NOTES ON THE GENERA *DARWINIA HOMORANTHUS* AND *RYLSTONEA* IN N. S. WALES, QUEENSLAND, AND SOUTH AUSTRALIA.

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DARWINIA.

THE genus *Darwinia* was founded by Rudge (Trans. Linn. Soc. XI, 299, (t. 22), 1815) the species *fascicularis* being the type of the genus. Schauer (Myrt. Xeroc., 1840) in his monograph of the tribe Chamælaucieæ of Myrtaceæ maintained two genera, enumerating all the western species under *Genetyllis* and the two eastern ones under *Darwinia*. He further states,

"That in *Genetyllis* the staminodia are equally distant from the sepaline and from the petaline stamens (those opposite the sepals and petals respectively) whilst in *Darwinia* they are nearer to the petaline ones, thus showing they belong to a different series from those of *Genetyllis*."

Bentham (B. Fl. iii, 6, 1866) set up two sections in the genus *Darwinia*, namely, *Genetyllis* with 18 species and *Schauermannia* with 7 species making a total of 25 species. In his key to the species, Bentham subdivided his section *Genetyllis* into three subsections, placing *D. fascicularis* and *D. taxifolia*, the two species with which we are chiefly concerned in this paper under subsection C, with the following definition of characters:—"Flowers in terminal heads or in the upper axils, the floral leaves or bracts not very different from the stem leaves."

The chief characters of the two species referred to above under this subsection are as follows:—

"Leaves mostly opposite, triquetrous or laterally flattened. Flowers 2 to 4 in the head. Petals ovate. Staminodia small and subulate."—*D. taxifolia.*

"Leaves semiterete. Flowers sessile or nearly so. Calyx 5-ribbed, smooth."—*D. fascicularis.*

Homoranthus.

The genus *Homoranthus* was established by A. Cunningham (in Schau. Myrt. Xeroc. 191, t. 3, 1840), on specimens collected on Islands of Moreton Bay, Queensland. In addition to *H. virgatus*, which is the type of the genus, Cunningham described another species under the name *flavescens*, from specimens collected in forest lands skirting Liverpool Plains and Molle's Rivulet below Wellington Valley. Bentham *l.c.*, united it with *H. virgatus*, saying that he could not discover any difference whatever between the two species.

Verticordia.

This genus was established by A. P. DeCandolle, who took up the species published under the name *Chamælaucium plumosa* by Desfontanes in Mem. Mus. Par. v, 42, t. 4, 1819. The specific name *plumosa*, should therefore, be the type of the genus, and not *V. Fontanesii* of DeCandolle, which was not published until 1828, vide DC., Prod. iii, 209, 1828.

Bentham established two sections for the species of this genus, namely, Sect. I. *Euverticordia* with the following characters:—

"Anthers nearly globular, opening in two almost dorsal pores; connective either small and inconspicuous or more or less thickened, or produced into a concave or hooded appendage concealing the pores. Ovules 2 or rarely 4 or 1, on a small or stalk-like placenta."

He also remarked "this section, with the anthers and ovary of *Darwinia* and *Homoranthus*, is only distinguished from them by the calyx." The section was divided into two subsections, namely, Subsection A.—"Calyx-tube narrow, 5-ribbed, glabrous; primary lobes 5, erect, each divided into 3 to 5 long, simple hair-like lobes."

Only one species was placed under this subsection by him namely, *Verticordia Wilhelmii* F.v.M., (Trans. Vict. Inst. p. 122, 1855), and he remarks that—

"This single species differs from all others of the genus in inflorescence and the shape of the calyx, and in its lobes forms an approach to those of *Homoranthus*"

In 1898, Maiden and Betche, (Proc. Linn. Soc. N.S.W., XXIII, 17) described a species from specimens collected at Dubbo, N.S.W., under the name of *Verticordia darwinioides*, drawing attention to the close affinity of their new species with *V. Wilhelmii* F.v.M., a Port Lincoln, South Australian species, with which it has the narrow calyx-tube in common, but stating that it forms a still closer connecting link between *Darwinia* and *Verticordia* than *V. Wilhelmii* does. They further state that "The general appearance of the plant is quite that of a *Darwinia*, an effect chiefly produced by the large persistent bracteoles, so uncommon in *Verticordia*, and by the comparatively inconspicuous fringes of the calyx-lobes, generally so very conspicuous in *Verticordia*. Although the paper containing the description of this new *Verticordia* was read in March 1898, Mr. R. T. Baker in November of the same year, submitted for publication in the same Journal a description of the same species as a proposed new genus.

