The Mangrove-forests of Satsuma, being situated in $31^{\circ}20'$ N. lat., might be considered at least as the northern limit of Rhizophoreae in Asia. I may here state in passing, that the specimen of Mangrove collected by Döderlein in Kagoshima and determined by Professor Engler (Bot. Jahrbücher, vi, 1885, p. 63) as '*Rhizophora mucronata*' should be *Kandelia Rheedii*, on the grounds that the former does not extend beyond the Luchu proper in the north, and that in the Kagoshima Prefecture the only species to be found there is the latter species.

TOKUTARO ITO, Tokyo.

FLOATING-APPARATUS OF THE LEAVES OF PISTIA STRATIOTES, L.—This curious aquatic Aroid, commonly growing in ponds, ditches, and other stagnant waters of tropical and sub-tropical countries, has fleshy, cuneate or obovate leaves arranged in a rosette. These leaves are provided on the underside with a large swollen body, about the size of a pigeon's egg. In *Trapa natans*, L., the swimming-organ is developed on the long petiole; but in the case of *Pistia Stratiotes*, L., the leaves being sessile, the part a little above the base becomes swollen into an obovate form, and serves as a floating-apparatus. On making a longitudinal section of the leaves, this organ is found to be composed of spongy parenchymatous tissue, containing air. The upper and lower surfaces of the leaves are densely covered with minute depressed hairs, which protect the leaves from being wetted. By these means, the leaves of *Pistia Stratiotes*, L., are enabled to maintain their position above the surface of the water, the upper side is kept dry, and thus the transpiration and respiration are constantly carried on. The above observations were made on the plant growing luxuriantly in a pond in Shui in the Lūchū Islands.

TOKUTARO ITO, Tokyo.

Ito, Tokutaro. 1899. "Floating-apparatus of the leaves of *Pistia stratiotes*, L." *Annals of botany* 13, 466–466.

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