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KEW GARDEN MISCELLANY.

EDITED BY

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superioribus subalternis spathulatis vel sublinearibus; capitulis minimis, ad apicem ramorum solitariis paucisve aggregatis.

D. *Drummondii*, A. Gray (in Hook. Ic. Pl. tab. 855).

South-western Australia, *Drummond*.—Stems 3–5 inches long, weak. Capitulum less than a line long before fruiting; the scales of the involucre not at all complicate nor involving the female flowers. Ligule, if the slightly explanate upper part of the obliquely truncate corolla may be so called, shorter than the style, very much shorter than the auricles of the ovary. Ovaries of the disc wholly sterile, bearing an obscure crown at the apex. The singular achenium becomes fully a line and a half in length, very much exceeding the involucre; it is more or less hirsute, with hairs which are capitate at the apex; the stronger hairs of the auricles are glochidiate. The margins of the wing are entire, and involute from the first, but they become thicker as the achenium matures; the two incurved ascending linear-oblong auricles into which they are extended above, are half as long as the achenium itself.—This genus is evidently related to *Silphiosperma*, Steetz, also from West Australia, and especially to his *S. perpusillum*, which is described as differing from *S. glandulosum* in its few-flowered capitula and uniserial involucre. But it is said to have the involucreal scales plicate and involving the female flowers; and the achenia plano-compressed, not excised at the apex or with anything like the singular auricles of the present plant. Both genera should doubtless be referred to the *Melampodineæ-Partheniææ*.

Notice, by the REV. CHURCHILL BABINGTON, M.A., of the LICHENS collected by Dr. Sutherland, during the Arctic Voyage of Capt. Penny, in the "Lady Franklin."

No. 91. *Parmelia elegans*, a, *miniata*, Schær. ! n. 338; on limestone, fine and fertile; accompanied by other lichens in an imperfect state, among which are, as it seems, *P. pulverulenta* or *aquila*, Ach. (barren), and *P. (Lecanora) vitellina*, Ach.: also the scattered apothecia of another *Lecanora*: likewise another lichen (without any crust) which I have also gathered in the Tyrol, which Dr. Montagne (in list) considers a *Verrucaria*, "belle et bonne espèce nouvelle," but which recedes so much in character, that it seems to me rather to belong to Fries's

genus *Limboria*, judging from the description. Collected near Assistance Bay.

No. $\frac{8}{1}^0$ comprises the following lichens.—*Parmelia elegans*, α , Schær. ! *Lecidea geographica*, var. *contigua*, Fries. *L. atroalba*, Ach., Fries, (hypothallo prædominante crasso, dendritico). *L. lapicida*? Fries, ex descr. *L. confluens*, Fries et Auct. pr. p. Also another *Lecidea*, which appears to have changed colour, seemingly allied to *L. superficialis*, Schær. Likewise other lichens in an imperfect state, one of which is perhaps *Urceolaria scruposa*, Ach. *Lecidea contigua*, var. *calcareæ*, Fries. *Parmelia aurantiaca*, γ *calva*, Fries. Assistance Bay.

No. $\frac{7}{2}^2$. *Parmelia aquila*? Ach. (very imperfect and barren), mixed with *P. elegans* (as above), fertile. Prince Alfred's Bay.

No. 107. On a piece of bone, used as an implement by the Eskimaux, there are some fragments of lichens. *P. aquila*? barren; and apothecia of *P. vitellina*. Cornwallis Island.

No. 89. *Protococcus nivalis*. Assistance Bay.

No. $\frac{7}{8}^4$, $\frac{7}{a}^4$. *Parmelia pulverulenta*, Ach., var. Fries (*P. pityrea*, Ach.), on moss, barren. Also *P. elegans*, Ach., fertile. Also *Dufourea ramulosa*, Hook., I suppose, but have seen no specimens.

No. $\frac{7}{2}^2$. Very imperfect; possibly spoiled *Lecidea geographica*, Ach., in part.

No. 28. *Umbilicaria hyperborea*, Hoffm. *U. proboscidea*, α , Fries, two forms: one smooth below, and one hairy below. *Parmelia stygia*, var. *lanata*, Fries (*Cornicularia lanata*, Auctt.).

No. 48 comprises the following lichens, collected near Cape York, Davis Straits.—*Evernia ochroleuca*, Fries. *Cetraria nivalis*, Fries. *Cladonia rangiferina*, Hoffm. *C. pyxidata*, Fries. *Dufourea ramulosa*, Hook.? young state. These grow on the ground, matted among each other; all barren. There is likewise a mere morsel of *Evernia divergens*, Fries. Also *Umbilicaria vellea*, Fries, Summ. Veg. Scand. (*U. vellea*, α , ejusd. Lich. Eur.) var. *lecidina*, Bab.: apothecia at first resembling a *Lecidea*, then tuberculated, never gyrate or much papillated in the present fine specimen; margin rather thin, under side pale, blackish about the umbilicus, with branched pale fibres, which become darker in age. Also *Umbilicaria hyperborea*, Hoffm.: two states, fertile.

No. 92. *Lecidea vesicularis*, var. *globosa*, Fries, on earth, fertile. *Parmelia triptophylla*, var. *Schraderi*, Fries, fertile. Both from Assistance Bay.

Interesting fragments of other lichens accompany the specimens, which resemble *Parmelia fulgens* and *P. coarctata*; but the remains are too imperfect to determine with any certainty.

BOTANICAL INFORMATION.

Intelligence of MR. SPRUCE, in a letter to G. Bentham, Esq.

Barra do Rio Negro, Nov. 7, 1851.

Two nights ago reached me your letter of July 22nd, and also the Indians I had been long expecting to take me up the Rio Negro. I am now hard at work packing up my collections for you, and arranging "negocios" for the voyage. It is no use taking money up the Rio Negro, and, except a little copper, I am laying out my whole fortune in prints and other fabrics of cotton, axes, cutlasses, fish-hooks, beads, looking-glasses, and a host of sundries. The trafficking of these involves a serious loss of time, but there is no alternative.

We had sad news lately from Pará: Singlehurst's vessel, the Princess Victoria, was lost in entering the mouth of the river, and nothing of her cargo was recovered. Miller went out in a boat from Pará to see the wreck, caught a constipação, which excitement aggravated into brain-fever and speedily carried him off. I have not a word from the young men in his employ, and I know not whether the business will be carried on or forthwith wound up. You will of course learn from Singlehurst if all is to go on as usual. I had reason to expect there would be on board for me a case containing drying and packing paper, jars for succulent fruits, and several other things, sent by Sir W. Hooker. The loss to me is great, especially of the fruit-jars.

Poor Miller was a very fine young man, and his loss to me is irreparable, as he was so ready to do anything I needed, even to putting himself to inconvenience. He was a schoolfellow of Gardner, and was stationed at Aracati when Gardner visited that place, where he rendered him great assistance.

I am much obliged for the catalogue. Any remarks with which you favour me on my plants will always be thankfully received. Will you