Rylstonea.

R. T. Baker (Proc. Linn. Soc. N.S.W., XXIII, 768, 1898). Comparisons with cognate genera were given as follows:—

"Calyx cylindrical, lobes broad, entire or shortly ciliate, flowers in heads."—*Darwinia.*

"Calyx cylindrical, lobes 5, subulate, entire, flowers in heads." —*Homoranthus.*

"Calyx cylindrical, lobes 5 to 10 digitately divided, flowers nodding, not in heads."—*Rylstonea.*

"Calyx hemispherical, lobes 5 or 10 deeply divided into subulate plumose or hair-like processes, flowers in corymbose heads." —*Verticordia.*

Now if we carefully analyse the characters as given above, we must arrive at the conclusion that the plants placed in the genus *Rylstonea* are as already suggested by Maiden and Betche (*op. cit.*, XXIV, 645, 1899) "decidedly a connecting link between *Verticordia* and *Darwinia* (including *Homoranthus*)." It remains to be seen, however, if the "shape of the calyx and the calyx-lobes," characters upon which both Cunningham and Baker have founded the respective genera *Homoranthus* and *Rylstonea* are sufficiently strong to maintain them when carefully studied with the abundant material that has since been brought to light. Even Bentham[1] who had less material to work upon, doubted if *Homoranthus* of Cunningham could be maintained as a good genus, for we find he says :—

"*Homoranthus* A. Cunn., is a single species which has scarcely even the claims of *Actinodium* to be excluded from *Darwinia*, differing from the latter genus only in the subulate calyx-lobes. Its retention may, however, be justified as facilitating the distinction between *Darwinia* and *Verticordia*."

Then we have some remarks by Baillon ("Natural History of Plants," VI, 323, 1880), as follows:—

"Some species of *Darwinia* differ from *Chamælaucium* only in the form of their anthers, the latter being nearly globular and opening near their organic summit, that is above and without, by

[1] Jour. Linn. Soc. (Bot.) Vol. x, p. 129, (1869).

two pores more or less confluent within. The flowers are in terminal capitules and situated in the axil of narrow or often wide and coloured bracts, forming a petaloid involucre. The sepals are mutichous, sometimes glandular at the summit. *Actinodium* is a *Darwinia* with tetramerous diplastemous flowers and stamens not accompanied by sterile tongues. *Homoranthus* on the other hand, has these tongues in the intervals of its ten fertile stamens, for its flower is pentamerous and in other respects it is quite that of a *Darwinia*, but the sepals are attenuated at the summit to a long subulate point, as we shall find those of *Calythrix* are; and this character, which otherwise would be of the smallest importance has been thought sufficient here to distinguish this quite artificial genus."

Having given a brief summary of the characters on which the above mentioned genera were founded, we will now bring under notice three other species which appear to me to have characters very similar to those mentioned above, namely, *Darwinia Schuermanni* Benth., *(Schuermannia homoranthoides* F.v.M.*)* from Boston Point, Port Lincoln, S.A., *D. Thomasii* Benth., a Queensland plant, and *D. verticordina* Benth. The calyx-lobes of the two latter are described as " very shortly and irregularly denticulate-ciliate" and "minutely denticulate." In *D. Schuermanni* (which by the way is to be found in the same locality as *D. Wilhelmii*), the flowers are solitary in the upper axils, of short branchlets, on very short pedicels. It will thus be seen that, in addition to *D. Wilhelmii*, there are two other species which occur, in South Australia and Queensland respectively, and if geographical distribution is to be taken into consideration, this fact should be as important as the point made by Mr. Baker, in connection with *D. Wilhelmii*, viz:—"so far from the home (Western Australia) of *Verticordia.*" In establishing the genus *Rylstonea*, Mr. Baker states,[1]

[1] Proc. Linn. Soc. N.S.W., xxv, 664, (1900).

