

ORDERS, GENERA, AND SPECIES OF VERY RESTRICTED AREAS.

For purposes of comparison, a few particulars concerning some continental types of different grades of very restricted areas may be introduced here, if only to show that, from some cause or causes, such exist. We have not space to discuss the possible causes, but it is probable that these types are either dying out or are of comparatively recent origin. From the particulars given below, it appears that inability to produce abundance of good seed is not the cause, in some cases at least.

ORDERS RESTRICTED TO ONE CONTINENTAL AREA.

The number of Natural Orders restricted to one region or one continent is considerable even as the orders are circumscribed in Bentham and Hooker's *Genera Plantarum*; and taken in the more limited sense adopted by De Candolle (*Géographie Botanique*, p. 1158), the number would be about double. Thus, taking the former work as a basis, the *Tremandreae* are peculiar to Australia; the *Vochysiaceae* to Tropical America; the *Chlænaceae* to Madagascar; the *Cactaceae* (except *Rhipsalis*) to America; the *Calycereae* to Extratropical South America; the *Bruniaceae* to South Africa; the *Nepenthaceae* to the tropics of the Old World, excluding continental Africa; the *Bromeliaceae* to America, the *Mayaceae* to America, the *Cyclanthaceae* to Tropical America; but the number peculiar to smaller areas is barely half-a-dozen, and, as might be expected, they comprise very few genera and species. Moreover, some of them have perhaps less claim to rank as independent orders than some groups that are reduced to suborders or tribes, and no more claim to the same rank than some of the anomalous genera; but as connecting links are wanting they are given the superior rank. There is one such order, the *Balanopseae*, restricted to New Caledonia, and consisting, as far as at present known, of one genus and six or seven species. Another order, the *Leitnerieae*, comprising only one genus and two species, is peculiar to Florida and Texas. The *Columelliaceae*, one genus and two species, are restricted to the Andes of Ecuador and Peru; while the singular *Lennoaceae*, consisting of three genera and four or five species, inhabit only Mexico and California. Another small order, the *Rapateaceae*, consisting of five genera and about twenty species, is limited to Guiana and Tropical Brazil. As an instance of a small order occupying distant, separated areas, the *Sarraceniaceae* may be named. This order comprises three genera: *Sarracenia*, of which there are several species inhabiting Eastern North America; *Darlingtonia*, a monotypic genus inhabiting the mountains of California; and *Heliamphora*, also monotypic, which is only known from the mountains of British Guiana.