South Trinidad.—This island was covered, in parts at least, with wood, even as late as the middle of the present century. Now the trees are all, or nearly all, prostrate and dead; and the living vegetation, as far as known, is restricted to about a dozen species of flowering plants and ferns; but it has not been explored by a botanist. Independently of the existing vegetation, it would be interesting to ascertain the relationship of the trees which formerly clothed the hill-sides. The few plants known are distinctly Brazilian in character, with the exception of one fern, which had previously only been collected in St Helena.

Tristan da Cunha Group, and St Paul and Amsterdam Islands.—These two distant groups are coupled, because, as already explained, the plants forming the mass of the vegetation are of the same species in both cases. They are only two in number. One is a stout reed (*Spartina arundinacea*), which is confined to these islands, and has its nearest ally in a South-eastern American species; and the other is *Phylica nitida*, a shrub or small tree, also found in the Mascarene Islands, and belonging to a genus numerously represented in Extratropical South Africa, with a few species in Madagascar, and one endemic species in St Helena, and unknown elsewhere. The distribution of *Phylica nitida* is specially remarkable, inasmuch as it is unknown in Africa, and perhaps as nearly related to the St Helena species as any. The small number of other flowering plants in these two groups of islands consists partly of endemic species of genera more or less widely diffused in the south temperate zone or beyond, and partly of species of wider range.

The Chain of Islands from the Prince Edward Group to the Macdonald Group.—From our analysis of the distribution of the vascular plants found in these islands (Part II., p. 250), it will be seen, that in spite of the great distances separating the groups, the vegetation is essentially the same throughout, and a part of that characteristic of the coldest southern region of flowering plants generally. These facts, considered in relation to the means by which the plants might be dispersed, all point to a former great land-connection, and this is the view taken by Sir Joseph Hooker and Mr Moseley. Further, the fuller details of the Antarctic Flora a few pages back confirm the close relationship existing between the vegetation of the most distant points of the coldest southern region. The Antarctic drift and other agencies may possibly have conveyed the seeds of the plants growing in the chain of islands under consideration. Wallace employs all the evidence adducible to prove a former land-connection between New Zealand and Australia by way of Lord Howe's Island, and doubtless his arguments are sound; but he is content, perhaps from having less deeply studied this part of the subject, with a comparatively broken connection with America to account for the American element in New Zealand. The extreme poverty of the present vegetation of the islands in the South Indian Ocean might be put forward as an argument in favour of original isolation; but the evidence of