

A NOTE ON *EUCALYPTUS JOHNSTONI*, MAIDEN.

By

L. RODWAY, C.M.G.

(Read 20th December, 1926.)

Some years ago Mr. T. B. Moore discovered, on the range between New Norfolk and the Huon district, a Gum-tree which appeared to be somewhat different from any with which he was acquainted. He described it in the Papers and Proceedings of the Royal Society of Tasmania, 1886, page 207, giving it the name *Euc. muelleri*. This name was unfortunate, as Miquel had already applied it to a form of *Euc. dumosa*, and Naudin had used it for a variety of *Euc. ovata*. Maiden refers to it in the Critical Revision, Vol. 3, p. 160.

The name was allowed to remain till Maiden in the Revision, Vol. 6, p. 280, replaced it by *Euc. johnstoni* as some small recognition of the work done in botanical science by Robert Mackenzie Johnston.

The tree has since been observed on Mount Wellington, Mount Field, and many peaks to the west. It is not a good species, for though its typical form appears fairly distinct, yet every intervening condition between that and *Euc. gunnii* may often be met with. It appears as a zone at about two thousand feet altitude. In suitable habitat it becomes a noble tree, and produces an excellent timber of a pinkish colour. Fissile, heavy, and tough, it is eminently suitable for tool-handles, shafts, oars, and such, and should return excellent results if cultivated under proper conditions.

Locally it is commonly called Brown Gum.