south along the eastern margin of Atkinson Park to the Manukau Harbour, thence westward to Whatipu and up the coast to the starting point just north of Bethell's.

I shall be happy to supply a map with this boundary outlined, for the assistance of any field worker who may be searching for plants near the margin.

THE BEGINNINGS OF PTEROSTYLIS - - - E.D.H.

Pterostylis, like so many things in this part of the world, began with Captain Cook and the voyage of the Endeavour. On 8 November 1769 the 'immortal Banks and Solander' found Pt.banksii at Mercury Bay, on the banks of the Purangi River, and Solander described it briefly in the Primitiae Florae under the MS name Arethusa tetrapetala.

In May 1770, having crossed the Tasman, they collected Pt. revoluta from Botany Bay on the coast of New South Wales. (There is a B. & S. specimen sheet of revoluta in the Sydney National Herbarium). It has been supposed that they also collected Pt.acuminata, which certainly occurs at Kurnell where Cook landed. Parkinson made a drawing of revoluta showing a flowering plant with an abnormal basal rosette of leaves. Dryander (who was Banks' librarian after Solander's death) suggested that this rosette belonged to acuminata and that Parkinson had mixed the two species into his drawing. But the normal acuminata rosette surrounds the stem, while the rosette in the drawing springs from one side of the stem, and is apparently the result of a double meristem. In short I believe that this drawing of Parkinson's, while showing an unusual form of revoluta, does not prove that the expedition collected acuminata. This is borne out by Nicholls (Orch.of Austr.1951.t81) who records a specimen of revoluta having a lateral growth of large leaves at the base of the stem, and another which possessed a well-developed rosette of leaves immediately below the floral pedicel. (refer also Nicholls loc.cit.P.xii, and Rupp Orch.N.S.W.1943.p.90).

In 1792, in April, Labillardiere collected Pt.alata at Recherche Bay in Tasmania, and this was published, described and illustrated inNov.Holl.Plant.Spec.2:1806.p.59.t.210 as Disperis alata. In 1810 Swartz (Mag.Ges.Naturf.Fr.Berlin.4:1810.p.84.t.3) redescribed Labillardiere's material as Diplodium australe, and this species remained outside Pterostylis until Lindley (Gen.et Spec.Orch.1840.p.388) brought it in as Pt.praecox.

The genus Pterostylis was meanwhile described by Robert Brown (Prodr.Flor.Nov.Holl.etc. 1810.p.326) based upon the 17 species collected by him during Flinder's Investigator expedition to Australia 1802-5. The generic type is Pt.curta. Browns name was conserved against the Diplodium of Swartz (presumably to prevent confusion with Dipodium R.Br. Prodr.p.330), and from then on it was merely a matter of adding or subracting names as species were discovered, denounced or reconsidered.