

# Frederick Hamilton Kenny (1859–1927), an Australian plant collector of note

A.R. Bean

## Summary

Bean, A.R. (2016). Frederick Hamilton Kenny (1859–1927), an Australian plant collector of note. *Austrobaileya* 9(4): 546–559. A biography of Frederick Hamilton Kenny, a significant Australian plant collector in the early 20<sup>th</sup> century, is presented. Kenny was a medical doctor and surgeon, but also a keen amateur naturalist. He lived and worked in numerous towns during his life, and collected around 1170 botanical specimens between 1905 and 1924, mainly in Queensland and New South Wales, with his major collecting localities being Crows Nest, Gayndah, Gympie and Herberton in Queensland, and Glen Innes and Mosman in New South Wales. He served with the Australian Navy in World War I and his diary from this period gives an insight into his personality. He discovered a number of unknown plant species and four plant taxa were named for him. The number, provenance, presentation, significance and taxonomic diversity of his plant collections are discussed.

Key Words: Frederick Hamilton Kenny, historical botany, herbarium specimens, type specimens, handwriting, Australia flora, New South Wales flora, Queensland flora

A.R. Bean, Queensland Herbarium, Department of Science, Information Technology & Innovation, Brisbane Botanic Gardens, Mt Coot-tha Road, Toowong 4066, Queensland, Australia. Email: Tony.Bean@dsiti.qld.gov.au

## Introduction

Frederick Hamilton Kenny was one of numerous amateur naturalists and plant collectors that were encouraged by F.M. Bailey, Government Botanist in the late 19<sup>th</sup> century and early 20<sup>th</sup> century, to send plant specimens for identification and classification. Kenny was a medical doctor and surgeon, but for many years devoted his spare time to the study of natural history, and especially botany. No previous biographical information is available for Kenny. His name is not listed in any of the usual references where botanist's biographical notes are given e.g., Orchard (1999), Pearn (2001), George (2009), CHAH (2016). Nor is he mentioned in the *Australian Dictionary of Biography* (ADB 2006–2016). Despite this, his contribution to botany is significant and worthy of documentation.

## Materials and methods

The Queensland Herbarium specimen database (Herbrecs) was used to generate a spreadsheet of Kenny's collections. The

author has located many of these specimens, now scattered through the collection at BRI, to assess their quality, to check for the presence of original labels, and to add any information not recorded on the database. Details of specimens not at BRI were extracted from AVH (2016). The 'Trove' website (National Library of Australia 2009–onwards) has been extensively used, to uncover relevant articles published in newspapers of the time. A search of the Queensland Herbarium archives has uncovered a few relevant letters. Herbarium acronyms (e.g. BRI, MEL) follow Thiers (continuously updated).

## Biographical detail

Frederick Hamilton Kenny was born at Banningham, Norfolk County, England, on 6<sup>th</sup> October 1859<sup>1</sup>. His father was Rev. Henry Torrens Kenny. He was one of nine children. One brother, A.L. Kenny, became an Anglican minister, and immigrated to Australia around 1900, living for many years in and around Rockhampton, Queensland<sup>2</sup>.

Frederick received his Licence of the Society of Apothecaries (L.S.A.) in 1881, and

qualified as a surgeon (M.C.R.S.) in London in 1882<sup>3</sup>. He arrived in Melbourne, Australia, on 28 January 1889, aboard the S.S. Hankow<sup>4</sup>, and opened his own medical practice in Hawksburn, Melbourne, in November 1889, with his 'hours of consultation' given as 9–11am, 1–3pm and 6–8pm<sup>5</sup>.

He married Alice Elizabeth Chomley at Warrnambool, Victoria on 25<sup>th</sup> February 1890<sup>6</sup>. A few years later they had a daughter, Mabel, who was born at Oakley in Melbourne, on 14<sup>th</sup> December 1894<sup>7</sup>.

In 1896, Kenny sold his practice in Melbourne, and auctioned off his belongings – these included a “Hooded Speeding Buggy”, a Gentleman’s riding saddle, and an “upstanding chestnut horse” named Napoleon<sup>8</sup>. He moved across the continent to Coolgardie, Western Australia.<sup>9</sup> In July 1897, he signed on as the resident doctor at Nannine<sup>10</sup> in outback Western Australia. Nannine was at that time a thriving town that had come into existence because gold was found there, but it has long since been abandoned. Kenny evidently did not find Nannine to his liking because in February 1898 he left<sup>11</sup>, and for a few months did locum work in Latrobe and Burnie in northern Tasmania<sup>12</sup>. He next went to north Queensland, arriving at Cairns by steamship<sup>13</sup> on the 30 August 1898, and made his way to Mareeba, where he set up practice<sup>14</sup>. This was a particularly short-lived venture, as he left Cairns again by steamship on 24 January 1899<sup>15</sup>, and then spent some months in Sydney.

He commenced practice in Gympie, in south-eastern Queensland, in July 1899<sup>17</sup>. Kenny’s eight-year stint living and working in Gympie (leaving in 1907) was the longest of his working life. This is not to say that he ceased to travel. Indeed he seems to have been an inveterate traveller – for instance, his name is listed as an attendee of an Intercolonial Medical Congress at Hobart in 1902<sup>18</sup>.

