



The current Seychelles flag after 1996 the Island probably used the Union Flag in 1883

# 12 - Seychelles and Chili 1883

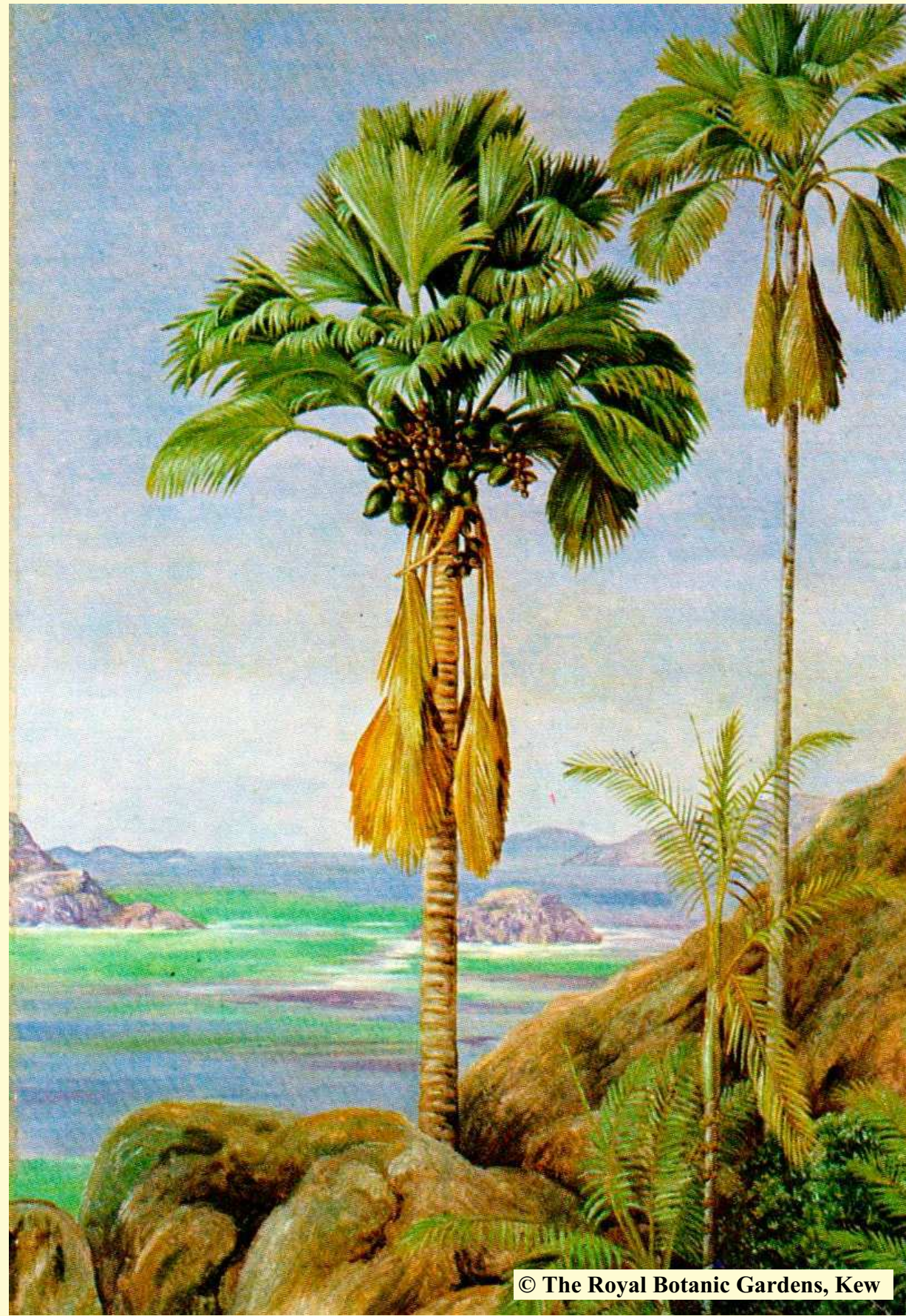


Speaking about travel in the Seychelles Marianne noted;

*“Walking was said to be impossible, so my two first expeditions were made with four bearers and a chair. They charged fifteen shillings for the day ; but as I found that I walked on my own feet most of the time, and the men were greatly in my way, I never had them again.”*



