XIX. *Deſcription of Fucus daſyphyllus. By Thomas Jenkinſon Woodward, Eſq. F. L. S.*

Read Oct. 2, 1792.

FUCUS DASYPHYLLUS. Tab. 23, f. 1.

F. fronde cartilagineâ ramoſiſſimâ; ramis filiformibus ſubſimplicibus, foliis cylindricis obtuſis baſi attenuatis ſparſis.

Deſc. THE frons is bright red, cartilaginous, but conſiderably gelatinous and tender, pellucid, from four to ſix inches high; divided immediately from the root, which is not fibrous but diſcoid, into very numerous branches; theſe are either ſimple or again ſlightly branched, filiform, the ſize of ſmall pack-thread, terminating in a blunt point. The lower part of the branches nearly naked; the upper clothed, but not very thickly, with leaves growing without order, from one to four lines long, and about half a line broad, the longeſt below, and growing gradually ſhorter as they approach the upper part of the branch; cylindrical, terminating in a blunt point, and very much attenuated towards their inſertion; in ſubſtance very tender and gelatinous, of a paler red than the branches, and ſometimes tinged with green. Some of theſe

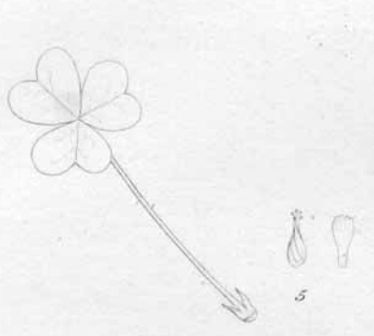
theſe leaves are proliferous, having others more minute growing from their ſides.

The fructification conſiſts of minute ſeſſile tubercles, numerous, but placed without order on the lower part of the principal branches, and ſometimes, but rarely, on the leaves; dark red, ſo ſmall as ſcarcely to be diſtinguiſhed by the naked eye, unleſs the plant be moiſtened, but eaſily diſcernible with a common eye-glaſs.

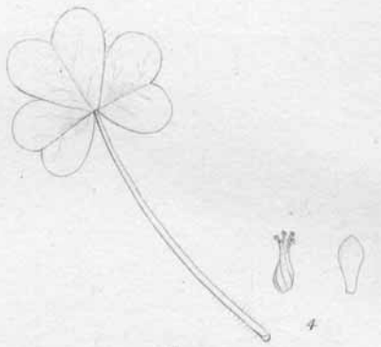
The whole plant has ſomewhat of a granulated appearance, which, added to the gelatinous nature of the frons, has occaſioned it to be ſuppoſed an Ulva; but this appearance is fallacious, the granulations under the microſcope proving to be nothing more than the ſubſtance of the frons, in this reſpect agreeing with *Fucus rubens*, which ſubmitted to the ſame examination has a ſimilar appearance.

This *Alga* was firſt found a few years ſince, waſhed up by the tide at Yarmouth, by Mr. L. Wigg, an aſſociate of this Society; and was then pronounced, by a highly reſpectable botaniſt, to be the *Ulva filiformis* of *Hudſon;* but it does not accord with the ſpecific character of that plant in the *Flora Anglica*, and whether it be at all deſcribed in that work ſeems very doubtful. At any rate the fructification, conſiſting of diſtinct tubercles totally projecting from the ſubſtance of the frons, ſufficiently point it out to be a Fucus.

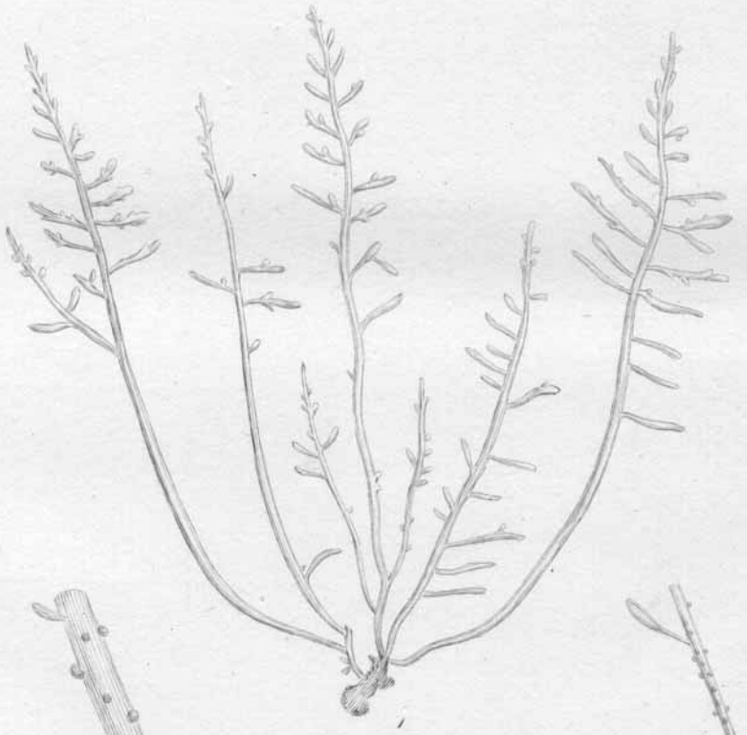
Its place in the Syſtem is next to *Fucus ovalis* (Fl. Ang.), which, in the ſubſtance of the frons, and form and diſpoſition of the leaves, it conſiderably reſembles, conſequently in the ſubdiviſion, '*foliis diſtinctis;*' but as it is evident that both theſe plants have fleſhy leaves, not differing in ſubſtance from the reſt of the frons, they



O. pusilla, p. 243.



O. ambigua, p. 242.



Fucus dasyphyllus

they ought rather perhaps to be placed in the ſubdiviſion '*fronde tereti.*'

ENGLISH NAME. Thick-leaved Fucus. Duration.?

HAB. *Cromer on the coaſt of Norfolk.*—The fructification firſt diſcovered by Mr. Wigg, on a ſpecimen found on the beach at Yarmouth in June 1792.

TAB. 23.

Fig. 1, repreſents the whole plant.
2, a branch in fructification.
3, the ſame magnified.