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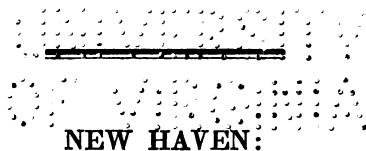
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NEW HAVEN:

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The characters derived from the venation of Ferns, which Mr. Brown has applied to the distinction of genera with the consummate skill and caution for which he is so greatly distinguished, and which have also been largely employed by other authors, especially by Bory, Gaudichaud, Brongniart, and Schott, are in this treatise carried to an extravagant extent. Nevertheless, the work will be useful, to our botanists especially, who seldom have access to extensive libraries, or to the scattered observations on this subject in various papers and memoirs. The crowded plates comprise illustrations of nearly all the known genera; and the work may be purchased for about a dollar and a half. We may observe that the *Ragiopteris onocleoides* of Presl, is founded on a fertile frond of *Onoclea sensibilis*, to which a portion of the sterile frond of a very different plant had been applied in the herbarium of Willdenow. The introduction comprises a pretty full account of the organization of Ferns.

7. *Dr. Siebold, Flora Japonica; sectio prima, Plantæ ornatæ vel usui inservientes; digessit. Dr. J. G. ZUCCARINI: fasc. 1—10, fol. (Leyden, 1835—1839, pp. 100, tab. 1—50.)*—This work is, we believe, wholly arranged and prepared by Prof. Zuccarini of Munich, from notes and specimens furnished by Dr. Siebold of Leyden, accumulated during his long official residence in Japan. The admirable plates are executed at Munich: they are engraved upon stone after a peculiar method, which is now frequently employed, and are certainly not excelled in beauty or accuracy by any copper-plate engravings in the same style. The portion already published comprises only some of the ornamental or otherwise generally interesting plants; the general account of the Japanese Flora being reserved for a future part of the work. The Flora of Japan presents such striking analogies to that of the temperate part of North America as to render this work of more than ordinary interest to American botanists. To show this, we select from the forty-six species described and figured by Zuccarini, the following list, placing opposite the Japanese plant the related North American forms.

Flora of Japan.

Illicium religiosum,
Kadsura Japonica,
Benthamia Japonica,
Corylopsis, two species,
Aralia edulis,
Symplocos lucida,
Styrax Japonicum, &c.
Deutzia, three species,
Schizophragma hydrangoides, }
Platycrater arguta, }

Flora of North America.

Illicium Floridanum and *parviflorum.*
Schizandra coccinea.
Cornus florida.
Hamamelis and *Fothorgilla.*
Aralia racemosa.
Hopea tinctoria.
Styrax, several species.
Philadelphus.
 { *Decumaria* and
 { *Hydrangea.*

Flora of Japan.

Diervilla, several species,

Viburnum tomentosum,

Wisteria (or as it should be *Wistaria*) }
Japonica, and two other species, }

Paulownia imperialis,

Flora of North America.

Diervilla Tournefortii.

Viburnum lantanoides.

Wistaria frutescens.

Catalpa cordifolia.

While about half the species thus far published are nearly related to (chiefly characteristic) North American plants, only eight, besides those given above, belong to genera which have no representatives in this country. The list might be greatly extended by comparisons from other sources. Thus *Hoteia Japonica* of Morren and De Caisne, (which belongs to the earlier established *Astilbe*, *Don*.) which was by Thunberg mistaken for *Spiræa Aruncus*, closely resembles our own *Astilbe decandra*, which has been more than once confounded with *Spiræa Aruncus*. On some future occasion we hope to make a somewhat extended comparison between the Flora of temperate North America, and that of Japan and Middle Asia.

8. *Grisebach, Genera et Species Gentianearum, adjectis observationibus quibusdam phyto-geographicis.* (Stuttgart and Tübingen, 1839, pp. 364, Svo.)—The most useful works in natural history at the present day are monographs of separate orders, when prepared from sufficiently extensive materials; and this account of the known species of Gentianaceous plants, by Dr. Grisebach, now of Göttingen, is one of the latest and best works of the kind. The typographical arrangement, however, is not what it ought to be, and this is an important matter in books of the kind. In this respect, as in every other, the most perfect model for a monograph is Mr. Bentham's *Genera et Species Labiatarum*. Dr. Grisebach first gives the natural character of the order, in detail; then follow some interesting observations upon the anatomical and morphological structure of these plants. Two species are selected, viz. *Swertia perennis* and *Gentiana lutea*; and in these the organization of the flower is traced from the earliest period when it is distinctly visible through all its stages up to its complete development. The petals, which are united into a monopetalous corolla, are found to be originally distinct; this is now known to be the case as a general rule; so that when we say that a monopetalous corolla is formed by the consolidation of several petals, a calyx, of several united sepals, &c., our language is not the mere expression of an hypothesis, but the statement of observed facts. The conclusion is first deduced as a consequence of the theory of floral structure, and is then verified by actual examination, and thus the theory is confirmed. The stamens in their early state are distinct from the petals, although at length the filaments ad-