

LEANGIUM? TREVELYANI.

Sessile many-cleft Leangium.

CLASS AND ORDER CRYPTOGAMIA FUNGI, Linn.—NAT. ORD. GASTROMYCI,
Link, Grev.

GENERIC CHARACTER.

Sporangium subglobosum. Peridium simplex, membranaceum, plerumque stellatim dehiscens. Columella intra peridium. Sporulae filamentis inspersae.

Sporangium subglobose. Peridium simple, membranaceous, mostly dehiscent in a stellate manner. Columella within the peridium. Sporules arranged among the filaments.

SPECIFIC CHARACTER.

LEANGIUM? Trevelyani; *sporangium sessile, peridio segmentis plurimis linearibus subregularibus reflexis dehiscenti; columella minima; sporulis pedicellatis.*

L. *sporangium sessile; peridium splitting into many linear, subregular, reflexed segments; columella very minute; sporules pedicellated.*

HAB. On the leaves of the larger mosses. On *Bryum ligulatum*, Northumberland, W. C. TREVELYAN, Esq. Woods about Edinburgh, exceedingly rare. Autumn.

Gregarious. *Sporangium sessile, ovato-globose, about a line in diameter, reddish-brown, splitting into a number of pretty regular, linear segments, which gradually become reflexed in a very beautiful manner. Colour of the inner surface pale reddish-grey. Columella extremely small, globose, sessile, surrounded by a black light mass of filaments, to which the globular sporules are irregularly attached by minute pedicels, as in the genus Borista.*

This is the most elegant of all the minute *Gastromyci* I ever beheld. Whether we regard the extreme symmetry of its form, or its delicate structure and pleasing colour, it forms one of the most charming little objects the eye can possibly rest upon. A diminutive moss* infused life and hope into the exhausted frame of the African traveller MUNGO PARK, when

* *Dicranum bryoides.*

he had cast himself down to die; the beauty of its minute foliage brought to perfection in the desert, at once raised his eye to that Power which had not failed to nourish the delicate structure it had created: and is there any one of taste and right feeling, in whose breast some similar emotion does not arise at the sight of so perfect a form as that of our minute *Leangium*?

It is not without much pleasure that I am enabled to dedicate this plant to its discoverer, my esteemed friend W. C. TREVELYAN, Esq.

I cannot but consider its genus as rather uncertain, not merely on account of the very small columella, but chiefly from the pedicellated sporules, which do not often occur in the *Gastromyci*, and have not been noticed by any author as belonging to the genus *Leangium*.

Fig. 1. *L. Trevelyanii*, nat. size. Fig. 2. A leaf of the *Bryum* removed, with plants. Fig. 3. A single plant bursting. Fig. 4. A plant, having lost its contents. Fig. 5. Filaments and sporules.—All except Fig. 1, more or less magnified.

