

lifolia with small pale flowers and puberulent, not glandular-hairy, racemes occurs commonly from Newfoundland to Ontario and Michigan and south to the Gulf of Mexico, but so far as I have observed in New England and Eastern Canada it is always in the neighborhood of towns, and oftenest in lawns, roadsides and cultivated or old fields. Occasionally it occurs in woodlands but there it is usually by roads or paths where its occurrence suggests possible introduction.

The larger-flowered glandular var. *humifusa*, on the other hand, is perfectly at home in mountain woods and by streams, and in natural meadows far from settlements, and a study of the accumulated material shows it to be the common form in such situations over a broad range. As now known, the plant is found from Labrador and Newfoundland to the White Mountains, and southeastern New York; and from Colorado, Utah and southern California north to Alaska.

GRAY HERBARIUM.

VALERIANELLA IN NEW ENGLAND.

C. B. GRAVES, M. D.

IN the spring of 1901, through the kindness of Miss Mary F. Crofton, I received a few specimens of a *Valerianella* collected by Miss Edith M. Shelley of Waterford, Connecticut. The immaturity of the material did not admit of a positive determination of the species, and I did not get an opportunity that season to investigate it further. Last June, following Miss Shelley's directions, I visited the locality from which the plants came. The abundant material collected then proves the plant to be *Valerianella radiata* Dufr.

The station is in the town of Waterford on the east bank of Niantic river, which is here salt. The species is abundant on the slope of the gravelly terrace, reaching from just above high-water mark nearly to the top of the bench, and extending along the shore for about a quarter of a mile.

The bank at this point is covered by a low shrubby tangle made up chiefly of poison ivy, grape vines and climbing bitter-sweet, and in the midst of this and especially along its lower edges the *Valerianella* grows freely. Among the other plants associated with it *Triosteum perfoliatum* L. and *Galium Aparine* L. are noticeable.

It has every appearance of being indigenous here. Upon this point Miss Shelley writes me: "My father has known of its growing there for all of twenty-five years."

I may add that the identification has been confirmed by Dr. Greenman of the Gray Herbarium, who has also kindly supplied me with the following facts regarding the occurrence of the genus elsewhere in New England.

As shown in the Gray Herbarium the genus *Valerianella* is represented in New England by specimens collected by Mr. C. L. Shear at Stockbridge, Massachusetts, June, 1891, and also by specimens secured near Springfield, Massachusetts in July, 1892, and communicated to the Gray Herbarium by Mrs. Maria L. Owen. These two plants, however, differ from typical *Valerianella radiata* Dufr. in having the fruit quite glabrous instead of pubescent, and hence well represent the form *V. radiata* Dufr., var. *leiocarpa* Krok.

The species has been reported from Chenango County, New York, by Coville,¹ and is said to have been collected by Prof. Peck at New Baltimore, Kings County, New York; but no record appears to have been hitherto made regarding the occurrence of either the species or the variety in New England.

NEW LONDON, CONNECTICUT.

THE OCCURRENCE OF *EMPETRUM* IN FRANKLIN COUNTY, MAINE. — As a note to Mr. Fernald's article on *Empetrum*,² I would add the following, based on field observations made in Franklin County, Maine, the past summer:

Empetrum nigrum, L., there grows best in peat-moss, and the prostrate habit is not particularly prominent, as most of the branchlets are sub-erect.

E. nigrum, var. *andinum*, DC., prefers as a soil the gravel formed by the decomposition of coarse granite, usually containing very little vegetable matter. It is spreading in habit, and forms large prostrate mats. On July 16, in company with Mr. E. B. Chamberlain, I discovered a new station for this plant, on Bald Mt., Perkins, two or three miles north of the lesser Saddleback, where I found the plant in 1899. This variety grows here in the greatest luxuriance, espe-

¹ Bull. Torr. Bot. Cl. XII, 53.

² RHODORA, iv. 147.



Graves, Charles Burr. 1902. "VALERIANELLA IN NEW ENGLAND." *Rhodora* 4, 195–196.

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