arboreous *Compositæ* of the same tribe as the St Helena, for instance, are no longer found in South Africa, whatever their earlier distribution may have been. But the American affinity of some of them does not necessarily involve an American origin, for, as we shall show in our general introduction, the present distribution of arboreous *Compositæ* presents many anomalies. It should be borne in mind, too, that these *Compositæ* differ little in floral structure from the Cape shrubby *Feliciæ*. The flora of the Tristan da Cunha group exhibits similar, yet closer, affinities with the American flora on the one hand, and the Mascarene on the other; and associated with the plants of these affinities is a modern element comprising apparently endemic species of such genera as *Chenopodium*, *Atriplex*, *Rumex*, &c.

The following tabular view of the distribution and affinities of the genera of the endemic flowering plants of the island illustrates the peculiarities of the composition of the flora, and enables us at the same time to appreciate the difficulties to be encountered in an attempt to trace its origin to one source.

TABLE *Showing the Affinities of the Species and Genera and Distribution of the Genera of the Endemic Flowering Plants of St Helena.*

Name.	Affinities of the Species, &c.	Distribution of the Genera.
1. *Frankenia*	The St Helena species is so markedly distinct from all the others, that it was raised to the rank of a separate genus by Roxburgh.	Widely spread, including South Africa, most of the species being purely littoral.
2. *Melhania*	In habit the St Helena species closely resemble *Trochetia*, a genus confined to Mauritius and Madagascar; but the floral structure is quite that of *Melhania*.	Africa (including South), Asia, and Australia.
3. *Pelargonium* . . .	Very distinct.	Species very numerous in South Africa; one, or more, widely dispersed in the south temperate zone and two or three in North-East Africa and the Levant.
4. *Phylica*	Distinct.	A large genus confined to South Africa and the islands of the Atlantic and Indian Oceans.
5. *Nesiota*	Next to *Phylica*.	Endemic.
6. *Mesembryanthemum*	"Closely allied to *Mesembryanthemum nodiflorum* of North and South Africa."	Chiefly South African; also in Australia, New Zealand, Mediterranean region, and Arabia.
7. *Pharnaceum* . . .	Differs from the other species in the entire stipules and very unequal sepals.	South Africa.
8. *Sium*	Not closely allied to any other species.	Three or four species having a wide range in the temperate zones of both hemispheres, including South Africa.
9. *Hedyotis*	Arboreous, and characterised by its unisexual flowers and short rotate corolla.	A large and widely dispersed genus, including South Africa.