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XXVII.—On the mycology of the neighbourhood of Bristol

Mr. Henry Oxley Stephens

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and *Cycadeæ* the cells which form the wood develope uniformly, and not as in many other kinds of wood separating into prosenchyma and vessels. In many plants the earliest spiral vessels of the medullary sheath, in consequence of the great longitudinal expansion of the cells, become changed into annular vessels, in which form they remain; in other plants the spiral vessels do not show this tendency, notwithstanding the great extension they have to undergo; they are then frequently elongated with their cell to such a degree that they appear only like a thread lying in an intercellular passage, and they are very frequently entirely reabsorbed. This may be beautifully observed in *Opuntia monacantha, cylindrica, Mammillaria simplex, Helleborus fœtidus,* &c. May not this be the reason why we in many cases no longer find genuine *spiroides* in the developed stem, even in the *corona medullaris*?

The study of the organization of stems is still a boundless field for careful research; so far as I know no one has yet given a true explanation of that frequent formation in the family of the *Sapindaceæ,* where in one stem we meet with several centra for the formation of wood, only one of which occupies the axis of the stem. Likewise very little that is satisfactory is known of the peculiar structure of the stem of the *Phytocrene* (Wall.), or of the analogous forms frequently occurring in the family of the *Bignoniaceæ,*—forms which cannot be described by words, for which reason I cursorily refer to Lindley, 'Introduction to Botany,' p. 79, fig. 36, where a similar structure, stated to be from a *Passiflora,* is represented.

XXVII.—*On the Mycology of the neighbourhood of Bristol.* By Mr. Henry Oxley Stephens.

To the Editors of the Annals of Natural History.

Gentlemen,

I do not know whether you will consider the following Mycological Notices of sufficient importance as to give them a

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place in your Journal; but as the difficulties of this branch of botanical science are acknowledged by all, and the labourers are comparatively few, the smallest contributions may not be without value. I am not aware that any botanist has described the mycology of the neighbourhood of Bristol: at least Mr. Berkeley appears to have received no communications from this quarter, as no mention is made of any in his portion of the 'English Flora.' I have only mentioned species which appear to be most interesting, and some which I consider undescribed; although in the latter particular I may be mistaken, as I have never seen the Systema Mycologica of Fries.

Agaricus phalloides, vaginatus, rubescens. Common in all the woods about Bristol.

Ag. Cossus, Sow. Stapleton Grove, most abundant; growing in dense masses. The larger plants are four to six inches across. The odour is always strong.

Ag. fulvus, Retz. Under birch trees, Leigh Wood, Sept. 1839.

Ag. torminosus, Schaffn. Pileus of a beautiful strawberry colour, Leigh Wood.

Ag. acris, Bolton. Leigh Wood, Sept. 1837.

Ag. uvidus, Fries. Stapleton Grove. *Ag. Lysginus,* Fr. Ditto.

Ag. blennius, Fr. Woods; not uncommon.

Ag. rufus, Scop. Leigh Wood, under birch trees. My specimens agree with the descriptions of Withering and Persoon in having a zoned pileus.

Ag. flexuosus, Pers. Amongst bushes, Stapleton.

Ag. infundibuliformis, Bull. *β. major.* Stapleton Woods, &c. One of the latest autumnal Fungi, continuing to spring up until cut off by the frosts.

Ag. giganteus, Sow. Not nearly so common as the preceding, and growing in more open situations, Leigh Wood.

Ag. nebularis, Batsch. I am surprised at the confusion which existed with regard to this most distinct plant. Withering described it with sufficient exactness, and Bolton's figure and account are distinct enough, although I have never seen the colour so pale as he has represented it. Grows on commons among furze-bushes.

Ag. odorus, Bull. Leigh Wood, amongst moss in Sept. and Oct. The pileus is often of a whitish colour, the pale specimens fully as fragrant as the green ones.

Ag. grammopodius, Bull. Grows in pastures in large rings. It is

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one of the earliest Fungi, appearing in June. Felton and Clifton Down.

Ag. pelianthenus, Fr. Stapleton Grove, June 1838. My plant is exactly represented by Bolton, tab. 4. fig. 1. with the exception of the processes on the gills, which are like those of *Ag. balaninus*, Berkeley, in Mag. of Zool. and Botany.

Ag. fusco-purpureus, Pers. In ditches, among fallen beech leaves, Stapleton.

Ag. tuberosus, Bull. Amongst moss without the tuber, Leigh Wood.

Ag. Clavus, Bull. On dead grass stems, Stapleton.

