

enumerated by Thouars, except one, *Phalaris cespitosa*, and this we have been unable to identify with any of the plants in the collections which we have examined, though, according to Thouars, it alone covered large spaces of ground.

The additional plants are—*Ranunculus* sp., *Cardamine propinqua*, *Convolvulus* sp., *Atriplex plebeja*, *Agrostis ramulosa*, *Agrostis media*, *Lycopodium* two species, *Trichomanes angustatum* (*tenerum*), *Pteris incisa*, *Asplenium monanthemum*, *Asplenium medium*, *Polypodium australe*, and *Ophioglossum vulgatum*.

Several of the foregoing plants are noteworthy for different reasons. Thus the *Ranunculus*, which is possibly the Kerguelen *Ranunculus biternata*, and the two endemic species of *Agrostis*, which appear to be most nearly related to our *Agrostis delislei* from Amsterdam Island, afford additional evidence of the common origin of the vegetation of these southern islands. Then there is the *Atriplex* which Carmichael says grows along the shore, and seems to be almost a stranger on the island. This has not been identified with anything else; therefore we are obliged to regard it as endemic, though we strongly suspect it may yet turn out to be an introduced plant. It is in no other collection that has come under our notice. Out of the six additional ferns, one, *Asplenium medium*, is endemic, and a well-marked species.

The next collection in point of date is that made by MacGillivray and Milne, naturalist and assistant naturalist respectively to the expedition of H.M.S. "Herald" to examine the Fiji and other Polynesian Islands, under the command of Captain Denham. This collection was made in November 1852, and consists of about forty species of vascular plants, besides a few undetermined specimens of Musci and Hepaticæ, without fructification. It contains no species that does not occur in other collections, and as nothing has been published concerning it by the collectors themselves, it calls for no further remark in this place.

Lastly, there are the collections of the Challenger Expedition, which, as has already been mentioned, include the plants of all three islands of the group.

These collections were made in October, so that the main island has been botanised by different travellers from October to March; and we may assume that its flora has been fully exhausted, at least as far as the vascular plants are concerned. Without counting the cellular cryptogams, Mr Moseley collected forty-five species of plants, the result of one visit to each island. The collection from the main island was restricted to the irregular strip of land opposite the anchorage, and to the gully immediately above the settlement, which had been explored only to a height of about four hundred feet at the time the recall was hoisted on board the ship, owing to a sudden squall, accompanied by hail. Nevertheless, in the six hours he was ashore, Mr Moseley gathered specimens of thirty-eight vascular plants, though, of course, he missed the more interesting endemic species peculiar to the high land. The numbers for the other islands are—Inaccessible twenty-one, and Nightingale ten species. The special interest of this