

while I advance it as a distinct species, I do so with some hesitation, and mainly from the fact of its disagreeing in several important characters with those of the other described species of *Doodia*, not a few of which, I think, will hereafter prove, when examined and compared together in a living state (the only way of true comparison), to be but varieties. Sir W. J. Hooker truly enough said (though he only knew of those six species first mentioned above)—“All our species of the genus are singularly variable.” (*l. c.*, III. 75.) See, also, my remarks on the genus *Doodia*, in my preceding Paper “On the Ferns of Scinde Island (Napier).”

ART. L.—*Descriptions of new Plants.* By T. KIRK, F.L.S.

[Read before the Wellington Philosophical Society, 4th December, 1880.]

OLEARIA ANGULATA, n.s.

A MUCH-BRANCHED shrub, 8–12 feet high; branches grooved, short; leaves $1\frac{1}{2}$ – $2\frac{1}{2}$ " long, broadly elliptic, rounded at the apex, truncate at the base, waved at the margins, clothed with appressed white tomentum below, veins forming nearly a right-angle with the midrib; flowers in axillary panicles, peduncles equalling the leaves or longer, branches short, spreading, angled, pubescent, heads shortly pedicelled, involucral scales linear-oblong, laxly imbricated, ciliated; florets 3–5, one or two with a broad ray, achenes strigose, pappus in two series.

Hab.—North Island, North Cape, Spirits Bay. In habit and foliage this species approaches *O. fosterii*, while it is closely allied to *O. albiflora* by the inflorescence. It appears to have been confused with *O. albiflora*, and has a still more restricted range than that species.

DRACOPHYLLUM PROSTRATUM, n.s.

A small prostrate species, stems 3"–12" long, with short branches; leaves $\frac{1}{8}$ – $\frac{1}{10}$ " long, ovate subulate, with a broad sheathing base, glabrous; flowers solitary, terminal, sepals ovate, obtuse, shorter than the corolla.

Hab.—South Island; mountains above Lake Harris, Otago, 4,000 feet, T. Kirk; Mount St. Bathans; and Stewart's Island, D. Petrie.

A variable plant in habit, although constant in its leaves and floral characters. The branches are never so densely crowded as in *D. muscoides* Hook.f., although Mr. Petrie's specimens approach that species in this particular. The Lake Harris specimens, owing to their exceptional habitat, creeping amongst sphagnum, were very lax and glaucous, but in other respects agree with those from Mount St. Bathans and Stewart Island.

SCHÆNUS MOOREI, n.s.

Tufted, leaves shorter than the culms, filiform, slender, grooved, with reddish brown sheaths. Culms 4"–6" high, slender, grooved; panicle soli-

tary, lateral spikelets, 2-3 one always pedunculate, 3-flowered glumes imbricated, ovate-lanceolate, margins scarious. Bristles 6 shorter than the style, stigmas 3; nut triquetrous.

Hab.—North Island—at remarkable saline springs, Glenburn, East Coast. Forming large masses in the immediate vicinity of the springs. Allied to *S. pauciflorus*, Hook, f., but a much smaller, less tufted plant, with narrower, shorter spikelets, and broader glumes.

AGROSTIS MUSCOSA, n.s.

A small grass forming wide patches, not more than one inch in height. Root creeping. Leaves longer than the culms, filiform, flaccid, more or less recurved, ligule minute lacerate. Panicle hidden among the leaves, recurved, $\frac{1}{4}$ "– $\frac{1}{2}$ " in height, few flowers. Empty glumes, equal, scabrid at the margin. Flowering glumes, ovate, truncate. Pale O. Lodicule acute. *Agrostis canina* and *B. subulata*; "Hand Book N.Z. Flora," in part. *Agrostis subulata*, t. XX. "Buchanan N.Z. Grasses."

Hab.—South Island. Broken River basin, and other places in Canterbury. Lake district of Otago. Probably not uncommon in mountain districts in the South Island, but easily overlooked. In the "Hand Book of the N. Z. Flora," this species is confused with *Agrostis subulata*. Mr. Buchanan has fallen into the same error in his "Indigenous Grasses of New Zealand," where he figures the present plant as *Agrostis canina*, *L. B. subulata*, and unaccountably identifies it with the *Agrostis subulata* of "Hooker's Flora Antarctica," t. LIII., a much larger grass with erect panicles.

This species is probably common in the South Island, although I have only collected it in the districts mentioned. So far as I am aware it has not been observed in the North Island.

Agrostis subulata, Hook, f. "Fl. Antarctica," t. LIII., differs from our plant in the erect keeled leaves, which are narrow and slightly keeled, never filiform; the panicle is much larger, erect, never recurved, and although hidden amongst the leaves at first, yet when fully matured it slightly exceeds them in length.

ART. LI.—Description of a new species of *Thysanothecium* collected by Mr. Buchanan during his recent expedition to the Southern Alps.

By CHARLES KNIGHT, F.R.C.S., F.L.S.

[Read before the Wellington Philosophical Society, 12th February, 1881.]

Plate XVII.

AMONG Mr. Buchanan's plants, lately collected in the Southern Alps, there is a remarkable Lichen gathered on Mount Aspiring Range at an elevation