Ag. parasiticus. On the pileus of decaying Agarics, Leigh Wood.

Ag. caulicinalis. On the roots of grass; not uncommon.

Ag. rondas, Fr. On dead bramble sticks. Stapleton Wood.

Ag. Campanella, Batsch. *β. badipus*. On the ground under fir trees, Durdham Down. Found during the whole year from spring to Christmas.

Ag. fragrans, Sow. Amongst moss in most of the woods about Bristol. One of the latest of the autumnal Fungi. It is sometimes scentless.

Ag. myxacius species nova? *Pleuropus*. Pileus dimidiate and lobed olive brown, very slimy, paler towards the margin, extreme edge revolute and downy, substance fleshy, flesh white. Gills close, white, rather narrow, decurrent or acute behind, very irregular in length, forked, separating from the substance of the pileus like the tubes of *Boleti*. Stem solid, white, truly lateral. Smell like *Polyp. squamosus*. The pileus varies from one to one and a half inch across. Two specimens grew close together on the turf, Durdham Down, July 1839, after a fortnight of very wet weather.

Ag. rhodopolius. Shady woods, Nightingale Valley.

Ag. repandus, Bull. Durdham Down. The pileus is sometimes of the deepest indigo, the plant differing in nothing else.

Ag. phlebophorus, Ditm. In the hollow of an old hazel tree, Leigh Wood.

Ag. griseo-cyaneus, Fr. Down and upland pastures, very abundant. The stem is frequently eccentric when young, and the odour powerfully aromatic, exactly like *Melissa officinalis*.

Ag. chalybeus and *columbarius*. Abundant on every dry common in the autumn months.—*Ag. pascuus*. Common, but not so plentiful as the foregoing.—*Ag. Sowerbii*. A most abundant species; our downs and dry pastures are completely strewed with it in

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the autumn. A most distinct and interesting species: the strong mousy odour and bright verdigris green stripe at once distinguish it.

Ag. torvus. Stapleton Grove; perhaps not uncommon.

Ag. violaceus, Linn. In several places in the parish of Stapleton.

Ag. radicosus, Bull. Leigh Wood. Smell exactly like cherry laurel water.

Ag. adiposus, Batsch. Very rare. On an old ash, Redland.

Ag. squarrosus, Mull. On trunks of various trees. Very common.

Ag. mutabilis. On a bank where a willow tree had been cut down. April.

Ag. fastibilis. In clusters on an old ash tree, *with a distinct veil.* I should not have at first recognised this plant as a variety of *Ag. fastibilis* for the smell resembled *Ag. melleus* and the taste was pleasant; but on keeping the specimens a few days, as the sporules ripened, the characteristic odour of *Ag. fastibilis* appeared; the sporules, too, exactly accorded in colour and figure.

Ag. obscurus, Pers. Synop. p. 347. No. 163. Albertini and Schwein, Consp. p. 174. No. 504. It is singular this Agaric has not been described as British, as it is a very common species with us, growing on the naked soil in all the woods about Bristol. It is in many respects a remarkable plant, the odour is strong but pleasant, and when bruised the stem and pileus instantly turn a bright brick red.

Ag. hirtus, species nova? Inocyba. Pileus white, with a shade of cinnamon towards the centre, about one inch in diameter, covered with hairy scales of a light cinnamon brown. Gills pure white, not numerous, adnexed of different lengths and rather broad. Stem about two inches high, attenuated upwards, tumid downwards, and again contracted towards the base, perfectly solid, striated, crooked, one eighth of an inch thick at the most swollen part, densely covered all over with beautiful cinnamon scales, which stand out in a squarrose manner, giving to the plant a hispid feeling. Flesh of the stem and pileus white, tough and elastic, sporules ——— ? odour none, taste pleasant. Nearly allied to *Ag. plumosus,* Bott., but differs in colour and habit. Grew under oak trees, amongst moss, Leigh Wood, Sept. 6, 1838.

Ag. Loveianus, Berk. Is not this species described by Mr. Knapp Journal of a Naturalist, as *Ag. surrectus,* cum icone lignea?

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Ag. medius, Schum.* Meadows in September, always after stormy weather.

Cantharellus tubæformis, Bull. On stumps, Leigh Wood.

Cantharellus? *confluens*, species nova? Densely crowded, so that the pilei frequently become confluent. Pileus repand and lobed, quarter to half an inch in diameter. Stem half an inch in height, one-eighth in thickness, solid. Hymenium pruinose, with a few obsolete veins. The whole plant of a pale clay-coloured brown, scarcely varying in any part, with the exception of the margin of the pileus, which is paler. Grew in dense clusters under beech trees. Stapleton Grove, Sept. 6, 1839.

