Raoulias of New Zealand will have to be transferred likewise to Leontopodium, notably the somewhat dimorphic R. glabra. Sir J. Hooker also alluding already (Handbook of the New Zealand Flora, i., 151) to the affinity of allied plants, placed by him into Gnaphalium, to Leontopodium. If it is desirable to maintain the multiplication of the genera of this group of Composites, then Anaphalis will claim also attention as regards the generic position of Leontopodium Catipes, especially as the involucre scales are radiating, though the general habit as well as the setæ of the pappus, free at the base, form but notes of trifling generic value. Finally it may be observed that Antennaria might become an apt point of generic concentration of the several allied plants with strictly universal capitula, while Leontopodium might receive those cognate genera in which the dicœcism is only imperfectly expressed.

I avail myself of this opportunity, while speaking of Tasmanian Composites, simultaneously to point out that Leptorhynchus nitidulus has this year been refound there, it not having been gathered by anyone since R. Brown visited the island in the beginning of this century. The new locality is Glenorchy, where it was obtained by Mr. Aug. Simson, and where probably other Gippsland plants may be found yet. Bentham thought to recognise in it the L. linearis of Lessing, which Steetz however rightly kept apart (Lehm. pl. Preiss. i., 450), although my anticipation proved correct, that L. linearis constitutes merely a variety of the common L. squamatus. I recognised rightly L. nitidulus as the genuine Candollean plant already in 1854 (second general report, p. 12). Furthermore, I like here to mention that Helichrysum Gravesii, according to the late lamented Rev. W. W. Spicer, is indigenous to Clarke's Island and Kent's Group.

REMARKS ON THE VEGETATION OF KING'S ISLAND,

By Baron Ferd. von Mueller, K.C.M.G., M.D., Ph.D., F.R.S.

King's Island, situated about halfway between one of the most southern prominences of the Australian continent and the most north-western point of Tasmania, has remained, in reference to its vegetation, almost unknown; for although this island was discovered, and its shores were mapped fully 80 years ago, very few plants were ever collected there. Anxious to push on the phytologic investigation of Australia anywhere, I recently induced Mr. Edw. Spong, who held the

position of Lighthouse-keeper at Cape Wickham, to form a collection of such plants as might be within his reach; and this endeavour to obtain a scientific insight into the vegetation there received every encouragement from A. E. Douglas, Esq., of the postal department of Hobart, so that now phytographic comparisons to some extent can be instituted between the island under consideration and the nearest regions of Tasmania and Victoria.

From a few plants of rarity previously obtained, such as Phyllocladus rhomboidalis, which does not extend to Victoria, and such as Elæocarpus cyaneus and Zoysia pungens, which are not known from Tasmania proper, it remained hitherto unascertained, to which of both phytographic regions the flora of the interjacent island more particularly belonged. The collections creditably formed last season by the young sons of Mr. Spong, are not sufficient to solve this question fully, inasmuch as many more species are likely to be found in localities of the island not readily accessible up to this time. Only two plants, absolutely new to the Tasmanian dominion, were discovered by Messrs. Spong, namely Podotheca angustifolia, and Dictyurus quercifolius; but, as in the instance of Nablonium calyceroides, the Podotheca may also yet be discovered in some of the north-western regions of Tasmania, which are hitherto still largely or even entirely devoid of settlements. While surveys are now proceeding in that direction, some botanic collections might also be formed with but little inconvenience, and certainly with no additional expenditure whatsoever. All such material from new regions tends to elucidate the physical features of any country, and aids in estimating its capabilities.

Although the collections, now got from King's Island, contain mainly plants of wide distribution as well in Tasmania as also in Victoria, it was deemed best to place all the collected species on record, and thus to give the first instalment of a floral enumeration pertaining to the island. The immigrated plants, already of not inconsiderable number, are omitted.

Clematis microphylla, Lepidium ruderale, L. foliosum, Cakile maritima, Papaver aculeatum, Boronia polygalifolia (var. pinnatifolia), Correa speciosa, Comesperma volubile, Dodonæa viscosa, Bursaria spinosa, Viola hederacea, Drosera peltata, Elæocarpus cyaneus, Geranium dissectum, Pelargonium australe, Urtica incisa, Beyera viscosa, Phyllanthus Gunnii, Sagina apetala, Muehlenbeckia apressa, Atriplex crystallinum, A. cinereum, Rhagodia Billardierii, Salicornia australis, Mesembrianthemum australe, M. æquilaterale, Tetragonia implexicoma, Stackhousia linarifolia, Tillæa verticillata, Acæna sanguisorbæ, Acacia longifolia (var. Sophoræ), Dillwynia ericifolia, Swain-

sona lessertifolia, Calycothrix tetragona, Eucalyptus globulus, Leptospermum lævigatum, L. juniperinum, Melaleuca squarrosa, M. ericifolia, Pomaderris apetala, Epilobium tetragonum, Pimelea ligustrina, P. serpyllifolia, Banksia marginata, Daucus brachiatus, Apium prostratum, Sambucus Gaudichaudiana, Lagenophora Billardierii, Aster glutescens, A. stellulatus, A. lepidophyllus, A. axillaris, A. ramulosus, Nablonium calyceroides, Cotula filifolia, C. coronopifolia, Gnaphalium luteo-album, G. Japonicum, Helichrysum cinereum, H. apiculatum, Cassinia aculeata, C. spectablis, Calocephalus Brownii, Podotheca angustifolia, Erechtites quadridentata, Senecio spatulatus, S. lautus, S. odoratus, Wahlenbergia gracilis, Selliera radicans, Solanum aviculare (with its var. pygmala, flowering at a height of three inches), Myoporum insulare, Mentha gracilis, Ajuga australis, Alyxia buxifolia, Plantago varia, Styphelia Richei, S. ericoides, Sprengelia incarnata, Caladenia latifolia, Dianella longifolia, Potamogeton natans (var.), Cymodocea antarctica, Juncus communis, Restio tetraphyllus, Lepidosperma gladiatum, Scirpus nodosus, Sc. riparius, Carex pumila, C. paniculata, Danthonia penicillata, Poa cæspitosa, Distichlis maratima, Agrostis Solandri, Stipa flavescens, Dichelachne crinita, Pteris aquilina, Polypodium pustulatum, Fumaria hygrometrica, Cladonia reptipora, Ballia Brunonis, Cystophara platylobium, Melanthalia Billardierii, Dictyurus quercifolius, Phacelocarpus Billardierii.

I am not aware whether fern trees exist in King's Island; if so, then likely out of the ferns and their close allies—known to the number of fully 60 from Tasmania—many would accompany the arborescent kind, together with the so-called Pepper Tree, Sassafras, Musk Tree, Huon Pine, and a host of other plants, occurring only in springy and shady glades. It seems not even known yet whether any Casuarinas, the Wattle and Blackwood Acacias, the Oyster Bay Pine, and Xanthorrhœas extend to the island, nor have we learnt how many species of Eucalyptus occur there. The Mistletoes, advancing to the extreme South of Australia, may perhaps exist in King's Island. Of about 50 Tasmanian kinds of grasses, 60 of sedge-like plants, and 70 of orchids, many would likely be found in an insular area of half a hundred miles in length, containing doubtless great diversity of soil; further searches should therefore be instituted in various localities and throughout all seasons, especially during the spring, and the records on the Tasmanian flora would thus far also become gradually completed in reference to the outlying islands.