At Gympie, he appears to finally make his mark on the world, and earns the respect and appreciation of the local community. At the Gympie General Hospital, Kenny made many improvements, including the addition of an X-ray machine and the paving of the operating



**Fig. 1.** Photograph of Frederick Hamilton Kenny, taken in February 1899<sup>16</sup>.

theatre with white marble slabs. He was kept busy in the job, stating (in 1902) that “there are fewer mining accidents than one would expect on a gold field; but the timber-getters of the Blackall Range furnish many patients, and horse accidents are frequent”<sup>19</sup>.

He was appointed a Justice of the Peace in 1902<sup>20</sup>, and subsequently he was sometimes called upon to pass sentence on people accused of minor offences at the Police Court in Nambour<sup>21</sup>, and presumably also in Gympie. In 1906, he and his wife had a son, Rawdon, 12 years after the birth of Mabel (Morris 1991).

It is evidently during his time in Gympie that Kenny first became interested in botany. He maintained a correspondence with F.M. Bailey for about a decade that was beneficial to both men; Kenny received

plant identifications from Bailey, and Bailey learned of new plant taxa or distribution records through the collections of Kenny.

Twenty members of the Queensland Naturalists Club went to Gympie for an outing in early May 1907, and Kenny was actively involved in entertaining and guiding the participants. They also reportedly inspected Kenny's "fine collection of birds, plants, shells and minerals"<sup>22</sup>.

Kenny became embroiled in a medical controversy after he amputated the leg of a boy, and the end result was that the Hospital Committee asked for his resignation in April 1907<sup>23</sup>. This was clearly distressing to Kenny and no doubt prompted his decision to get as far away from Gympie as possible. He resigned in June 1907, and travelled to Adelaide, spending some weeks there. Then in late July, he and his family boarded the S.S. *Patroclus*, bound for England<sup>24</sup>, with Frederick employed as medical officer for the voyage<sup>25</sup>. Little is known about his time in the U.K., except that he undertook a course of medical study at the Edinburgh infirmary<sup>26</sup>. The family left England again in May 1908<sup>27</sup>, and returned to settle at Mosman, a harbour-side suburb of Sydney, where Kenny collected numerous plant specimens. In November 1908, he was appointed as medical officer for the Lithgow zig-zag deviation railway construction, where 1200 men were working. He was based at the town of Clarence, and his salary was to be £800 per year<sup>28</sup>, but within two months (January 1909), he was a resident of Hobart, Tasmania, and practicing medicine there! He stayed just long enough at Clarence to collect 28 plant specimens. There are numerous collections from the Hobart and Mt Wellington areas from 1909, but he spent less than a year there, and by November 1909, he was installed at Glen Innes, N.S.W.<sup>29</sup>, where he lived until November 1911. During this period, he attended the Science Congress in Sydney<sup>30</sup>, and in a letter published in the Sydney Morning Herald, he pronounced himself a botanist, and stated that he was acquainted with F.M. Bailey and his son<sup>31</sup>.

From December 1911 to February 1912, he went on an extended holiday to north

Queensland, collecting plant specimens from Cairns, Herberton, Kuranda, Lake Eacham, Mt Bellenden Ker, Harvey's Creek and Mourilyan. On his return, he attended a Field Naturalist Club meeting in Brisbane, and displayed some of his botanical specimens, including *Dracophyllum sayeri* F.Muell.<sup>32</sup>. This specimen is extant at BRI.

During the period February to July 1912, he travelled around the Darling Downs, perhaps working as a locum, as there are collections at BRI from Allora, Warwick and Pittsworth. On his travels on the Downs, he was clearly outraged at the ringbarking of trees on many road reserves, a measure taken in the belief that it would mitigate the spread of prickly pear (*Opuntia stricta* (Haw.) Haw.), which was rampant at that time. In an eloquent letter to the editor of The Brisbane Courier<sup>33</sup>, Kenny denounced the ringbarking activities, suggested ways of combating the prickly pear scourge, and named some species of shade trees that could be used around homesteads and in towns, including *Celtis australis* L. and *Schinus molle* L.

Kenny started practicing medicine in Nambour in August 1912<sup>34</sup>, but in October 1912 his place of residence was listed as Gayndah<sup>35</sup>, and throughout 1913 he was employed at the Gayndah Hospital. However, he must have had a continued connection with Nambour, as he stitched a man's leg there in March 1913<sup>36</sup>. During his time at Gayndah, he wrote an informative article about the bird life of that town (Kenny 1915). In February 1914, he resigned from the position at Gayndah hospital<sup>37</sup>, and returned to Glen Innes.

In August 1914, at the outbreak of World War I, Kenny volunteered for the Australian Navy, as the medical officer for the ship *Upolu*, and had his pay of £29 a month forwarded to his wife<sup>38</sup>. His ship and several others went to Rabaul in New Britain, which was previously under German control, then on to Fiji, anchoring in the harbour at Suva. The flotilla returned to Sydney in October 1914. None of the ships saw any action against German forces.

