

when at least a third of the plants had not been described, and the existing literature was very much scattered, has been the basis of all subsequent inquiries in the same direction, and later discoveries go towards completing the pictures there outlined. The section devoted to the consideration of the Antarctic or Alpine element of the Australian Flora is of special interest in connection with the present work.

The only other work by Sir Joseph Hooker demanding notice in this place is the Lecture on Insular Floras delivered by him before the British Association in 1866. In this the general features of the vegetation of remote oceanic islands are explained, and the special characteristics and affinities of the floras of various islands and groups described. Commencing with the Madeiran group, the author continues with the Canaries, Azores, St Helena, Ascension, concluding with Kerguelen Island. He then proceeds to discuss the hypotheses that have been invented by naturalists to account for the presence of continental plants in oceanic islands, and for those various differences between insular and continental Floras previously indicated.

*Watson, H. C.*—The author of the *Cybele Britannica*, and other works on the distribution of British plants, was so great an originator in this special branch of study that his name will endure as long as phytogeography is cultivated. Not the least among the merits of his works is the careful classification of British plants, based upon their claims to be regarded as aboriginally native, and upon the extent to which assumed naturalised species had established themselves. He was the first, we believe, to distinguish fully the introduced from the indigenous element of a flora; and the first to recognise the different "types of distribution" represented in the vegetation of a country.

*Forbes, E.*—Although this writer's contributions to the literature of phytogeography are, like Watson's, limited almost exclusively to British plants, his theories are of general application. His essay on the Geological Relations of the Fauna and Flora of the British Isles was the forerunner of all speculations on the migration of plants in relation to geological changes.

*De Candolle, A.*—The *Geographie Botanique Raisonnée* is a work remarkable for the skilful co-ordination of a vast array of facts, and the logical precision of the arguments; but so little was known of Insular Floras at that date that it was impossible for the author to enlarge upon the subject. A chapter (p. 1278) is devoted to the question whether islands possess a smaller number of species on the same area than continents, which is substantially answered in the affirmative, save for such as are most favourably situated.

*Wallace, A. R.*—In his *Island Life*, Wallace specially deals with the distribution and the origin of the plants and animals inhabiting islands. He classifies islands according to their "two distinct modes of origin," continental and oceanic. The latter he assumes have