the branches, and out of some, the flowers come out near the top . . . In several points the plant looks like *Dracaena Draco,* in other respects it has a similarity to the *Dracaena* we discovered at Dusky Bay . . ."

Almost a year later at Queen Charlotte Sound he writes (20th October 1774) . . . "In the afternoon we accompanied the Captain to Cannibal Cove . . . I found there on the hill to the north a young stock of a true Cabbage tree *(Areca oleracea),* which is the more remarkable as this place is so much to the south . . ."

From J. R. Forster's account these points emerge.

(1) The Forsters discovered *Cordyline indivisa* at Dusky Sound.
(In 1786 George Forster published it as *Dracaena indivisa* in Florulae Insularum Australium Prodromus);

(2) The common sailors called this tree a Cabbage-palm tree (or Cabbage tree) but the scientists knew it was not a palm.

(3) The Forsters found "a new *Dracaena*" at Queen Charlotte Sound which is clearly our common New Zealand Cabbage Tree *(Cordyline australis).*
(G. Forster published this as *Dracaena australis* in the above Prodromus 1786.)

(4) Later the Forsters found a young Nikau Palm in Queen Charlotte Sound which J. R. Forster called "a true Cabbage tree".
(Although he then classified it as *Areca oleracea,* his son, George, published it as *Areca sapida* in De Plantis Esculentis 1786 and then in the Prodromus 1786. Today it is known as *Rhopalostylis sapida*).

It might be helpful to note also from reading the Journal that the Forsters and Sparmann never landed or botanised in the North Island. They did not see *Cordyline australis* in Dusky Sound but found one later at Queen Charlotte Sound.

Kohekohe (*Dysoxylum spectabile*) as an Accidental Epiphyte

F. C. Duguid, Levin

Downstream from the lower Otaki Gorge the river in former times cut into deep deposits of gravel leaving a semicircular amphitheatre with a sheer 12 m wall. Between this and the river there is a low sheltered terrace where there are remnants of bush dominated by kohekohe which flowers and seeds generously. Against the base of the high terrace is a swampy area where the air remains moist. Here a wheki (*Dicksonia squarrosa*), now dead, became host to a kohekohe. The seed germinated about 3.5 m up the trunk, and when noticed in May 1979 it was a healthy young tree from which a number of roots ran down to the ground. The largest was about 15 cm in diameter but there were several other large roots also.