

contains a *Pelargonium* and an abundance of both the *Phylica* and *Spartina* of Amsterdam Island, together with species of *Oxalis* and *Hydrocotyle*. The Fuegian and Falkland Island plants of Tristan da Cunha and its islets, which have not hitherto been found in the islands south and east of them, are, however, more numerous than the Cape genera even, and include *Cardamine hirsuta*, *Nertera depressa*, *Empetrum nigrum* var. *rubrum*, *Lagenophora Commersoniana*, and *Apium australe*; and the flora contains besides the strictly American genus *Chevreulia*."

The close similarity of the flora of the three islands of the group points to a former connection between them. Their high cliffs, composed of successive layers of lava, and the absence, except in Tristan da Cunha, of well marked centres of eruption, as well as their general features, show that they have undergone great denudation. A sounding between Tristan da Cunha and Inaccessible Island gave a depth of 1,000 fathoms; between Inaccessible and Nightingale Islands, the depth was 460 fathoms.

It is obvious, from the relative position of the three islands, that the prevalent winds blow directly from Inaccessible Island towards Nightingale Island and Tristan da Cunha.

With regard to the Cryptogamous vegetation of the group, nearly all the seaweeds, as appears from Prof. Dickie's report on the specimens collected by me, are Cape of Good Hope species, or occur at the Cape as well as at numerous other localities: two only are new and apparently endemic. Of Fungi, an *Agaricus*, which grows on the *Phylica* stems, is described by Mr. Berkeley as new, as *A. phyllicigena*. Of the mosses and *Hepaticæ*, Mr. Mitten describes ten species as new, out of thirty-six collected by me; of eleven lichens collected, two were new; one, *Lecanora acunhana*, is noted by Nylander as "*bene distincta*."

An Islander told me that the flowering plants on Gough Island were the same as those of Tristan da Cunha, but he thought there were different ferns; he had lived there some time sealing.

*Scientific Notices of the Tristan da Cunha Group.*

Du Petit Thouars, flora of the island, in his "Melanges."

Captain Carmichael's account of the island in "Linn. Trans.," Vol. XII., p. 496.

For descriptions of the collections of plants made by me in the Islands, see list of papers relating to the "Challenger" Expedition, at the end of this Book.

For a description of *Gallinula nesiotis*, by P. L. Sc'later, F.R.S., etc., see "Proc. Zool. Soc., 1855," p. 146.