His next commission was aboard the *Fantome*, from early December 1914 to late February 1915. The flotilla patrolled the waters around New Britain and New Ireland, stationed at Rabaul, and also visited Kavieng. There was again no engagement with the German forces.

His diary included numerous references to trees and other flora growing at Rabaul and Fiji, and he stated a few times that he had “gathered some”. Only a handful of these specimens survive at BRI, three from Rabaul and eight from Suva, about half of them non-indigenous species.

Commencing in March 1915, he was the staff surgeon of the HMAS *Cerberus* base at the Naval Depot, Williamstown, Victoria<sup>39</sup>. In August 1916, Kenny gave medical evidence regarding the accidental death of a seaman on one of the naval vessels, concluding that he died from “concussion of the brain”<sup>40</sup>. A letter published on 19 December 1916 showed that he was then still at HMAS *Cerberus*<sup>41</sup>. Later, it seems that he was stationed at a military camp in Victoria<sup>42</sup>.

In April 1918, Kenny attended a Field Naturalists Club meeting in Brisbane, where he was officially welcomed back after his Navy attachment<sup>43</sup>. A few days later, he attended their outing to Ipswich<sup>44</sup>.

He then returned to live in Glen Innes, although he visited Boggabri in September 1918 (Queensland Herbarium 2016). In January 1919, he purchased a practice at Crows Nest, near Toowoomba in Queensland, and moved there<sup>45</sup>. He had no sooner arrived at Crows Nest than he was inoculating people against the deadly influenza pandemic that killed millions of people in other parts of the world<sup>46</sup>. In September 1919, he was involved in an Ornithologist’s conference held in Brisbane, which attracted delegates from throughout Australia. There was afterwards a trip to the Bunya Mountains<sup>47</sup>.

His daughter Mabel was married at Glen Innes in March 1920. She had two sons, born in 1921 and 1922<sup>48</sup>.

Kenny evidently paid a visit to Gympie in October 1921, as three of his specimens date from there (Queensland Herbarium 2016).

Kenny made many useful plant collections around Crows Nest, and turned up some interesting species. When C.T. White botanised the Crows Nest area in 1922, Kenny accompanied him (Williamson 1922), and no doubt showed him some of the most interesting places for flora. His last dated botanical specimen was collected in September 1924.

Kenny died at Crows Nest on the 5<sup>th</sup> May 1927, and he was buried in Toowoomba. It was reported that “heart trouble made him an invalid for the five or six months prior to his death”<sup>49</sup>.

## Discussion

Kenny evidently had wanderlust, for he lived and worked in many Australian towns and cities, rarely staying more than a year or two. His relatively high income as a doctor allowed him to do this, but I believe it was his insatiable appetite for knowledge and life experiences that were the main motivation for his many trips and changes of work location.

Kenny’s wartime diary (covering the period August 1914 to February 1915) is a strange mixture of personal letters (addressed to his wife) and everyday happenings, but it gives a lively account of what was essentially a period of inactivity. The narrative indicates what life was like at that time, and also provides great insight into his personality and character.

Kenny was clearly an extrovert, and during his Navy service he spent a lot of time talking with his colleagues and other seamen, and met as many people as possible when on shore, and he appeared to be much-liked both by his peers and his naval superiors. He commented in his diary on one occasion that “for once I didn’t talk”, implying that this was a rare occurrence.

By his own admission, he was a very curious man, always keen to have new experiences and to see new things. He wrote “Wherever one goes one should first of all follow up your own game & see & learn all

you can – then those adnexa that be nearest – in my case – Natural History”. His diary is full of observations of various plants that he saw at Rabaul and Suva, but he also talked about mammals, fishes and insects that he came across. He described himself as “an energetic medical man who wants to evolve his mind by experience & actual work”, and his thirst for new experiences is shown by his entry: “I’ve my name down for any odd job anywhere or anyhow”.

He mentions his “sense of cleanliness, punctuality & order”, and elsewhere in his diary it is clear that he liked things to be clean, tidy and efficiently done. He was very careful about the health of the men under his care, and he was vigilant with regard to food poisoning. The refrigeration units on board the ships were primitive and unreliable, and Kenny frequently had cause to throw large quantities of meat and other food overboard for fear it was infected with bacteria. Despite this caution, there was an outbreak of Ptomaine poisoning after some of the men ate contaminated canned food. Kenny was himself one of the victims.

He was very critical of the over-consumption of alcohol by many of his colleagues. This is consistent with a report he had earlier written while stationed at Gympie Hospital, when he described alcohol as a “toxin”, and stated that “I am strongly of opinion that all forms of alcohol should be refrained from”<sup>50</sup>. From his diary we learn that he himself was not a teetotaler, but drank alcohol only sparingly, and only after 7 pm. The diary also reveals that Kenny was a regular smoker of cigarettes.

He was an advocate of exercise for both the mind and body. One day he wrote “I went for a 7 mile walk on Saty aft [Saturday afternoon] – this keeps me fit & well & in addition I exercise my powers of observation which enables me to collect any new plants I come across”. One of his maxims, impressed upon his children, was “Early bed, early rise – to each his or her duty & then play & pleasure”.

