

the following trumpet blast is heard in the overture to his first moss paper. "I am with reluctance approaching this subject prematurely, much remaining yet to do, but from circumstances which have recently transpired I am forced to do so in order to protect my own rights; for, acting on the suggestion of the late Sir Julius von Haast, I presented nearly all my specimens and camera-lucida drawings to the Christchurch Museum, where they remain for anyone to describe who may think fit to rob me of my hard-earned rights" (Brown, 1893). No wonder Mr Wright wrote to Mr Beckett concerning a proposed "Cryptogamic Club"—"Would it be quite safe" and he underlined the sentence "Would it be quite safe to get all the Cryptogamists together in one room?"

In all, Brown wrote 22 papers on Mosses between 1892 and 1904; but even if he had published nothing, we would be in his debt for the stimulus which he gave to Cockayne, embodied in the treasured words—"Trust not authority; pay no heed to the books, but go to the plants themselves".

LEONARD COCKAYNE (1855–1934)

On 5 June 1895, two new members were elected to the Philosophical Institute of Canterbury. The first was Mr W. W. Smith, an amateur zoologist, who was to publish a valuable paper in 1904 on plants naturalised in the county of Ashburton, and later to become curator of parks in New Plymouth. The second new member, nominated by R. M. Laing, was a Mr L. Cockayne. This gentleman took only a minor part in the proceedings for some time. After ten months he brought along a female *Katipo* with nests and young which he had collected on the sands at New Brighton, and told the meeting something about the spider (*Proc.* 18/4/96); and after a further eighteen months he read his first scientific paper. Yet fifteen years after this he had achieved a world reputation as a botanist and was elected a Fellow of the Royal Society of London. Cockayne's most active and creative period was spent in Canterbury, but he had lived in the province for ten years before he was elected to the Institute at the age of 41, with half his life behind him. What had he been doing in this time?

Cockayne's preliminary entries in the first edition of "Who's Who in New Zealand" (1908) are as follows:

"Cockayne, Dr Leonard; born Thorpe House, Sheffield, 1854*: youngest son of William Cockayne, merchant; married Maria Maud Blakeley, of Harcourt, Vic. Educated privately and public schools; Owens College (now Manchester University); emigrated Australia 1879; engaged in teaching; arrived N.Z. 1881; on staff Tokomairiro District High School 1881–85; farming near Christchurch; —."

The farm near Christchurch was at Styx and here on 27 October 1885 Cockayne had purchased 15 acres 6 perches (Lands and Survey Department records). Next year he bought another seven acres to round off the block and here he lived until 1892. He was naturally interested in horticulture, and about 1887 is said to have read G. M. Thomson's "Ferns of New Zealand" which aroused his interest in native plants (Anon. 1919). Through these two interests he struck up a friendship with Robert Brown and they made many excursions together. Brown's *Andreaea cockaynei* (1893) was "named in honour of Mr L. Cockayne, my botanical companion in many rough journeys among the mountains". In 1889 they were at Walkers Pass together (Cockayne, 1899b, p. 420) and in December, 1896, he "proceeded in company with Mr R. Brown to Mount Torlesse" (Cockayne, 1898, p. 437).

* Given as 7 April 1855, by Anon. (probably Cockayne, 1919).