

negundo. However, this and some of the forms referred to *Vitex trifolia* are so much alike, that without a careful examination of all the specimens, the distribution of the two species—if two there be—cannot be accurately given. *Vitex bicolor*, Willd., is the same as *Vitex negundo*.

Vitex pubescens, Vahl.

* *Vitex pubescens*, Vahl; Miq., Fl. Ind. Bat., ii. p. 861; Dene., Herb. Timor. Descr., p. 73.

WETTER.—Common in Tropical India from Bengal to Ceylon, and through the Malayan Peninsula and Archipelago, but not known from Australia.

Petræovitex riedelii, Oliv.

Petræovitex riedelii, Oliv. in Hook. Ic. Pl., t. 1420.

ARROU; WETTER.—Also in Buru. A monotypic genus, as far as at present known, established on specimens recently collected in these islands.

Avicennia officinalis, Linn.

Avicennia officinalis, Linn.; Miq., Fl. Ind. Bat., ii. p. 912; Benth., Fl. Austr., v. p. 69; Baker, Fl. Maurit., p. 257.

Although there are no specimens in the Kew Herbarium of this shrub from the Eastern Moluccas eastward of Timor, it deserves to be mentioned here on account of its remarkable geographical distribution. Taking it as limited in the Flora Australiensis (that is, to include *Avicennia tomentosa*, Jacq.), it is one of the most widely diffused of littoral shrubs, inhabiting, as it does, the shores of Tropical and Subtropical Asia, Africa, America, and Australia, and extending into some temperate regions, as the Bermudas in the north, and New Zealand in the south. It is common apparently on all the coasts of Tropical Asia; on the eastern coast of Africa it ranges from the Red Sea to the Cape of Good Hope, and is also common on the western coast; in America, it is common on both the Atlantic and Pacific coasts; and it grows all round Australia, including the western side, where so very few of this class of widely dispersed plants are found. But, except New Caledonia and the Galapagos, we have no evidence that it occurs in any of the Pacific Islands. It is not mentioned by Endlicher, Seemann, Nadeaud, Jouan, Mann, or Guillemain; and there is not a single specimen in the comparatively recent and copious collections at Kew, collected by Powell, Whitmee, and others. Therefore, should it exist at all in Polynesia proper, we may assume that it is rare. This unusual distribution is not easily explained, for many of the other salt-marsh and mangrove-swamp plants with which it is associated elsewhere, abound in many of the Pacific Islands. The plant doubtfully named *Avicennia tomentosa* in Hooker and Arnot's Botany of Beechey's Voyage, p. 93, from the Sandwich Islands, is *Vitex trifolia*.