

temperate regions, and there is no doubt that these two genera combined almost cover the whole range of phanerogamic vegetation.

*Uncinia*, a genus of between twenty and thirty species, differs from *Carex* in the rhachilla protruding from the utricle and being uncinata or glochidiata; and *Carex microglochin*, which is widely dispersed in the northern hemisphere, and recurs in the extreme south of America, is a connecting link between the two; indeed, some botanists refer it to *Uncinia*. The genus *Uncinia* ranges from Australia and New Zealand through the islands in the southern part of the Indian Ocean to Fuegia, and northward along the Andes to Mexico and the West Indies. The parts actually inhabited are Lord Howe's Island, one endemic species; the mountains of Victoria and Tasmania, three species common to both localities; New Zealand, ten species, one of which extends to the Auckland and Campbell Islands, and another to Kerguelen, Amsterdam, and St Paul Islands, while a third is very near, if not the same, as the one species found in the Sandwich Islands. Besides the one New Zealand species found in Amsterdam Island there is another, which also inhabits the Tristan da Cunha group. There are also about ten species in the American region, chiefly concentrated in the extreme south. One species is recorded from the Falklands, but this we have not seen, and there is one endemic species in Juan Fernandez; one ranges from Ecuador to New Grenada, Venezuela, and Jamaica, and another, closely allied to the last, is restricted to Central America and Mexico. This completes the whole area of the genus, for the Abyssinian plant referred to *Uncinia* by Hochstetter is a true *Carex*.

#### WOODY PLANTS IN OCEANIC ISLANDS.

The preponderance of woody plants in most remote insular floras is undeniable; but that islands "often possess trees or bushes belonging to Orders which elsewhere include only herbaceous species," as stated by Darwin (*Origin of Species*, p. 392), is incorrect, as may be seen from the following parallels in insular and continental floras. The distribution of arboreous Compositæ is discussed separately.

*Sinapidendron* (Cruciferæ), from Madeira and Canaries, is represented in Spain and Algeria by much more truly shrubby plants belonging to the genera *Euzomodendron*, *Vella*, and *Oudneya*.

*Frankenia portulacæfolia*, St Helena, finds a parallel in the Australian *Frankenia pauciflora*, which is shrubby, and sometimes attains a height of three feet.

*Alsinidendron* and *Schiedea* (Caryophyllæ), Sandwich Islands, cannot be said to have exact counterparts, either continental or insular; but the anomalous *Sphærocoma* of Eastern Africa and Western Asia is also truly shrubby.

*Gunnera* (Haloragææ), Juan Fernandez: caulescent species appear to be unknown elsewhere.