

sufficient to refer to it here. They enumerate, however, some half a dozen species of *Habenaria*, *Spiranthes*, and *Microstylis* which inhabit the peak of Orizaba at elevations of 11,500 to 12,800 feet.

The proportions of the tribal representation of orchids present no very remarkable features. All the tribes are there, and the Epidendreae and Vandae in nearly equal numbers. Of the former there are thirty-seven genera and 440 species, 182 of which are *Epidendrum* itself, and there are fifty-six of *Pleurothallis*. The Vandae are represented by fifty genera and 370 species, *Oncidium* and *Odontoglossum* being characteristic, and numbering respectively seventy-two and forty-two species. The Neottieae comprise 100 species, belonging to fifteen genera, eight of which extend beyond America, six being widely diffused. *Spiranthes* (including *Stenorrhynchus*) is the largest genus, having thirty-four species. *Habenaria* is the only genus of the Ophrydeae, the bulk of which are north temperate and South African. Finally the Cypripedieae are represented by one species of the widely-spread genus *Cypripedium*, and three of the singular *Selenipedium*.

#### *Bromeliaceae.*

About 350 species, belonging to twenty-seven genera, of this distinct and wholly American natural order of plants were known to Bentham and Hooker; and upwards of a fourth of them are found within our limits. Judging from recent collections from Brazil and other parts of tropical America, the number of species, at least, will yet be largely augmented. Many of the Bromeliaceae are not easily dried, and collectors seem to have neglected the less conspicuous species. They are essentially tropical plants, and mostly epiphytal in habit, yet a considerable number ascend to temperate regions in the mountains of Central and South America, and a few extend far beyond the tropics in both hemispheres; two or three inhabiting the island of Juan Fernandez. Ten species of *Tillandsia* inhabit Florida, and one of these, *T. usneoides*, finds its northern limit in Virginia, and is very generally spread in humid districts southward through Mexico and the West Indies to Chili and Uruguay. It also reaches the Rio Pecos in Texas, the western limit of the order in North America. In appearance it resembles a lichen or moss, its flowers being small and inconspicuous, and trees are often completely clothed with it, even high up in the mountains. Another species, *T. recurvata*, inhabits Florida, Texas, Mexico, the West Indies, extending southward to Buenos Ayres; and several other Mexican species are also found in the West Indies and South America; still the majority of the Bromeliaceae are rather restricted in their range, and many are apparently quite local. It is noteworthy that the widely-dispersed species have, for the greater part, comparatively inconspicuous flowers. On the other hand, the Bromeliaceae generally are unsurpassed in the vegetable kingdom for brilliancy of colouring, and the striking contrasts of colour exhibited by their flowers and also often by their leaves. *Tillandsia usneoides* is perhaps the humblest