

# Botanisches Centralblatt.

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von

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Die Redaction.

## Wissenschaftliche Original-Mittheilungen.\*)

### Notes on Botanical Collections.

By

**Baron Ferdinand v. Mueller.**

*Quercus D'Albertisii* is now known to extend to mount Dayman; it occurs also on the Astrolabe Range, and near the Aroa and Aird River. Specimens of Forbes' collection (N. 300 and 527) seem also to belong to this species. Irrespective to the affinity of this Oak to *Q. Pseudo-Molucca* as originally pointed out, it comes also near *Q. Euyckii* Korthals, *Q. pallida* Blume, *Q. cyrtorrhyncha* and *Q. Diepenhorstii* Miquel, *Q. Wenzigiana* and *Q. monticola* King. The flowers are still unknown. The leaves bear also much resemblance to those of *Q. pallida* Blume; they are on the surface almost glabrous. *Q. Gulliverii* seems a mere variety. Dr. King

\*) Für den Inhalt der Originalartikel sind die Herren Verfasser allein verantwortlich.

Red.

from Beccari's collection records the *Q. Lamponga* Miquel, also from New Guinea in his extensive and elaborate work, "The Indo-Malayan Species of *Quercus*," page 53, Plate 49. With this plant, which he thinks reducible to *Q. Pseudo-Molucca* our *Q. D'Albertisii* needs further comparison. Hybrids may also perhaps occur among the many Oaks of continental and insular India. Sir William Macgregor sent further acorns of an Oak, fruits of which were also brought from the Mount Obree Range by Sayer. Carpologically it is related to *Q. Reinwardti* Korthals, and *Q. Cantleyana* King, but the foliage and flowers may prove very different. A third kind of Papuan Oak is represented by acorns in the collection formed at Mount Dayman. The fruit bears similarity to that of *Q. spicata* Smith, *Q. cyclophora* Endlicher, *Q. pachyphylla* Kurz.

At the same locality were obtained acorns of a species much alike to those of *Q. semiserrata* Roxburgh and *Q. Teysmanni* Blume. A fifth sort of Papuan Oak was received from the vicinity of Mount Gilles, through M. W. Sayer. It is very different from the other Papuan species hitherto known approaching closely *Q. Junghuhnii* Miquel; but the leaves are nearly glabrous, much more acuminate, and at the base less blunt; the fruits accord fairly well. No material is available for ascertaining the characteristics of wood, bark and flowers.

It may be of interest also to note here that *Schuermansia elegans* finally attains a height of 80 feet, that from the series of forms before me it seems to constitute a monotypic genus, and that this with its ally *Sauvagesia* has been justly transferred by Engler from *Violarinae* to *Ochnaceae*. In a similar manner has by field researches in Java the genus *Lepidostemon* been declared unispecific. Such cases, moreover, demonstrate how difficult it still remains in numerous instances to assign to Papuan plants the correct systematic limitation in our present state of knowledge, necessarily imperfect from insufficient material while the first explorations proceed.

One of the most remarkable plants discovered on Mount Dayman is a *Carpodetus*, *C. Papuanus* according to fruiting specimens obtained. Of this genus only the typic species from New Zealand *C. serratus* described by R. and G. Foster in 1776, stands on record. This demonstrates still further that forms of plants long thought to belong exclusively to the most southern parts of the world, constitute an appreciable immixture to the mountain flora of New Guinea. The likewise saxifragous genus *Quintinia* has been shown in my last report to occur likewise there; but that is represented also in Eastern Australia as well as in New Zealand. Precisely the same can be said as regards geographic distribution. Furthermore, *Ackama* is just traced to New Guinea as a genus new for that area. *Acaena* and *Azorella*, now shown to be Papuan, belong to the same category, but have a wider southern range. *Hypericum*, *Potentilla*, *Galium*, *Olearia*, *Styphelia*, *Gaultiera*, *Agapetes*, *Gahnia* and *Polytrichum* occur also in the upper regions of Mount Dayman, as they do on the Owen Stanley Ranges.

*Haloragis micrantha* and *H. scabra* have now also for the first time been identified as extending to New Guinea.

It is particularly worthy of mention that a *Ruellia*, brought by Sir William Macgregor from Kalo presents flowers variously with four and five stamens; the only hitherto known instance of an *acanthaceous* plant bearing five stamens seems to be that of *Pentstemonanthus*, a Brazilian genus with a single species, the generic distinction by that charakter becoming evidently impaired.

