1904] Slosson,— A New Hybrid Fern from Vermont

lower altitude. Not fruiting; occasionally showing pseudopodia and gemmae.

Moerckia Flotowiana (Nees) Schiffn. This species occurs sparingly on a wet bank in the Notch. It is new to New England, and I take the liberty of quoting from information kindly furnished me by Dr. Evans as to its relationships and American occurrence. "Moerckia Flotowiana (Nees) Schiffn. is a plant which Nees von Esenbeck originally referred to Pallavicinia Lyellii as a variety, and which has until very recently been considered a variety of Moerckia (or Pallavicinia) Hibernica. Schiffner maintains in a recent paper that the plant is specifically distinct from M. Hibernica. Nees von Esenbeck, in 1838, reported the species from Newfoundland, but it has not since been recorded from eastern America. It occurs in the Harriman collections from Alaska."

Nardia crenulata (Smith) Lindb. On bare ground at base in Cheshire, also in Notch.

Pellia epiphylla (L.) Corda. Wet ground in various places and at all altitudes. Not conspicuous except when fruiting, in April.

Plagiochila asplenioides (L.) Dumort. At lower and middle altitudes, especially about beds of small mountain brooks. Leaves entire or denticulate.

UNIVERSITY OF WEST VIRGINIA, Morgantown.

A NEW HYBRID FERN FROM VERMONT.

MARGARET SLOSSON.

Dryopteris Pittsfordensis, hyb. nov. — Mature sporophyte large, $1\frac{1}{2}-2$, or more feet tall, resembling that of *D. spinulosa dilatata*, the young fronds like those of *D. marginalis* with the lowermost pair of pinnae enlarged, partially evergreen, the sporophylls withering in late autumn.

Rootstock decumbent, as in *D. spinulosa*, between which and *D. marginalis* the plant is a probable hybrid. Fronds fasciculate, crosiers densely clothed with pale brown scales; stipes 6-12 inches long, usually about one-third the length of the frond, stramineous, browning with age, especially below, deeply furrowed along the face, and clothed with a mixture of broad, narrowly ovate, and linear-lance-olate acuminate entire or lacerated brown scales, darkest below and often with blackish brown centres, paler and transparent above,

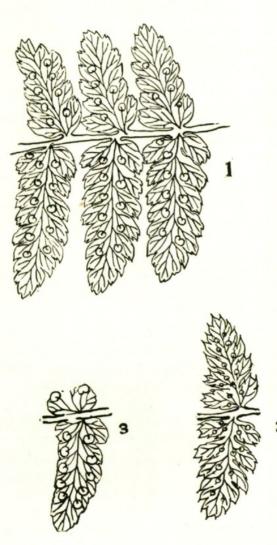
75

Rhodora

becoming chaffy along the strongly grooved and winged rachises; fibro-vascular bundles 3-5 or 7. Laminae 10-20 or more inches long, 6-10 inches broad, oblong or ovate lanceolate, or triangularovate with long acuminate apices, broadest just below the middle, bipinnate or, in the largest forms, tripinnate, at least below; pinnae mostly ovate or oblong lanceolate, long-acuminate, the lowermost pair much the broadest and irregularly deltoid, the superior pinnules much the longest, lobes irregularly spinulose or sharply toothed; texture subcoriaceous, softly downy in the young fronds, and wrinkled on the face from the deep furrows of the midribs and veins; sori elevated, submarginal, reniform, indusia coriaceous; veins pinnately branched and forked.

Syn. Nephrodium Pittsfordense Davenport, in litt.

The special characters of this plant lie in the long-acuminated outline of the fronds and pinnae, the submarginal elevated sori and cori-



aceous indusia, and the occasional presence on the older stipes of large deeply lobed or lacerated appressed scales with a broad dark base and the exterior lobe greatly elongated. The scales of the stipes are for the most part attached at the base by a well rounded sinus with either entire or ciliated margins; the smaller ones much like those on some of the Polypodiums, as for example, *P. polypodioides*.

In the subcoriaceous texture, and to some extent in the coloring, of the fronds, and in the conspicuous submarginal elevated sori appearing almost cork-like in age, the plant resembles *D. marginalis.* The toothed margins of the fronds, on the other hand, suggest *D. spinulosa.* Both

at first sight and on close examination the hybrid character of the plant appears unquestionable.

1904] Sanford,— Saururus cernuus in Rhode Island

I first found this plant in 1895, growing among stones by a roadside in Pittsford, Rutland County, Vermont. The specimens formed a large clump. Nearby grew *D. marginalis* and a form of *D. spinulosa*.

In 1901 the hybrid clump was transplanted to Mr. George E. Davenport's garden in Medford, Massachusetts, where it has remained since. It has produced mostly smaller fronds in the new location than in the old, but apparently has lost none of its peculiar characteristics at any time.

Type specimens are in the herbarium of the New York Botanical Garden.

I am greatly indebted to Mr. Davenport for his kind assistance in the study of this fern.

NOTE BY MR. DAVENPORT.— Since Miss Slosson's fern was transplanted to my garden in 1901 it has increased to five plants from young crowns growing out from the main rootstalk. One of the new plants was sent to Miss Slosson and another has been reserved for the Botanical Garden at Cambridge. During the past two seasons I have pressed all available fronds from the original plant and specimens of these will be deposited in the Gray Herbarium, the Herbarium of the New England Botanical Club, and the Davenport Herbarium of the Massachusetts Horticultural Society. In 1893 Mr. Raynal Dodge collected some specimens which he regarded as of hybrid origin between *Nephrodium spinulosum* and *N. marginale*. These I have had under examination for some time, but in the absence of the rootstalk, and other necessary data, I have not been able to satisfy myself as to their exact status. They differ greatly, however, from Miss Slosson's fern.— G. E. D.

EXPLANATION OF FIGURES: — Fig. 1, portion of a pinna of Dryopteris Pittsfordensis, $\times 1\frac{1}{2}$. Fig. 2, part of a pinna of D. spinulosa intermedia, $\times 1\frac{1}{2}$. Fig. 3, part of a pinna of D. marginalis, $\times 1\frac{1}{2}$.

THE RANGE OF SAURURUS CERNUUS EXTENDED INTO RHODE ISLAND.— In August, 1902, while exploring the meadowlands stretching from Adamsville, Rhode Island, to the ocean shore, Judge Benjamin Cook, Jr., ran across some plants, which were at once recognized as *Saururus cernuus*, L. One year later, July 29, 1903, Mr. Cook and the writer visited the locality and found the plants at

77



Slosson, Margaret and Davenport, Geo. E. 1904. "A NEW HYBRID FERN FROM VERMONT." *Rhodora* 6, 75–77.

View This Item Online: <u>https://www.biodiversitylibrary.org/item/14477</u> **Permalink:** <u>https://www.biodiversitylibrary.org/partpdf/187223</u>

Holding Institution Missouri Botanical Garden, Peter H. Raven Library

Sponsored by Missouri Botanical Garden

Copyright & Reuse Copyright Status: Public domain. The BHL considers that this work is no longer under copyright protection.

This document was created from content at the **Biodiversity Heritage Library**, the world's largest open access digital library for biodiversity literature and archives. Visit BHL at https://www.biodiversitylibrary.org.