Native Vanilla, Praslin, Seychelles



Double Coconuts, Praslin, Seychelles



Wild and cultivated flowers of the Seychelles



Hibiscus lilliflorus, at harbour of Mahe, Seychelles



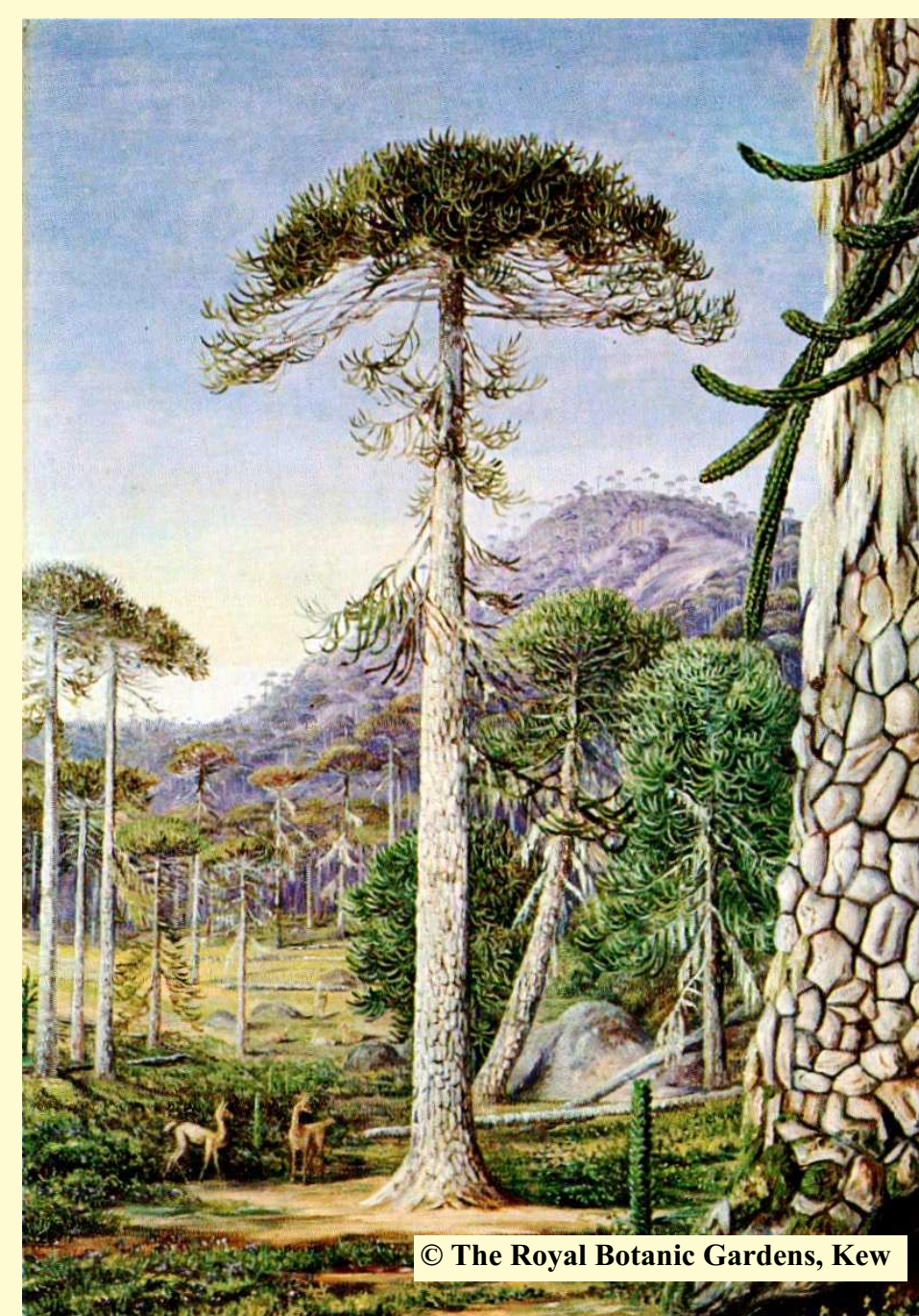
The Blue Puya and Chilian Cactus



The nest of the Trabajo Lesser Canestero, Chili



A specialised mistletoe on a Roble, a southern beech native to Chili



The Monkey Puzzle Tree, Chili

Chili brought its own problems in getting about;

*“It was not the thing for a woman to walk alone in the streets, unless she were wrapped up in a manta, or black Cashmere shawl, which is arranged like a nun's head-dress, so as to cover forehead and mouth. I used to go to market, hidden in my manta, with the cook sometimes, to get flowers and other curiosities to paint.”*

Whatever the difficulties her sense of humour was always very apparent;

*“But my chief object in coming to Chili was to paint the old Araucaria imbricata, known in England as the puzzle - monkey tree, rather unreasonably, as there are no monkeys in Chili to puzzle. Probably they crossed the Cordilleras in disgust at the general prickliness of all the plants there, especially the araucarias, and never came back again : there are plenty on the other side. It was not easy to make out how to reach those forests. People talked of difficulties, and even dangers. They said I must sleep out, be eaten by pumas, or carried off by Indians, a noble race which had never yet been conquered by the white man. Others declared the trees no longer existed, having been all sawn up into sleepers for railways ; but as usual I found when I got nearer the spot that all difficulties vanished.”*

In 1885 Marianne stopped traveling but not working;

*“I returned straight to England, where it took me another year to finish and rearrange the gallery at Kew. Every painting had to be re-numbered, so as to keep the countries as much together as possible, the geographical distribution of the plants being the chief object I had in view in the collection. After that was finished, I tried to find a perfect home in the country with a ready-made old house and a garden to make after my own fashion, " far from the madding crowd " of callers and lawn-tennis.”*