

ANGIOSPERMÆ.

MYRTACEÆ.

Tristania lactiflua F. Muell. *Fragm. Phyt. Aust.* 1: 82 (1859).

In the original description of this North Australian tree, the author specifies "*petala alba*", and it is evident that his intention was to choose an epithet meaning "with milk-white flowers", not "milk-flowing"; apparently the substitution of "u" for the handwritten "or" of the manuscript was a mistake in type. Mueller himself amended the spelling to "*lactiflora*" in his *Syst. Census Aust. Plants* 1882, and so it also appears in the *Second Syst. Census* of 1889; but Bentham (1867) and Ewart (1917) both retained "*lactiflua*". The epithet should certainly appear as **lactiflora**.

GOODENIACEÆ.

Scævola brookeana F. Muell. in *Vict. Nat.* 1: 122 (1884).

This West Australian shrub was named in honour of its discoverer, Miss Sarah T. C. Brooks, who died at Norseman Hospital in September, 1928; but Mueller invariably mis-spelt the surname as "Brooke". He later honoured the same lady in his description of *Hakea brookeana* (1886). C. A. Gardner in *Enumeratio Plantarum Australiæ Occidentalis*: 31 (1930) had already corrected the latter name, to read *H. brooksiana*, but he inconsistently retained *Scævola* "*brookeana*" in the same work. This epithet should also be spelt **brooksiana**.

REDUCTION OF THE LICHEN GENUS BIBBYA J. H. Willis

In *The Victorian Naturalist* 73: 125 (1956) I erected a new genus of lichens, *Bibbya*, the single species of which was known to me only from three localities in the Victorian alps, all at or above 5,500 ft. (= 1700 m.)—viz. Bogong High Plains, Mts. Hotham and Stirling. This action was prompted by Dr. Carroll W. Dodge (St. Louis, Missouri) who received Bogong material from the late Mr. P. N. S. Bibby in 1953, pronounced it as representing an undescribed genus of the *Usneaceae*, and suggested that the latter botanist publish a diagnosis. Mr. Bibby did not live to follow up this suggestion, but I subsequently took pleasure in naming the genus after him.

More recently, Dr. Rolf Santesson (Keeper of the Herbarium, Botaniska Museet, Uppsala, Sweden) requested permission to examine some material of *Bibbya muelleri*, which I sent him. He found this to differ in no respect from the South American species *Toninia bullata*, specimens of which he had collected himself on Isla Navarino, Tierra del Fuego (at 20-50 m.) in 1940. Having inspected Dr. Santesson's collection, I agree that our Victorian lichen is identical, that the structure is not inconsistent with subfruticose members of *Toninia* (a genus of about 100 species in the family *Bacidiaceæ*) and that I erred in giving this Australian (and Andean) representative distinct generic rank. Following is the essential synonymy of *Toninia bullata*, which is now known from Peru (TYPE locality being Tacora, above 14,000 ft., on earth and amongst mosses), Patagonia, Tierra del Fuego, Juan Fernandez and north-eastern Victoria:

Toninia bullata (Meyen & Flotow) G. Zahlbr. in *Beih, bot. Zbl.* 19² (Heft 1): 76 (1905).

Lecidea bullata Meyen & Flotow in *Nova Acta Leop. Carol.* 19, Suppl. (Lichenes): 227 (1843);

Bibbya muelleri (F. R. M. Wilson) J. H. Willis in *Vict. Nat.* 73: 125 (1956);

Siphula muelleri F. R. M. Wilson in *Vict. Nat.* 6: 179 (1890).

—J. H. WILLIS.

NOTES ON THE VEGETATION OF EUCLA DISTRICT, W.A.
(with brief account of botanical collections represented in Melbourne Herbarium).

by

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Introductory.

Eucla is situated on the coast of the Great Australian Bight, about 8 miles west-south-west of the South Australian border (*viz.*, the 129th meridian of east longitude, which meets the sea at Wilson Bluff). Its sandy harbour was discovered about 1867 and, within the same year, surveyed and named "Port Eucla" by Captain Douglas (President of the South Australian Marine Board). The name is said to be a corruption of the aboriginal *Yirculyer* (or *yer-coloya*)—actually applied to a bluff (probably Wilson Bluff) near the present settlement which natives knew as *Chiniala*.

In *Wild Life* 10: 119 (Mar., 1948), P. Crosbie Morrison wrote thus of the place: "On the map it stands out, usually in fairly bold lettering, all by itself. It looks so lonely, and yet, somehow, so important." In the *Western Australian Year-book for 1894-'95*: 33 (1896), Malcolm A. C. Fraser listed Eucla in the section devoted to "Principal Towns", with the somewhat irrelevant description:

A small settlement on the eastern boundary of Western Australia, about 520 miles east of Esperance and about an equal distance west from Adelaide. . . . Population, 24 males, 8 females. There is a small jetty, a police station, and a Customs office. Camel teams from South Australia occasionally pass through.

By 1904 the population had risen to 60; it reached a peak in 1927-28, but Eucla declined completely after the multiplex telegraph channel along the transcontinental railway line was opened in 1929. The settlement at present consists of a single inhabited building—the "Hotel Eucla"—with one family, and a petrol station. This has become a principal refuelling and stopping place on the great Eyre Highway, and about 60 cars now pass by each day; it is also a focal point from which to visit the more spectacular limestone caves of the nearby Nullarbor Plain.