NOMENCLATURAL NOTES ON SOME PLANTS FROM INDIA

1. Status of *Corydalis prainiana* Kanodia & Mukerjee (FUMARIACEAE).

The new name, *Corydalis prainiana*, proposed by Kanodia and Mukerjee [in Rec. Bot. Surv. Ind. 20(2): 32. 1973] requires re-evaluation. Being of the opinion that the epithet, *casmiriana* Prain merely to be an orthographic variant of *C. cashmeriana* Royle, which epithet intriguingly had been spelt differently by Hooker and Thomson first (Fl. Ind. 263, 1855) as 'kashmiriana' and later (Fl. Brit. Ind. 1: 123. 1872) as 'cachmeeriana', Kanodia and Mukerjee (*loc. cit.*) proposed the new name, in spite of the two epithets concerned having different spellings. Royle (Illus. Bot. Himal. Mount. 69, 1839) had based his specific epithet after the place Kashmir ('Cashmir'), while Prain (in Journ. Asiat. Soc. Bengal 65: 27, 1897) had named his new species after a person, Casimir de Candolle, the last of the three famous de Condolles. It is obvious that there are two different plants, and the new name proposed for *C. casimiriana* Duthie & Prain ex Prain is redundant.

2. **Phyllanthus cecilfischeri*** Ellis, *nomen-nom. P. fischeri sensu* Ellis in Bull. Bot. Surv. India 22: 193. 1980 (1982), non Pax, 1895. *Emblica fischeri* Gamble in Kew Bull. 1925: 130. 1925 et Fl. Pres. Madras 7: 1295 (EUPHORBIACEAE).

As the new combination effected under *Phyllanthus* L., *viz. P. fischeri* Ellis is pre-occupied, a new name for it has become necessary. The etymology of the new name proposed is by prefixing the author's first name.

3. **Rostellularia assamica** (C. B. Cl.) Ellis, *comb. nov. Justicia assamica* C. B. Cl. in Hook. f. Fl. Brit. Ind. 4: 537. 1885 (ACANTHACEAE).

For the natural circumscription of the genus *Justicia* L. it becomes necessary to treat this species from Assam, India, under *Rostellularia* Reichenb.

4. **Triumfetta rhomboidea** Jacq. var. **pentandra** (A. Rich.) Ellis, *stat. et comb. nov. P. pentandra* A. Rich. in Guil. & Perr. Fl. Senegal. 1: 93, t. 19. 1831. *T neglecta* Wt. & Arn. Prodr. 75. 1834; Masters in Hook. f. Fl. Brit. Ind. 1: 396. 1874; Dunn in Gamble, Fl. Pres. Madras 1: 120. 1915 (TILIACEAE).

Except for the capsular bristles which are hairy on the upper edges this variety resembles the *typica* in all other characters. Even the amount of hairiness on the upper edge of the bristles is variable. In fact, Haines (Bot. Bihar & Orissa, p. 85. 1921) speaks of this taxon thus: '. . It is scarcely more than a variety of the next species.' (i.e. *T. rhomboidea* Jacq.). It is therefore felt that this variable taxon can be accommodated at a varietal level.

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*Since sending this note, Bennet (in Indian For. 109: 221. 1983) has published a new name, *Phyllanthus indofischeri* for this species, making the name proposed here redundant.

LOTUS ARABICUS L.—NEW TO INDIAN FLORA

The genus *Lotus* L. (Papilionaceae) is represented by about 100 species distributed in north and south temperate regions of the world. Baker (in Hook. f. Fl. Brit. Ind. 2: 91. 1876) included *L. garciniii* DC., *L. corniculata* L. var. *corniculata* and *L. corniculata*