

INTERESTING SPECIMENS OF SPECULARIA PERFOLIATA.

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Peculiar specimens of this plant were found on sandy soil, forming a thin layer on a horizontal sandstone at the Thompson Ledges, Geauga County, O. They are very unlike those usually found, their stems being often quite procumbent 20 to 100 mm. long, wiry, thread-like and somewhat hairy. The lower leaves are round, petioled and often opposite; the upper are roundish or oval, decurrent into the short petiole; the uppermost sessile roundish, cordate-clasping and alternate. All are more or less crenate and ciliate-hairy; flowers 1 to 3 in the axils of the leaves; calyx unequally 3-4 lobed; corolla none or rudimentary (?); capsules opening from below the middle into two uplifted valves; seeds lenticular. Some of the capsules furnished a few seeds, which were sown several years later in a more fertile soil in order to ascertain the shape and size of the plants when grown under more favorable conditions. Only a single seed germinated, producing a plant very different from those collected on the rock, having a stronger and larger upright stem. During its growth it was ascertained that, like those described above, it had the lower leaves petioled, but not (as Gray's and Britton & Brown's Manuals say) all cordate-clasping. A number of measurements of the leaves and their petioles were taken, which showed that the six lower ones were petioled and the lowest two were almost round, while the next four were oval or even spatulate.

The following table shows the measurements taken :

LEAVES.	Length of Leaf.	Width.	Length of Petiole.
1st.....	5 mm.....	4 mm.....	2 mm.....
2nd.....	14 mm.....	9 mm.....	9 mm.....
3rd.....	18 mm.....	not measured.....	7 mm.....
4th.....	17 mm.....	not measured.....	3 mm.....
5th.....	11 mm.....	not measured.....	2 mm.....
6th.....	10 mm.....	not measured.....	1 mm.....
7th.....	10 mm.....	not measured.....	0 mm.....

8th and following ones not measured, all cordate-clasping and without petioles.