

Total, 115 species belonging to eighty-four genera, fifty-six of which are represented in New Zealand. Here, as in the islands contiguous to New Zealand, there is no endemic genus; but the endemic species number twenty-six, or 22.6 per cent. of the whole. Leguminosæ are wholly wanting, as they are, we believe, in Fuegia. A very few have been collected at Port Famine, Port Gregory on the opposite side of Magellan Strait, and one in Elizabeth Island in the Strait. We have already alluded to the absence or great rarity of Leguminosæ in insular floras where there is no littoral element, but the flora of the colder southern regions generally is exceptionally poor in this order. In the Arctic regions there are at least thirty-four species, belonging to twelve genera.

In Sir James Ross's Narrative of his Antarctic Voyage (ii. p. 293) are the following remarks by Sir J. D. Hooker on the vegetation of the extreme south of America: "As Hermite Island is situated close to Cape Horn (56° S. lat.), a list of the indigenous plants is given. Only four species of flowering plants reach the top of Mount Kater, a peak of greenstone 1700 feet above the sea, and the culminant point of the island. They are: *Azorella selago*, *Abrotanella emarginata*, *Pernettya pumila*, and *Empetrum rubrum*. The following species reach an elevation of 1500 feet on the same or neighbouring peaks: *Viola tridentata*, *Saxifraga bicuspidata*, *Escallonia serrata*, *Azorella lycopodioides*, *Ourisia breviflora*, *Drapetes muscosa*, *Fagus antarctica* (only three inches long), *Luzula* sp., *Triodia antarctica*, *Aira parvula*, and *Festuca erecta*." In the place cited are particulars of the flora of the lower part of the island, where vegetation is relatively varied and luxuriant. Extensive forests of beech (*Fagus fosteri* and *Fagus antarctica*) exist, intermingled with *Drimys winteri*, and a sparse undergrowth of *Berberis ilicifolia*, *Veronica elliptica*, &c. Among the genera of herbaceous plants represented are: *Caltha*, *Astelia*, *Forstera*, *Donatia*, *Pinguicula*, *Primula*, *Senecio*, *Carex*, and *Juncus*.

THE FLORA OF MACQUARIE ISLAND.

No endemic flowering plant or fern has been collected in Macquarie Island. Nevertheless the flora clearly belongs to the same category as the Crozets, Kerguelen, Auckland, &c., between which, as we believe, there was formerly a closer land connection. Great interest attaches to the botany of this island, on account of its being the most southerly land known to support phanerogamic vegetation at the present time, if we except the Archipelago at the southern extremity of America and the South Shetlands, in about 62° S. lat., where one flowering plant, *Aira antarctica*, was collected by Dr Eights, and is preserved in the Kew Herbarium. At Cockburn Island, in 64°, Sir J. D. Hooker found only cellular cryptogams.¹

South Georgia, which lies in about the same latitude as Macquarie, but nearly on the

¹ See Sir James Ross's Voyage in the Southern and Antarctic Regions, ii. p. 335.