The number set down for Norfolk Island is probably too low, having been taken from Endlicher's Prodromus (1833). Finally, we come to the New Zealand region, that is to say, New Zealand and the adjacent islands included in Hooker's Handbook of the New Zealand Flora. Eighteen genera and upwards of forty species have been discovered, and two of the genera are endemic, while the rest are also Tasmanian or Australian; none extend to Southern America, the few genera there being distinct and mostly peculiar. With one exception, *Chiloglottis cornuta* in the Auckland Islands, which may yet be found in New Zealand, the orchids found in the Kermadec, Chatham, Auckland, and Campbell Islands, are New Zealand species; a fact pointing to a former land connection. The general distribution of orchids warrants this assumption, for there are comparatively few genera of very wide range, and these, with few exceptions, are the terrestrial genera which have their greatest concentration in the temperate zone of the northern hemisphere. Thus, of the ten orchideous genera represented in California, eight are British, and a ninth, *Calypso borealis*, is also found in Northern Europe and Siberia; while only one is peculiar to America.

## THE GENERAL AND INSULAR DISTRIBUTION OF THE GENERA *CAREX* AND *UNCINIA*.

Among large genera especially interesting on account of their insular distribution is *Carex*, comprising about six hundred species, which are, perhaps, more widely dispersed than those of any other genus of flowering plants; and they grow in a very great variety of situations, from the extreme polar limits of vegetation down to the most remote islands, though within the tropics they are almost restricted to the mountains. *Carex*, too, is the only one of the very large and widely dispersed genera that is represented in most of the oceanic islands. *Euphorbia* is represented in Ascension and in many of the Pacific Islands, and *Cyperus* in nearly all of the tropical islands; but *Carex* occurs in a large number of islands, both in the temperate and tropical zones, and in all three of the great oceans. It may be interesting, therefore, to give some more definite particulars of the general distribution of the species. A considerable number of the species are widely spread, some very widely spread; yet in almost all parts where these commoner species penetrate, they are associated with local species. Those growing in the more remote oceanic islands are mostly endemic in single islands or groups of islands. Thus, in the Bermudas, there is one species, which is endemic; in St Helena there are two, both endemic; in the Tristan da Cunha group there are two, both endemic; in Juan Fernandez the only species is endemic; in the Sandwich Islands, three out of six are endemic; and of the twelve species found in the Azores six are endemic, and that, be it remembered, in a flora containing a very small endemic element. On the other hand, the six which inhabit