

Plantarum' are represented in Mexico and Central America, the absent tribe being the Araucariæ. *Podocarpus* itself is spread all over the West Indies, and in South America it ranges from Colombia to Brazil and Chili; and Ærsted records a narrow-leaved species as growing on the mountains of Costa Rica, but we have seen no specimens from within our limits. On the other hand, the distribution of the Araucariæ is comparatively remote from our region, the nearest stations being in Brazil and Chili. Of the Cupressinæ there are three and five species respectively of the widely spread northern genera *Cupressus* and *Juniperus* in Mexico, and one of them has been collected in Guatemala. Of the small yet notable tribe Taxodiæ there is one celebrated Mexican species of the genus *Taxodium*, otherwise represented only in the south-eastern States of North America by a closely allied species (or variety) and by an imperfectly known species in Chili. Of the Taxæ there is one Mexican species of the generally dispersed northern genus *Taxus*. Of the remaining tribe, Abietinæ, there are three genera, namely *Pinus*, *Abies*, and *Pseudotsuga*, and about twenty-one species in Mexico and Central America. The last-named genus is a monotype, ranging from Oregon to New Mexico, and reappearing in the mountains of Moran and Real del Monte; whether it exist in the intervening country is problematical. *Abies religiosa* is an endemic Mexican representative of its genus, which belts the northern hemisphere in temperate regions. Finally there is the genus *Pinus*, the most numerous in species of the order, and constituting a prominent feature in the vegetation of Mexico and some parts of Central America. Indeed the uppermost forests consist almost entirely of species of *Pinus*, and those next below largely of species of *Pinus* and *Quercus* intermixed. *Pinus* and *Quercus* have nearly the same wide range in the northern hemisphere; but *Pinus* is not known to extend so far south as New Guinea in the eastern hemisphere, and Nicaragua is apparently its southern limit in America. One species at least of *Pinus* is common in Cuba; one is found in San Domingo, and one in the Bahamas. Altogether the genus *Pinus*, as usually limited, comprises about seventy species, two thirds at least of which are American; and nowhere else are such broad expanses of pine-forests. There are twelve species of *Pinus* in the Atlantic States; fourteen in California and northward, and four or five in the intermediate regions. The forms of *Pinus* in Mexico are numerous, and the species difficult of delimitation, and many of them imperfectly known. There may be a score of species, either more or less; and three or four extend into north-western regions; two as far northward as Oregon and British Columbia.

The distribution of pines within Mexico and Central America presents some singular anomalies, independent apparently of climate; but until the species are better defined their full significance cannot be appreciated. As might be expected, their lower limits vary in different districts, but not always from explainable causes. Grisebach states* that no species has been found in Mexico below the level of 3000 feet. Humboldt

* Vegetation der Erde, ii. p. 317.