.
- †**Symphytum peregrinum**, Ledeb.—Three miles from Sligo, towards Ben Bulbin, alien, 28.
- Cuscuta Epithymum**, Murray.—Either this or *C. trifolii* grows in a pasture about a mile south of Black Head, 9. It was not yet flowering when I saw it.
- Veronica montana**, L.—“Punchbowl” woods, Gort, 15.
- Euphrasia Rostkoviana**, Hayne.—Ballyvaughan, 9.
- Mentha piperita**, L.—Ballyvaughan, shown me by Mr. P. B. O’Kelly.
- M. verticillata**, Huds.—As a small, quite glabrous, non-odorous form at Garryland, 15.
- ***Lamium hybridum**, Vill.—Near Murrough, 9.
- Ulmus stricta**, Lindl.—Under this probably come the small-leaved strict-branched trees near Gort, 15.
- U. campestris**, L. (*U. montana*, Stokes).—Dalystown, 15.
- †**Populus nigra**, L.—The true Italian species in the common Irish tree. I saw it in divisions 9, 15, 16, 17, 20, 21, 25, and near Tuam, 26.
- *†**P. deltoides**, Marsh (*P. monilifera*, Ait.)—Near Gort, 15.
- Orchis mascula**, L.—Often grows on very dry calcareous pastures in Clare and Galway. It varies much in colour and also in the cutting of the perianth lobes.
- O. maculata**, L., var. **O’Kellyi** (nov. var.)—This plant, which has been known to Mr. P. B. O’Kelly for many years, he pointed out to me in the immature condition. He has since sent me fresh specimens, which have confirmed my view as to its distinctness as a variety or sub-species of *O. maculata*. It is quite frequent over a large area of limestone country about Ballyvaughan, Co. Clare, and retains its character under cultivation in different soil. It may be diagnosed as follows:—

Plant 9–14 inches high. Root-tubers two, each deeply divided into two spreading recurved fleshy parts. Leaves long, keeled, very narrow, not acute, spotted, pale green. Flowers in a dense oblong-cylindric blunt (not tapering) spike. Bracts shorter than the flowers, and inconspicuous. Flowers pure white, smaller than in *maculata*. Three segments of the labellum narrow, oblong, sub-acute; the middle segment longer and as broad as the lateral. Flowering in July. From *O. maculata* it differs by its unspotted and narrower leaves and pure white flowers, which are also slightly firmer in texture; by its oblong-cylindric blunt spike, and by the shape of the flowers. From the variety *precocx* of *O. maculata* (*O. ericetorum*, Linton), it is still more removed by the above characters. Perhaps they are both soil varieties; one, with its narrower leaves and different-shaped spike, being limited to distinctly calcareous soils, with more complete drainage; the other, which flowers earlier, with its very broad labellum, in which the

middle division is smaller and shorter than the lateral, and with a peculiarly conical head, is the plant of peaty situations; whereas the type prefers the trough of valleys on clay soils, although able like other hydrophytes to flourish on the impervious beds of the chalk hills. Rarely in the new variety there is a dot or two of colour near the base of the labellum. From its being known so long to its finder, who has done so much to investigate the flora of his rich neighbourhood, and who had in fact called it *immaculata*, I have, with his permission, connected his name with this interesting plant.

Sparganium minimum, Fries.—Garryland, 15.

Potamogeton lanceolatus, Sm., var. **hibernicus**, Arth. Benn.—Calir river, in its classic locality where Mr. P. B. O'Kelly pointed it out to me. In the very immature condition in which I saw it, it looked quite different from the Anglesey *lanceolatus*. Mr. O'Kelly has since sent me more matured plants, which I have sent to Mr. Hunnybun to sketch, and to Mr. Fryer to grow. I await the opinion of the latter botanist, who has made this genus his peculiar study, with considerable curiosity.

***P. angustifolius**, Presl. (*P. Zizii*).—In the river near Newtown, 15.

Eleocharis acicularis, Br.—near Newtown, 15.

Scirpus pauciflorus, Lightf.—Near Feena, 9; near Ben Bulben, 28.

