

ART. XXI.—*Contributions from the National Herbarium
of Victoria.—No. 1.*

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(With 2 Text Figures.)

(Communicated by Wm. Laidlaw, B.Sc.)

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The present paper contains the descriptions of two species new to science, both from Western Australian localities. A new variety has also been established, a native of the alpine regions of Victoria, New South Wales and Tasmania. Three foreign plants have been recorded for the first time, whilst the orchid *Corysanthes bicalcarata*, a native of New South Wales, Queensland and Tasmania, has been added to the Victorian Flora. In addition several new records of the regional distribution of native and introduced plants are given.

It is proposed to continue these contributions as material becomes available and opportunity offers.

APONOGETON DISTACHYUM, Thunb. "Cape Pond Lily"
(Naiadaceae).

Stony Creek, Lorne, Victoria, Rev. A. C. F. Gates, November, 1921.

This South African plant has escaped from cultivation, and is now spreading in several parts of the above-named creek, where it will no doubt become naturalised.

BOSSIAEA LAIDLAWIANA, sp. nov. (Leguminosae).

Frutex arbuscula concinna, alta quindecim ad viginti pedes, rami tomentosi. Folia longa dimidiam partem unciae; lata circiter tres partes unciae, adversa, pedunculi breves, serrata, haud pungenter acuta aut alte sinuata eodem modo quo B. Aquifolium. Nonnulla foliorum superiorum hirsuta infra. Flores, soli, axillarii, vexillum et alae flava, carina purpurea, flores in pediculis plerumque tam longi quam calyx, bractee interiores et bracteolae

persistenteriores quam *B. Aquifolium*. Calyx longa unum ad unum et dimidium lignum, lobae duae superiores late truncatae tres inferiores, breviores, sed acutae. Vexillum ter tam longa quam

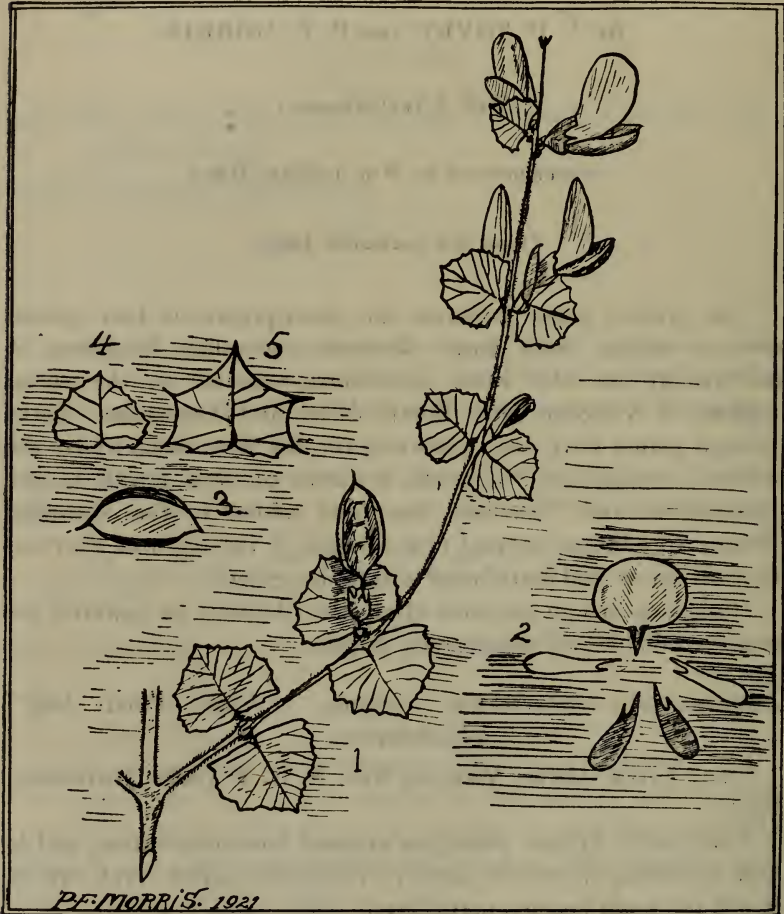


FIG. 1.—*BOSSIAEA LAIDLAWIANA*, N.SP.

- (1) Portion of plant in flower and fruit. (2) Flower dissected.
 (3) Legume. (4) Leaf. (5) Leaf of *B. aquifolium*.

calyx; petala inferiora paulum breviora, ovarium cum tribus ovulis. Legumen longa circiter tres partes unciae et lata unam partem unciae.

