The carpels are represented in their average proportion to each other, and their average position with regard to the sepals in Diagram IV. In this figure carpel I will be seen turned towards the direction of the spiral as in Diagram III, though not so markedly.

These observations may prove suggestive. I do not at present propose to make any deductions from them.

I. HENRY BURKILL.

THE PRIMITIVE ALGAE AND THE FLAGELLATA.—

Since the appearance of my article in the last number of the *Annals*, I have learned that the theory of the parallel evolution of the brown and green Algae, to the exposition of which a section of my article was devoted, was first suggested by Professor Wille so long ago as 1891. The hypothesis, and at that time it could be no more, was briefly brought forward in the chapters on Algae which Wille contributed to Warming's *Systematic Botany* (3rd Danish Edition, section *Syngeneticæ*).

In the English translation of this work the editor has unfortunately omitted just the two sentences which contain this view, so that I was quite unaware that Wille had been the first to suggest it or I would gladly have associated with the theory the name of one to whom algology owes so much.

Further, I should like to add that on looking through the section on the phylogeny of the Chlorophyceae, it occurs to me that I might have dealt more directly with the views brought forward by Chodat at the British Association in 1896 (see *Annals of Botany*, vol. xi). These views have, however, their origin in conceptions of the polymorphism of the green Algae which cannot be said to be generally accepted, so that it would have been difficult to have considered them without introducing controversial details, but the spirit of the phylogenetic treatment is eminently scientific, and I am at one with the author in thinking that the broad lines of affinity are remarkably clear in this group.

Finally, I regret that the following reference to a paper which is mentioned in the text has been omitted from the bibliography:—West, G. S. '98, *Alga-Flora of Cambridgeshire*, *Journal of Botany*, vol. xxxvii.

F. F. BLACKMAN.

CAMBRIDGE.

Blackman, Frederick Frost. 1901. "The primitive algae and the flagellata."
Annals of botany 15, 192–192.

<https://doi.org/10.1093/oxfordjournals.aob.a088813>.

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