

Mongolia. In the present comparatively early stage of an enumeration of Chinese plants\* the data are not forthcoming to describe exactly where this subregion should be bounded, but it is warm temperate in climate, and characterized by having a very large woody element, with intimate Himalayan and Eastern North-American connections. Rarity of annual plants is also strongly marked. Collections received since the publication of the parts of the 'Index' issued have very largely augmented the numbers of genera and species, especially of the earlier orders, which were elaborated before even the first collection came to hand. Therefore data taken from it alone are imperfect beyond even what is known of the flora. To give some idea of the large number of species concentrated in a small area, it may be mentioned that Dr. A. Henry has collected upwards of a thousand species of flowering plants within a short distance of Ichang, and at a very moderate estimate ten per cent. of them were previously unknown.

A rough analysis of the Polypetalæ enumerated in the 'Index' gives a total, excluding cultivated and doubtful ones, of 1514 species belonging to 476 genera and sixty-six (out of a total of eighty-five) natural orders. Fourteen of the genera and 626 (or 41.3 per cent.) of the species are apparently endemic, but these figures do not represent the true proportions, because all the common plants of the coast districts are included, and it is very imperfect as far as regards the interior. The small number of species to a genus (about three), half the number found in the larger areas examined, has already been commented upon. The distribution of the non-endemic species in the above total, so far as it is known, is as follows:—140 extend to Japan only; 90 to India only; 27 to India and Japan only; 273 others are restricted to Asia, inhabiting some other part or parts than Japan or India, or besides Japan and India; and the remaining 357 (nearly a quarter of the non-endemic) are of wider range.

Other remarkable features in the Chinese Flora are the great latitudinal range of some of the species, and the high northern localities of some subtropical types, such as *Nelumbo*, *Euryale*, and *Cedrela*. The same phenomenon is exemplified in the animal kingdom.

Returning to the New World, it will be seen that Wallace's Rocky Mountains subregion embraces the North-Mexican province, as roughly defined in vol. iv. pp. 139 and 306, and the country northward to about 55° lat., and from about 97° long. westward to the coast range; thus covering the whole prairie and treeless regions, the central mountain-range, and Lower California. The corresponding botanical subregion occupies a similar but rather more restricted area, and it is essentially a dry one, falling into several provinces, one of which, the North-Mexican, is approximately defined and characterized in the place cited. Dr. Asa Gray and Sir Joseph Hooker seem to have had some such division in view, though they do not go the length of actually

\* "Index Floræ Sinensis," Forbes and Hemsley in Journ. Linn. Soc., Bot. vol. xxiii.