

CANARY ISLANDS AND MADEIRA.

The Compositæ number about 150 species, whereof half are endemic. Bentham (*loc. cit.*, p. 563) says :—“ The insular tendency to a more shrubby form than their continental congeners or allies is also exhibited in *Allagopappus*, *Vieræa*, *Gonospermum*, *Chrysanthemum*, *Senecio*, and *Sonchus* ; but there is nothing of the arborescent or highly differentiated character of the *Petrobium* of St Helena, of the *Dendroseris* and others of Juan Fernandez, or of the *Fitchia* of the South Sea Islands.”

In this comparison, as in that concerning the Galapagos Compositæ, Bentham seems to have entertained an exaggerated idea of the stature of the St Helena and Juan Fernandez woody members of the order. As already mentioned, Bertero gives the height of three of the larger species of *Dendroseris* as ten to fifteen feet. Two or three of the Madeiran and Canary Island species of *Sonchus*, a genus of the same suborder as *Dendroseris*, attain to about the same size. Thus *Sonchus fruticosus*, Linn. f., is described by Lowe (*Manual of the Flora of Madeira*, i. p. 552) in the following words :—“ Almost subarborescent, and gigantic in all its parts, being from four or five to ten or twelve feet high, with a trunk often as thick as the arm, and the ultimate branches as thick as the forefinger, ending in large spreading or radiating tufts of leaves.” The habit of the species of *Dendroseris* represented in Guillemin's Archives de Botanique, i. t. 9, from Gay's drawings, executed in Juan Fernandez, agrees exactly with the foregoing description. *Sonchus arboreus*, DC., a Canary Island species, attains similar dimensions ; and *Senecio kleinia*, Schulz Bip., from the same group, equally deserves the appellation “ arborescent ; ” while several of these find their counterparts among the dwarfer species of *Dendroseris*, &c. Finally, *Centaurea arborea*, Webb, is described as “ *Frutex speciosissimus*, 12-pedalis.”

ST HELENA.

Genera.	Number of Species.	Suborder.	Affinities of Genus or Species.	Distribution of Genus.
<i>Commidendron</i>	4	Asteroidæ	Andine and Australasian	Endemic.
<i>Melanodendron</i>	1	Asteroidæ	Andine and Australasian	Endemic.
<i>Psiadia</i> . . .	1	Asteroidæ	African	Africa, Mascarene Islands.
<i>Petrobium</i> . .	1	Helianthoidæ	Andine and Chilian	Endemic.
<i>Senecio</i> . . .	2	Senecionidæ	African and Australasian species	General.

In regard to size, if not in height, a few of the larger of the arboreous Compositæ of St Helena considerably surpass those of the islands already considered ; although, as we