

Neue Litteratur.*)

Algen.

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Rennie, H. and Goyder, G., The resins of *Ficus rubiginosa* and *F. macrophylla*. (Journal of the Chemical Society of London. LI. 1892.)

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Brown, N. E., *Aglaonema rotundum* N. E. Br., n. sp. (l. c. XIV. p. 86.)

— —, *Caladium rubescens* n. sp. (l. c.)

Douglas, J., *Dendrobium Dalhousieianum* and allied species. (l. c. p. 33.)

Franchet, A., Sur quelques nouveaux *Strophantus* de l'herbier du Muséum de Paris. (Journal de Botanique. VII. 1893. p. 297.)

Greene, Edward L., Vegetation of Mount Diablo. (Erythea. I. 1893. p. 166.)

Harvey, J. C., Southern Californian notes. (The Gardeners Chronicle. XIII. 1893. p. 739.)

Hemsley, W. Botting, *Dorstenia Walleri* n. sp. (l. c. XIV. p. 178.)

— —, *Dipladema eximia* n. sp. (l. c. p. 120.)

Kränzlin, F., *Caelogyne Clarkei* Kränzl. (l. c. XIII. p. 741.)

— —, *Polystachya Lawrenceana* Kränzl. (l. c. XIV. p. 150.)

— —, *Epidendrum Wendlandianum* n. sp. (l. c. p. 58.)

Mueller, Ferdinand, Baron von and Tate, R., Elder ex Diagnoses of new plants.

(Read 6. December 1892.)

Plagianthus Helmsii F. v. M. and Tate.

Stem robust, branchless or few-branched, all over closely beset with fascicles of minute, mostly oval-lanceolar pale-lepidote, somewhat canalliculate leaves; stipules conspicuous, truncate or outward acuminate, ciliolate, adnate to the broad petioles; flowers very small, each solitary, sessile within a leaf-fascicle; calyx lepidote, almost semiellipsoid, but its lobes extremely short; petals delicately-membranous, glabrous, extensively-transparent, almost colourless or brownish towards the summit, less than

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half-exserted; staminal column very short, anthers whitish, not numerous (pistillate flowers and their fruits unknown).

At Lake Lefroy; R. Helms. This shares with *P. microphyllus* in the characteristics of leaves and flowers, but with *P. spicatus* in the simple manner of growth. The leaves are quite entire, often folded from the sides inward, and sometimes archedcur ved.

Chloanthes coerulea F. v. M. and Tate.

Leaves much crowded, and often ternately or quaternately verticillate, sessile, broad-linear, revolute at the margin, above scantily lanuginous and somewhat rugulose, beneath as well as the branches white-tomentose; flowers blue in a contracted leafy panicle; lower bracts foliaceous; calyx small, deeply cleft into narrow semi-lanceolate lobes, stellately-tomentellous outside; corolla wider than long, deeply-lobed, its tube broad, outside intricately-pubescent, inside glabrous, the lowest lobe the largest; stamens considerably shorter than the corolla, their filaments rather thick, glabrous to the base; anthers unprovided with appendages; fruit quite small, globular, black, pitted or irregularly reticulate-ridged, with a very narrow basal cavity seceding into its four petitions, each one seeded.

Near Gnarbine, Helms; also near Parker's Range, Edwin Merrill.

Well-developed leaves about one inch long, seldom more than one-eighth inch broad, mostly erect. Lower bracts to one-half inch long. Inflorescence two to five inches long, terminating branchlets. Calyx one-eighth to one-sixth inch long. Corolla deep-blue et least towards the base, measuring about half an inch diametrically; filaments yellowish, fixed near the base of the corolla, attenuated towards their lower end. Anthers dorsifixed, yellow, when expanded roundish style, one-quarter inch long, capillary, glabrous. Stigma very minute, acutely bilobed. Fruit measuring only one-eighth inch. Nearest to *C. halganiaceae*.

Banksia Elderiana F. v. M. and Tate.

Branchlets grey-tomentellous; leaves on short petioles, rigid, much elongated, but rather narrow, flat, serrate-pinnatifid, on their upper side the venulation concealed, on their lower side faintly reticulated, the foveoles there slightly whitish-tomentellous; lobes of the leaves semicuneate-deltoid; inflorescence ovate-ellipsoid; petals very narrow, outside to about the middle almost sericeous, their upper portion glabrous or glabrescent, canaliculate-linear, blunt; anthers quite narrow; style only towards its base beset with short hairlets; fruitlets densely pubescent at their lower portion, glabrescent towards the somewhat acutangular summit; seeds cuneate-deltoid, terminated by a membranous appendage quite as long and considerably broader.

