THORNS WITH CORKY BASES—A CORRECTION.—I am desirous to publish the following correction to my list of plants having thorns with corky bases, contained in a note by Dr. Trimen of Ceylon, which, although dated January 16, 1893, has only just reached me:—

‘At p. 165 of the sixth volume of the Annals of Botany, among the plants recorded by Mr. Barber as having corky thorns, is *Ailanthus malabarica*, which is entered on the authority of a photograph taken at Peradenyia by Mr. Potter. The name is erroneous, the tree being *Zanthoxylum Rhetsa*. But I believe that at the time the photograph was taken, the plant had by some accident a wrong label attached to it.’

Zanthoxylum Rhetsa is already in my list; and, as *Ailanthus malabarica* is the only example quoted of Simarubeae, that order will have to be ruled out. Many additions might doubtless be made by travellers in the tropics with the means of identifying forest-trees. The only case I could be certain about in the Leeward Islands is the common sand-box tree, *Hura crepitans*, which has thorns with stony bases exactly like those on the specimen of *Erythrina lithosperma* in the Botanical Museum at Cambridge.

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THE CYTOLOGY OF SAPROLEGNIA.—The almost simultaneous appearance of Mr. Trow's interesting and elaborate paper on the ‘Karyology of Saprolegnia’ in the Annals of Botany for December, 1895, and of mine ‘On the Cytology of the Vegetative and Reproductive Organs of the Saprolegnieae’ in the Transactions of the Royal Irish Academy (read February 19, 1893, revised for press June, 1895), renders it desirable that I should make some remarks on the points at issue between us.

My first and gravest criticism on matters of fact is that Mr. Trow has overlooked the existence of four chromosomes in the vegetative nuclei, to which he ascribes only a single chromosome; he admits that his ‘observations on this point might well have been more extensive’ (p. 624)¹. Considering the importance he attaches to the

¹ The context in my first publication on this subject (Comptes Rendus, CVIII, 1889) would seem to render it plain that my observations on nuclear division referred to the vegetative hyphae. But Mr. Trow writes ‘as he expressly states that divisions do not occur in the oogonia, I conclude that he observed these phenomena in the antheridia’ (p. 629)—a curious non-sequitur.

Barber, Charles Alfred. 1896. "Thorns with corky bases—a correction." *Annals of botany* 10, 98–98. <https://doi.org/10.1093/oxfordjournals.aob.a088604>.

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