An elegant shrub, 15 to 20 feet high, branches tomentose. Leaves half inch long, about three-quarters inch broad opposite,

shortly pedunculate, serrated, not pungently pointed or deeply sinuate as in *B. Aquifolium*. Some of the upper leaves hairy beneath. Flowers, solitary, axillary, standard and wings yellow, keel purplish red; flowers on pedicels usually as long as the calyx. Inner bracts and bracteoles more persistent than *B. Aquifolium*. Calyx, 1-1½ lines long; lobes, two upper ones broadly truncate, lower 3 shorter, but pointed. Standard 3 times as long as calyx, lower petals slightly shorter. Ovary, 3 ovules. Pod about ¾ inch long, and ¼ inch broad.

Pemberton and Manjimup, Warren district, West Australia, Max Koch, No. 2244 Oct., Dec., 1918; Western Australia (in National Herbarium, Melbourne, without collector's name or precise locality).

Its nearest affinity is *B. Aquifolium*, from which it differs in being a tomentose shrub of 15-20 feet, colour and size of flowers, shape of leaf, calyx and standard.

Named in honour of Wm. Laidlaw, B.Sc., Government Botanist for Victoria.

BROMUS TECTORUM, L. "Wall or Downy Brome-Grass"
(Gramineae).

Parkville, near Melbourne, A. O'Brien, Nov., 1921.

This grass, a native of Europe and Asia, is introduced and widely spread in United States, America, where it is looked upon as a very objectionable grass, but it has not been previously recorded as growing wild in Victoria.

CALADENIA ANGUSTATA, Lindl. "Slender Caladenia"
(Orchidaceae).

Hurst Bridge, Victoria, Miss S. Llewelyn, Oct., 1921.

A new locality in Victoria for this orchid.

CHORETRUM PENDULUM, sp. nov.
(Santalaceae).

Pendens aut frutex arbuscula lacrimosa alta circiter sex pedes; folia redacta ad crustas minutas, satis persistentia, paulum curva ad apices acutas. Rami inferiores interstincti aut striati; ramusculi angulares exacute. Flores parvi (sed maiores quam *C. lateriflorum*), soli, pedunculi breves, corolla alba. Flores sparsi et cum longioribus intervallis quam in *C. lateriflorum*; quisque flos circumplexus ovi forma pravis bracteis et bracteolis. Ovarium

inferius, stigma cum quinque lobis; fructus drupae aridae et flavae, et coronatae cum quinque lobis perianthialibus.

A pendant or weeping shrub about six feet high; leaves re-

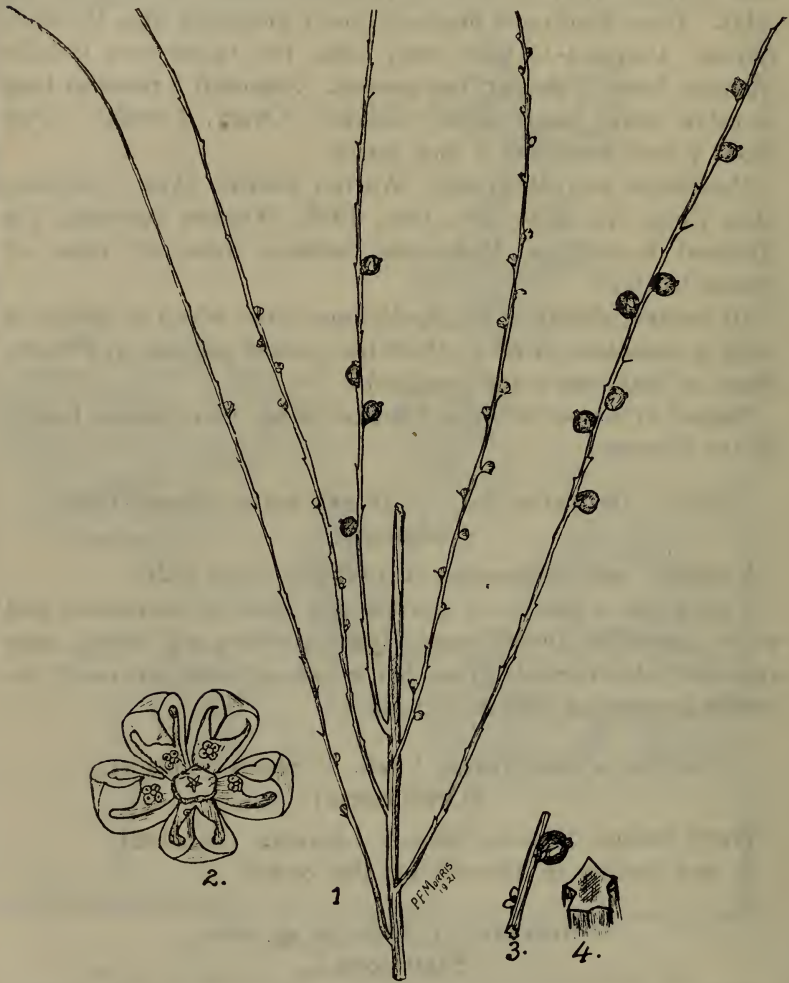


FIG. 2.—CHORETRUM PENDULUM, N.SP.

