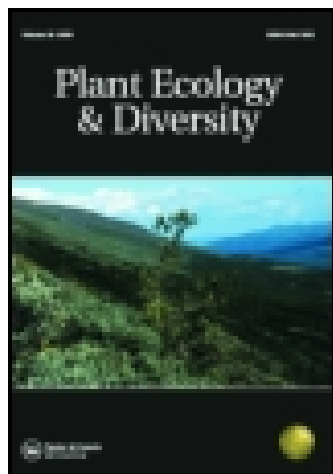


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I. On the Occurrence of a new Muscari on Mount Ida

Dr John Kirk

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14th January 1858, Dr SELLER, President, in the Chair.

The following Candidates were balloted for and duly elected Fellows :—

FINLAY ANDERSON, Esq., 32 Moray Place.

ANDREW INGLIS, Esq., 33 Albany Street.

STEPHEN JAMES MEINTJES, Esq., 73 George Street.

The CURATOR stated that the following donations had been made to the Society's Library :—

Transactions of the Wisconsin State Agricultural Society, 1851–2-3.—From the Society.

History of Wisconsin, Vols. 1 and 3.

First and Second Annual Reports and Transactions of the State Historical Society of Wisconsin.—From the Society.

Madison Directory for 1855.

Proceedings of the Academy of Natural Sciences of Philadelphia, Parts 3 and 4 of Vol. III.—From the Academy.

Proceedings of Boston Society of Natural History, Parts 21 to 25 inclusive of Vol. V., and 1 and 2 of Vol. VI.—From the Society.

Also the following from the respective authors :—

History of the Growth, Progress, Condition, Wants, and Capabilities of Madison, the capital of Wisconsin. By Lyman C. Draper.

Charter of the City of Madison.

Annual Report of the Geological Survey of the State of Wisconsin. By James G. Percival.

Ninth Annual Report of the Board of Regents of the University of Wisconsin for 1856.

Inaugural Addresses by E. S. Carr., Prof. of Chemistry and Natural History, and by Daniel Read, LL.D., Prof. of Mental Philosophy, Logic, Rhetoric, and Didactics.

Report of the Locating Survey of the St Croix and Lake Superior Railway, by Robert Patten, chief engineer.

Report of the Iron of Dodge and Washington Counties, State of Wisconsin, by James C. Percival, state geologist.

Prairie du Chien, its Present Position and Future Prospects.

City of Watertown, Wisconsin, its Manufacturing and Railroad Advantages and Business Statistics.

Third Annual Catalogue of the Officers and Pupils of the Milwaukee Female College, Milwaukee, Wisconsin, 1854–55.

Map of Madison and the Four Lake Country, Dane County, Wisconsin.

Plans of Madison and Milwaukee.

Colton's Township Map of the State of Wisconsin, &c.

Professor Balfour stated that the following donations had been made to the Museum at the Botanic Garden :—

From Professor George Wilson—Specimen of Flax, showing the Plant after being steeped, from Redford Flax Factory.

William Hunt, Esq.—Specimens of the Tubers of *Oxalis Dieppei*, used as a substitute for the potatoe.

William Nelson, Esq., publisher—A series of chromo-lithographic delineations of the Trees and Shrubs of Scripture.

Dr John Kirk—Photograph of *Quercus Ægilops* or Mossy-cupped Oak, growing in Asia Minor.

James Ivory, Esq., Moreton Bay—Pod of *Castanospermum australe*.

Mr John Reid, Orton Hall, Peterborough—Specimens of Guinea Corn.

Mrs Mackay—Wax Models of Potatoes and Carrots.

The following papers were read :—

I. *On the Occurrence of a new Muscari on Mount Ida.* By
Dr JOHN KIRK.

The author remarked—In April 1856, a party was formed among the officers stationed at the British Hospital of Renkioi, on the Dardanelles, for the ascent of Mount Ida, about forty miles distant in a south-easterly direction. Three of us,—viz., Drs Armitage, Playne, and myself, taking an interest in botany, it was agreed that the specimens collected should be divided by lot on our return. At first our route was over a rough country, through the villages of Renkeny and Doumenek, as far as the old Roman aqueduct, crossing a ravine in the metamorphic rocks. This had been constructed to supply Novum Illium with water. Many of the old clay pipes are now used as chimneys to the native hovels. The stream which flows through this ravine is named the Kemar-son, and joins the river Mendere, but in the heat of summer it is lost in the sand about a quarter of a mile from its junction. Thus far the ground had been covered with brushwood of *Pistacia Terebinthus*, *Storax*, *Pinus halepensis*, and dwarf oaks of several species. A few clumps of handsome Valonia oaks, *Quercus Ægilops* and

