

the wall than was detected by the writer; or that the species occurring here varied from one year to another. In either case, it is probable that a student spending some days here might considerably extend the list.

MALDEN, MASSACHUSETTS.

## SCIRPUS VALIDUS AND ALLIES IN THE CHAMPLAIN VALLEY.

EZRA BRAINERD.

THE lucid account of *Scirpus validus* and its two allied species, presented in the April number of RHODORA by Mrs. Agnes Chase, has doubtless led many students of Botany to examine these plants in the field during the past season. The statement that *S. heterochaetus* had been found in New England only at Milton, Vermont, and the fact that *S. occidentalis* had not been seen from Vermont at all, were additional motives for the examination of the bulrushes, that were known to occur abundantly in Lake Champlain. The result of observations at many stations over a stretch of fifty miles is here given.

1. *S. validus* is extremely rare in the waters of the Lake. Only one small colony was seen in a sheltered bay, where it was growing in mucky sand on the border of a marsh. It is, however, abundant along sluggish streams and in small ponds back from the Lake. Its weak stems ill adapt it to withstand the waves of large bodies of water.

2. *S. occidentalis* is the prevailing species in Lake Champlain, covering hundreds of acres. Its strong, pliant stems enable it to grow even in exposed situations. It is found in water, one to three feet deep even in August. This and the matted interwoven condition of the rootstocks make it difficult to secure proper specimens. The plant begins to ripen seeds some six weeks later than does *S. validus*. The "Eastern form," with open panicles, is the usual one in Lake Champlain; but in one colony near Pelot's Bay, North Hero, the spikelets are in congested heads, as figured by Mrs. Chase in Plate 53, cc.

3. *S. heterochaetus* is also common in Lake Champlain, but is found in more sheltered places than *S. occidentalis*. Its stems are much more slender, but equally lithe and strong. A marsh of several acres in Ball's Bay, Ferrisburgh, is almost entirely given up to this species. When I saw it in August the golden fruit was waving in the wind, and it looked like a field of ripened grain. Indeed, I was told by an intelligent camper in this region, that small birds feed extensively on the seeds of these plants in the autumn. *S. heterochaetus* flowers at a date midway between the two other species, and is readily recognized by the color of the spikelets, their ovoid-conical shape, and the three-cleft style.

The pleasure of finding that these two new species were so common in Lake Champlain, was not unmixed with a painful sense of chagrin that for so many years one had been going in and out among these bulrushes without observing their marked specific distinctness.

MIDDLEBURY, VERMONT.

## NEW STATIONS FOR MAINE PLANTS, — II.

EDWARD B. CHAMBERLAIN.

*Alnus serrulata*, Willd. — In 1898 a large clump of this plant was found in a swamp along the bank of the Pemaquid river in the town of Bristol, Maine. This is the first undoubted station thus far reported from the state, the shrub previously reported as *A. serrulata* being a phase of *A. incana* with rufescent veins. As the locality is two miles or more from any house, and is one that is but rarely visited save for wood cutting in the winter, there seems to be no possibility of the plant having been introduced from farther south.

*Antennaria occidentalis*, Greene. (*A. Farwellii*, Fernald, not Greene.) — A large patch of this plant was found on a railroad embankment near Cumberland Center, Maine, in 1902, and specimens then collected have been determined by Mr. Fernald. The only other Maine station, at North Berwick, is about forty miles southwest, and has been reported in RHODORA, I: 152.

*Desmodium Dillenii*, Darlingt. — Specimens are in my herbarium from Chesterville, Franklin Co., and also from Falmouth, Cumberland Co. The Chesterville station represents the extreme northward extension of the species in western Maine.



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