"It is on the shape of the calyx and the calyx-lobes that my genus is based,—characters upon which Cunningham founded the cognate genus of *Homoranthus*, and which determination was supported by Bentham and Hooker, in their 'Genera Plantarum,' and from these features alone I think I am justified just as much as Cunningham in establishing a new genus on my material."

Mr. Baker had apparently overlooked the statements of both Bentham-Hooker, and Baillon in connection with *Homoranthus*, which, as stated by them, was retained to facilitate the distinction between *Darwinia* and *Verticordia*. In *Verticordia* everything in the flower is equally that presented by *Darwinia*, but the sepals, usually 5 to 10 in number are cut up into rather long plumose or ciliate strips (except in *D. verticordina* and *V. Thomasii*), which as already explained, are very shortly and irregularly denticulate ciliate. The flowers are also accompanied with two lateral bracteoles which are comparatively wide, rounded concave and imbricate in such a manner as to form around the bud a complete accessory envelope; these are very caducous.

The anthers in both *Verticordia* and *Darwinia* are practically the same, being more or less globose opening in two almost dorsal pores in the former and in the latter terminal pores or short slits. The ovary and ovules appear to be very variable, as in general the ovary is 1-celled, in all the genera under consideration, but the ovules are said to be 2, 3, and 4 in *Darwinia*, 4 in *Homoranthus*, 2 or 4 on a central excentric placenta, or about 8 or 10 on a more or less peltate placenta in *Verticordia*. It is interesting to note that the ovary and ovules of *Rylstonea cernua* are practically the same as those of *Verticordia* as the following particulars will show, as given in Mr. Baker's description of *Rylstonea*, namely, "Ovary 1-celled, about 8 ovules on a peltate central placenta, with two processes at the

summit." Maiden and Betche in describing *Verticordia darwinioides* state that the ovary is 1-celled wih 2 ovules. Then we have *Darwinia Thomasii* with 6 ovules. Thus it will be seen that the stamens and staminodia, together with the anthers and their cells and openings, as well as the calyx-tube and the lobes with their digitately-plumose, fringed, ciliate or denticulate margins, are extremely variable in the different genera, and as yet there appears to be no distinct line of cleavage in the number of ovules of the different genera as defined above. In view of this I propose to submit the following descriptive key, which embraces those species found in New South Wales, Queensland, Victoria, and South Australia, and which are best retained in two genera, namely *Darwinia* and *Homoranthus*.

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Key to the species of *Darwinia* and *Homoranthus* in Queensland, New South Wales, Victoria and South Australia.

DARWINIA, Rudge.

(*Section Genetyllis* Benth.)

A—Calyx-tube narrow, ribbed, the calyx-lobes entire or very minutely ciliate or denticulate, not exceeding half the length of the petals and often very minute.

(a) Leaves semiterete, crowded. Flowers sessile or nearly so. *D. fascicularis.*

(b) Leaves triquetrous, or laterally flattened, mostly opposite and bifarius. Leaves 15—20 mm. long. Flowers sessile, about 8 mm. long, usually 4 together in terminal heads. Bracts broad, truncate. *D. grandiflora.*

Leaves 6—8 mm. long. Flowers sessile, about 5 mm. long. Bracts mucronate-acute, slightly longer than the flowers. *D. taxifolia.*

Flowers sessile, usually only 2 in the axils of the upper leaves, 7 mm. long. Bracts obtuse about as long as the flowers. *D. taxifolia* var. *biflora.*

(c) Leaves rather crowded, not bifarius but more or less triquetrous. Flowers 4—5 mm. long. Bracts two-thirds as long as the flowers.
D. taxifolia var. *intermedia.*

(*Section Schuermannia* F.v.M.)

B—Calyx-tube narrow ribbed, the calyx-lobes entire, as long as the petals or longer.

(a) Flowers few in the upper axils. Leaves linear-triquetrous. Flowers very shortly pedicellate.
D. Schuermanni.

