

a white corpuscle, which, towards the septum separating the cells, in most spores stretched out the sporal wall on one side. Thence I sometimes saw a white oblong corpuscle spontaneously expelled from either cell. When free (or partly remaining within the cells and partly protruded near the septum), these corpuscles became larger, and especially longer, than when enclosed within the spore, somewhat deformed, and unequal or almost cerebriform on the surface, but covered by no cellular membrane.

Here, unless I am deceived, is the beginning of the thallus of the Lichen; but I have been unable to pursue the ulterior evolution. Does, then, fecundation take place in these corpuscles? Their analogy would then be with the spores of the *Fucaceæ*.

Subsequently, in the warm summer, I experimented with other cultivations of the spores of *Varicellaria*; and, as in the former ones, I beheld the mucedinous filaments speedily and copiously evolved from all. But now the fructification of *Helminthosporium* (spores septate, black, pyriform, moniliformi-proliferous, subfasciculate) appeared in these filaments, and the sporal wall became dissolved in a short time. Sometimes the corpuscles assumed a rose-colour. Too much heat (often about 30° C.) was injurious to this culture.

Observations of this kind are very easily instituted and explained; but in such experiments the natural conditions are so imperfectly imitated that consequently it is most difficult to attain to any knowledge of the physiology of Lichens.

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*Corrigenda.*

In Dr. Nylander's paper on "Lichens in the Luxembourg Gardens" (*Ann. & Mag. Nat. Hist.* ser. 4. vol. ii. p. 245), I have inadvertently made some gross mistakes, which need correction:—

Page 246, line 5, for "hygrometer" read *hygiometer*.

Page 248, line 31, for "*Lecanora umbrina* = *Lecidea pelidna*, Ach." read:—*Lecidea umbrina* is identical with *Lecidea pelidna*, Ach., which latter name is to be preferred for this lichen, because we have a *Lecanora umbrina* (Ehrh.) and because it is desirable to avoid a similarity of nomenclature in genera which approach so closely to each other.

For "Hepp" read *Hepp passim*.

W. A. LEIGHTON.





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