

Dr. Meyer himself, is the densely caespitose comparatively stout *E. callitrix*, with depressed-globose heads, and the Altai material might easily pass as the basis of the plate accompanying Chamisso's original description.

That *Eriophorum callitrix* (in its original sense) was regarded by Chamisso and Meyer as specifically distinct from *E. vaginatum*, there is no doubt, although the unfortunate mixing of Altai specimens with the very different stoloniferous noncaespitose *E. Chamissonis* created a serious confusion. Nylander in his Monograph¹ recognized the Altai plant as at least varietally separable from *E. vaginatum*, and, judging from their description, Trautvetter and Meyer have since published it anew as *E. brachyantherum*² from northeastern Asia.

The slender plant taken by Scandinavian botanists as *Eriophorum callitrix* was first described by Björnström in 1856 as *E. vaginatum*, var. *opacum*, but was soon recognized by all European botanists as a species distinct from *E. vaginatum*, and they have very generally followed the lead of Andersson who supposed it to be Chamisso's *E. callitrix*. This plant (*E. opacum*) has its greatest development in the Canadian Rockies, but it extends eastward to the Great Lakes, and very locally across Arctic Asia to Spitzbergen and Arctic Scandinavia.

GRAY HERBARIUM.

GYMNOGONGRUS TORREYI (AG.) J. AG.

WILLIAM ALBERT SETCHELL.

CAROLUS AGARDH described, in 1822, in his *Species Algarum* (p. 254), an alga sent to him from New York by John Torrey, which he named *Sphaerococcus Torreyi*. In 1824, he repeated the description in his *Systema Algarum* (p. 218) in even briefer form than in the first publication. In 1830, Greville, in his *Algae Britannicae* (p. LV) referred by synonym the plant, which he may never have

¹ Nylander, *Acta Soc. Sc. Fenn.* iii. (1852).

² Trautv. & Meyer in *Middend. Reise*, — *Fl. Ochot.* 98 (1856).

seen, to the genus *Chondrus*, making the binomial, *Chondrus Torreyi*. In 1851, J. G. Agardh, in the second volume of his *Species Algarum* (p. 319), refers the plant of his father to the genus *Gymnogongrus*. The name, *Gymnogongrus Torreyi*, thus given by J. G. Agardh is retained by the species to this day and farther than the information given by the original describer, we have nothing to help us in the definite placing of the plant.

No farther help is given by Kuetzing, who, in his *Species Algarum* (p. 738), simply repeats the description of C. Agardh, and the name has remained one of those which must necessarily be kept in the list of "Species inquirendae." There have been several attempts to unravel the identity of the species, however, but without satisfactory outcome. J. W. Bailey, in an article in the *American Journal of Science* for 1848 (p. 39) says under *Dasya elegans* Ag., "unless I am greatly mistaken, *Sphaerococcus Torreyi* was founded on a battered specimen of this plant" and goes on to say that his reason for expressing this opinion is founded on an examination of a fragment of the original specimen preserved in Dr. Torrey's Herbarium. Harvey, in the second volume of the *Nereis Boreali-Americana* (p. 166) is inclined to refer a fragment received from Hooper, to this species, but without satisfying himself that it really belongs to Agardh's species. J. G. Agardh, in the third volume of the *Species Algarum* (Epicrisis, p. 210), states that the species had never been rediscovered and intimates that certain plants supposed to belong to this species were simply extremely narrow plants of *Gracilaria multipartita* which differ from the type, both in external form and in internal structure. Farlow has nothing to add and says in his *New England Algae* (p. 146) that the species is known only from the description of C. Agardh, which leaves its status in a very undesirable condition.

An examination of the Herbarium of J. G. Agardh in the University at Lund, Sweden, made through the kindness of Dr. Otto Nordstedt, the Curator, has helped the writer toward a solution of the difficulty. The types were readily found and are more plainly marked than some of the types of the species created by C. Agardh. There are six plants included under No. 24119. They are labelled "New York, Torrey, in Hb. C. Agardh," evidently in the handwriting of J. G. Agardh, while in another hand, presumably C. Agardh's, is written "*Sphaerococcus Torreyi*." A careful examination

of one of these plants shows that the compression called for by the description hardly exists. When sections are examined, the compression is so slight that it hardly departs from the cylindrical. In all other respects, color, wiry habit, branching, etc., the plants are so closely resembling *Ahnfeldtia plicata* that the writer feels quite safe in referring them to that species as a robust form, such as is not infrequently met with on the coasts of New England and such as is common on the coasts of the Pacific United States. The color is particularly that characteristic of slightly faded *Ahnfeldtia plicata*. It may be that future workers will divide *Ahnfeldtia plicata* into forms, or even into separate species. Schmitz (Flora, 1893, pp. 393, 394) in fact, voices what is even more than a doubt as to whether the plant of the region of Cape Horn and also the plant of the Ochotsk Sea, are either of them identical with the plant of the North Atlantic. But even the plant of the North Atlantic Coasts varies considerably in coarseness, and there seems to be little other difference to separate them. The internal structure is the same and in this respect the types of *Gymnogongrus Torreyi* agree perfectly with plants of North Atlantic *Ahnfeldtia plicata*.

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AN EXTENSION OF RANGE OF *EATONIA PUBESCENS*. — *Eatonia pubescens*, Scribner & Merrill, is common on some of the brackish meadows, which lie along the west shore of New Haven harbor, between New Haven and Savin Rock. It is a stout grass, with the lower sheaths and leaves, and also the back of the ligule, softly and densely pubescent. The spikelets are very like those of *E. obtusata*. It is generally in full bloom about the middle of June. I collected it here in 1903, and again in 1904, and usually found it in very wet situations, which could only be reached with comfort at low tide, although it has been described as a plant of dry soil. It was abundant at most of the stations. Mr. Fernald informs me that there is a sheet of this grass in the Gray Herbarium collected by Dr. E. H. Eames on "dry roadside on salt meadows, Fairfield, Conn., June 24, 1902." In the appendix to Britton's Manual, Pennsylvania is given as the northern limit of this essentially southern species, but its occurrence at New Haven and also at Fairfield, twenty miles west of New Haven on Long Island Sound, shows that its range extends at least



Setchell, William Albert. 1905. "GYMNOGONGRUS TORREYI (AG.) J. AG."
Rhodora 7, 136–138.

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