

Two New Primulas

BY

WILLIAM WRIGHT SMITH.

WITH PLATE CCXLVII.

Primula Minkwitziae W. W. Sm. Sp. nov.

Species valde distincta sectionis *Cortusoides* subsectionis *Geranioides*; a speciebus illius sectionis aliquatenus remota; foliis 7-lobatis, lobis ipsis latis obtusis facile cognoscitur.

Planta parva scapo folia plus minusve aequante. Folia petiolo 5-5.5 cm. longo stramineo pilis articulatis pellucidis bene munito suffulta; lamina ambitu orbicularis, 3-3.5 cm. diametro, in sicco carnosula, in specimine unico ad trientem vel quadrantem 7-lobata, lobis late ovatis vel subquadratis integris vel trilobulatis obtusis, margine pilis parvis albedo-pellucidis ciliolata, basi cordata vel subtruncata, supra paulo scabridula, infra ad nervos sparsim pilosa. Scapus vix ad 7 cm. attingens, ut petioli vestitus, uniflorus (? semper). Bracteae 3-4, lineari-lanceolatae, subcutae, 3-6 mm. longae, dense pilosulae. Calyx circ. 7 mm. longus, cylindricus, ad medium in lobos lineari-lanceolatos subacutos fissus, viridis, dense pilosulus. Corollae tubus circ. 11 mm. longus, 2 mm. latus, cylindricus, extra pilis albedo-pellucidis satis conspersus, in sicco atro-purpureus, limbus fere ad imum lobatus, lobis circ. 6 mm. longis anguste obovatis alte emarginatis, colore probabiliter purpureus.

CENTRAL ASIA.—“In territorio Syr. Darjensi (Sir Darya), in districtu Čimkent (Tschimkent); na osypjach gory Džedogly (screes of the Mountain Dshebogly), Talasskij Alatau.” Minkwitz No. 1189. 31. vii. 1908. Type in Herb. Bot. Instit. Univ. Vienna.

I am indebted to the Director of the Vienna Herbarium for the loan of this peculiar species and to Dr. Handel-Mazzetti for calling my attention to it. He has also given me a reference to a paper by Podpéra on *Cortusa Mattioli* Linn. in Beihefte zum Bot. Centralb. xxxix Abt. 2 (1921-23), p. 286, where the author mentions the solitary specimen as representing possibly a new form of that species:—“Formam fortasse aequae novae sistit specimen unum, parvulum, quod cl. Z. A. Minkwitz . . . collegit.” The Vienna specimen is itself a duplicate “ex herbario Horti Botan. Imper. Petropolitani.”

[Notes, R.B.G., Edin., No. LXXXIX, April 1934.]

The nearest allies of this plant are possibly *P. alsophila* Balf. f. et Farrer and *P. palmata* Hand.-Mzt. From these it is readily distinguished by the broad blunt lobes of the somewhat liver-like leaf.

***Primula Wigramiana* W. W. Sm. Sp. nov.**

Species praestans sectionis Soldanelloides, affinis *P. nutans* Franch. a qua floribus albis inter alia distinguitur; haud procul a *P. eburnea* Balf. f. et Cooper a qua habitu robustiore, foliis utrinque pilosis facile cognoscitur.

Planta rosulata rhizomate parvo, foliis floribusque coaetaneis. Folia plerumque 4-6, petiolata; lamina 6-10 cm. longa, 2-3.5 cm. lata, vulgo oblanceolata nunc subovata nunc suboblonga, apice rotundata, basi in petiolum 2-4 cm. longum paulo alatum pilis septatis longis albidis densius praeditum sensim attenuata, margine copiose albociliata subremote denticulata, in sicco tenuiter papyracea, efarinosa, eglandulosa, pilis septatis albidis utrinque praesertim ad costam latam stramineam nervosque bene obsita, spatiis inter venulas glabrescentibus. Scapus ad 25 cm. altus, epilosus, sub capitulo albo-farinosus; flores 6-7, penduli, albi; bractae parvae inconspicuae. Calyx circ. 1 cm. longus, cupularis, deflexus, plus minusve obliquus, ad tertiam partem divisus, lobis in lobulos acutos 2-3 saepe incis, extra viridis nunc nigrescens, intus farinosus. Corolla pro sectione magna, in sicco complanata 2.5-3 cm. longa, 2.5 cm. lata, infundibuliformis, efarinosa; tubus calycem aequans vel paulo superans cylindricus; limbus late ampliatus concavus ad tertiam partem 5-lobatus, lobis ovatis grossiuscule dentatis vel nunc subintegris. Stamina in flore brevistylis ad os corollinum inserta. Stylus in flore longistylis paululo exsertus. Ovarium globosum.

CENTRAL HIMALAYA.—In the mountains of Nepal, at Sherkathan. Alt. 17,000 ft. Flowers white. 20th July 1932. Coll. K. N. Sharma. No. E. 391.

Also at Teengaung. Alt. 17,500 ft. 30th July 1931. Coll. K. N. Sharma. No. E. 55.

A very distinct species recalling in beauty and in form *P. nutans* Franch. The flowers are, however, of an ivory white, inviting comparison with *P. eburnea* Balf. f. et Cooper. The specific name is in honour of Lady (Clive) Wigram.