Victoria Desert; R. Helms.

Well-developed leaves seven to ten inches long, hardly ever exceeding half-inch in breadth, almost of equal colour on both sides; downward gradually narrowed, also upwards less broad than near the middle. Flowers only seen as remnants among the fruitlets, thus the colour unascertainable; the styles all broken, so that no stigma remained. United mass of fruitlets four to five inches long; individual fruitlets two-thirds to nearly one inch broad. Seeds-testule and its appendicular protraction black. Bears some comparison to *B. laevigata*, though the leaves are much longer and not truncate, besides having far longer lobes, while also the indument of the petals is very different. From *B. media* it is similarly distinguished, as mentioned above, by the form of the leaves, which moreover are not much paler underneath, but the characteristics of the petals is almost the same. What Sir Joseph Banks for material support has been to the science of Britain at his time, that Sir Thomas Elder has been in promoting scientific knowledge for South Australia at our period; hence this plant is chosen to connect his honoured name with that of the British Maecenas in a genus, which was named already by Linnaeus, the son.

This species seems to form the eastern outposts of the vast mass of western Banksias, and may be still more limited in its range than *B. ornata*. The celebrated and very venerable Edw. J. Eyre (Journ. of

Discovery Expedit.. II., 14) met the first western *Banksia*, perhaps *B. media*, at Point Dover; therefore, still a degree further east than the longitude in which *B. Elderiana* appeared. *B. marginata* does not seem to penetrate westward beyond Marble Range, 30 miles N. W. from Port Lincoln.

Mueller, Ferdinand, Baron von, Descriptions of new Australian plants, with occasional annotations. [Continued.] (Extra print from the Victorian Naturalist, July, 1893.)

Acacia Rossei.

Glabrous, but somewhat glutinous; phyllodes crowded yet scattered, rather short, linear, curvedly short-pointed, slightly verrucular-rough, almost doubly thickened along the median line; stipules comparatively long, capillary- or linear-setaceous; headlets of flowers on corymbously crowded stalks of evidently greater length, placed between stipules and diminutive leaves; bracts broadish below, thence gradually much pointed, sessile or stipitate; segments of the calyx five, linear-spoonshaped, about half as long as the corolla, separated to their base; fruits compressed, elongate-elliptic, their valves hard, outside densely beset with dark-brown membranous crisped excrescences; seeds placed transversely.

In the interior of South-Western Australia; communicated by Mr. W. Webb.

Branchlets mostly elongated, somewhat verrucular-rough, long retaining the stipules, the latter reminding of some such plants as *Pultenaeas*. Seeds not obtained, but from the shallow cavities on the inner side of the valves their position could not have been longitudinal. When the tricentennial jubilee of the Dublin-University took place some months ago, the honour was shown to the writer of sending to him an invitation for sharing in that significant festival; thus a wish then arose, now fulfilled, to connect in commemoration of that scientific event the name of the illustrious Chancellor of that venerable seat of learning, the Earl of Rosse, K P., with some rare member of the Australian floral world for a perpetual living record also here of the astronomic renown, which his Lordship inherited and so brilliantly sustains, and also to pay some homage to the great services in the cause of the principal Irish University by both these great astronomers. No other of fully 300 species of Australian Acacias has the almost lamellar cuticular desquamation of the outer side of the fruitvalves; otherwise our new one stands systematically nearest to *A. Bynoeana* and *A. conferta*; but the former has more spreading and less quadrangular phyllodes, almost sessile headlets, short-lobed calyces and curved narrow fruits, while the last mentioned species shows shorter flatter as well as proportionately broader phyllodes of greater breadth; moreover yonder both belong to other geographic regions, and neither of the two has conspicuous stipules, in which respect *A. Rossei* approaches *A. cedroides*.

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Zeitschrift/Journal: [Botanisches Centralblatt](#)

Jahr/Year: 1893

Band/Volume: [55](#)

Autor(en)/Author(s): Uhlworm Oscar

Artikel/Article: [Neue Litteratur. *â¼ 316-319](#)