BRIEF REMARKS ON SOME RARE TASMANIAN PLANTS.

By Baron Von Mueller, K.C.M.G., M.D., Ph. D., F.R.S.

Coprosma Petriei, Cheeseman in the transact. of the N.Z. Institute, XVIII., 316 (1886).

Under this name I wish to bring under notice what appears to be a new Tasmanian Coprosma, lately found as of rare occurrence by Mr. T. B. Moore on the highlands east of Mount Tyndall. It has the same very depressed matted growth as C. repens (C. pumila), also very small leaves and terminal small-sized fruits. But the leaves in all the specimens received are decidedly pointed, indeed ovate-lanceolar, and the fruit is beautifully blue outside, a characteristic which separates this species from all other Australian kinds, and which is not likely subject to variation. Mr. Thomas Cheeseman in his excellent review of the 31 New Zealandian species of this genus distinguished by him, mentions two as having fruits blueish outside, namely C. parviflora and C. acerosa, the former otherwise very different from our plant, the latter of much larger size, with puberulous branchlets and longer but narrower leaves. Nevertheless C. Petriei is described as varying in the outside colour of the fruit, red in the Nelson, blue in the Otago province, but possibly two species became thus confused, in which regard already some indications are given in the transact. of the N.Z. Inst. XIX., 251 and 252. As the flowers of this plant are not yet known, it remains for some future opportunity to confirm the differences existing in this respect between C. repens and C. The fruits are globular or verging into an oval form; so far as seen on this occasion they ripen only one, rarely two seeds. The embryo is only half as long as the albument. Should the Tasmanian plant, after the flowers have become known, prove a peculiar species, then such ought to be distinguished under the finder's name. Panax Gunnii—

The fruit of this rare shrub was also for the first time obtained for me by Mr. T. B. Moore, who gathered it in deep shady gorges at Mount Lyell, on the Canyon River, the Franklin River and on a tributary of the Pieman's River. It is succulent, about \(\frac{1}{3}\)-inch broad, renate-roundish, turgid, black outside, at the summit five-denticulated and impressed, so that the styles are hardly visible; the two nutlets inside

are oblique-ovate or demidiate-roundish, about \(\frac{1}{6}\)-inch long, rather turgid, exteriorly grey-brown and nearly smooth. This plant seems to bear flowers already, when only 6in. high, and never to exceed 4ft. in height, unless perhaps in cultivation.

Styphelia Milligani-

Under this appellation occurs the Pentachondra verticillata in the second systematic Census of Australian Plants p. 178, in anticipation of the fruit proving that of a Styphelia (or Leucopogon), a surmise fully borne out by specimens sent by Mr. Moore from the highlands of Mount Read and Mount Tyndall, where also a small form of Acacia mucronata is growing at elevations between 3,600ft. and 3,900ft. fruit, as now seen, is only of about \frac{1}{8}-inch measurement, nearly globular; its pericarp is very thin and outside white; the putamen is five-celled. Possibly the fruit obtained may be over-aged. Until now the plant was only known from Dr. Milligan's collection. It is from 6in. to 18in. high, but as it is many-branched from the root, Mr. Moore saw individual plants covering a breadth of 2ft. When out of flower this plant calls to mind, as regards its aspect, some Pultenæas.

It may here not be inappropriate to remark that since Sir Joseph Hooker finished, in 1860, his superb work on Tasmanian plants, the following were by me brought under notice as additional among vasculares (they coming within the scope of my own researches) as the Tasmanian flora could not be kept apart in treating that of Continental Australia, some few only emanating from other collections:—

Papaver aculeatum, Thunberg. Cakile maritima, Scopoli. Pittosporum undulatum, Andrews. Comesperma defoliatum, F. v. M. Elæocarpus reticulatus, Smith. Pseudanthus ovalifolius, F. v. M. Euphorbia Drummondi, Boissier. Casuarina bicuspidata, Bentham. Zieria cytisoides, Smith. Zieria veronicea, F. v. M. Eriostemon Oldfieldi, F. v. M. Atriplex paludosum, R. Brown. Polygonum lapathifolium, Linné. Acacia penninervis, Sieber. (Recorded as a variety Acæna montana, J. Hooker. in the Fl. Tasm.) Pimelea Milligani, Meissner. Pimelea stricta, Meissner.

