

DESCRIPTIONS OF NEW AUSTRALIAN PLANTS, WITH
OCCASIONAL OTHER ANNOTATIONS ;

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(Continued.)

ATRIPLEX LOBATIVALVE.

F. v. M., "Iconogr. of Austral. Salsolac. Plants," t. vi.

Prostrate, grey from a very short somewhat lepidote and papillular vestiture ; leaves small, mostly somewhat rhomboid in outline, cuneated into the short petiole, often upwards bluntly short-lobed ; clusters of staminate flowers at and towards the summit of the branches, hardly exceeding the leaves or shorter ; pistillate flowers in lower positions, sessile, only few together in each axil, their two segments divergently and deeply cleft into five lobes but devoid of appendages, the two lower lobes almost deltoid, the three other lobes nearly semilanceolar ; radicle ascending.

Near the Marshall-River, Winnecke ; at Lake Yantara, Bauerlen.

Seemingly annual. Allied to *A. velutinellum* and *A. fissivalve*.

Although this and the following plant were illustrated already 1889 and 1891 respectively, as yet no diagnoses of them had been furnished.

BASSIA LONGICUSPIS.

F. v. M., "Iconogr. of Austral. Salsolac. Plants," t. 24.

Nearly glabrous ; branches streaked ; leaves rather long, almost cylindric-filiform, acute ; flowers solitary ; stigmas two ; fruiting calyx with ample and hollowed base sessile, usually by about half longer than broad, terminated by four setaceous-subulate spinules, two of which several times longer than the calyx, the other two or one much shortened ; seed longer than broad ; radicle ascending and considerably extending beyond the cotyledons.

Charlotte-Waters, Rev. H. Kempe ; Beltana, Mrs. Richards ; Darling-River, Mrs. Kennedy.

Fruiting occasionally at a height of some few inches already, and probably never tall. Allied to *B. Forrestiana*.

LEUCOPHYTA LESSINGI.

De Candolle in 1837 mentions both for *Leucophyta* and *Calocephalus* the first specific names as given by Lessing, but Kuntze in his "Revisio Generum Plantarum" (1891) has shown, that already Cassini in 1832, therefore nine years earlier, gave a specific name to *Leucophyta*, whereas *Calocephalus* was then left yet without any appellation for its species. Kuntze therefore makes *Leucophyta* supersede *Calocephalus*, and consequently the 10 species of the latter genus appear in his work (p. 351)

under *Leucophyta*. His transfer, as may be seen from the second edition of the writer's "Census of Australian Plants" (p. 140) affects 11 species; but in the "Key to the System of Victorian Plants" the desirability of uniting *C. citreus* and *C. lacteus* has already been indicated four years ago, limiting the species to 10. The differences between the two plants just mentioned do not seem to be specific, as even the delineations by Decaisne in the botanic Atlas to the "*Voyage de la Coquille*" show only diversities indicative of varieties, so that the colour of the flower-clusters seems to remain the only distinctive characteristic. But in the "Fragm. Phytogr. Austral." iii. 136 (1863) it was already remarked, that many of our Everlastings with yellow involucre are varying with white involucre bracts. Therefore the *Calocephalus Lessingi*, of the "Key," combining *C. lacteus* and *C. citreus*, should now be called *Leucophyta Lessingi*, after the restoration of that genus.

ARTICLES OF INTEREST TO VICTORIAN NATURALISTS IN RECENT PUBLICATIONS RECEIVED.

IN "*Proceedings of Linnean Society of New South Wales*," 2nd series, vol. vii., part 2 :—

"Notes on Australian Coleoptera," part 12, by Rev. T. Blackburn, B.A. Contains descriptions of several new Victorian species.

"On Twelve New Species of Australian Lepidoptera," by Dr. T. P. Lucas. Describes a number of new Queensland moths.

In "*Transactions of Royal Society of South Australia*," vol. xv., part 2 :—

"The Gryllacridæ and Stenopelmatidæ of Australia and Polynesia," by J. G. O. Tepper, F.L.S. Continues his papers on the Australian orthopterous insects. Enumerates the species, and describes several new ones of the last two families of the tribe Locustodea.

"The Effects of Settlement and Pastoral Occupation in Australia upon Indigenous Vegetation," by Samuel Dixon. An interesting paper, containing many reasons why the indigenous flora should be preserved.

"Further Notes on Australian Coleoptera," part 12, by Rev. T. Blackburn, B.A. Describes a number of new beetles, including many Coccinellidæ (ladybirds) from Victoria, &c.



Mueller, Ferdinand von. 1893. "Descriptions of New Australian Plants, with occasional other annotations; (continued) [*Atriplex lobativalve*; *Bassia longicuspis*; *Leucophyta lessingi*]." *The Victorian Naturalist* 9, 187–188.

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