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BOOK REVIEWS

Sidney Parkinson, Artist of Cook's Endeavour Voyage. Ed. by D. V. Carr. xv + 300 pages, illustrated, bibliography, and index. British Museum (Natural History) in association with University of Hawaii Press, Honolulu. 1984. \$45.00.

It is only now, slightly more than 200 years after the event, that we are coming into a position to properly appreciate the accomplishments of the eighteenth century explorers of the Pacific regions. During the course of the first Cook expedition some 952 drawings of plants were made but, owing to human perversity and untimely deaths, were never published although some 740 plates were ready for printing as early as 1785. Luckily Alecto Historical Editions of London began publication of the *Banks' Florilegium* in 1981; a project still being carried on at this date, and which will shortly give us a complete view of the genera and species then discovered.

Aside from the inherently interesting biographical and anecdotal materials relating to Parkinson, such as his indefatigable energy, his ability to cope with cramped conditions (85 people in a space only 98 feet long by 30 feet wide), and his persistence in the face of insects that devoured his colors almost as fast as he applied them, there are matters of considerable importance to taxonomists. For instance many of the plant names assigned by Daniel Solander were left unpublished or ignored (much the same fate as befell those of Rafinesque), and his provisional designations were left to stand without being followed up as he had intended and indicated. There is, for example, an *Ipomoea* to which no specific name has been given even as yet. The botany of the *Endeavour* voyage is still, to a considerable extent, *terra incognita* to many students of the floras of the South Pacific and Australia.

There is much more presented in this book than the title indicates, for in addition to botanical data about Madeira, Brazil, Tierra del Fuego, Tahiti, New Zealand, Australia, and Java, there is a wealth of

zoological material, together with items of ethnographic and technological interest. Most important, however, is the generous supply of well annotated illustrations, 286 of them, from the British Museum (Natural History), and the British Library. Many of these are reproduced in full color directly from Parkinson's original drawings, and are generally arranged in systematic order according to Bentham and Hooker's *Genera Plantarum*, 1862–1883. Each of the ten sections that comprise the book was written by an expert in that particular area, and the sum equals a new insight into a partially unexplored page of botanical history. In view of the fact that relatively few botanists will ever have the leisure to examine the originals, nor be able to afford the necessarily expensive set of reproductions, this work offers an acceptable digest of the riches to be found in *Banks' Florilegium*. And in an era of astronomical book prices \$45 is a rather modest price to pay for a volume of high quality brimming over with matter of scientific and historical interest of the first order.—FRANK J. ANDERSON, Hon. Curator of Rare Books and Manuscripts, New York Botanical Garden, Bronx, N.Y. 10458.

Corybas. By P. Van Royen. 175 pages, 49 figures. J. Cramer, Vaduz, West Germany. DM 100

A number of years ago I walked up Mount Salak near Bogor, Indonesia in the company of colleagues and students from the famed Bogor Botanical Gardens and Dr. Charles Lamoureux of the University of Hawaii. Along the way we saw several orchid species, some well known and others more obscure. None of the flowers we saw were more attractive than those on a *Corybas* plant. The plant was hidden under a bush and I would have missed it if it were not for the fact that we sat down to rest near by. On seeing it I started to crawl under the bush for a closer look but was stopped by my Indonesian friends with the

admonition that snakes are usually found next to *Corybas* orchids and *Paphiopedilum glaucophyllum*. A similar suggestion (i.e., association with snakes) has been made for a South American orchid and I wonder if the snakes are part of a tripartite symbiotic relationship similar to the one reported for spiders which prey on pollinators, or are simply comfortable in the secluded areas favored by the orchids.

The name of the genus may allude to the sepals which resemble a veiled and drooping head, 2) a priest's headdress or 3) the nodding of a drunk. The reason for these allusions is the fact that one of the attendants of the Greek goddess Cybele was named Corybas or Korybas. He supposedly accompanied her with wild (some sources say even orgiastic) dances and music. How such a small, innocent and almost demure orchid can be associated with drunken servants of goddesses and orgiastic individuals is beyond me, but the British botanist Salisbury must have thought differently in 1807 when he named the genus.

Be all this as it may, the genus consists of approximately 100 species and ranges from the Himalayas and SW China to Tahiti, New Zealand, Southern Australia including Tasmania, and is, of course, found in Indonesia. More than 50 species are found in New Guinea. This book deals in detail with species found east of the Wallace line and only enumerates the rest. It includes descriptions of new species, two of which are listed as coming from the Solomon Islands despite the fact that they are found on Bougainville which is part of Papua, New Guinea. It is possible to argue that Bougainville should be part of the Solomon Islands and for awhile during a recent and short rebellion it was referred to as the North Solomons. But, the current political facts are that Bougainville is part of PNG and the Solomon Islands (Guadalcanal and Malaita being the best known to Americans) are a separate country. Therefore, the use of current political boundaries would have been preferable to avoid confusion.

The book includes descriptions, excellent drawings, keys, lists of synonyms and holotypes, information on distribution and ecological notes. I found it of great interest, not so much as work to be read in the usual

sense but as a most valuable and very reliable reference work. Therefore, I hope that it will spur publication of a similar work on the genus west of the Wallace line.—JOSEPH ARDITTI, Developmental and Cell Biology, University of California, Irvine 92717

Sacred Sands: The Struggle for Community in the Indiana Dunes. By J. Ronald Engel. 352 pp, 32 photographs, 3 maps. Wesleyan University Press, Middletown, Conn. Distributed by Harper and Row, Publishers. (ISBN 0-8195-5073-6, \$22.95 cloth.

When residents of New York City feel too much the heat and tension of the city, they can take to any one of a number of beautiful parkways, and in a 20-mile drive reach the great expanses of Jones Beach State Park. Even in the summer, a visitor can find himself alone with the seabirds, the surf of the open ocean, and the scrubby dunes above the beach.

For a resident of Chicago, there should be a comparable experience. Along the southern shore of Lake Michigan there stretches the Dune country: sandy beaches thrown up by the lake, with dune complexes extending inland and representing earlier shorelines of the lake. Chicago shares a common geologic history with the Dune country: both are part of the Chicago glacial plain. Yet today the dunes and the lakeshore are only fragmentarily owned by the public. The region closest to Chicago was destroyed in 1906 with the founding of Gary and the U.S. Steel complex. Other destruction followed. Beginning in the years prior to World War I, Chicagoans started a fight to preserve the remainder of the dunes. It was an epic battle, stretching across 60 years of effort in the Indiana State House and the U.S. Congress, and drawing on the strengths of inspired scientists, artists, writers, and public leaders. For scientists and naturalists in particular, the Dunes offered an outdoor laboratory where ecological ideas were born and gestated. A complete list of these figures is too long to mention here. Engel touches in some detail on the work of Thomas Chrowder Chamberlin (founder of the *Journal of Geology*), on Henry