The *Santalum* from Sandalwood Bay — *S. Macgregorii* — is a species somewhat cognate to *S. Freycinetianum*, but the leaves are less blunt, the flowers provided with only very short ultimate stalklets, and suddenly contracted at the base, although slightly constricted close above it, showing thus far an approach to *S. album*; it is further related to one from New Caledonia mentioned by Veillard. Ripe fruits are, however, unknown to settle finally the exact specific position of this interesting plant. From the Rev. J. Chalmers specimens of what seems to be a second Papuan *Santalum* were received. The immature fruits resemble those of *Strombosia Javanica*; but the wood of this supposed sandal-tree may not be odorous, like in the case of the majority of the Australian species.

The very showy *Rhododendron Carringtoniae*, or one very closely allied, has been obtained from Mount Suckling, and Mount Dayman also. The very last collection from Sir William Macgregor contains a *Rhododendron* variously related to *R. Javanum*, *R. Celebicum*, *R. Arfakense* and *R. Hatamense*, the specific limits of neither being as yet traced out, the size of the plant in all its organs being much altered according to the higher or lower altitudes of the places of growth, as in the case, indeed, with all other highland plants.

The Orchid flora of New Guinea has yielded us recently two additional genera—namely, *Ceratostylis* and *Corysanthes*. There is also now an additional *Carex* from high altitude.

Most Bamboos producing flowers rarely, it is now for the first time that one from the British Papuan territory can be accurately defined. Specimens came quite recently; they show tis one, pertaining to the genus *Schizostachium*, of which, however, another species has become already known from German New Guinea. The present species is small leaved and has very thin ramifications. In the highest altitudes grows a *Danthonia* with untwisted awn. It is evidently a good pasture grass. Specifically it is related to some African congeners. Two Fern trees now brought under notice from New Guinea deserve specially to be alluded to; one is a *Dicksonia* of the section *Cibotium*, a type not before found in the Papuan vegetation. The other is a *Cyathea*, remarkable for even the ultimate frond-segments being stalked, imparting to the superb plant a strikingly peculiar appearance.

Among Ferns can also be recorded as new from recent collections of Sir William Macgregor, according to Kew researches, facili-

tated by incomparably rich museum and conservatory material available there Ferns having in very numerous instances an unusually wide range of natural distribution.

*Polypodium Macgregorii* Baker, near *P. rigescens* Bory.

*P. Ludovicianum* Baker, near *P. palmatum* Blume, both from the Louisiades.

*P. oblanceolatum* Baker, near *P. ligulatum* Baker.

*P. oleandroides* Baker, near *P. Zeilanicum* Mettenius.

*P. Sucklingianum* Baker, near *P. marginellum* Swartz.

*P. conjunctisorum* Baker, near *P. moniliforme* Lagasca; those four from Mount Suckling.

*P. cucullatum* Nees.

*Hymenophyllum denticulatum* Swartz, Mr. Baker mentions as new for the Papuan Island. *Lycopodium scarosum* Forster, occurs there also, that being the most northern latitude reached by this otherwise southern plant.

Among mosslike plants occur as new according to researches of a leading specialist —

*Frullania Macgregori* Stephani, von Mount Knutsford.

*F. nobilis* Stephani, from Mount Yule.

*F. durifolia* Stephani, from Mount Suckling.

*F. seriatifolia* Stephani, from Mount Yule.

In a subsequent note Sir Ferdinand von Mueller adds: — "Among the plants is still one of more than ordinary interest, and therefore worthy of being recorded specially. It is an *Anthobolus* (*A. erythrocaulis*), of which genus hitherto no representative outside of Australia was known. It differs from *Exocarpus* mainly in its inflorescence. The Papuan congener has the leaves reduced to an denticular form; the stem is pink, the flowers are yellow. We know as yet only the pistillate plant." W. M.

## Instrumente, Präparations- und Conservations-Methoden.

Král, F., Eine einfache Methode zur Isolirung des Gonococcus im Plattenverfahren. (Archiv für Dermatologie und Syphilis. Bd. XXVIII. 1894. No. 1. p. 115—124.)

Vincent, H., Sur un nouveau mode de coloration des microorganismes dans le sang. (Comptes rendus de la Société de biologie. 1894. No. 21. p. 530—531.)

## Referate.

Bescherelle, E., Warnstorff, C. et Stephani, F., Cryptogamae centrali-americanae in Guatemala, Costarica-Columbia et Ecuador a cl. F. Lehmann lectae. (Bulletin de l'Herbier Boissier. II. 1894. p. 386.)

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