

gular at the periphery," and "an angle at the base of the columella," characters which were not noted in Capt. Hutton's description. Capt. Hutton also describes the shell as "conico-discoidea." My note gives "conoid depressed." Pfeiffer says, "Habitat in Himalaya prope Kirmalliah." Capt. Hutton's habitat is "Kirmalliah, five miles from Neemuch," which is 100 miles south of Ajmere in Rajpootana, and 400 miles from the nearest point of the Himalaya.

H. proxima, Fér. (Pfr. no. 980).

The habitat "Coimbatore" is stated on the authority of Leschenault and Deshayes, as in the "presqu'île au delà du Gange," instead of "en deça du Gange," Coimbatore being south of Seringapatam.

Anostoma Boysii, Bens. (Pfr. no. 3).

The habitat of this singular little species of a rare genus, which I named after its discoverer, Capt. W. J. Boys, is given as Bengal, communicated by Dr. V. d. Busch, who doubtless received it, with other Indian shells (the source of which is not acknowledged in the 'Abbildungen' of Philippi), from Capt. Boys. This gentleman found *A. Boysii* among the stones of the Sâkâ in the hill-fort of Chittore in Rajpootana. He got also a single specimen at Ajmere. The species has occurred in no other part of India.

Dublin, June 21st, 1848.

XVI.—On the form of the Capsule and Seeds as affording a specific character in *Primula vulgaris* (Huds.), *P. veris* (Linn.), and *P. elatior* (Jacq.). By the Rev. W. A. LEIGHTON, B.A., F.B.S. E. & L.*

VERY much has been written from time to time on the Cowslip, Primrose and Oxlip, both to prove their specific identity and the contrary; and many experiments have been undertaken with similar views, but as it appears to me without having arrived at any certainty. The question seems still an open one. Most of these writers, whose papers I have had the means of consulting, whilst they duly describe the forms and peculiarities of the leaves, flowers, scape and other parts of the above plants, never take any notice of the capsule and seeds. The same may be said of both English and continental botanists, whose works I have referred to.

It occurred to me that possibly good specific characters might

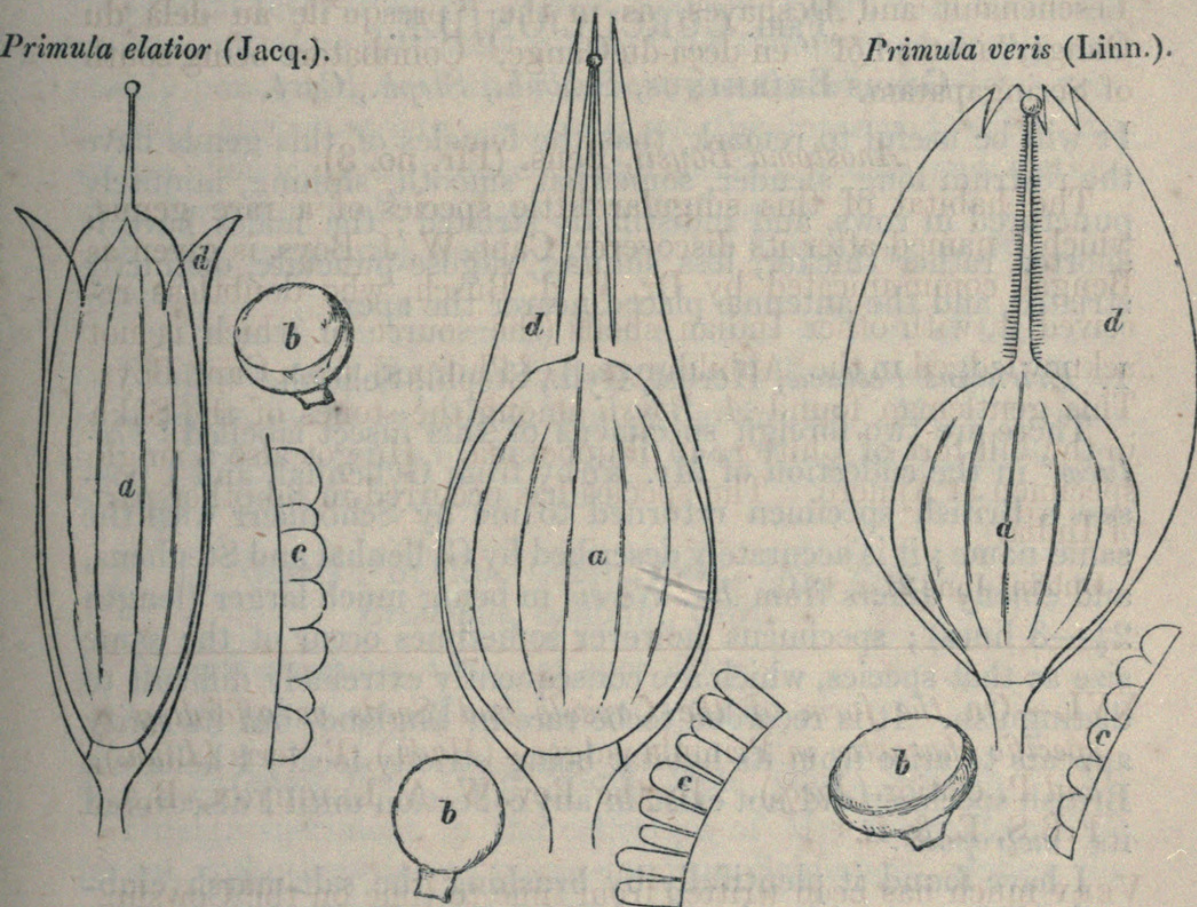
* Read before the Botanical Society of Edinburgh, July 13th, 1848.

