A NEW COMBINATION IN *MURDANNIA* ROYLE (COMMELINACEAE)

While studying the nomenclature of Indian Commelinaceae, a new combination was found necessary under the genus *Murdannia* Royle and is proposed below:

Murdannia lanceolata (Wt.) Kammathy comb. nov. *Dichaespermum lanceolatum* Wt. Ic. Pl. Ind. Or. 6: 31. t. 2078. f. 1. 1853. *Aneilema koenigii* (Wall. Cat. 5214. 1832) ex C. B. Clarke in DC. Monogr. Phan. 3: 215. 1881, Hook. f. Fl. Brit. Ind. 6: 381. 1892; Fischer in Gamble Fl. Pres. Madr. 1546. 1936 (Repr. ed. 3: 1079. 1957). *Murdannia koenigii* (Wall. ex C. B. Clarke) Bruckn. in Engl. & Prantl Natur. Pflanzenfam. ed. 2. 15a: 173. 1930.

C. B. Clarke (*l. c.* 1881) adopted Wallich's manuscript name *Aneilema koenigii* for this plant while transferring *Dichaespermum lanceolatum* to the genus *Aneilema* R. Br. because the name *Aneilema lanceolatum* was preoccupied by Bentham's species from Tropical Africa (Hook. Fl. Niger. 546. 1849). Since *Dichaespermum lanceolatum* Wt. with its subequal petals, three antisepalous stamens alternating with three antipetalous trilobed staminodes, three equal-celled capsule with many seeds in each cell is considered under the genus *Murdannia* Royle, the earlier specific epithet—*lanceolatum* of Wight, overlooked by Bruckner in 1930 is now reinstated.

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TWO NOMENCLATURAL COMBINATIONS IN PODOSTEMACEAE

There has been much confusion regarding the nomenclature of the plant referred to in our floras (Cooke, Fl. Pres. Bomb. 2: 520, 1906; Gamble, Fl. Pres. Madras Pt. 7: 1195, 1925) as *Lawia zeylanica* (Gardn.) Tul. Recently, Bakhuizen van den Brink Jr. [Taxon 18(5): 598-599, 1969] established *Dalzellia* Wt. (1852) is the earliest legitimate name at generic rank for *Lawia* Griff. ex Tul. (1849), *non* Wt. (1846), *Tulasnea* Wt. (1852), *non* Naud. (1844), *Terniola* Tul. (1852) (=*Lawia* Tul.) and *Mnianthus* Walp. (1853) (=*Lawia* Griff. ex Tul.) and that *Dalzellia zeylanica* (Gardn.) Wt. is the type species of the genus *Dalzellia* Wt.

Willis in Ann. Roy. Bot. Gard. Peradynia 1: 214, 1902 remarks: "This is an extremely variable plant and specimens from many localities have been examined. Each locality seems to have its own form, but after close examination of all, I incline to group them into four varieties, partly geographical." Although he (*l. c.*) named them as trinomials such as *L. zeylanica malabarica* and *L. zeylanica konkanica* etc. and furnished descriptions, in view of his 'grouping them into four varieties', the epithets must not be treated as trinomial, but treated nomenclaturally as varieties. Presumably under such conditions, Cooke (*l.c.*) attributed the authority for *L. zeylanica* Tul. var. *malabarica* and var. *konkanica* to Wills.

During the course of the preparation of the check-list of the "Revision of the Flora of the Presidency of Bombay by Cooke", the author had occasion to critically examine and study the specimens of the two varieties occurring in Peninsular India *viz.* var. *malabarica* and var. *konkanica* and find that these two are taxonomically distinct