SOME FOSSIL LEAVES AND FRUITS OF THE ACERACEÆ FROM THE KAREWA DEPOSITS OF KASHMIR, WITH REMARKS ON THE PAST AND PRESENT MAPLE FORESTS OF THE KASHMIR VALLEY

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Received July 5, 1945
(Communicated by Professor Birbal Sahni, F.A.Sc., F.R.S.)

(With Six Plates)

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INTRODUCTION

The material described in this paper comprises a score of fossil leaves and a few fruits of the genus Acer, which come from the Lower Karewa deposits of Kashmir. Most of the specimens are derived from the author's collections of 1939 and 1940 and some from Stewart's collections of 1935 and 1936.
from the beds exposed along the Pir Panjal side of the valley at Laredura and Ningal Nullah; however, there are four leaf-fragments of *Acer oblongum*, two samaras and an incomplete leaf of *Acer pentapornicum*, which are described from collections made from Liddarmarg (from two different spots) by Middlemiss (1911, pp. 121-22) in 1910 and de Terra in 1932.

I am highly indebted to Prof. B. Sahni, F.R.S., for guidance and encouragement during the preparation of this paper. I am equally grateful to my old teacher Dr. R. R. Stewart, for helping me in identification of the fossil leaves, and for innumerable facilities extended to me during my stay in the Gordon College for the period of two years (1937-1939). It is my pleasant duty to thank the Director, Geological Survey of India, for the loan of Middlemiss's collection and for the photographs of *A. oblongum* reproduced in Plate XXIII. My grateful thanks are also due to the Vice-Chancellor, University of the Punjab and Principal Jodh Singh of the Khalsa College, Amritsar, for a research scholarship from the University and the authorities of the Lucknow University for the award of a Research Fellowship for my work on the Karewa floras at Lucknow. I am glad to acknowledge the assistance my wife has given me in correcting the proofs.

**PLANT-BEARING LOCALITIES**

A detailed description of the localities is given elsewhere (Puri, 1944) but a brief account of these may be given here as follows:—

*Locality L.*—Laredura, near Dangarpur, seven miles from Baramulla towards Gulmarg, height about 6,000 ft., above sea-level.

*Locality N.*—Ningal Nullah, about five miles south of Dangarpur village in a grassy meadow about a furlong from the bridge over the Ningal Nullah stream and near Botapathri village at an altitude of 9,000 ft.

*Locality 3 L.*—“Liddarmarg, in the stream bed 500 ft., west of the shepherds’ huts, the beds dip 6 degrees north-east and are at 10,600 ft.”

*Locality K 14/948.*—“Liddarmarg, in two stream beds near the present Gujar (herdsmen) encampment, the dip of the bed is of the usual slightly inclined character, the altitude is 10,600 ft. above the sea-level.”

**SYSTEMATIC LIST OF THE SPECIES**

*Acer oblongum* Wall.

*Acer pentapornicum* J. L. Stewart.

*Acer villosum* Wall.

*Acer pictum* Thunb.