Several letters from F.M. Bailey to Kenny are present in the Queensland Herbarium archives, but only one letter written by Kenny (dated 1<sup>st</sup> May 1913) is preserved. At this time, he was living at Gayndah, and in the letter, he expressed concern that *Lantana sellowiana* (now known as *L. montevidensis* (Spreng.) Briq.) was then becoming widely naturalised in the Gayndah district.

### Kenny’s surname

It is not obvious whether ‘Hamilton’ should be regarded as a part of a hyphenated surname, or whether it is a Christian name, perhaps commemorating an ancestor. Evidence in favour of the former includes his marriage notice in 1890 which is headed “Hamilton-Kenny–Chomley”, and that his children were named “Mabel Hamilton Kenny” and “Rawdon Hamilton Kenny”.

However, his father’s name was Henry Torrens Kenny, and his brother’s name A. Lee Kenny, with no mention of ‘Hamilton’. Furthermore, Frederick was generally known to his contemporaries as Dr Kenny, and if this were incorrect, he surely would have apprised them. His wife’s name was listed on the electoral role as “Alice Elizabeth Kenny”<sup>51</sup>. Also, Mabel’s gravestone reads “Mabel Hamilton Bloxsome” – if her unmarried surname were Hamilton-Kenny, then her married name would have been just Mabel Bloxsome. On balance then, it seems that ‘Kenny’ alone is the surname, and ‘Hamilton’ was a cherished family name used by him and passed onto his children.

### Handwriting

Kenny’s handwriting is quite distinctive, with its upright script, many flowing curves contrasting with the long prominent cross-piece of the ‘t’ (**Fig. 2**), and the often incomplete loops on ‘y’ and ‘g’. Nevertheless, his writing is difficult to decipher. For example, he did not produce the upper loops on ‘m’ and ‘n’, and these letters appear as ‘w’ and ‘u’ respectively.

### Specimens

Kenny made around 1170 botanical collections. The great majority of Kenny’s

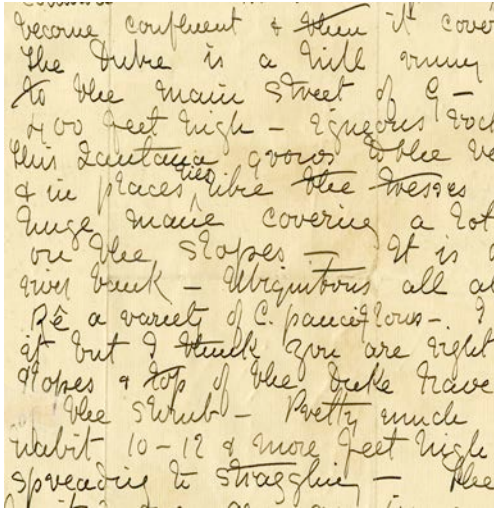


Fig. 2. A sample of the handwriting of F.H. Kenny<sup>52</sup>

specimens are at BRI, where there are a total of 1148 specimens. Of these, three were collected at Rabaul, eight at Suva, 12 from Victoria, 15 from South Australia, 38 from Tasmania, 269 from New South Wales, and the remainder from Queensland.

There are some Kenny specimens at other Australian herbaria (AVH 2016). There are five specimens at MEL, one of which is not at BRI. There are 26 specimens collected by Kenny at AD, all of the family Orchidaceae – these were undoubtedly sent to Adelaide because R.S. Rogers, a noted orchid expert was resident there. NSW has 32 specimens – most of these are duplicated from BRI, but a few are not present at BRI, including *Eucalyptus dura* L.A.S.Johnson & K.D.Hill and *Corymbia abergiana* (F.Muell.) K.D.Hill & L.A.S.Johnson (surely sent to J.H. Maiden, the eucalypt expert at that time) and *Stenochlaena palustris* (Burm.f.) Bedd. from Suva (probably sent to fern expert T. Whitelegge). One collection of *Tephrosia varians* (F.M.Bailey) C.T.White is at DNA (also present at BRI), although this is obviously a later duplicate distribution. There are at least three duplicates of Kenny's type specimens at K, which were sent from BRI by C.T. White.

Kenny's specimens are all vascular plants; there are no mosses, lichens or fungi. Within the flowering plants, he showed a strong bias towards the dicotyledons. Species from the families (specimen numbers indicated in brackets) Asteraceae (109), Fabaceae (104), Myrtaceae (80), Mimosaceae (66), Rutaceae (51), Ericaceae (39), Orchidaceae (36), Lamiaceae (33), Goodeniaceae (23), Rubiaceae (23) and Proteaceae (20) were the most frequently collected. It appears that he did not have an interest in grasses, as only 11 Poaceae specimens exist.

