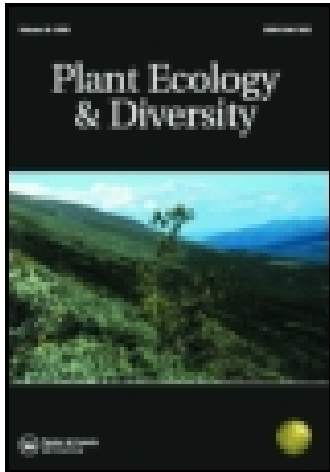


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### III. Additions to the Lichen Flora of New Zealand

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Sporangia, and perhaps the *Cardiocarpum* lately noticed by Professor Duns.

Principal Dawson thinks that palæontological botanists are disposed too much to apply the methods of recent botany to fossil plants, especially palæozoic ones.

III. *Additions to the Lichen Flora of New Zealand.* By  
Dr J. STIRTON.

The author remarked that the botany of Australasia has peculiar attractions for a student in the northern hemisphere, inasmuch as it may be said to belong to a preceding geological epoch, and it is curious to notice that while the phanerogamic part of it diverges widely from that of countries in a corresponding northern European latitude, its cryptogamic part shows closer analogies, and the more so as we approach the lichens, whose powers of resisting atmospheric changes and conditions are becoming a subject of closer study in proportion as our knowledge of their structure and internal organisation advances. If we are ever to arrive at anything like a general comprehension of the spread and distribution of vegetation over the surface of the earth, I have little doubt that a thorough appreciation of climacteric changes on the lower organisms will serve to indicate the movements of the larger waves, so to speak, and as these are the first to reveal themselves, I hold that this part of the scale ought to have more attention paid to it than has hitherto been the case.

The author, in conclusion, gave botanical descriptions of thirteen species of New Zealand lichens hitherto undescribed. The specimens had been collected and sent home by Mr John Buchanan, of the Colonial Museum, Wellington.

IV. *Report on the Open-Air Vegetation at the Royal Botanic Garden.* (No. II., 1873.) By Mr M'NAB.

Since my report laid before the meeting of the Botanical Society on the 13th February last, open-air vegetation has progressed very slowly, owing to the ungenial state of the weather, and the coldness of the ground, which has