ADDITIONS TO TASMANIAN FLORA, II.

[By L. Rodway.]

Before the year closes I should like to place on record sundry additions to the known plants of Tasmania, found in the vicinity of George's Bay by Mr. Wm. Fitzgerald. They have been verified by Baron von Müeller.

Claytonia pygmœa, F. v. M. This plant is about the size and general habit of its near relation, the common Tasmanian C. calyptrata, from which it can be at once distinguished by its less elongated inflorescence and larger sepals. Subsequent to flowering the sepals close over the capsule, completely burying it between their thick, fleshy masses.

Hydrocotyle capillaris, F. v. M. As small and somewhat resembling H. tripartita (R. Br.), only the leaves are not so deeply divided; usually divided half way to the petiole into three entire lobes. The fruit is very distinct; the intermediate ribs are prominent, and the space between them and the dorsal rib is filled with a spongy-pitted formation.

Schœnus turbinatus, Poiret. This very distinct sedge has, up to the present, only been found in one or two situations, by Fitzgerald. Its occurrence in N.S. Wales led to the suspicion that it had been introduced, but its distance from cultivation, together with the subsequent discovery in the same district of Corysanthes bicalcarata and Schœnus brevifolius, both also natives of New South Wales, considerably raises its claim to be indigenous. The inflorescence of this plant differs from other Tasmanian members of the genus by being collected in tolerably dense beads. In general appearance it approaches Carpha alpina more than any other of our sedges.

Schœnus brevifolius, R. Br. A tall sedge, with almost the habit of a Restio, the specimens found by Fitzgerald often attaining 3ft. The inflorescence is in long, loose, interupted panicles, often 6 or 8in. long.

Gahnia fitzgeraldi. Plant densely cœspitose; stems numerous from a creeping rhizome, about 2ft. high, slender, terete; outer leaves reduced to scarious sheathing scales; inner ones as long as, or shorter than, the stem, with sharply involute margins, and long, subulate points, gradually passing into the bracts subtending the branches of the panicle; panicle 8in. to 12in. long, interrupted branches arising few together from distant bracts, unequal, usually elongated and erect, bearing the spikelets freely distant from one another,

the whole panicle having a linear appearance, but sometimes they are short and contracted, the spikelets then forming small, distant, rather dense heads; spikelets numerous, dark-brown, about $1\frac{1}{2}$ lines long, more or less pedicelled, each subtended by a narrow, aristate bract; outer empty glumes, about four, slightly scabrous on the margin and mid-rib, more or less mucronate, seldom having a much elongated point; flowers, two, the outer one male, the inner hermaphrodite, and an empty glume developed above the flower; stamens, usually three, but in vigorous male flowers, four; style branches, three; nut, about $\frac{3}{4}$ to 1 line long, ovoid-oblong, dark, not differing in any detail from the nut of G. trifida, and, like it, finely reticulated; filaments partially deciduous, not supporting the nut as in allied species, the bases only remaining.

This plant has a similar, though smaller, habit to Gahnia trifida, Lab., but it has a very dissimilar inflorescence, and distinctly differently constructed spikelets, that species bearing a solitary terminal hermaphrodite flower. I submitted the plant to Baron von Müeller, he considered it new to science, but was too busy at the time to give it the attention required. Subsequently, Mr. Fitzgerald had occasion to correspond with F. Turner, F.L.S., of Sydney, who was not disposed to consider it specifically distinct. Since that I have made an exhaustive examination of a great number of specimens, and, with Baron von Müeller's sanction, and under our joint authority, I have described it as above.