From the author's observation of hundreds of Kenny's specimens at BRI, it appears that he usually (perhaps always) sent his specimens attached with strips of opaque adhesive tape to A4-sized pages of the *British Medical Journal* or *The Lancet* (Fig. 3). Upon the margins of these pages he wrote his collecting notes; the locality, the volume and page number from Bailey's *The Queensland Flora*, sometimes the date, and other brief notes about the plant itself, including the flowering time. His specimens are always rather small, but well pressed and without mould. Kenny did not number his specimens, and his provision of a collection date was erratic – he variously provided the exact date, the month and year, the month only, the year only, or no date at all. In many cases, the A4 pages have been discarded by Bailey or whoever mounted the specimens, but sometimes Kenny's notes have been excised and the small strips of paper are glued to the herbarium sheet (Figs. 4, 5, 6). These strips of paper are mostly off-white or yellowish in colour, and the printed text sometimes visible on these strips confirms that they have come from the journal pages.

A label with a particularly brownish coloured paper (evidently from the margins of a magazine or journal, as typeface is sometimes visible) was used by Kenny in some (mainly Nambour) collections (Fig. 7)

A subset of these are dated 1912 – this has assisted in dating the Nambour and Caloundra specimens for which no year of collection was provided.

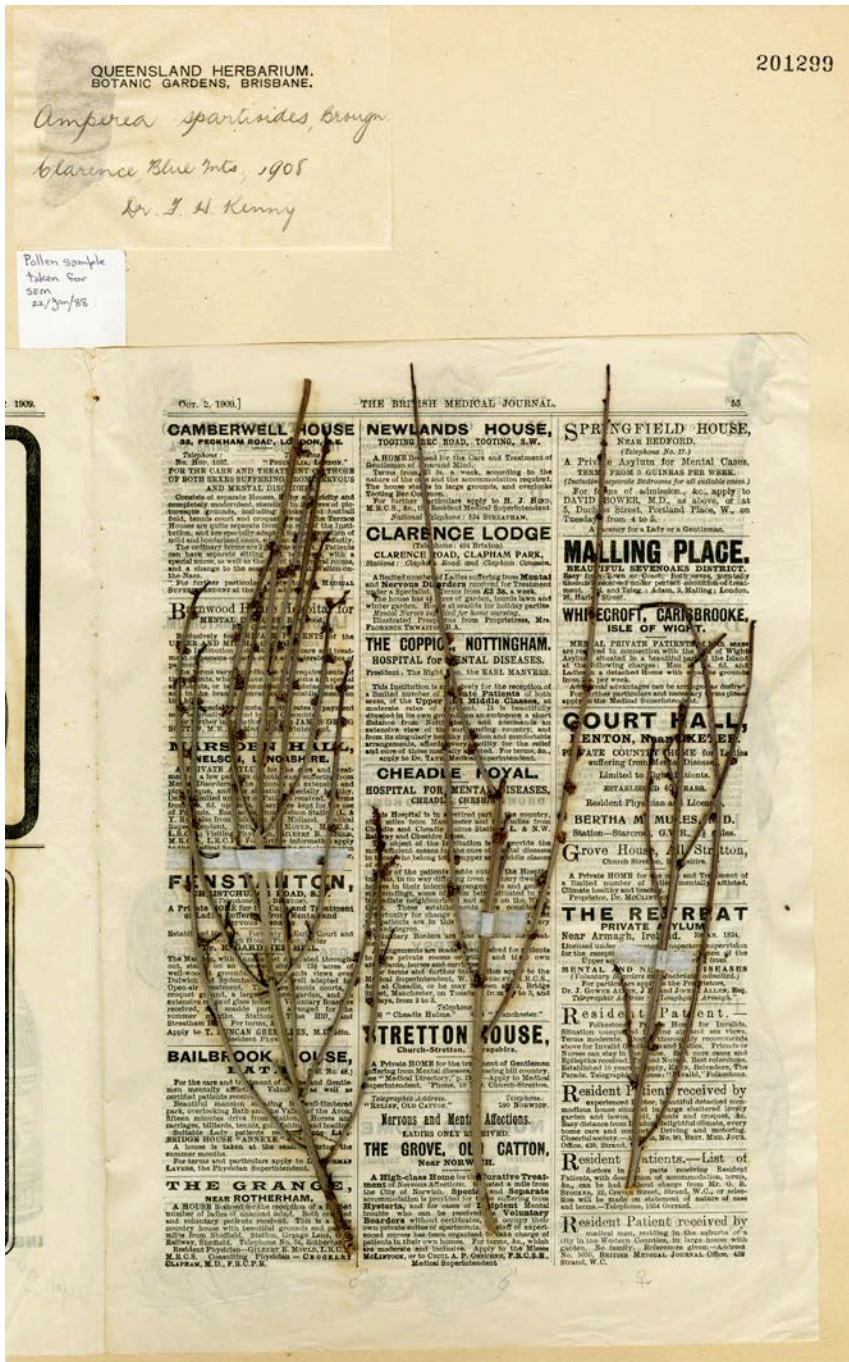


Fig. 3. Specimen of *Amperea xiphochlada* (BRI [AQ201299]) mounted by Kenny onto a page of the British Medical Journal.

