

Studies in the Gesneriaceae of the Old World

IV.—A New Burmese Species of *Didymocarpus*

BY

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The plant described below as *Didymocarpus praeteritus* is in cultivation at the Royal Botanic Garden, Edinburgh, and has been studied from living material. It belongs to the section *Eudidymocarpus* Benth., within which its closest allies are the other species with a shallowly lobed calyx. Amongst these only *D. adenocarpus* C. E. C. Fischer, described from the southern Lushai Hills of Assam, agrees in having the ovary beset with shortly stalked golden glands: all the other species, as far as is known, have glabrous ovaries.

Didymocarpus praeteritus was cultivated under the name *D. purpureo-bracteatus*, which is indeed a closely allied species but differs in having stamens and ovary quite eglandular. There are in the herbarium, some half dozen specimens of this new species, and they are sufficient to justify the epithet, meaning "overlooked," under which it is now described; for the first was collected by F. Kingdon Ward as long ago as 1914. All these specimens come from Upper Burma and *D. praeteritus* is therefore geographically isolated from its nearest ally, *D. adenocarpus* in southern Assam.

***Didymocarpus praeteritus* Burtt et Davidson, sp. nov.** *D. adenocarpus* C. E. C. Fischer haec speciei affinis est, sed caulibus foliisque glabriusculis, inflorescentiis minus glandulosis (pedicellis ipis glabris), calycis lobis multo minoribus, corollae colore recedit. *D. purpureo-bracteatus* W. W. Sm. caule glabriore, foliis parce pilosis et praecipue ovario glabro differt. *D. Veitchianus* W. W. Sm., etiam affinis, floribus majoribus et ovario glabro differt.

Herba perennis, caule 10–30 vel ad 40 cm. alto pilis patentibus albis (siccitate fulvo-brunnescentibus) dense obsito. *Folia* in paria 2–4 disposita saepe inaequalia; petiolus 2 cm. (–5 cm.) longus, laete viridis, pubescens; lamina ad 7.5 (–12.5) cm. longa et 4.5 (–5.5) cm. lata, late elliptica vel oblongo-elliptica, basi leviter cordata saepe inaequilaterali, apice acuta, margine crenato-serrata, supra pilis albis multicellularibus paucis glandulosis intermixtis obsita, infra ad venas dense glanduloso- et eglanduloso-pilosa, inter venas pilis glandulosis parvis et aliis eglandulosis parvis pilosa, venis utrinque 6–9 arcuato-ascendentibus supra leviter impressis infra prominentibus. *Inflorescentia* e cymis axillaribus 2–8—floris composita. *Pedunculi* tenues, rubro-brunnei, 4.5–7 cm. longi, basi pilis glandulosis et eglandulosis intermixtis pubescentes, superne parcius pubescentes fere omnibus pilis glandulosis. *Bracteae* late ovatae, 7 mm. usque longae, 7 mm. latae, basi inter se paullo connatae, inferiores pilis glandulosis et eglandulosis intermixtis pubescentes, superiores subglabrae, vinaceae, mox caducae. *Pedicelli* tenues, rubri, pilis glandulosis praediti. *Calyx* 9 mm. longus, tubulosus, latere dorsali ventralem paululum excedente, basi leviter inflatus, basi vinaceus ad lobos pallescens, nitens, glaber; lobi 5, rotundati, dorsalis 1.5 mm. longus et 2 mm. latus, ceteri paullo minores. *Corollae* tubus 2 cm. longus, basi

anguste cylindricus ad orem paulo ampliatus, dorso planiusculus, ventraliter paulo dilatatus; limbus bilabiatus, labio superiore in lobis duo late ovatis 4 mm. longis et latis diviso, labio inferiore superiori majore in lobos tres 5 mm. longos et 6 mm. latos diviso lateralibus latissime ovatis mediano fere semi-orbiculari; corolla tota glabra, nitens, purpurea fauce pallido-lineata. *Stamina* 2; filamenta ad corollam per 14 mm. adnata, per 3 mm. libera, apicibus incrassatis aurantiaco-stipitato-glandulosis; antherae coram cohaerentes. *Staminodia* tria; duo superiora ad corollam per 10 mm. adnata, per 3.5 mm. libera, filiformia; tertium multo minus ad corollam per 11 mm. adnatum, per 1.25 mm. liberum. *Discus* cupularis, 1 mm. altus, margine irregulari, flavus. *Gynoecium* 14 mm. longum; ovarium cylindricum 12 mm. longum, 1 mm. latum glandulis flavis breviter stipitatis dense obsitum; stylus 1 mm. longus, robustus, stigmate late capitato albo papilloso concavo sulca mediana transversa praedito. *Capsula* cylindrica, 4 cm. usque longa, 2 mm. lata, brunnea.

N.E. Upper Burma. On cliffs and rocks in bed of Naung-Chaung, about 1200 m., also around Hpimaw village in shade of forest, not wet places, on granite rock 1800–2100 m.; flowers deep violet, glossy like wax; 22 June 1914, Kingdon Ward 1697. Ngaw Chang, damp rocky faces in the upper tropical forest between Gaw Lum and Hkam Hkem, 900 m.; 5 July 1919, Farrer 1099. N'maikha-Salwin divide, western flank of the Chimi-li, latitude $26^{\circ} 21' N.$, longitude $98^{\circ} 48' E.$, 2100–2400 m.; plant of 6–12 inches, flowers deep dull crimson; on shady rocks and cliffs in side valleys; June 1924, Forrest 24541. Western flank of N'maikha-Salwin divide, latitude $26^{\circ} 20' N.$, longitude $98^{\circ} 48' E.$, 2100 m.; plant of 9–16 inches, flowers very deep ruddy purple; amongst dwarf scrub and on moist moss-covered cliffs in shady side valleys; June 1925, Forrest 26841; cultivated in Royal Botanic Garden, Edinburgh, June 1952 (*holotype*); *ibid.* October 1925, duplicate of No. 26841 in fruit, Forrest 27564. N'Maikha-Salwin divide, latitude $26^{\circ} 20' N.$, 2400 m.; plant of 6–12 inches, flowers ruddy purple; dry stony slopes and on cliffs; June 1931, Forrest 29673. District of Myitkyina, 3 miles from Kangfang; 6 inches high with red flowers; grows among rocks; 13 June 1938, Naw Mu Pa 17418 (in herb. Kew).