

and the Cedar (*Juniperus bermudiana*), both of which are tenacious of life, and possess remarkable reproductive capacity; neglected ground being soon overrun by seedlings, especially of the latter.

“Passing by St. Paul’s Rocks, where neither flowering plants nor ferns exist, the flora of Fernando Noronha, as far as it is known, exhibits the same affinities to that of the nearest mainland as the flora of the Bermudas. Fifty-five species of flowering plants were collected, five of which appear sufficiently different from any described ones to rank as new; all the rest are quite common plants. The apparently total absence of ferns in this flora is remarkable.

“The indigenous vegetation of Ascension is of the scantiest description imaginable; even littoral plants, on account of the nature of the beach, are unable to obtain a footing on the island. Ferns, of which eleven species have been collected, are in the ascendant. There are, however, two flowering plants (*Hedyotis adscensionis* and *Euphorbia origanoides*), which have not been found elsewhere; altogether there are not more than half a dozen indigenous species.

“The flora of St. Helena is very singular in its composition. There are thirty-eight certainly indigenous flowering plants, and twenty-five ferns, besides about twenty-five other species of flowering plants which may have reached the island independently of direct or indirect human agency. With few exceptions the indigenous flowering plants are shrubs or small trees, and a considerable proportion of them belong to genera restricted to the island, whilst some of the species of genera having a wider range are so very distinct from their congeners as not to be generically recognisable as such at first sight. Arboreous Compositæ preponderated, and there is abundant evidence that they formerly constituted the principal element of the woods which covered the island. Disregarding these Compositæ, some of which are resiniferous, like those of Juan Fernandez, the affinities of the native flora are essentially South African; and structurally, if not in habit, the Compositæ are as nearly related to South African forms as to any others.

“The natural history of South Trinidad is still almost unknown. Not a dozen flowering plants and ferns have been collected in the islands, and the most interesting of these is a Fern (*Asplenium compressum*), previously known only from St. Helena. The latest accounts of the vegetation of the island describe the whole of the arboreous plants, except a tree fern, as prostrate and dead, as if all had been killed at one time by some great volcanic disturbance.

“Next in order is the Tristan da Cunha group, where the vegetation consists entirely of types characteristic of temperate regions. In the three islands, Tristan da Cunha, Inaccessible, and Nightingale, fifty-five species of vascular plants have been collected by various travellers, and of this number no fewer than twenty-four are ferns and two club-mosses, leaving twenty-nine flowering plants. There is no endemic genus of plants, but fifteen of the species of flowering plants appear to be restricted to