Pimelea axiflora, F. v. M.

Pimelea serpillifolia, R. Brown. Eucalyptus Sieberiana, F. v. M. Eucalyptus Stuartiana, F. v. M. Panax sambucifolius, Sieber. Hakea ulicina, R. Brown. Hakea nodosa, R. Brown. Coprosma Petriei, Cheeseman. Cotula filifolia, Thunberg. Calocephalus citreus, Lessing. Cassinia longifolia, R. Brown. Podosperma angustifolium, Labillardiere. Ixiolæna supina, F. v. M. Leptorrhynchus nitidulus, De Candolle. Helichrysum Spiceri, F. v. M. Helichrysum Gravesii, F. v. M. Anaphalis Meredithæ, F. v. M. Lobelia platycalyx, F. v. M. Lobelia rhombifolia, De Vriese. Lobelia Browniana, Roemer and Schultes. Lobelia microsperma, F. v. M. Lobelia pratioides, Bentham. Leeuwenhoekia dubia, Sonder. Donatia Novæ Zelandiæ, J. Hooker. Scævola æmula, R. Brown. Scævola microcarpa, Cavanilles. Goodenia barbata, R. Brown. Styphelia elliptica, Smith. Styphelia scoparia, Smith. Solanum vescum, F. v. M. Veronica plebeja, R. Brown. Veronica notabilis, F. v. M. Westringia rosmariniformis, Smith. Verbena officinalis, Linné. Myoporum parvifolium, R. Brown. Prasophyllum nigricans, R. Brown. Pterostylis vittata, Lindley. Orthoceras strictum, R. Brown. Caladenia suaveolens, G. Reichenbach. Thismia Rodwayi, F. v. M. Milligania Johnstoni, F. v. M. Potamogeton perfoliatus, Linné. Potamogeton Cheesemani, A. Bennett. Potamogeton pectinatus, Linné. Zostera nana, Mertens and Roth. Lepyrodia Muelleri, Bentham. Calostrophus elongatus, F. v. M. Scheenus Tepperi, F. v. M. (or a closely allied

species.) Heleocharis acicularis, R. Brown. Gahnia Radula, F. v. M.
Carex tereticaulis, F. v. M.
Carex Bichenoviana, Boott.
Sporobolus Virginicus, Kunth.
Agrostis frigida, F. v. M.
Agrostis Gunniana, F. v. M.
Zoysia pungens, Willdenow.
Imperata arundinacea, Cyrillo.
Cyathea Cunninghami, J. Hooker.
Blechnum cartilagineum, Swartz.
Asplenium Hookerianum, Colenso.
Aspidum hispidum, Swartz.

Hymenophyllum marginatum, Hooker and Greville.

Hymenophyllum Malingi, J. Hooker.

In the concluding pages of the "Flora Tasmaniæ" were already inserted solely from Melbourne communications as additional.

Kennedya monophylla, Ventenat.
Geum renifolium, F. v. M.
Aciphylla procumbens, F. v. M.
Leptomeria glomerata, F. v. M.
Abrotanella scapigera, F. v. M.
Senecio primulifolius, F. v. M.
Senecio papillosus, F. v. M.
Dracophyllum minimum, F. v. M.
Sebæa albidiflora, F. v. M.
Limnanthemum exigeum, F. v. M.
Dendrobium striolatum, G. Reichenbach.
Selaginella Preissianum, Spring.



Mueller, Ferdinand von. 1891. "Brief Remarks on Some Rare Tasmanian Plants." *Papers and proceedings of the Royal Society of Tasmania* 14–17.

View This Item Online: https://www.biodiversitylibrary.org/item/38550

Permalink: https://www.biodiversitylibrary.org/partpdf/335068

Holding Institution

American Museum of Natural History Library

Sponsored by

Biodiversity Heritage Library

Copyright & Reuse

Copyright Status: NOT_IN_COPYRIGHT

This document was created from content at the **Biodiversity Heritage Library**, the world's largest open access digital library for biodiversity literature and archives. Visit BHL at https://www.biodiversitylibrary.org.