

includes the greatest possible variety of physical conditions. Beginning with Spitzbergen and Nova Zembla, it may seem probable at first that their Arctic climate is too severe for members of the orchid family; yet, when we remember that *Platanthera hyberborea*, *Habenaria albida*, and *Listera cordata* are abundant and luxuriant on Disco Island, Davis Strait, in about 69° 15' N. lat., climate does not adequately explain the absence of orchids from the two first countries, because the warm oceanic current would more than counterbalance the slight difference in latitude. Then, no fewer than thirteen species of orchids are recorded from Iceland, where also a rigorous climate prevails. Some of the species are extremely rare, however, and it is possible that the order is decreasing in numbers and gradually disappearing from this flora. All the species inhabit Continental Europe, and some of them have also a wide range in the Arctic zone. The Azorean orchids are *Serapias cordigera*, a South European species, and two endemic species of *Habenaria*.

The solitary Bermudan orchid is *Spiranthes tortilis*, a native of Jamaica and Antigua, and a member of the most widely spread genus of the Orchideæ, if we except the somewhat heterogeneous *Habenaria*. *Spiranthes australis* is perhaps the commonest and most widely diffused species of orchid, ranging, as it does, from Afghanistan to Sachalin and Japan, southward to Australia, New Caledonia, and New Zealand.

Altogether there are eight species of orchids in Madeira and the Canaries, whereof three are endemic and the rest Mediterranean.

The four orchids occurring in the Falklands are *Chloræa gaudichaudii*, *Asarca commersonii*, *Asarca odoratissima*, and *Codonorchis lessonii*; the first being apparently endemic, and the others South American.

Socotra has now been pretty thoroughly explored, yet only one orchid, a species of *Habenaria*, has been discovered; but the adjacent countries are also poor in orchids. None has been found at Aden, and the delta and valley of the Nile yield none. One only of the five Rodriguez species is endemic; and only two of the Seychelles species are endemic. Seventy-four species are recorded from the Mauritius.

Turning to the Pacific, the three orchids inhabiting the Sandwich Islands are endemic; they are all three terrestrial, and two of them belong to genera peculiar to the Malayan Archipelago and Polynesia, while the third is a species of the widely spread *Liparis*, and described as intermediate between *Liparis læselii* and *Liparis liliifolia*.

*Epidendrum spicatum*, and an undetermined orchid, perhaps a species of *Govenia*, collected by Captain Wood, and preserved in the Kew Herbarium, are the only Galapageian orchids at present known. The former is endemic, and the latter insufficient for determination: both genera are otherwise exclusively American. We have seen no orchids from any of the smaller islands of Eastern Polynesia, but there seems to be a fair proportion in the larger—Tahiti, according to Nadeaud, possessing nineteen.

That Juan Fernandez should possess none is surprising, considering the general Chilean affinities of its vegetation.