Mountain.	Height.	Climbed by	Date.
	Ft.		
Hochstetter Dom* ...	...	T. N. Brodrick and survey party	... 1889.
" ...	9,179	H. Godfrey (Birmingham), Dr. W. K. Cox (Timaru), Jack Clark, and G. Graham	20 Feb., 1894.
" ...	9,179	Mr. and Mrs. Maxwell (Hobart), Dr. Kronecker (Berlin), T. C. Fyfe, Mr. Mahler, and Jack Clark	— " "
" * ...	...	P. Marshall, C. Inglis, and P. Hannen ...	— " 1895.
" * ...	...	Mr. and Mrs. Malcolm Ross and W. J. P. Hodgkins	— " 1897.
" ...	9,179	Rev. Mr. Fisher and Jack Clark	5 Jan., 1898.
Durwin	9,715	Dr. Kronecker, T. C. Fyfe, and Jack Clark ...	22 Mar., 1894.
Malte Brun ...	10,421	T. C. Fyfe ascended alone	7 " "
Footstool	9,073	T. C. Fyfe and G. Graham	31 Jan., "
Sefton	10,350	E. A. Fitzgerald and M. Zurbriggen ...	15 Feb., 1895.
Sealy	8,631	E. A. Fitzgerald, C. L. Barrow, M. Zurbriggen, and Jack Clark	24 Jan., "

After having concluded my work at the Hermitage I returned to Christchurch *vid* Westland. Crossing Fitzgerald Pass, which at this late season of the year was deep in snow, I proceeded down the Copland River to the coast. I found the days short for travelling, and the bush very dense and wet. I would not recommend any one to attempt this journey so late in the year, and I may consider myself fortunate in getting through as easily as I did. I arrived at Ferry House, some six miles south of Gillespie's Beach, on the third evening out. The pass across the main divide is a good one, but I consider the eastern side too steep to allow of track-making, but a track is quite possible up the Copland River to the summit of the pass on the western side.

J. M. Clark, Alpine Guide.

APPENDIX No. 10.

NURSERIES AND PLANTATIONS.

AUCKLAND.

During September I visited this district for the purpose of selecting sites for a State forest nursery, plantation lands, and also to carry out certain work in connection with the sowing of a 50-acre allotment at Rangitaiki, on the Kaingoroa Plains, about twenty-five miles east of Lake Taupo, in order to ascertain what grasses, forage plants, and forest trees would succeed in this barren pumice region. These immense plains, containing over half a million acres, range in altitude from 1,500 ft. to 2,000 ft., and are broken by numerous deep water-worn gullies, with almost perpendicular sides.

The native vegetation is of a very scanty, stunted nature, and comprises the following plants: Grasses—*Microlæna stipoides, Hierochloe redolens, Danthonia semi-annularis, Poa anceps,* and the common tussock *(Poa australis,* var. *lævis).* Shrubs—*Leptospermum scoparium* and *ericoides, Gaultheria rupestris, Dracophyllum subulatum* (the most characteristic plant of the plains), *Coriaria thymifolia, Cassinia vauvilliersii,* and *Carmichælia juncea,* the branches of which afford the main sustenance for the droves of wild horses.

Smaller plants are represented by *Celmisia longifolia, Muhlenbeckia axillaris, Cyathodes empetrifolia, Pimelia prostrata, Raoulia hectori, Haloragis micrantha,* and *Leucopogon frayeri,* the latter forming dense patches on the poorer portions of the plain to the exclusion of all other herbage. The common sweet-briar seems to be spreading rapidly, the fruit being readily eaten by horses. It affords shelter to native grasses from the scorching sun in summer and from the extreme frosts of winter, and thus produces the only green patches that are to be met with on these plains.

It may be mentioned that the paucity of herbage seems to be due to the poisonous properties of the falling leaves of *Dracophyllum subulatum,* as in the vicinity of such shrubs not a vestige of pascual vegetation is observable. The site for the plantation had already been selected, and was fenced, cleared, ploughed and harrowed on my arrival.

As it was impossible to obtain the use of a heavy roller in the district I was reluctantly compelled to sow the seeds under the worst possible conditions. The eucalypts were sown around the boundary for a width of 2½ chains, and within this belt the land was pegged out in 1-acre plots, on which were sown twenty-five species and varieties of fodder plants and grasses, two varieties of pines, and one of larch. Between each kind of grass a space of 12 ft. was left unsown, in order to test their respective spreading capabilities. The sowing completed, I endeavoured to make arrangements to have the land trodden by sheep, but unfortunately only a few small flocks were travelling at the time. The following is a list of seeds sown:—

* Lower peak.