Cerris, were seen towards the plain of Troy. In the valleys the Oriental plane, the poplar, and prickly *Paliurus* bush grew luxuriantly, festooned with *Clematis cirrhosa* and *Vitalba*, *Periploca græca*, *Cynanchum*, and wild vine. The ground was covered with several species of *Anemone*, *Iris*, and *Crocus*. After having crossed the Kemav, we soon entered a pine forest covering the high grounds as far as the plain of Beyramitsh; in this we lost our way, but followed the direction in which we believed Beyramitsh to be. We caught sight at last of the minaret of a Turkish village, which we reached as the Muezzim called to evening prayer. We had wandered many miles off our route, and had a narrow escape of camping out, which, but for the ague, is often preferable to the insect torments of a house. Next morning we followed the Mendere through a rich well-watered valley. By the road-sides the hop and lint grew wild. *Anemone appenina* and *Scilla bifolia* were picked; they had been transported from a higher region by the waters. Passing through the town of Beyramitsh, we paid our respects to Ahmed Bey, the feudal lord of the district, who sent two of his rawashes as guides and escort. These men were a source of much annoyance afterwards. Between this and the foot of Ida the country was rough and barren, intersected by ravines, through which the Seammander found its way to the plains. At the village of Avjylar we had some difficulty in obtaining lodging. This arose from our rawashes; but, being independent of interpreters, we soon made friends over pipes and coffee, with the natives. Early the following morning we began to ascend on foot. Proceeding in an oblique direction for some time we came to one of the sources of the Seammander, where it gushes by many powerful springs from the schist rocks. In this neighbourhood we found Saxifrages, Geraniums, *Dentaria bulbifera*, *Ruscus Hypoglossum*, and *Pæonia decora* among the fine timber of *Pinus Pinaster* which covered this region. There, too, the *Muscari* was picked in considerable abundance, which seems to be a new species, and which we have named, from its remarkably broad leaves, *M. latifolium*. It now appeared that our guides had deceived us, and taken us off the proper road, and from this point it seemed almost impossible to ascend. But, being determined to reach the top,

we set off, leaving them to follow if they chose. Near the summit the forest opened out, and left nothing but bare rock; we picked the *Crocus garganicus*, *Corydalis tuberosa* and *digitata*, *Viola gracilis*, *Scilla bifolia*, *Ornithogalum nanum* and *fimbriatum*. The scanty soil had been turned up by the wild pigs in search of bulbous roots. The ascent had occupied from seven in the morning till three P.M. On our return we followed a much easier path, and here we found the *Saxifraga sancta* growing in wet boggy spots. This species had been previously discovered by Griesbach on Mount Athos. The sun had set by the time we reached the village of Avjylar, and, having enjoyed a night's rest, we set off on our return to the hospital, where we arrived on the fifth day from our departure.

Dr Kirk briefly indicated, in the following terms, the characters of the new *Muscari*:—

MUSCARI LATIFOLIUM; scape erect, about 12 inches in height, rising from a globose bulb, and bearing near its base a large sheathing, broadly lanceolate, rather obtuse solitary leaf; flowers numerous, forming a raceme about two inches in length, the lower ones shortly pedicellate, the upper ones barren, sessile; perianth tubular (blue), in the fertile flowers inflated below. *Muscari latifolium*, ARMITAGE, KIRK & PLAYNE, in Herb.

II. Note on *Cryphaea* (Daltonia) *Lamyana*, Montagne. By Dr GEORGE LAWSON.

Dr Lawson stated that, in 1846, M. Montagne had described and figured, in apparently a very careful manner, a new moss found near Vienna, under the name of *Daltonia Lamyana* ("Ann. des. Sc. Nat., Botanique," 2 serie., tom. 6, pp. 327-329, tab. 18, fig. 2). Subsequent writers had referred it to *D. heteromalla*. Specimens shewn to the meeting, which had been collected in the river Taw by the Rev. C. A. Johns, were considered by Mr Wilson and others to be identical with M. Montagne's moss; but they differed so widely from his elaborate description, that Dr L. thought the whole subject was still deserving of inquiry. The points which remain to be determined are these:—1. Is *D. Lamyana*, Montagne, a good species? 2. Is the English plant identical with it?