

Wolverhampton was the first to detect it on the mountain. A very characteristic moss when examined closely, although at first sight it might be overlooked as a form of *H. cupressiforme* or *H. callichroum*.

Andreaea falcata is met with sparingly in several spots. It is another remarkable circumstance, that the *Andreaeæ* are not well represented on the mountain; probably the friable nature of the rocks for the most part, is the main reason why this tribe cannot secure a sufficient hold. On the schistose rocks the species are almost entirely absent, and it is only when the trap presents that any tufts have maintained a place.

With this closes the record of rare mosses found on Ben Lawers, so far at least as I know, or have discovered them. The list might have been considerably extended; but I have abstained from including many which, although comparatively rare, are common enough on our Highland mountains,—as *Ædipodium Griffithianum*, which I have secured on almost all our western mountains, of any considerable elevation, and nowhere in greater profusion than on Ben Ina, at the head of Loch Long, where, on one occasion, I secured hundreds of capsules within an area of a few feet.

Considering the limited extent of the ground, there is no mountain in Great Britain that can at all be compared with Ben Lawers in the richness and variety of its flora. The labours of Admiral Jones, Carrol, Crombie, and others in the section of lichens, show a corresponding richness; and much as they have done, patiently and perseveringly, the field in this respect is not yet exhausted, as I may soon have occasion to show.

III. *On the Variation, at different Seasons, of a Hieracium, considered to be H. stoloniflorum, Waldst. and Kit., as described in Fries' "Symbolæ ad Historiam Hieraciorum," Upsala, 1848, p. 5. By Professor BALFOUR. (Plates II. III.)*

The author remarked that this plant, which grows abundantly on the banks of the Granton railway, and which had been described by him last year in the Transactions, vol. x.

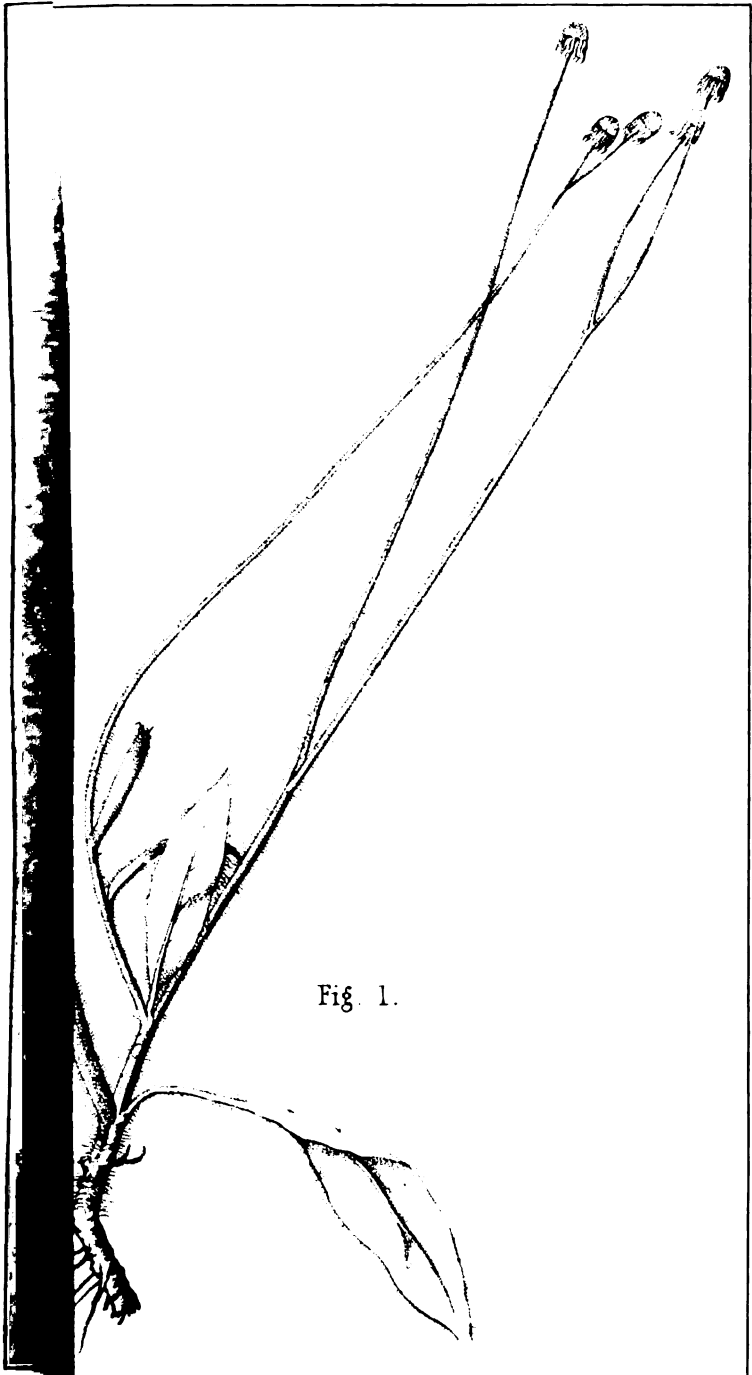


Fig. 1.

W. H. M^r Farlane, Lith^r Edin^r

IFLORUM ? W.&K.)



Fig. 2.

W.H. M^r Farlane, Lith^r Edin^r

(RUM ? W.&K.)

p. 317, had been found by Mr Sadler, his assistant, to present peculiar forms at different periods of the year. These forms are not only important in themselves, but they are valuable as indicating the necessity of caution in determining species of *Hieracium* by an examination of the plant at one season only. In June, there are two forms of this plant (Plate II. fig. 1, Plate III. fig. 1); both produce small capitula of flowers, on primary bifurcating axes, but one form gives off stolons (fig. 2), while the other does not. Many of these stolons flower in August—the capitula occurring in corymbose clusters (Plate III. fig. 2), and being much larger than in the June forms; other stolons take root near their extremities, and become independent plants. A few of the new plants produce one or two large capitula on primary axes in October and November (Plate II. fig 2); others do not produce flowers till the succeeding year, when they flower like the June forms. The new plants which flower in October and November give off young stolons, which may also flower the following year.

Specimens of the different forms were exhibited.

This *Hieracium* is doubtfully referred to *H. stoloniflorum*. Dr Boswell Syme considers it to be another species, *H. pedunculatum*. He has communicated with Professor Fries on the subject. It is to be hoped that ere long a decided opinion will be given. Fries, in his "Epicrisis Generis Hieraciorum," puts *H. stoloniflorum* under the subgenus *Pilosella* and suborder *Pilosellinæ*. He describes flagellar forms of the plant.

Mr H. Trimen agrees with Dr Balfour in considering the plant to be *H. stoloniflorum*, Waldst. and Kit.

EXPLANATION OF PLATES.

Plate II.

Fig. 1. June form of a species of *Hieracium*, probably *H. stoloniflorum* without a stolon.

Fig. 2. October and November form of the same *Hieracium*.

Plate III.

Fig. 1. June form of the same *Hieracium*, with stolons.

Fig. 2. August form of the same *Hieracium*, with flower-bearing stolons.