The Herbarium Savatier
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which is also caused by a species of *Nectria*. In all probability remedial measures similar to those undertaken in Ceylon, which consist in cutting out the diseased patch at as early a stage of development as possible, and protecting the wounded surface with tar or some available substance would prevent the spread of the disease. We are informed that the disease is not of a very serious nature and that but little injury to the tree follows. The tapping-knives, however, may frequently be broken should they come in contact with a canker, and no latex is obtained from the wounded portions of the trunk.

XVI.—THE HERBARIUM SAVATIER.

Otto Stapf.

Mme. L. Raoul, the daughter of the late Dr. P. A. L. Savatier, having offered the herbarium of her father to Kew for purchase, the whole of the collections included in that herbarium have been acquired for the Royal Botanic Gardens. They consist of two sets; one numbering 730 specimens comprises only Japanese plants, whilst the other, which numbers 735 specimens, is made up of several collections, mainly from Tahiti, Peru, the Straits of Magellan, and other parts of South America, under the general description "Campagne de la Magicienne."

The Japanese set is of particular interest and value, as it goes a long way to illustrate the "Enumeratio Plantarum in Japonia Sponte Crescentium," by Franchet and Savatier, the first comprehensive and methodical attempt at a flora of Japan on a scientific basis. Savatier's Tahiti plants were worked out and incorporated by Drake del Castillo in his "Flore de la Polynésie Française," and furnish therefore authenticated and important material for the study of the flora of Eastern Polynesia. The American plants, on the other hand, are only partly named, but as they are well localised, and like the rest, well preserved, they represent a valuable accession to the collections at Kew.

Dr. Paul-Amedée-Ludovic Savatier was born at Oléron (Charente Inférieure) on October 19, 1830. Educated at the Naval Medical School at Rochefort, he quickly rose to a distinguished position in the medical staff of the French Navy. In 1865 he accompanied, as medical officer, a mission of engineers to Japan which had for its object the building and organisation of a Japanese navy. During six out of the ten years he spent in Japan he was stationed at Yokosuka, to the south of Yokohama. Deeply interested in natural history he soon saw his opportunity, for though much had been written by European authors about Japanese plants, beyond Miquel's "Flora Japonica" (Catalogus Musei Lugduno-Batavi, I.)—a mere list of names, no comprehensive and methodical attempt at a flora of Japan had been made. On the other hand, the Japanese possessed by that time three profusely illustrated works on their flora (1) Kwa-wi (Collection of Plants), by Shimada Yonan, dated 1759; (2) Honzo Zufu

(Illustrated Treatise of Botany), by Iwasaki Tsunemasala, published 1828 ; and (3) Somoku Zusetzu (Illustrations and Descriptions of Plants), by Jinuma Yokusai, which appeared in 1856. Although the plants of the Somoku Zusetzu were arranged according to the Linnean system, and the Latin names were frequently given, there was no systematic collation of the Japanese plants, as figured in these works, and their vernaculars on one hand, with the scientific nomenclature of European botanists on the other. To achieve this object and to initiate Japanese botanists into the western systems of classification was Savatier's immediate aim. He made himself acquainted with the Japanese botanical literature and, together with his pupil Saba, translated the Kwa-wi (Paris, 1874), engaging a Japanese artist to delineate the plates, which were, unfortunately, never published. Last, but not least, he collected zealously in the neighbourhood of his station, and over a considerable part of Nipon, whilst European residents in various parts of Japan and Japanese collectors helped him by contributing plants. He himself is credited with having collected about 1,600 species, out of which over 100 were found to be new, or at least new to Japan. The results of his labours are displayed in the "Enumeratio Plantarum in Japonia Sponte Crescentium," which, under the joint authorship of A. Franchet and L. Savatier, appeared in two volumes (Paris, 1875 and 1879). The aim which Savatier had in view was fully realised by that work, which must have been of immense value to the Japanese in their endeavour to adjust their botanical taxonomy on a modern basis. The herbarium material which Savatier supplied directly and indirectly towards the elaboration of the " Enumeratio " was deposited in the Muséum d'Histoire Naturelle, at Paris, but he retained at the same time a large set for himself, and it is this which has now been acquired by Kew.

