

places, allude to the great fertility of the native plants in the production of seed, which grows freely where it is not choked by other plants. As an instance, it may be recorded here that the last tree of *Psiadia rotundifolia* bears good seed in plenty; and it is satisfactory to know that some brought home by Mr Morris in 1883 have germinated at Kew. It is to be hoped that success will attend the efforts to raise them, so that this interesting tree may be represented in botanic gardens, at least, for some years to come. With few exceptions, however, the plants of St Helena seem difficult to cultivate, for they languish under artificial conditions and die young.

Petrobium arboreum, R. Br.

Petrobium arboreum, R. Br. in Trans. Linn. Soc. Lond., xii. p. 113; DC., Prodr., v. p. 502; Hook.,

Ic. Pl., xi. p. 40, t. 1053; Melliss, St Hel., p. 287, t. 42.

Bidens arborea (fœm.), et *Spilanthes tetrandra* (mas.), Roxb. in Beatson's St Helena Tracts, pp. 301 et 325.

Spilanthus arboreus, Forst. in Comment. Soc. Gœtt., ix. p. 56.

Laxmannia arborea, Forst., Char. Gen. Pl., t. 47.

ST HELENA.—Endemic. Harding Spring—*Burchell*, 160; Central Ridge, at 2000 to 2600 feet—*Melliss*; without special localities—*Hooker*; *Cuming*; *Shuter*; *Bennett*; *Seemann*; and *Banks*, *Forster*, and *Robertson* in the British Museum Herbarium.

“Whitewood Cabbage-tree.”

“One of the most abundant of the indigenous plants still remaining. It grows now chiefly on the south side of the high Central Ridge, extending from Diana's Peak to High Peak, at about 2600 feet.”—*Melliss*.

Cotula coronopifolia, Linn.

Cotula coronopifolia, Linn.; Hook. f., Handb. Fl. N. Zeal., p. 141; Benth., Fl. Austr., iii. p. 549;

Roxb. in Beatson's St Helena Tracts, p. 305; Melliss, St Hel., p. 288; Buchenau in Bot. Zeit. 1862, p. 25.

ST HELENA.—Indigenous? Ladder Hill, in the valleys about Sandy Bay, in Rupert's Valley, &c.—*Burchell*, 147; *Haughton*.

This plant is very widely spread in the southern hemisphere; also in Europe and North Africa, where, however, it is certainly a colonist.

Melliss states that it grows over the rocky outskirts of the island, and expresses the opinion that it existed in the island previous to its discovery; but the fact that another species (*Cotula australis*) has reached the island since *Burchell*'s time, and become even commoner than the former, and at greater elevations, does not support this opinion.

Cotula coronopifolia is the “Pagoda flower” of the islanders; so named, *Melliss* says, from the resemblance of its flower-heads to a small gold coin, called a pagoda, of the value of four shillings, and current during the tenure of the East India Company.