

at that season. He published<sup>1</sup> some particulars of this collection, which was deposited in the Paris Museum of Natural History. Although the time was short, he met, he says, with many interesting plants, including three or four species of tree-ferns, which were overrunning more and more ground, a new genus of *Drimys*, a *Myrtus*, which he thought might be *Myrtus ugni*, Molina [doubtless *Myrtus selkirkii*], an Urticaceous tree, called "Manzano," a fine *Sophora*, two species of *Gnaphalium*, a *Campanula* [*Wahlenbergia*], a *Zanthoxylum*, an *Arbutus* [*Pernettya*], and even two species of Piperaceæ. He also observed that the Juan Fernandez resin, so famous throughout Chili and Peru, though still unknown to science, was exuded by a new genus of Compositæ, near *Senecio*. Among other plants was a very fine series of ferns, which were very common in the island; "but my most important botanical discovery," he adds, "was five or six species of a genus belonging to the Cichoriaceæ, all of them woody, and ten to twelve feet high." In this discovery, as appears from Bertero's sketch of the vegetation of the island, published three years earlier, he had been anticipated; indeed, Don had already published the genus *Dendroseris* on specimens of a species collected in Masafuera by Cuming.

Mr Philibert Germain, formerly conservator of the Natural History Museum at Valparaiso, paid a visit to Juan Fernandez in 1854, and was there during the latter part of October and the beginning of November, as we learn from Dr R. A. Philippi.<sup>2</sup> There are only a few of Germain's plants at Kew, but, from what Philippi says, he must have made an extensive collection. As already observed, there is no direct evidence in Philippi's writings that he has ever visited the island; yet some of the information in the *Bemerkungen* does not read like second-hand. In the place cited he enumerates 137<sup>3</sup> vascular plants, belonging to forty-three orders, or an average of about three species to each order. Among them are thirty-six species of ferns, constituting 26·3 per cent. of the whole; twenty-three Compositæ = 16 per cent.; and ten Gramineæ = 7 per cent. Philippi's list includes, besides several certainly introduced plants, such as *Rumex acetosella*, *Airacaryophyllea*, and *Anthoxanthum odoratum*, descriptions of twenty-eight proposed new species, several of which are regarded as varieties in this work, whilst a few others are synonyms of previously described species, as subsequently ascertained in part by Philippi himself. A few notable omissions are inexplicable, such, for instance, as *Balbisia*<sup>4</sup> (*Rhetinodendron*) and *Lobelia tupa*, except that they were overlooked in the haste of compilation. We extract a few particulars relating to the condition of the vegetation at that date. The

<sup>1</sup> Aperçu sur les recherches d'histoire naturelle faites dans l'Amérique du sud, et principalement dans le Chili, pendant les années 1830 et 1831, *Annales des Sciences Naturelles*, xxviii. pp. 369-393.

<sup>2</sup> *Bemerkungen über die Flora der Insel Juan Fernandez*, *Botanische Zeitung*, September 1856, pp. 625-636, 641-650, 818-819. This article was originally read before the Universidad de Chile on July 12, 1856, and published in Spanish in the July number (1856) of the *Anales de la Universidad de Chile*. There is also a French version in the *Annales des Sciences Naturelles*, série 4, vii. p. 87.

<sup>3</sup> Since the publication of this list, Dr Philippi has proposed and described a number of new species of Juan Fernandez plants in various periodicals.

<sup>4</sup> Subsequently mentioned by him in his general remarks on the vegetation.