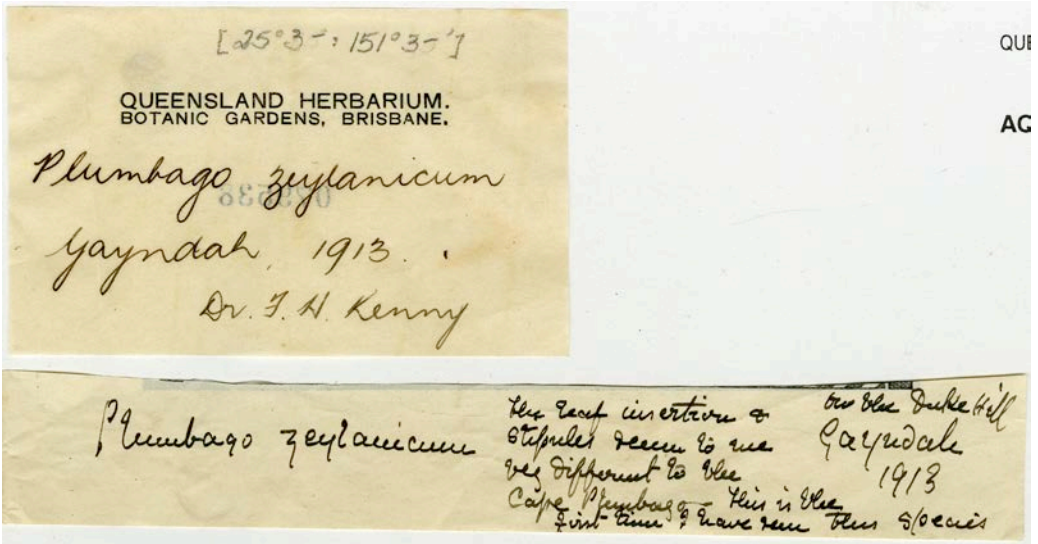


Fig. 4. Strip label with Kenny's notes (bottom) and herbarium label written by C.T. White (BRI [AQ79538]).

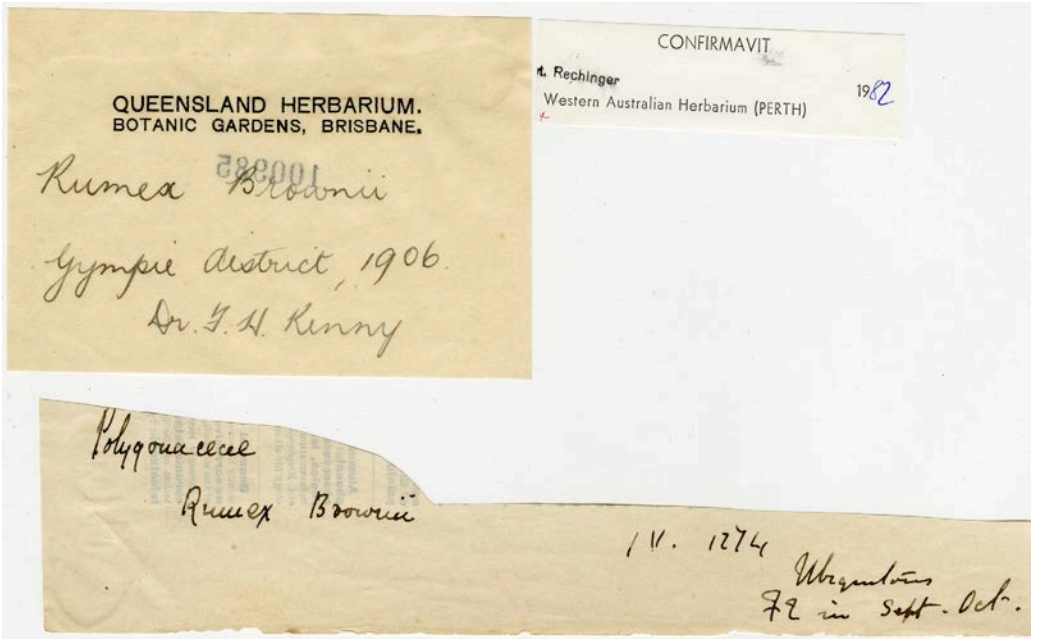


Fig. 5. Strip label with Kenny's notes (bottom) and herbarium label written by C.T. White (BRI [AQ100985]).