- (1) Portion of plant in flower and in fruit. (2) Flower (enlarged).
 (3) Fruit with bracts and bracteoles. (4) t.s. of stem.

duced to minute scales, fairly persistent, slightly curved at the pointed tips. Lower branches streaked or grooved, the branchlets acutely angular. Flowers small (but larger than in the type of *C. lateriflorum*), solitary very shortly pedunculate, corolla

white. Flowers scattered and further apart than in *C. lateriflorum*; each flower surrounded by small oval bracts and bracteoles. Ovary inferior, stigma five lobed; fruit a dry globular drupe, yellow, and crowned with five perianth lobes.

Pemberton, Warren district, West Australia, Max Koch, No. 2409 (Oct., 1919), and No. 2537 (Jan., 1921).

Its nearest affinity is *C. lateriflorum* from which it differs in having larger flowers, height, the shape of branches, pendulous habit, fruit and stigma lobes, the bracts and bracteoles being more rounded, and the fruit on a shorter peduncle.

Mr. Spencer le Moore, of the British Museum, to whom a specimen was submitted for comparison with Brown's type of *C. lateriflorum*, says: "We received this some three years ago from Dr. Stoward, who met with it in the 'Albany District.' The specimens were in fruit only, and I was unable to name them. Now that the flowers have been found, there is apparently no doubt as to the plant's novelty."

CORYSANTHES BICALCARATA, R.Br., (Orchidaceae).

Healesville, Victoria, Miss D. Coleman, July, 1921.

Previously recorded from New South Wales, Queensland and Tasmania.

ERAGROSTIS CURVULA, Nees, var. *VALIDA*, Stapf.

"African Love Grass."

Government House Domain, Melbourne, Miss A. M. Tovey, Nov., 1921.

This South African grass was previously recorded from Drouin, Gippsland. The grass becomes too wiry to be of much use for fodder.

EURYOPS ABROTANIFOLIUS, D.C. "Southern wood-leaf Euryops"
(Compositae).

Near Menzies' Creek, Paradise, Victoria, J. W. Audas, August, 1921.

This South African plant, may be regarded as an exotic not yet sufficiently established to be considered naturalised.

HELICHRYSUM ROSMARINIFOLIUM, Less, var. *LEDIFOLIUM*, comb. nov. (Syn. *Helichrysum ledifolium*, Benth.) Compositae.

Victoria: Mt. Hotham, C. Walter (no date), Mt. Hotham, 6000 feet, A. J. Tadgell, Dec., 1914; also found in New South

Wales and Tasmania. The branches of this variety are rather stouter, the leaves are more crowded and thicker; the flower heads are larger, but otherwise the inflorescence, involucre, florets, achenes and pappus quite as in *H. rosmarinifolium*.

LUZULA CAMPESTRIS, D.C., var. AUSTRALASICA, Buch.
(syn. *L. Oldfieldii*, Hook, f.) (Juncaceae).

Bennison's Plain, Gippsland, A. W. Howitt, 1887, Hawkesdale, H. B. Williamson, May, 1899; Lorne, Rev. A. C. F. Gates, Nov., 1921.

This variety, a native of New South Wales and Tasmania, has now to be recorded for Victoria.

MELALEUCA ERICIFOLIA, Sm. "Swamp Paper-Bark"
(Myrtaceae).

Epsom, near Bendigo, D. J. Paton, Nov., 1921.
A new locality in Victoria for this plant.

MOENCHIA ERECTA, Sm. "Upright Moenchia."
(Caryophyllaceae.)

This plant, a native of Europe, was recorded under the name of *Cerastium quaternellum*, Fenzl., in Vict., Nat. X., p. 145 (1893) as a naturalised alien in Victoria. The genus *Moenchia* was then placed as a subgenus of *Cerastium*, but as *Moenchia* is now considered to be a valid genus, the specimens hitherto known in Victoria as *Cerastium quaternellum* have to be changed to *Moenchia erecta*, Sm.

This plant is also found in Tasmania.

NOTHOLAENA DISTANS, R.Br. "Bristly Cloak Fern." (Filices.)

Granite Rocks on Big Hill, near Bendigo. David J. Paton, January and May, 1921.

A new locality in Victoria for this fern.

ZIERIA ASPALATHOIDES, A. Cunn. "Hairy Zieria." (Rutaceae.)

Mt. Tarrangower, about 1300 feet, Maldon, Victoria, Rev. W. C. Tippett, Oct., 1921.

A new locality for this plant. It was previously recorded from the Grampians, A. Cunningham; and Barren ridges near Goulburn River, F. v. Mueller. It is also found in New South Wales and Queensland.