Leaves obovate. Flowers on rather long pedicels.
D. Thomasii.

(b) Flowers several together, in small compound nearly globular heads. *D. micropetala.*

HOMORANTHUS A. Cunn.

(A)—Calyx-tube narrow, ribbed, the calyx-lobes attenuated at the summit to a solitary hair-like point.

Leaves semi-terete, greenish, not crowded. Flowers and bracts reddish. *H. virgata.*

Leaves more or less linear-triquetrous and falcate, crowded. Flowers and bracts yellow.
H. flavescens.

(B)—Calyx-tube narrow, ribbed, the calyx-lobes digitately divided into 3 to 5 or more hair-like divisions.

Flowers two together on a common peduncle.
H. darwinioides.

Flowers numerous, in umbel-like corymbs.
H. Wilhelmii.

Darwinia fascicularis Rudge in Trans. Linn. Soc., XI, 299, [t. 22](1815); Schauer. Myrt. Xeroc. I, 188; 2, D.(1840); Walp. Repert. ii, 153 (1843); Benth., Journ. Linn. Soc. (Bot.) IX, 176, (1865); B.Fl. iii, 13, (1866); Baker and Smith

this Journ., XXXIII, 163 (1899); *Cryptostemon ericœus* F.v.M., in Miq. Nederl. Kruidk. Archief. IV, 115 (1856); *Francisia* of Endl., which, according to Bentham, (Journ. Linn. Soc., (Bot.) X, 128 (1869) was founded on a drawing of Bauer's of the original *D. fascicularis.*

The original specimens on which the species *fascicularis* the type of the genus *Darwinia* was founded, were collected in the Port Jackson district. The description, together with the figure, enables one without any difficulty to identify the plant, which is fairly common in the sandstone country around the coast. The only locality given by Bentham *l.c.*, is Port Jackson, but, as shown by Messrs. Baker and Smith, *l.c.*, it has a much wider range. Haviland, (Journ. Linn. Soc. N.S,W., 2nd Series, i, 65 and 1050, 1886), has made reference to its flowering period, Dr. S. J. Johnston (*ib.* XXXV, 424, 1910) has referred to it as representing a Jordanian Geminate species. A. G. Hamilton and Miss Brewster, in the same journal XXXIX, 152, 1914 and XL, 753, 1915 respectively, have referred to the xerophitic and proterandrous characters. It has also been listed by Dr. J. M. Petrie (*ibid*, XXXVII, 226, 1912) with other plants as having no positive results when tested for hydrocyanic acid. In the National Herbarium, Sydney, specimens are represented from the following definite localities: Middle Harbour, J. H. Camfield; Kurnell, J. L. Boorman; Cronulla, A. A. Hamilton and E. Cheel; Loftus, J. H. Camfield; Asquith, Wahroonga, and Hornsby, W.F. Blakely; Woodford, A. A. Hamilton; and Wentworth Falls J. H. Maiden.

Darwinia taxifolia A. Cunn. in Fields' "Geographical Memoirs on New South Wales," 325 (1825); B. Fl., iii, 12, (1866) in part; A. G. Hamilton, Journ. Linn. Soc. N.S.W., XXIV, 358, and A. A. Hamilton, *ibid.*, XL, 398, 1915. The following is a copy of the original description:—"Foliis

linearibus falcatis mucronatis sparsis. Rocky declivities on the Blue Mountains." In Don's "Dichlamydeous Plants," ii, 812 (1832), it is again referred to and described as a decumbent shrub, leaves acinaciform, style shorter than the flower. Calyx white."

Then we have *D. laxiflora* J. S. Schauer, Myrt. Xeroc., 190 (1840). In the latter work it is described as follows:— "Foll. falcatis acinaciformib. laxe fasciculatis; style exserta parte flore breviore."[1] B. Fl., iii, 12 (1866) includes *D. laxiflora* Schau. as a synonym, and states that Schauer was mistaken in supposing that A. Cunningham's specific name of *taxifolia* was a misprint; it was intended to allude to the peculiar bifarius arrangement of the leaves in luxuriant plants." It will be seen from the above that the type specimens of *taxifolia* were collected on the Blue Mountains, but whether all the specimens of Don or Schauer belong to *taxifolia* of Cunningham, is very questionable, as in Don's work, *l.c.*, it is mentioned as "a decumbent shrub," and in Schauer's work, *l.c.*, the leaves are said to be "laxe fasciculatis," or loosely fascicled.