exist in the form of the capsule and seeds. Accordingly, having a plant of the Bardfield Oxlip (*P. elatior*, Jacq.) in my garden, given to me in 1842 by my friend Mr. C. C. Babington of St. John's College, Cambridge,—and also Cowslips (*P. veris*, Linn.) and Primroses (*P. vulgaris*, Huds.), transplanted thither from the neighbouring fields, I determined to examine and compare the three plants in these particulars; and I was agreeably surprised to find my conjectures realized. The result of this comparison will be best exhibited by the accompanying drawings

Primula vulgaris (Huds.).

Primula elatior (Jacq.).

Primula veris (Linn.).



a. Capsule. b. Seed. c. Surface of seed. d. Calyx.

of these parts in the three plants, in which the relative proportions of each to the other have been carefully preserved.

The capsule of *P. vulgaris* is ovate, half the length of the calyx, the seeds globose, their surface elongato-papillose, the style glabrous, the subulate teeth of the calyx straight and meeting together at their apices.

In *P. veris* the capsule is elliptical, scarcely half the length of the calyx, the seeds forming round flattened discs, their surface rotundo-papillose, the style hairy, the short triangular teeth of the calyx incurved and converging, but not meeting together at their apices.

In *P. elatior* (Jacq.) the capsule is linear-oblong, as long as, or even slightly longer than, the calyx, the seeds forming round flattened discs, their surface rotundo-papillose, the style glabrous, the ovato-lanceolate teeth of the calyx curved outwards.

Luciefelde, Shrewsbury, June 6th, 1848.

XVII.—*Notes, &c. on the genera of Insects Erirhinus, Notaris, and Procas; with descriptions of two new species.* By JOHN WALTON, F.L.S.

Fam. CURCULIONIDÆ.

Genus ERIRHINUS, *Schönh., Steph., Curt.*

It will be useful to remark, that the females of this genus have the rostrum long, slender, somewhat smooth, shining, minutely punctured in rows, and indistinctly striated; the males have it shorter, rather thicker, less shining, rugose-punctate, distinctly striated, and the antennæ placed nearer the apex.

1. *Erirhinus Festuæ*, Herbst, Gyll., Steph., Schönh.

There are two foreign specimens of this insect labelled '*Festuca*' in the collection of Mr. Kirby from Gyllenhal, and I possess a British specimen returned to me by Schönherr with the same name; it is accurately described by Gyllenhal and Stephens, and chiefly differs from *Er. Nereis* in being much larger (length $2\frac{1}{2}$ —3 lines); specimens however sometimes occur of the same size as that species, which are consequently extremely difficult to distinguish. It is recorded to be rare in England, but its rarity appears to arise from its habitat being strictly local; I believe a British specimen did not exist in any collection until I discovered its '*metropolis*.'

I have found it plentifully by brushing the salt-marsh club-rush (*Scirpus maritimus*) on both sides of the Thames, about low-water mark, between Blackwall and Woolwich, in July; and also near Lyndhurst on aquatic plants. "Ditches below Gravesend," Mr. Smith.

2. *E. Nereis*, Payk., Gyll., Steph., Schönh.

— *inquisitor*, Steph. Illustr.

— *lunula et Arundineti*, Kirb. MSS.

I have British specimens returned to me from Schönherr as *Er. Nereis*. It is generally about half the size of the preceding insect (length $1\frac{1}{2}$ — $2\frac{1}{2}$ lines), and also differs in having the rostrum and antennæ shorter, with the articulations of the latter also shorter, rather stouter, and somewhat different in



1848. "XVI.—On the form of the capsule and seeds as affording a specific character in *Primula vulgaris* (Huds.), *P. veris* (Linn.), and *P. elatior* (Jacq.)." *The Annals and magazine of natural history; zoology, botany, and geology* 2, 164–166. <https://doi.org/10.1080/03745485809494680>.

View This Item Online: <https://www.biodiversitylibrary.org/item/61922>

DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1080/03745485809494680>

Permalink: <https://www.biodiversitylibrary.org/partpdf/58512>

Holding Institution

University of Toronto - Gerstein Science Information Centre

Sponsored by

University of Toronto

Copyright & Reuse

Copyright Status: NOT_IN_COPYRIGHT

This document was created from content at the **Biodiversity Heritage Library**, the world's largest open access digital library for biodiversity literature and archives. Visit BHL at <https://www.biodiversitylibrary.org>.