the Festuca spadicea, &c

ADDITIONAL REM

Read October 5, 1790.

WHEN the preceding observations were read before the Linnæan Society, I named the grass in question in allusion, not only to its old generic name, but to the colour of its flowers.

At the same time I had a secret suspicion of the *spadicea* of Gouan's *Illustrationes Botanicae*, published in the *Systēma Naturæ*, ed. 12, v. 2, p. 732. I was struck by the description found in the place last quoted, and by the very specimen above mentioned, now in the Herbarium. In order to settle this point, I sent one without any remarks, to professor Gouan, and he returned for answer that it is certainly his *Festuca spadicea*, and that of *F. anthoxantha* must therefore give place to it. His name has the right of priority, and is indeed

Since my former paper was written, I have received several anonymous communications of the above grass, from the Sherar family, and others, of which I have looked over in company with Mr. Sibthorp. They are the following.

Gramen paniculatum, alpinum, radice crassa, striatis, et asperis, paniculâ fuscâ non a
Pisan. 75.

G. montanum paniculâ spadiceâ crassiore.
 Nardus spuria Narbonensis. *C. Baub. Pin*
 Nardus Gangitis spuria Norbonæ. *Lob. A*

The last synonym is added on the authority of Tournefort, as from the description and incomplete figure also confirms the synonym of Tournefort.

Hence we learn, that Linnæus has totally misapplied the synonyms of Bauhin and Lobel, in quoting them for his *Nardus Gangitis*. That the latter is quite a different plant appears from his own Herbarium; and Linnæus has committed a greater error in his quotation of Morison; for in his *Bot. 8, t. 13, fig. ultima* of that author, the figure quoted is the last but one, the *figura ultima* being of a different plant from all the above: and yet I am afraid Linnæus has taken this *figura ultima* for the *figura ultima* in *Species Plantarum* (*spicâ recurvâ*) and has paid great attention to this misquoted figure*. The character is very bad, as being equally applicable to *Nardus stricta*. What is still more unfortunate is that *Nardus Gangitis* is no *Nardus* at all, but appears to belong to a different genus or at least to the same genus with *Rottbollia incurvata* Linn.), as probably does the *Nardus* mentioned above.

The foregoing observations exhibit a series of misapprehensions, which can scarcely be paralleled in the history of any other plant, and those the errors of the present Nardus to which, the *Anthoxanthum paniculatum* and *Anthoxanthum odoratum* have been enveloped in more obscurity, and the

* The figure of Morison is so confused, that this error could not have been avoided. It is certain, however, that all his three spikes of flowers belong to the same plant.

1791. "Additional Remarks." *Transactions of the Linnean Society of London* 1, 115–117. <https://doi.org/10.1111/j.1096-3642.1791.tb00391.x>.

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