Having examined a large amount of material both in the field as well as the abundant collections in the Herbarium, from a fairly wide range of country, I am inclined to believe that the descriptions given above as well as that given by Bentham, are of a composite character, as the material in the herbarium may be divided into three if not four distinct varieties. Allan Cunningham evidently thought there were three species in New South Wales, as we find that he proposed the name *D. intermedia* (vide Schauer in Nov. Act. Nat. Cur. XIX, Suppl. ii, 190 (1840) and Walp., Repert. ii, 154 (1843). In the latter work, however, it is included

[1] Schauer also gives a fuller description which seems to be of a composite nature so as to include both *D. taxifolia* and *D. intermedia* of Cunningham.

as a synonym of *D. laxiflora* (which as mentioned above was mistaken as a misprint), but curiously enough Nova Hollandia occidentalis is given as the habitat. In Index Kewensis *D. intermedia* A. Cunn. is given as a synonym of *D. taxifolia* A. Cunn.

Cunningham's *D. intermedia* is a New South Wales plant and I have endeavoured to define the Blue Mountain plants from the Port Jackson forms in the following way:—

D. taxifolia A. Cunn. *typica.*

Usually more or less upright or spreading shrubs. Leaves falcate with mucronate tips and distinctly but minutely petiolate. Flowers 5 mm. long, white, pink, or occasionally tinged green, usually 4 together in the axils of the upper leaves, supported by two bracts which are of a reddish colour. Bracts 6 to 7 mm. long, equal in length or slightly exceeding the flowers, with scarious margins, having a prominent nerve through the centre, ending in a distinct soft mucronate-like point. Calyx tube 5 to 6 mm. long, with 5 distinct ribs, rugulose between the ribs in the lower part, and comparatively smooth upwards, with petal-like lobes. Petals scarcely distinguishable from the calyx-tube. Anthers 10, alternating with minute subulate staminodia.

Distribution as follows:—Clyde W. Baeuerlen; Jervis Bay, J. H. Maiden; Bowen Island, Dr. F. A. Rodway; Katoomba, W. Forsyth; Blackheath, R. H. Cambage (No. 1208); Mount Wilson, J. Gregson.

Darwinia taxifolia A. Cunn. var. *biflora* nov. var.

D. taxifoliæ similis sed floribus solum duobus.

The plants which I propose to record under the above varietal name are very similar to the typical *D. taxifolia* from the Blue Mountains, but the flowers are slightly larger, the bracts obtuse, and not longer than the flowers, and only two together on the tips of the branches instead of four as in the typical form. Specimens in the National

Herbarium, Sydney, which may be referred to this variety are from the following localities:—Beecroft, E. G. Jacobs; Hornsby, W. F. Blakely and D. W. Shiress; Peats Ferry Road, H. Deane; Tumble-down Dick, W. F. Blakely; Cowan A. A. Hamilton, J. L. Boorman, and R. H. Anderson. There are also specimens from Linden to Woodford, Mr. A. A. Hamilton, which seem to belong to this variety rather than the typical *taxifolia*.

D. taxifolia A. Cunn. var. *grandiflora* Benth. B.Fl. iii, 12.

Through the kindness of W. Laidlaw, B.Sc., and Mr. J. R. Tovey of the National Herbarium, Melbourne, I have been able to examine the original specimen of the above variety collected in the Illawarra district. We have in the National Herbarium specimens from West Dapto, R. H. Cambage, and Cataract Dam, J. H. Maiden, which are identical with the specimen recorded by Bentham, *l.c.* Cataract River, J. H. Maiden and E. Cheel; West Dapto, R. H. Cambage (No. 415); Mooney Creek, Gosford, Miss Brewster. The Cataract River specimens collected by Mr. Maiden have rather larger flowers of a rich purple colour and a longer style (10 mm. long) than the other collections, and may be the var. *grandiflora* of Bentham.