S. rufus, Schrad.—Near Seamount House, 28; with it, and sometimes on the same plant, the bracteate form (*bifolius*).

***Eriophorum paniculatum**, Druce. (*E. latifolium*, Hoppe).—In a calcareous marsh near Feena, 9.

Schoenus nigricans, L.—As a small slender form (6 inches high) with few-flowered spikes, near Newtown, 15.

Carex flava, L., var. **minor**, Towns. (*adocarpa*, Anders).—Lough Derg, 15.

***C. Oederi**, Retz, var. **subglobosa** (Mielich).—By Lough Neagh, Co. Antrim. A new variety to the Britain Isles, named by Kükenthal.

C. panicea, L.—Very luxuriant by Lough Derg, 15.

C. Goodenowil, Gay, var. **reeta**, Fleisch.—Lough Derg, 15; near Roo, 9; Glencar, 28.

Var. **chlorostachya** (Reichb.), Druce.—Gort, 15.

C. diandra, Schrank.—Near Drumcliff, 28.

C. disticha, Huds.—As a neat dark-plumed form at Roo, 15.

C. arenaria, Huds., var. **remota**, Marss.—Wicklow coast, 20.

Koeleria cristata, Pers.—In his recent monograph, Dr. Domin has shown that this plant, in the strict sense, does not occur in the British Isles; our commonest form is probably *K. gracilis*, Pers., but the common form is the one with more downy culm and florets, which Domin names **K. britannica*. This occurs in Ireland at *Ballyvaughan, 9; Ardrahan, 15; Glencar, Ben Bulben, 28.

***K. albescens**, DC., var. **glabra**, DC.—Derrynane, 1. New to Ireland I believe.

Poa pratensis, L., var. **subcærulea** (Sm.)—Murrough, Muckinish, 9.

P. trivialis, L., var. **glabra**, Doell.—Gort, 15.

Asplenium marinum, L.—Very luxuriant on the limestone pavement near Black Head, 9.

Equisetum palustre, L., var. **nudum**, Newm.—Abundant near Drumcliff, 28; on the sands near Rockfield, 20.

***E. variegatum**, Schleicher.—Glen Cahir, 9. With it was another plant which, with some other critical forms, shall be reported on later.

Chara aspera, Willd.—Lough Rea, 15.

C. contraria, Kuetz.—Lough Rea, Lough Derg, 15.

C. hispida, L.—Abundant near Lough Rea, 15.

Tolypella glomerata, Leonh.—Abundant in the river at Newtown.

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ADDITIONAL RECORDS OF IRISH COLEOPTERA.

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I find a number of species in my collection which I have neglected to record, and I propose now to remedy that defect. I am much indebted to Mr. F. Balfour Browne, F.Z.S., for kind help with some of the water-beetles; he went through all my specimens and succeeded in detecting several species which I had overlooked.

Halplus flavicollis, Sturm.—Poynzpass, in the canal and adjacent drains.

Hydroporus septentrionalis, Gyll.—Dean's River, Armagh.

H. umbrosus, Gyll.—Canal near Scarva, but in Co. Armagh.

H. vittula, Er.—Poynzpass.

H. incognitus, Sharp.—Ardara, Co. Donegal.

H. celatus, Clark.—Poynzpass. This species has been regarded as a synonym for *H. longulus*, Muls., but I am informed by Mr. E. A. Newbery that Seidlitz, in his work on the Dytiscidæ, separates *celatus* and *longulus* as follows:—

A. Elytra with diffuse punctuation, without pubescence, strongly shining, black; thorax more finely punctuated on middle of disc, l. 3—3.5 m.m. In the South of France and in Spain (Pyrenees, Pandellé). *longulus*, Muls.

A. A. Elytra densely punctured, finely pubescent, little shining; thorax scarcely more finely punctured on disc than margins, black; legs and antennæ pale red; sometimes the elytra are reddish; l. 3 m.m. In England and France. *celatus*, Clark.

In the last European catalogue (1906), *longulus* Rey. is given as a synonym of *celatus* Clark. It seems doubtful that *longulus* of Mulsant is a British insect. *Celatus* Clark, however, is, Mr. Newbery tells me, in his experience widely distributed in England and Wales