

So there are many species of plants called supplejacks and even in New Zealand other species such as the bush lawyer (Rubus australis) was sometimes included among them. Recently Mr I. Powell of Porirua kindly drew my attention to a publication of 1883, "The High Alps in New Zealand" by the Rev. Wm. Spotswood Green who writing about travel up the side of the Tasman Glacier said, "Here a new difficulty was encountered as in some places the scrub composed of the thorny wild Irishman interlaced with supplejack was so dense that getting through it was impossible, and scrambling over its surface so often resulted in a tumble upon a clump of spaniards with their bayonet-like leaves ready to receive us on their points ...". Mr Powell points out that Hugh Wilson's book on Mount Cook National Park does not include Ripogonum scandens in the park, and suggests that this supplejack was a muehlenbeckia.

Ripogonum scandens stems have been used in the past for crayfish pots and when split they were used for making baskets. Many sheep farmers liked to get a supplejack cane with the rooted knob attached at right-angles. This if neatly cut formed a shepherd's crook, a riding crop and was useful to open and shut gates while on horseback. But although it could be useful the lasting memory that all early travellers in the bush carried away was expressed by Solander its discoverer who wrote, (translated) "An excessively annoying shrub that everywhere trips and obstructs one's movement through the forests."

ROBERT LYND

Early Plant Collector in Australia and New Zealand

R.O. Gardner

This article records a few facts about a collection so far overlooked by our flora-writers. Its extent and composition are still to be determined but one is tempted to speculate that it will contain the earliest material of some of Auckland's adventive plants.

Robert Lynd, a career soldier born in Plymouth, England served in Tasmania and Sydney before coming to Auckland in December 1847 as Barrack-Master. His reputation as a person keenly interested in natural history arrived with him ('New Zealander' Dec 1, p.2(3)) but hardly anything is known about his botanical activities here. Presumably he knew the botanist-collector Andrew Sinclair (then Colonial Secretary) and when Charles Moore from the Botanic Gardens, Sydney visited briefly in late 1850 he was assisted by these two men, getting live N.Z. plants from Lynd.

Amiable and public-spirited though of retiring disposition Lynd became Vice-President of the reorganized Mechanics Institute in 1850 and again in 1851. His signature and handwriting can be found in the Minute Books of this body (Auckland Public Library).

Lynd died, aged 53, on 24 September 1851. In October the newspapers (e.g., 'Daily Southern Cross' p.2(1), 1851) carried a Sale by Auction notice to dispose of his effects: as well as household goods and books there were "shells, insects, stuffed Australian birds" and "a large collection of Botanical Specimens from New South Wales, Norfolk Island, New Zealand and elsewhere ... accompanied by Catalogues and manuscript observations by their late author". Apparently no sale was made and in 1853 ('New Zealander' Mar 2, p.2(1)) Lynd's executors again advertized the collections - "some thousands of dried plants".

At least some of these plants got to the British Museum, Natural History (BM), just how is not known. The BM Accessions Register for 22 July 1912 records the bare fact that 260 New Zealand Lynd specimens "from the Basement Room" were incorporated into the cabinets that day. I have seen what is presumably one of these sheets (Geranium molle): it bears the inscription "R Lynd New Zealand received 1858 no. 78".

It seems to me possible that the balance of the "thousands of dried plants" together with collecting books &c. still lie in storage at BM. There is though a slender indication that some of the Australian material got mounted and filed as well; this I deduce from the listing in 'Index Herbariorum Part II Collectors' of B. Lynd material at BM, this initial apparently having been used by Lynd when he lived in Australia (see Maiden, Journal of the Royal Society of New South Wales 42:108).

WAITAKERE ADVENTIVE PROJECT

J. Mackinder

Since 1978 when the project started 155 adventive plants from the Waitakere Range have been collected as voucher specimens for the Herbarium of Auckland Institute and Museum (AK). These are listed here with their herbarium numbers. Many others have been recorded but are not listed since voucher specimens have not yet been deposited at AK.

FERNS & FERN ALLIES

Selaginella kraussiana 144456

GRASSES

Agrostis semiverticillata 155262

Aira multiculmis 154845

Anthoxanthum odoratum 145454

Axonopus affinis 144479

Briza minor 149048

Cynosurus cristatus 154850

Entolasia marginata 154864

Pennisetum latifolium 155244

Poa annua 145456

Setaria glauca 144440

Sporobolus africanus 144478

Stenotaphrum secundatum 144459

SEDGES & RUSHES

Carex flacca 154863

Cyperus tenellus 149052

Luzula campestris 155253

L. congesta 154870

L. multiflora 155255

MONOCOT HERBS

Alisma plantago-aquatica 155267

Allium roseum ssp *bulbiferum* 157946

A. triquetrum 154867

Alstroemeria aurantiaca 154841

Aristea ecklonii 154852

Arum italicum 157937

Asparagus scandens 157951

Gladiolus undulatus 155006

Ixia maculata 157956

I. polystachya 157955

Kniphofia uvaria 155015

Leucojum aestivum 145458

Lilium formosanum 154848

Muscari armeniacum 145463

Narcissus bulbocodium 157945

N. tazetta 157940

Romulea rosea 145470

Schizostylus coccinea 154844

Scilla non-scripta 157944

Sisyrinchium iridifolium 154862

Sparaxis bulbifera 157943

S. tricolor 157941

Tradescantia fluminensis 145461

Zantedeschia aethiopica 154868