Darwinia taxifolia A. Cunn., var. *intermedia*. Syn. *D. intermedia* A. Cunn. ex Schauer in Nov. Act. Cur., XIX, Suppl. ii, p. 190 (1840); *D. taxifolia* Baker and Smith, this Journ, XXXIII, 163 (1899) non A. Cunn.

Ramis decumbentibus. Foliis linearibus falcatis acininformis triquetris apice mucronatis, densissime congesti apicibus ramis vel plus minus fasciculatis. Flores terminales sex.

The habit of this plant is quite distinct from the typical *D. taxifolia* common in the Blue Mountains as will be seen from the following description. The leaves are similar in shape but are more congested, especially towards the tips

of the numerous branchlets, and are not so distinctly opposite or as bifarious as in the typical *D. taxifolius* or the var. *biflora*. The bracts are also shorter than the flowers whereas in all other forms they are equal in length or slightly exceed the flowers.

Diffuse or decumbent shrub, branches rarely more than two to three feet long, the branchlets being more or less shortened and crowded. Leaves crowded, more or less fascicled, and not so distinctly opposite as in *taxifolia* and *grandiflora*, falcate and distinctly triquetrous, acute but not mucronate as in *D. taxifolia;* the petiole less distinct, the base decurrent on the branches and uniform in colour with the articulation.

Flowers usually 6, crowded together at the extremity of the branchlets in the axils of the leaves. Bracteoles acutely keeled, 4 mm. long, two-thirds as long as the flowers; calyx 5 – 6 mm. long, with five prominent ribs, slightly rugose between the ribs in the lower part, the lobes orbicular, petaloid, slightly ciliate. Petals scarcely distinguishable from the calyx-lobes.

Anthers 10, with distinct but minute filaments, alternating with minute subulate staminodia.

Style protruding beyond the apex of the corolla about 5 – 6 mm. and in this respect slightly exceeding that of *D. taxifolia*.

Specimens in the National Herbarium are from the following localities:—Botany swamps and Coogee, E. Betche; Centennial Park, W. Forsyth and E. Cheel; Loftus, J. H. Camfield and A. A. Hamilton; Heathcote, A. A. Hamilton and E. Cheel; Cronulla, E. Cheel.

Darwinia grandiflora Baker and Smith, this Journal, L, 181, 1916; *D. taxifolia* var. *grandiflora* Baker and Smith, *ibid.*, XXXIII, 164, 1899, and Cheel, Proc. Linn. Soc. N.S.W., XXXVII, 393, 1912.

This species was originally referred to by Messrs. Baker and Smith who state that "it occurs in a very luxuriant

form at Berowra." In 1912, a note was published by myself, *l.c.*, stating that the plants were "upright shrubs from four to seven feet high." It is more fully described by these gentlemen from plants collected from the same locality as those collected by Dr. J. B. Cleland and myself and recorded as above. The localities are as follows:— Berowra, A. A. Hamilton; W. F. Blakely and D. W. C. Shiress; Hawkesbury River, opposite Milson Island, E. Cheel and Dr. J. B. Cleland. Specimens from the same locality collected for and distilled by Messrs. Baker and Smith; Cowan, W. M. Carne and W. F. Blakely.

Homoranthus A. Cunn.

H. virgatus A. Cunn. ex Schau. Linnæa, x, 310 (1835); Monog. Myrt. Xeroc. Sectio I, 193, tab. 3 A. (1840); Walp. Repert. ii, 154 (1843) et v, 729 (1845-6); B. Fl., iii, 16 (1866); *Enosanthes virgatus* A. Cunn. in Nov. Act. Nat. Cur. XIX, Suppl. ii, 193 (1840); *Darwinia virgata* F.v.M., Fragm. IX, 176 (1875); Key to Syst. Vict. Pl. i, 259 (1887).

The descriptions of both Mueller and Bentham are composite, to include the two species, but from my own observations in the field in the neighbourhood of Broadwater, Richmond River, N.S.W., and examination of material in the National Herbarium, this species may be described as follows:—

Slender upright virgate shrubs about four feet high. Leaves opposite, semiterete, about 1 cm. long, not crowded, the oil glands not so prominent and the colour less glaucous or of a more greenish colour than in *H. flavescens*. Flowers solitary in the axils of the leaves along the upper parts of the branches, but not crowded. Style short.

