to correspond with the stem; tube flabellate about 2 lines long, deeply corrugated; lobes about 40 lanceolate 3 lines long; corolla of normal colour companulate; tubes extending rather more than ½in. beyond the calyx-lobes, fringed by the numerous 40 to 50 rather curly lobes. Stamens, as many as corolla lobes, perfect normal, forming a close ring in the throat. Styles: one appearing to be normal, the others more or less adnate to each other in three bundles.

Bouvardia is a genus of Rubiaceæ, tribe Cinchenaæ. Its 20 to 30 known species are principally Mexican, and the rather numerous garden forms are great favourites with Australian florists.

"On Native Zinc in Queensland," by E. B. Lindon, A.R.S.M., etc.—Professor J. W. Dana, in his "System of Mineralogy," edition 1883, says that native zinc is "reported by G. Ulrich as having been found in a geode in basalt near Melbourne, and that the piece weighed 4½ oz., was incrusted with smithsonite, aragonite, and some cobalt bloom." Native zinc was "also said to occur in the gold sands of the Mittamitta River, north of Melbourne, along with topaz, corundum, &c.; a single piece, according to L. Becker, having been found which contained traces of cadmium and other metals. (L. Becker, in Trans. Phil. Inst., Victoria, 1856, and Jahrb. Min., 1857, 312, 698; G. Ulrich, in B. H. Ztg., XVIII., 63). It should be stated that the zinc said to come from the Melbourne basalt was found by a quarryman and not by a scientific observer, and that therefore there may be an error with regard to its actually having been taken from the basalt." Professor Dana then makes the pertinent remark that "the existence of native zinc seems still to need confirmation."

From Vol. XI., p. 234 of 3rd series of the American Journal of Science, I take the following note:—"*On the occurrence of Native Zinc.* (Letter to one of the Editors).—Mr. W. D. Marks, of Chattanooga, Tennessee, announces the occurrence of fragments of metallic zinc in the soil along the course of a vein intersecting the blue limestone of Sand Mountain, in the north-eastern corner of Alabama. The circumstance is supposed to indicate that the metal came originally from the adjoining rocks. Further than this, he states that pieces of metallic

zinc have been picked up along a range of thirty miles, over the Racoon Mountains, on the southern border of Tennessee, Sand Mountain, and the northern portion of Georgia and Alabama. The vein is now being explored, and Mr. Marks hopes to find the zinc in place."

This letter was written in 1876, and I have been unable to find any further remarks upon the subject bearing later dates, which fact lends itself to the conclusion that hitherto the occurrence of native zinc has been very doubtful. I think I am now in a position to prove that zinc does occur in the native state. The specimen on the table was brought in as a donation to the Queensland Museum some short time back by the Hon. B. B. Moreton, M.L.A.,who wished to know if the metal was silver. A very short examination before the blow-pipe showed me that it was zinc. The three fragments do not make sufficient amount to allow of my taking any for a complete analysis thereof, but I hope to do this at some later period when a larger specimen is obtained from the Gulf country, the locality where this was found. The metal is in irregularly fibrous masses, the colour of the fractural surface being white, and the streak the same colour; the hardness is 2, and the sp. gr. 7·52 at 62° F.; this is higher than the sp. gr. of manufactured zinc, which is from 6·9—7·2 according to the way in which it is cooled. The specimens are incrusted with a white substance which I find to be smithsonite, the carbonate of zinc.

As I have already remarked, I cannot be perfectly certain that native zinc has never been found before, but it assuredly is a new mineral for Queensland, and in either case is worthy of note. Native zinc can probably never be of commercial value, as it would require refining just as much as the zinc from other ores of the metal. The interest of the mineral from a scientific point of view, however, is not small.

I am given to understand that the specimens, the subject of this note, were not found in detached pieces, but formed part of a well-defined vein.

"On the Occurrence of Topaz in Association with Tin," by E. B. Lindon, A.R.S.M., etc.—Topaz, as everyone must be aware, is a very frequently and widely disseminated mineral in close conjunction with tin ore