

Prodr: No. 209 *Tacca pinnatifida*.

Identity: *Tacca leontopetaloides* (L.) Ktze.

Note: *Tacca* is the Malay word for the species. A terrestrial plant with a fleshy root—the South sea arrowroot, or Tahitian salep. George Forster gives instructions for making a flour, a bread and a gelatinous cake from the roots; he notes the use of the roots as a plaster for war wounds in the Moluccas.³⁰

23 *WH*: no description

BM: 'Epidendrum myosurus Taheite'. Pencil drawing No. 2/239. Uncoloured engraving No. 98.

Prodr: No. 317 *Epidendrum myosurus*.

Identity: *Oberonia myosurus* Lindl.

Note: *Oberonia* are the mouse-tail orchids. This is a small, fleshy-leaved epiphyte.

24 *WH*: no description

BM: 'Arthericum cirrhatum Charlottes Sound'. Finished watercolour drawing No. 1/95.

Prodr: No. 148 *Arthericum cirrhatum*.

Identity: *Arthropodium cirratum* (Forst. f.) R. Br.

Note: New Zealand rengarenga.

25 *WH*: no description

BM: "Aster holosericeus". An unfinished watercolour drawing in which Forster has filled in the background with black so that the uncoloured leaves stand out: No. 2/217. See plates 11, 12.

Prodr: No. 296 *Aster holosericeus*.

Identity: *Celmisia holosericea* (Forst. f.) Hook. f.

Note: one of the many New Zealand *Celmisias*.

26 *WH*: no description

BM: 'Sisyrinchium Ixoides Charlottes Sound'. Pencil drawing No. 2/247.

Prodr: No. 325 *Sisyrinchium ixioides*.

Identity: *Libertia ixioides* (Forst. f.) Spreng.

Note: one of the two New Zealand irises.

27 *WH*: no description

BM: 'Trichilia spectabilis Charlotte's Sound'. Unfinished watercolour drawing No. 1/132.

Prodr: No. 188 *Trichilia spectabilis*.

Identity: *Dysoxylum spectabile* (Forst. f.) Hook. f.

Note: The large New Zealand forest tree, kohekohe.

REFERENCES

The George Forster drawings (Plates 2, 4) are located in the Botany Library, Department of Library Services, British Museum (Natural History) and are reproduced by courtesy of the British Museum (Natural History). I am grateful to Mrs Judith Diment, Botany Librarian at the British Museum (Natural History) for matching them with the Hodges sketches. I am grateful to Mr Dan Hatch for Latin translations and helpful comments; to Ms Moira Long and Ms Marian Minson, of the Alexander Turnbull Library for their help and enthusiasm.