Distribution:—The localities Richmond River, Cape Byron and Moreton Island mentioned by Mueller (Fragm. IX, 176) and Islands of Moreton Bay, and probably also Cape Brown, mentioned by Bentham (B. Fl. iii, 16) are districts in which this species is

usually found, and to the above specimens in the National Herbarium, Sydney, are represented as follows:—Wardell, Richmond River, E. Betche and Rev. W. W. Watts; Byron Bay, W. Forsyth; East Ballina, W. Baeuerlen (No. 458) and Rev. W. W. Watts; Broadwater, Richmond River, E. Cheel; Tweed River, W. Forsyth; Coffs Harbour, J. L. Boorman; Stradbroke Island, Queensland, C. T. White. I have not seen the specimens collected at Mudgee by Woolls (F.v.M., Fragm. IX, 176), and suggest that they probably belong to *H. flavescens*.

H. flavescens A. Cunn. ex Schau. in Linnæa x, 310 (1835); Myrt. Xeroca. i, 192, t. 3 B. (1840); Walp., Repert. ii, 154 (1843); B. Fl. iii, (1866); *Enosanthes flavescens* A. Cunn. ex Schau., Nov. Act. Acad. Cæsar. Leop. Carol. XIX, Suppl. ii, 192, t. 3 (1840).

The following is a description given by Walpers, *l.c.*, "Ramis decumbentib.; foll. incurvis fasciculato-confertis claviculata acerosis, a lateribus compressis."

This is united with *H. virgatus* as a synonym by Bentham *l.c.*, and Mueller *l.c.*, but the decumbent habit and crowded leaves and other characters seem to me to render it sufficiently distinct, to regard it as a distinct species. From the collector's notes and abundant herbarium material it may be described as follows:—

A low decumbent shrub usually attaining a height of about 1½ feet, but spreading several feet on the ground. Leaves slightly shorter than those of *H. virgata* and more or less linear-triquetrous falcate, crowded, especially on the short branchlets; oil-glands very prominent, the whole aspect of the plant being of a glaucous or silvery appearance. Flowers on very short but distinct pedicels, crowded towards the tips of the branchlets in the axil of the leaves. Sepals and petals similar in shape and size, but of a yellowish colour and more viscid, and the style longer than those of *H. virgata*.

Distribution, Northern Half of New South Wales. Forest lands skirting Liverpool Plains and Molle's Rivulet below Wellington Valley, A. Cunningham; and to the above, specimens from the following localities may be added:— Coonabarabran, Rev. M. Curran and W. McDonald; Timor Rock, J. L. Boorman; Quirindi, W. McDonald; Cubbo to Wongan and Bohena Creek to Boggabri, Dr. H. I. Jensen (Nos. 53 and 55); Pilliga, Forester E. H. Swain and W. A. de Beuzeville; Currabubula, R. H. Cambage (No. 3561), Narrabri West and Nandewar Range, J. L. Boorman and G. Burrow; Howell, J. H. Maiden and J. L. Boorman; described as "Prostrate, silver-leaved and secund, on faces of bare rocks, sometimes spreading to 20 feet;" and recorded in Journ. Linn. Soc. N.S.W., XXXI, 68 (1906) as *Darwinia taxifolia*. Inverell, H. Deane and J. L. Boorman.

Homoranthus darwinioides nov. comb.

Verticordia darwinioides Maiden and Betche, Journ. Linn. Soc. N.S.W., XXIII, 17, 1898; *Rylstonea cernua* R. T. Baker, *ib.*, 768. Dubbo, J. L. Boorman; Mount Corricudgy, R. T. Baker.

Homoranthus Wilhelmii nov. comb.

Verticordia Wilhelmii F.v.M., in Trans. Vict. Inst. 122 (1855); B. Fl., iii, 19, (1866), Boston Point, Port Lincoln, S.A., C. Wilhelmi and W. Gill.