Having returned to France in 1876, Savatier was at once attached as " Médecin en chef " to the French Naval Division then about to leave for the Pacific, of which the flagship was the frigate " La Magicienne." Touching at the Cape Verd Islands and Montevideo, the division reached Punto Arena early in February of the following year. After a short stay in the Magelhan Straits (February 8 to 25), it proceeded to Valparaiso (March 9–20) and then to Callao (March 29 to April 29), whence Savatier made excursions into the interior as far as Oroyo. After a short stay at Ancon near Lima (April 29 to May 2), he went with " La Magicienne " to San Francisco and then to the Marquesas Archipelago where Nukahiwa was visited (August 14–20). After a prolonged cruise in the Pacific, Valparaiso was again reached early in 1878 (January 4 to March 19). Then followed a second visit to Callao (March 28 to April 25) with more excursions along the Andine railway and a visit to the Island of San Lorenzo off the port of Callao. After a short stay on the barren coast in the extreme north of Peru (Payta, April 28 to May 8), the division went once more to the French possessions in Eastern Polynesia, and it was then (June 20 to July 29) that Savatier made that collection of Tahiti plants of which he says that it included the greatest part of the flora of the island with the exception of the highest peaks. Early in 1879 (January 20 to February 7) we find him again in the

Magelhan Straits, this time homeward bound. A brief account of the voyage of "La Magicienne" by Savatier was published in Archives de Médecine Navale, vol. xxxiii (1880), pp. 5–35.

After a short service in Senegambia, Savatier retired as "médecin en chef de la marine," and died at Saint-Georges d'Oleron on August 27, 1891.

XVII.—MISCELLANEOUS NOTES.

The designation of the post of Principal Assistant in the Royal Botanic Gardens has been changed by authority of the Treasury to Assistant Keeper. Mr. G. Massee, F.L.S., hitherto a Principal Assistant in the Herbarium, and Mr. C. H. Wright, whose appointment as successor to Dr. Stapf was notified in *Kew Bulletin*, 1909, p. 24, will rank as Assistant Keepers.

The President of the Board of Agriculture and Fisheries has been pleased to appoint Mr. N. E. Brown, A.L.S., hitherto an Assistant in the Herbarium, and Mr. L. A. Boodle, F.L.S., hitherto Assistant in the Jodrell Laboratory, Assistant Keepers.

Mr. W. Dallimore, who entered Kew as a young gardener in 1891, and has since 1896 been Foreman in the Arboretum, has been appointed by the President of the Board of Agriculture and Fisheries an Assistant in the Museums.

Dr. F. E. Fritsch, who has filled with much acceptance the post of Lecturer in Physics and Chemistry at Kew since March 8, 1903, has found it necessary, owing to the pressure of other engagements, to resign this duty. Dr. P. Haas, Lecturer on Chemistry at St. Thomas's Hospital, has been appointed to succeed Dr. Fritsch.

We learn that Mr. J. B. Carruthers, F.L.S., formerly Assistant Director of the Royal Botanic Gardens, Ceylon, and subsequently Director of Agriculture in the Federated Malay States, has been appointed Assistant Director of the Department of Agriculture, Trinidad.

We also learn that Mr. F. A. Stockdale, B.A., F.L.S., since 1905 Mycologist and Lecturer in Agriculture to the Imperial Department of Agriculture for the West Indies (*K.B.*, 1905, p. 60), has been appointed Assistant Director of the Department of Science and Agriculture, and Government Botanist, British Guiana.

Botanical Magazine for March.—*Cycas Micholitzii*, Dyer, was introduced in 1904 from Annam by Messrs. F. Sander & Sons, through their collector Mr. W. Micholitz. The species, of which there are examples in the living collection at Kew, is remarkable