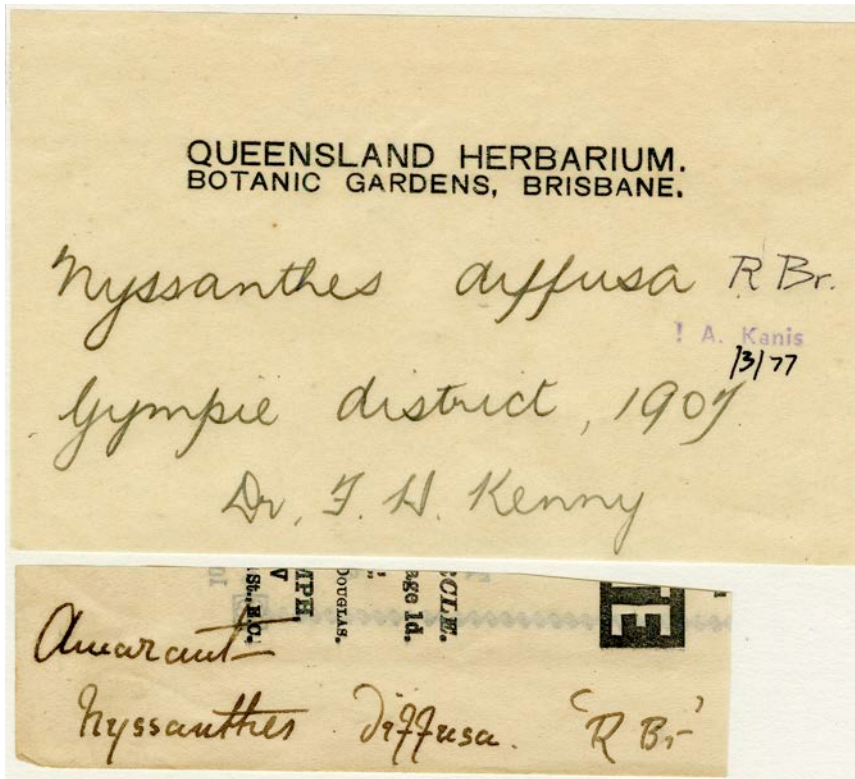


Fig. 6. Strip label with Kenny’s notes (bottom) and herbarium label written by C.T. White (BRI [AQ169881]).

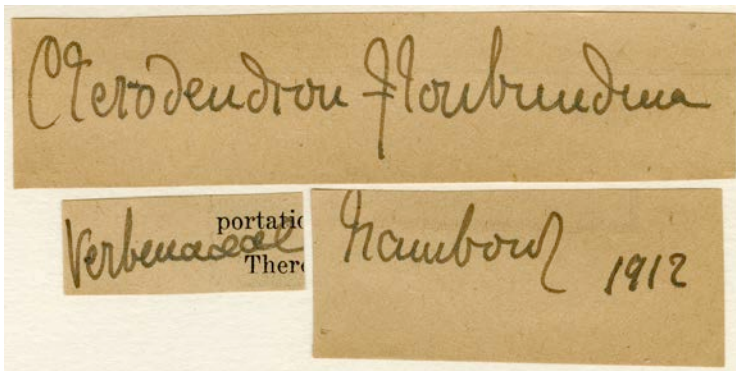


Fig. 7. A label with darker coloured paper that Kenny used in 1912 (BRI [AQ111406]).

### Collecting localities

Kenny's major collecting localities were Gympie (324 specimens), Crows Nest (161), Herberton (125), Mosman (115), Glen Innes (98), Gayndah (61), Caloundra (52), Nambour (31), Clarence (28) and Mt Wellington (17).

The oldest specimen collected by Kenny for which the date can be confirmed is a specimen of *Callicarpa pedunculata* R.Br. from Gympie in March 1905. Between March 1905 and June 1907, he collected many specimens, of which over 300 are preserved at BRI – mainly from Gympie, but also from Nambour, Caloundra, Southport and Tweed Heads.

While at Gympie, Kenny was able to botanise only when he was not required at the hospital, so probably only on Sundays. He had a “dogcart”<sup>53</sup> (a light horse-drawn vehicle), and presumably used that to travel to various places around Gympie where interesting plants could be found. Unfortunately, the original labels for many of Kenny's specimens were not preserved, and for those only a written or typed label with the locality ‘Gympie’ is extant. However, where Kenny's labels are preserved, a good number of them give extra detail, and some of their localities are: Stumm Road, Scrubby Creek, Pie Creek, Deep Creek, Mary River scrubs, Wotton Hill, corner Wickham & Channon Streets, Ashford Hill. All of these locations are within 10 km of the Gympie Hospital, and most are considerably closer than that.

None of his Nambour collections gives any extra locality detail, except one which specifies ‘Petrie Creek’, the creek that runs through the middle of the town.

It seems that his Gayndah collections were similarly collected in close proximity to the town. Numerous specimens refer to ‘Duke Hill’, which is a hill a few hundred metres south of the main street of Gayndah, and the aquatic and riparian specimens were doubtless collected from the Burnett River running beside the town.

### Botanical legacy and plant taxa named for him

As noted earlier, members of the Queensland Naturalists Club were shown Kenny's “fine collection of ... plants...”. This is confirmation that Kenny kept a personal herbarium, a collection of dried plant samples that he could refer to at any time. Towards the end of his time in Gympie, he wrote “I have personal knowledge and possession of over 800 species”, referring to the flora of the area<sup>54</sup>. This suggests that his personal herbarium may have comprised 800 or more specimens. White (1927) stated that Kenny was one of the best amateur botanists in the state.

His collections from Gympie, Caloundra and Nambour in 1905 and 1906 are the oldest specimens at BRI from those towns, although it is possible that some of the specimens collected by F.M. Bailey in October 1874 and labelled ‘Maroochie’, are from around Nambour.

