

## BRYOPHYTE NOTES.

BY W. A. WEYMOUTH and L. RODWAY, C.M.G.

(Read 10th October, 1921.)

In the description of the Mosses of Tasmania recorded in Papers and Proceedings for 1913, a specimen of *Ephemerum cristatum*, H.f.W., not being available, Mitten's description was used. This is vague and insufficient to assist the junior student. The plant is minute, barely one millimetre in height, the capsule is globose as in *Acaulon*, but the leaves are very distinct. These are of thin texture, ovate-acuminate, the margin and midrib armed with relatively long simple or compound spinous processes. The cells are rectangular, but very irregular in size and shape. This description is from a specimen gathered at Bellerive by A. J. Taylor in 1886.

Mitten described a plant and named it *Trematodon flexipes*. It was gathered at Cuming's Head, Western Mountains. For some reason Dr. Brotherus, in *Pflanzenfamilien*, refers it to *Campylopodium* as *Campylopodium flexipes* (Mitt.) Broth., though it has the typical arcuate capsule with a long apophysis of *Trematodon*. The plant described under Brotherus' name in the description of Tasmanian Mosses above referred to, is *Campylopodium euphorocladium* (C.M.), Besch. The true *Trematodon flexipes*, Mitt., does not appear there at all. Mitten's plant is:—Small, subulate, entire leaves, with a broad nerve occupying the upper three-fourths of the leaf, margin entire. Seta about 5 mm., flexuose; capsule inclined, oblong, 1 mm., with a long slender apophysis; lid with an inclined slender beak slightly longer; calyptra dimidiate, inflated. Peristome with deeply cleft teeth.

The following are new to Tasmania, and determined by H. W. Dixon:—

*Trematodon mackayi* (R. Br. Ter.), Dixon. Stem 2-3 mm. Leaves with a broad sheathing base and a long subulate lamina 4 mm. Seta straight, 10 mm. Capsule narrow oblong, inclined to arcuate, 2 mm., tapering into a slender apophysis 3 mm., lid with a slender rostrum 1 mm. Peristome, none.

West Coast. T. B. Moore. Also New Zealand.

*Pottia heimii* (Hedw.), Feurn. Small, erect, 6-10 mm. Leaves narrow-ovate, acuminate, acute, 2 mm., with a few serrations towards the apex; nerve slender, continuous, or

vanishing below the apex. Seta slender, erect, 12 mm.; capsule erect, oblong, 1 mm., peristome none, mouth broad; lid with a slender rostrum.

Locality unrecorded. W.A.W.

Differing from *P. subphyscomitrioides*, chiefly in the serrate margin and non-excurrent nerve. Range, cosmopolitan.

*Pottia melbourniana*, Dixon. Small, seldom exceeding 2 mm. Leaves oblong-spathulate obtuse, but apiculate, margin entire but closely revolute below, nerve bold, dissolved in the apiculate apex. Seta erect, 3-4 mm.; capsule broadly oblong, with a wide mouth barely 1 mm., lid with an oblique rostrum.

Glenorchy. W.A.W. Also Victoria.

*Ditrichum punctulatum*, Mitt. Slender, in dense cushions, about 2 cm. long. Leaves narrow linear-subulate from a long, narrow, sheathing base, 5 mm., acutely serrate towards the apex, nerve broad, cells oblong, shining and twisting when dry. Seta 1.5 cm., capsule erect, narrow cylindric, 2 mm., mouth constricted. Peristome teeth short, slender, unequal. "In *D. elongatum* the leaves are dull and 'little twisted, otherwise they scarcely differ at all. But the 'fruit is different" (Dixon).

Navarre Plains, near Mt. King William. Also Mt. Field.

*Dicranum trichopodium*, Mitt. Yellow-green tufts on bark. Leaves slender, little secund, 6 mm., nerve broad, flat, excurrent, and occupying the upper half of the leaf, wings narrow, cells oblong above, longer towards the base, strongly incrassate, more or less serrate towards the apex, a broad auricle of numerous brown quadrate cells. Seta slender, capsule erect, narrow, lid with a very long rostrum.

Cradle Mountain. Also New Zealand.

*Mnium rostratum*, Schrad. In loose, dark green trailing tufts with short erect fertile stems. Leaves shortly decurrent, broadly obovate, those of the coma spathulate (Braithwaite). Margin limbate generally serrate above, nerve continuous into a short apiculus or lost just below the apex. Seta long, slender, capsule pendulous, elliptic, 2.5 mm., lid shortly rostrate, exostome and endostome typical.

Gould's Country. W.A.W. Also England.

*Macromitrium rodwayi*, Dixon. Dark purple-brown, in dense masses on wet diabase rock on sea coast, apex yellow-green. Stems 1-2 cm., densely covered with leaves. Leaves

linear-lanceolate, acute, 2 mm., nerve solid usually excurrent in a short smooth point, margin entire.

On dripping rock at the entrance to Port Arthur.

Mr. Dixon notes that it is near *M. peraristatum*, *Brotherus*, of Lord Howe Island. From this it differs in being a much smaller, denser plant. "But the leaves differ "in one or two ways, which I think are of importance. In "your plant the narrow basal cells occupy only a small portion of the leaf; while in *M. peraristatum* they are extremely "narrow and sinuous, and occupy more than half the leaf, "sometimes considerably more. In addition to this, the leaves "in *M. rodwayi* taper gradually to a very acute apex, and "the nerve becomes indistinct near apex, and does not appear "to be excurrent, whereas in *M. peraristatum* the apex is "rapidly narrowed and scarcely acuminate, while the nerve "runs out very distinctly into a longish cuspidate point."

H. N. Dixon.

*Leucobryum brachyphyllum*, Hampe. This moss has the habit, structure, and fruit of the common *Leucobryum candidum*, but very different foliage. With the latter the leaves are narrow lanceolate, tapering to an acute apex, and about 4 mm. long, but with *L. brachyphyllum* the leaves are lanceolate to oblong, with a short, serrate apex or apiculus, and mostly but 2 mm. long.

Weldborough. W.A.W.