Polyporus adustus, Willd. Stapleton Grove. Effused in large masses over fallen leaves as well as on stumps.

Polyp. suaveolens. On willows, in the parish of Stapleton; very abundant. It has a zoneless villous white pileus and brownish pores; smells like aniseeds.

Polyp. dryadeus, Pers. On old oaks, in most woods about Bristol, always growing near the base of the trunks.

Polyp. medulla panis, Jacq. Inside a hollow ash. Precisely like a mass of the crumb of bread.

Boletus luteus. It is singular, that although Mr. Berkeley marks this species as exceedingly common, I have never found it in this neighbourhood; the common species here being *B. Grevellei.*

B. granulatus, Linn. Common, often growing to a great size.

B. subtomentosus. Ditto.

Radulum orbiculare, Fr. On fallen birch sticks, Leigh Wood. Hymenium waxy. My specimens do not exactly accord with Dr. Greville's figure, but they are not very perfect.

Thelephora amorpha, Pers. A. & S. Conspect. p. 329, No. 982. Descriptio bona. On dead bramble or dog-rose sticks. Cook's Folly Woods, June, 1839.

Th. incrustans. Woods: common. *Th. epidermea.* On fallen twigs in woods. *Th. nuda.* Ditto.

Th. corrugata, Fr. On sticks in a wet hedge. Redland, April, 1839. Hymenium much cracked and papillose, with red-brown bristles. A golden yellow-brown woolly parasitic fungus grows upon it.

Th. (*Merisma*) *fastidiosum.* Pers. Mycolog. Europ. vol. i. p. 155.

* *Ag. medius*, Schum., should be *Ag. pusillus*, Pers. The error in English Flora has been corrected in Mr. Berkeley's British Fungi and in our Journal. —Ed.

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No. 1. In woods, glueing fallen leaves together in masses. *Stercoris humani olet.*

Clavana pistillaris, Linn. Very rare. Nightingale Valley.

Cl. amethystina, Bull. In a copse opposite the Black Horse on the road to Aust Passage. A very large specimen.

Geoglossum glabrum, Pers. This present autumn. Dardham Down.

Helvella crispa and *lacunosa*. Stapleton Grove.

H. elastica, Bull. Under trees. Stapleton, autumn.

Peziza reticulata, Grev. On the ground in various woods about Bristol; by no means rare with us. It is one of the earliest fungi, appearing in February. The odour resembles that of chlorine. Before Mr. Berkeley's invaluable portion of the 'English Flora' was published I had considered this to be a non-descript species; subsequently I have seen Dr. Greville's figure, than which nothing can be more excellent.

Pez. acetabulum, Linn. On a clay bank, Stapleton, May.

Pez. vesiculosa, Bull. There is what I consider to be a form of this plant grows on the naked soil in woods; it is much smaller, of a more regular figure and less juicy consistency than the dung-hill plants, otherwise I do not know how to distinguish it.

Pez. macropus, Pers. Under beech trees, Stapleton, September. Growing in company with *Helvella elastica*. Mr. Berkeley remarks that some forms of these plants resemble each other, which they do very strongly, and Fries seems to consider them as identical, an opinion which I presume to doubt.

Pez. humosa, Fr. On the naked soil, Leigh Wood, Sept. 4, 1839. Colour deep blood red internally, externally with greenish cast, when wounded bleeding a whey-like juice.

Pez. scutellata, Linn. On clay in wet ditch banks, Stapleton. Densely gregarious, the largest plants were the size of six-pences. The usual habitat for *Pez. scutellata* appears to be rot-ten wood. Perhaps my plant is *Pez. umbrosa*, as Mr. Berkeley suspects, but the latter plant is not mentioned in the Mycolog. Eur.

Pez. calycina and *Laricis*. Abundant on larch sticks in the spring. Stapleton.

Tremella fimbriata, Pers. On stumps, Redland. It immediately gives a dark tincture to water.

Sphærobolus stellatus, Tode. On sticks, Stapleton Wood.

Sph. entomorrhiza, Dicks. I am aware how unwarrantable it is to alter a well-known specific name, especially when imposed by such a revered botanist as Dickson, but this specific name has

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ceased to be distinctive, as other *Sphæriæ* growing from the larvæ of insects have been discovered; indeed I have seen gigantic specimens from New Zealand on caterpillars. There appear to be two very distinct forms, or rather two species, described under *Sph. entomorrhiza*, one with a slender stem and exserted ostiola, and the other with a more robust stem and perithecia entirely immersed.