Kenny collected *Ricinocarpos speciosus* Muell.Arg. at Nambour, a species now listed as **Vulnerable** under Queensland legislation, which can no longer be found in the vicinity of that town due to land clearing and the invasion of woody weeds such as *Cinnamomum camphora* (L.) J.Presl and *Lantana camara* L. into its rainforest-fringe habitat. He also collected *Hemisteptia lyrata* (Bunge) Fisch. & C.A.Mey. at Nambour – this species is now extinct in coastal Queensland. His collection of *Asplenium wildii* F.M.Bailey is one of only two from south of Daintree. Kenny was the first to collect specimens of *Fontainea rostrata* Jessup & Guymmer (**Fig. 8**) in 1906, a threatened species that is endemic to the Maryborough–Gympie area. He was the first to collect *Backhousia subargentea* (C.T.White) M.G.Harr. (from Pie Creek, near Gympie) in January 1907, and the first to collect *Agiortia pedicellata* (C.T.White) Quinn (from Caloundra) in August 1906.

Four taxa have been named for Kenny and in all cases his collections were used as the type: *Arthrostylis kennyi* F.M.Bailey, *Queensland Agric. J.* 28: 278, t. 58 (1912) = *Schoenus kennyi* (F.M.Bailey) S.T.Blake;



Fig. 8. *Fontainea rostrata*, one of the species first collected by F.H. Kenny. Photo: G. Leiper.

*Pultenaea kennyi* H.B.Will., *Proc. Roy. Soc. Victoria* 35: 100 (1922) = *Pultenaea cuneata* Benth.; *Calanthe veratrifolia* var. *kennyi* F.M.Bailey, *Queensland Agric. J.* 28: 276, t. 57 (1912) = *Calanthe triplicata* (Willemet) Ames; and *Citriobatus pauciflorus* var. *kennyi* F.M.Bailey, *Queensland Agric. J.* 30: 402, t. 68 (1913) = *Pittosporum spinescens* (F.Muell.) L.Cayzer, Crisp & I.Telford.

Kenny collections were used as type material for *Centipeda racemosa* var. *lanata* F.M.Bailey (= *C. racemosa* (Hook.) F.Muell.), *Melastoma malabathricum* var. *nanum* F.M.Bailey (= *M. malabathricum* L. subsp. *malabathricum*), *Citriobatus multiflorus* var. *intermedius* F.M.Bailey (= *Pittosporum viscidum* L.Cayzer, Crisp & I.Telford), *Spermacoce jacobsonii* var. *glabrescens* F.M.Bailey (= *S. stenophylla* F.Muell.), *Zieria aspalathoides* var. *obovatum* C.T.White (= *Z. obovata* (C.T.White) J.A.Armstr.) and *Kunzea flavescens* C.T.White & W.D.Francis. Images of the type specimens for these names can

be seen on the JSTOR Global Plants website (JSTOR 2016).

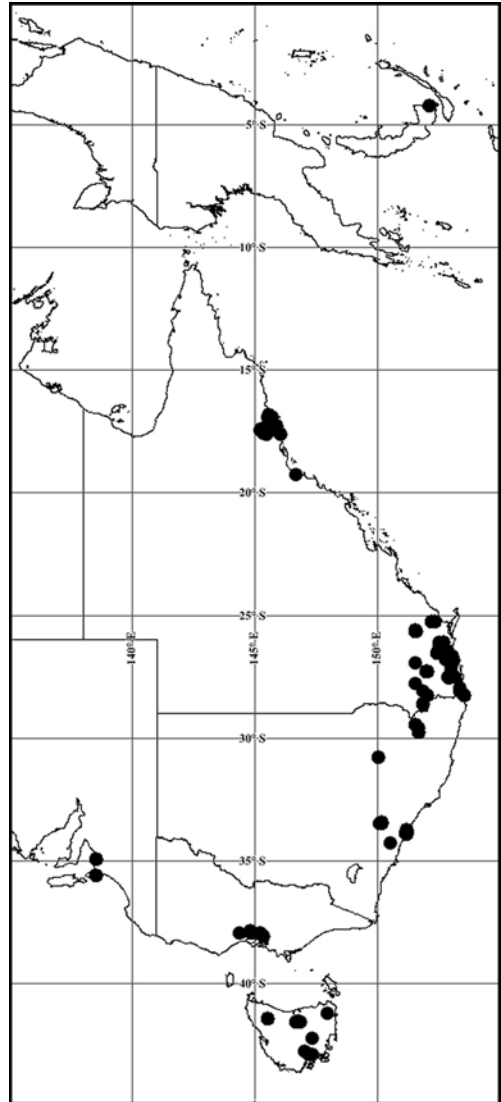
### Acknowledgements

I gratefully acknowledge the “Trove” website provided by the National Library of Australia. All of the newspaper articles cited herein were located using this website. The State Records Authority of N.S.W. provided the photograph of Dr Kenny. Will Smith photographed the herbarium labels and the handwriting sample.

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**Map 1.** The location of Kenny's plant collections (excluding Fiji).

**Endnotes**

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- 13 Morning Post (Cairns, Qld), 1 Sep 1898, p. 2.
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