

Japan to the continent. This is so in the latitude of Peking; but the more southern province of Hupeh, for instance, would show a much higher percentage than Peking, and possibly even higher than Japan, inasmuch as the Polypetalæ of the whole of China proper, so far as known *, contain 41·34 per cent. of endemic species, and there is no doubt that the further exploration of the interior provinces will materially raise this percentage.

Maximowicz very elaborately analyses the affinities of the endemic species in the areas named, from which it appears that it is only in Japan that there is a considerable development of endemic species of what he terms the Chinese type. On the other hand, the "levantine type" is apparent in 13·9 per cent. of the endemic species of Mongolia. To be brief, Maximowicz sums up this question in words to the effect that the plants of the plains of Northern and Central Europe constitute the greater part of the flora eastward to the Pacific coast, if not in identical forms, at least by forms connected by intermediates with European species †.

It would carry us too far to attempt to give the exact eastern limits of the Mediterranean region in Asia, as it would involve a discussion of the vegetation of the various provinces of this subregion. The southern limits of the northern region in the Old World may be indicated approximately as the tropics, varying in different longitudes. It includes the alpine and temperate Flora of the Himalayas, and in Africa it extends to the Great Atlas ‡.

The subregions of the northern region in the New World are five, namely:—Arctic, Boreal, Atlantic, Central, and Pacific, which may be roughly defined. Briefly the Arctic is a continuation of the same subregion in the Old World; the Boreal is a westward extension of the hardier elements of the Atlantic subregion, and perhaps better regarded as a province of it; the southern or Mexican province of the Central subregion is fully described in the Appendix; and further particulars of the characteristics of the whole Rocky-Mountain Flora will be found in the joint essay, by the late Dr. A. Gray and Sir Joseph Hooker, previously cited. The distribution of the North-American Flora generally is admirably summarized by the latter §, who distinguishes the Sink country between the Rocky Mountains and the Sierra Nevada as a separate Flora, while admitting that cacti and yucca attain their maximum development further south in the same meridian. Professor Sargent describes his northern forest-region as extending southward to the fiftieth parallel on the Atlantic coast and to the fifty-fourth at the hundredth meridian ||.

* "Index Floræ Sinensis," Journ. Linn. Soc. xxiii.

† In a recent collection of about 500 species, made in Mandshuria by Mr. H. E. M. James, nearly a third are British species (see 'Proceedings of the Royal Geographical Society,' 1887, p. 548).

‡ For an account of the vegetation of these mountains consult Hooker and Ball's 'Tour in Morocco,' 1878.

§ Proceedings of the Royal Institution of Great Britain, 1878.

|| Report on the Forests of North America, p. 3.