Mr. Berkeley says, Dickson's plant is evidently altered from the larvæ having been buried in the ground; but there is no evidence of this either from the figure or description, and I humbly conceive the exserted ostiola render it specifically distinct*. I would propose to call the original plant *Sph. Dicksoni*, and the variety described in the 'English Flora' by Mr. Berkeley, *Sph. Berkelæi*, in compliment to that profound mycologist. I possess a single specimen of the last plant or variety gathered at Stockwood, Somerset, April 1836; it precisely accords with Mr. Berkeley's description; the roots embrace as it were the caterpillar, which is hardened, as if filled with the matter of which the fungus is composed.

Sph. lanciformis, Sow. On birch bark. Not uncommon.

Sph. leiphæmia, Fr. On dead oak branches. Very common.

Sph. incana, species nova? Section villose. Perithecia densely crowded, globose, covered with white mealy down. Ostiola papillary, black, shining. Growing on low dung in dense patches. Stapleton Wood, August 24, 1839.

An exceedingly neat *Sphæria*: the ostiola and a little of the upper portion of the perithecia are bare. I can find no description applicable to this plant.

Sph. strobilina, Holl. and Schum. On cones of Scotch fir, Stapleton.

Sph. atrovirens, A. and S. γ Rusci. On dead *Ruscus aculeatus*. Not uncommon.

Sph. setacea, Pers. On dead leaves of the *Pyrus Aria*, Redland.

Sph. vagans lamiocola, Berk. Fung. Exsiccat. On *L. album*, everywhere. This, or a nearly allied species, occurred on the leaves of *Lychnis diurna*.

Geaster rufescens, Pers. In woods on a clay soil; not uncommon with us. There is a nearly allied species, occasionally found on open downs, with the outer peridium rose-coloured.

Diderma cyanescens, Fr. On dead oak leaves, Nightingale Valley.

Didymium hemisphericum, Bull. On twigs, in a ditch, Ashby, April.

Trichia fallax. On rotten wood, Stapleton.

* The degree of exsertion of the spherules in *Sphæria militans* is extremely variable, therefore a safe character can scarcely be drawn from this circumstance.—Ed.

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Sepedonium roseum, Fr. Overrunning all the plants of *Ag. rubescens*, Stapleton Wood, July 1839. Sporidia much resembling those of the pedicellate Uredines.

Puccinia tumida. On *Bunium flexuosum*, Brandon Hill, May 1838.

P. Circææ, Pers. On *C. Lutetiana*, Leigh Wood, September, 1839. The handsomest species with which I am acquainted.

P. Ulmaria, Dec. On *Spiræa Ulmaria*, Stockwood. Associated with *Uredo Potentillarum*.

Ocidium Primulæ, Dec. On primrose, Nightingale Valley. Sporidia yellow orange.

O. Ari, Berk. On *A. maculatum*, Leigh Wood, May.

O. leucospermum, Dec. On *Anemone nemorosa*, Redland, May.

Uredo Scillarum, Grev. The sporidia grow from a thickened kind of sabiculum, which is very apparent in the dried specimens. Leigh Wood, May.

U. Primulæ, Dec. On *P. vulgaris*, Nightingale Valley. Sori sometimes in rings.

U. crustacea, Berk. On *Campanula rotundifolia*, Wick Rocks, Gloucestershire, August.

U. Petroselini. On *Smyrnium Olusatrum*, St. Vincent's Rocks.

U. pompholygodes, Berk. Fung. Exsiccat. On *Anemone nemorosa*, Redland.

U. Umbellatarum, Johnst. On *Conium maculatum* and *Athusa Cynapium*.

U. Hypericorum, Dec. On *Hyp. Androsæmum*, Leigh Wood, June.

U. confluens, Dec. On *Mercurialis perennis*, Clifton. Sporidia dull yellow.

U. Lini. On *L. catharticum*. Common.

Henry Oxley Stephens.

North Street, Bristol, Sept. 21, 1839.

XXVIII.—*On the* Arctium Lappa *and* Bardana *of* Sir J. E. Smith. By Charles C. Babington, M.A., F.L.S., F.G.S., &c.

It must have appeared a remarkable circumstance to most practical botanists that the plants described by Sir J. E. Smith under the names of *Arctium Lappa* and *A. Bardana*, should be considered as truly distinct species by many authors of celebrity, and that others whose opinions were deserving of equal attention should as decidedly declare them to be only varieties of one plant: indeed some botanists have gone so

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