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2. Ochropteris.

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Hab. Java. "Præcedenti (*A. rhizophoro*, Sw., *A. caudato*, nobis), proximum, sed diversissimum."

Adiantum papyraceum, Desv.; "pinnæ subopposite subrhomboid cuneate and entire at the base dentato-incised striated, capillary stipes and rachis pubescent." *Desv. l. c. p. 307.*

Hab. "Mauritius."

Adiantum cassioides, Desv.; "fronds densely pinnated, pinnæ imbricato-pinnate, pinnules rhombeo-ovate cuneate at the base denticulated, stipes angular, rachises pubescent." *Desv. l. c. p. 310.*

Hab. Warmer parts of America, (*Desv.*). "Pinnæ of *A. obtusum*, but the frond more leafy." *Desv.*

Adiantum rotundatum, Desv.; "pinnules ('pinellis consistentibus') subrotundato-cuneate entire obscurely sinuoso-trilobate, sori subreniform, stipes glabrous." *Desv. l. c. p. 310.*

Hab. Peru, (*Desv.*). "Lower pinnæ about 6 inches long; pinnules 4—5 lines broad, less than that in length."

Adiantum pauperculum, Kze. in Schk. Fil. Suppl. ii. p. 65, t. 127, will be here placed under *Hypolepis*.

Adiantum pallens, Sw., forms our next genus, *Ochropteris*, J. Sm.

2. OCHROPTERIS, J. Sm.

(HOOK. GEN. FIL. TAB. CVI. A.) *Adiantum*, Sw. *Cheilanthes*, Bory, Pr.

Sori marginal, always occupying the apex of a lobe, transversely oblong, uniform. *Involucre* of the same shape with the sori, formed of the reflexed margin of the frond, nearly of the same colour and texture, and covering the sorus which occupies the apex of 3 or 4 veinlets terminating at the base of the involucre.—Fern of *Mauritius*. Frond *deltoid*, on a long glabrous stipes, very decomposed, ultimate pinnules lobed, the lobes cuneate soriferous, the whole coriaceous and glossy. Stipes and rachis pale-coloured. Veins dichotomously divided.

Obs. Kaulfuss long ago observed of the *Adiantum pallens*, Sw., "habitu et fructificatione ab omnibus diversissimum, proprium constituet genus:" Mr. J. Smith has however more justly observed that the chief distinction is in the habit, which neither harmonizes with *Adiantum* nor with *Cheilanthes*, nor with *Hypolepis*; so that I gladly adopt Mr. J. Smith's name of *Ochropteris*, derived from the pale colour of the entire fern, but especially the stipes and rachis.

1. *O. pallens* (TAB. LXXVII. B.), J. Sm. Gen. Ferns, p. 46.—*Adiantum pallens*, Sw. *Syn. Fil.* p. 125 et 323. Willd. *Sp. Pl.* v. p. 453. *Cheilanthes davallioides*, Bory, in Willd. *Sp. Pl.* v. p. 461.

Hab. Mauritius, *Grondal* (Sw.) and others.—Bojer states that it is found in Madagascar. Swartz, at p. 125 of his 'Species Filicum,' gives "Mauritius?" with a mark of doubt of its native country, and "Chusan" without any question; the latter apparently upon the authority of a most unsatisfactory figure in Plukenet's 'Amalth. Bot.' of a "Felix Adianto nigro officinar. similis, pediculo viridi, pinnulis magis eleganter incisus; ex insula Cheusan, tab. 403, f. 2." We have received many ferns from China of late, and particularly from Chusan, but this species was never among them, and we doubt if it is found there at all. Our copious specimens from different individuals are entirely from Mauritius, and it is probably peculiar to that country, unless Bojer should be correct in giving Madagascar.—Stipes 2 feet long; frond about equal in length with the stipes.

3. LONCHITIS, Linn.

Lonchitidis sp. *L. et Auct.*

Sori marginal, situated in the sinuses of the segments of the frond, oblong or linear, reniform or lunate, situated at the apex of several converging veinlets. *Involucre* more or less elongated, of the same shape with the sorus, membranous, scariose, formed of a reflexed but changed portion of the frond, covering (while young) but not bearing the capsules.—Ferns of *Mauritius*, *Madagascar*, *the Cape*, and *S. America*. *Rhizoma subglobose*. Fronds *fascicled, large, submembranaceous, bi-tripinnate, the pinnæ sinuato-pinnatifid: the sinuses only soriferous*. Veins *anastomosing* and forming very irregular hexagons, several veinlets uniting at the sinus to bear the sorus*.

Obs. Notwithstanding that the fructification resembles that of *Cheilanthes*, and especially that of *Hypolepis*; yet the species are widely distinct in habit from those two genera: and, in conjunction with the reticulated frond, may well be allowed to remain as a genus. It would indeed be a reticulated *Pteris* (or *Litobrochia*) but for the short sori: and hence the *L. hirsuta*, Lin. (not of Sieber) of the West Indies, though with the fructification of *Lonchitis*, chiefly confined to the sinus of the lobules, is now transferred to *Pteris*, on account of pinnato-furcate venation. In *Lonchitis*, if I may

* From the costa or midrib on the pinnules, parallel pinnated veins diverge, corresponding with a lobe at the margin, these veins are connected by a veinlet running parallel with the midrib and at a little distance from it, forming a number of transversely oblong areolæ; all between these areolæ and the margin is more or less closely reticulated.