

to that genus; but subsequently Dr Beccari sent further specimens, collected by D'Albertis on the Fly River, together with fruits believed to belong to the same species. And fruits exactly like those collected by D'Albertis were found by Moseley in the drift off the mouth of the great Ambernoh River, and on the sea-beach of the Arrou Islands; hence it would appear to be a common tree in the region. Whether it grows in the Arrou Islands or the fruits were washed ashore is uncertain. The genus *Vateria* is spread over the Western Peninsula of India and the Malayan Archipelago; and the present species is remarkable for its much-thickened recurved sepals.

## MALVACEÆ.

There are perfectly sound-looking seeds of a species of *Hibiscus* from the New Guinea drift; they will float now, but with their body almost wholly immersed.

## STERCULIACEÆ.

*Heritiera littoralis*, Dryander.

New Guinea drift.

The large crustaceous indehiscent one-seeded carpels of this tree seem to be quite impervious to water, and from their lightness would doubtless float for a long time. The seed is destitute of albumen, but the enormously thick cotyledons fully compensate in the process of nutrition for its absence. Like many other common littoral trees, this flourishes equally well at a distance from the sea.

## GUTTIFERÆ.

*Calophyllum inophyllum*, Linn.

*Calophyllum inophyllum*, Linn.; Wight, Ic. Pl. Ind. Or., t. 77.

New Guinea drift.

There is a number of the one-seeded, globular fruits of this common littoral tree of the region. They vary in size from three quarters of an inch to one inch and a half in diameter, and in their present condition float with about half of their bulk out of water. The seeds are very oily, the oil being stored in the thick fleshy cotyledons, which fill up the whole cavity of the seed. Seemann (Fl. Vit., p. 12) says that this tree is one of the most common littoral plants in the Fiji group; its round fruits, mixed with the square ones of *Barringtonia speciosa*, the pine-cone like ones of the sago-palm, *Sagus vitiensis*, Wendl., and the flat seeds of *Entada scandens*, Benth., densely cover the sandy beaches. Moseley (Notes by a Naturalist on the Challenger, p. 387) mentions this as one of the earliest inhabitants of newly raised coral islands. "As soon as ever a few littoral trees, such as