

In the Geological Survey herbarium of Ottawa there is a specimen collected by Mr. J. M. Macoun at "Billings' Bush near Ottawa, May 18th, 1898," which puzzled the collector. It is mounted as No. 18761 with two specimens labelled *V. septentrionalis* Greene. The collector, however, was in doubt whether it should be referred to *V. septentrionalis*, and therefore wrote on one side of the specimen "*V. cucullata*?" In other words, the collector was in doubt as to whether it should be considered a form of *V. cucullata* or whether it should be referred to *V. septentrionalis*. In some respects it shows the characters of one of these species, in others it comes close to the other one.

There is no doubt, however, that the specimen in question represents a true hybrid between the species mentioned. The authors have had the opportunity to revisit the locality and have observed and collected many specimens of the hybrid, growing with their parent species.

*V. cucullata* x *septentrionalis*, as it occurs in the vicinity of Ottawa, reminds one at a superficial glance, very much of *V. cucullata*. It forms dense and very vigorous bunches and develops an abundance of beautiful sky-blue flowers which, like those of *V. cucullata* are borne on pedicels much surpassing the leaves and which, therefore, are very conspicuous. The exposed position of the flowers is, however, not the only thing which makes them so conspicuous. They are, in addition to being numerous and of a very rich colour, surprisingly large, in fact much larger than the flowers of either *V. cucullata* or *V. septentrionalis*.

A closer examination of the specimens collected reveals the fact that as far as their morphological characters are concerned, they represent undoubted intermediates between *V. cucullata* and *V. septentrionalis*. It is true that their pedicels are much longer than those of *V. septentrionalis*, but on the other hand they are decidedly shorter than those of *V. cucullata* and though soft and weak, are not slender as is the case with the pedicels of *V. cucullata*. The herbage of the hybrid plants differs from that of the glabrous *V. cucullata* in being very sparsely and obscurely hirtellous-hairy, and by the very same character from *V. septentrionalis*, which is rather conspicuously hairy, especially on the petioles.

The characters of the sepals in the hybrid are also intermediate between those of the parent species. In *V. cucullata* the sepals are perfectly glabrous, i.e., are not at all ciliolated