

This is perhaps the commonest of all ferns, being spread over nearly the whole area of fern distribution; it is more general than *Pteris aquilina*, but unlike that it does not grow socially, covering large tracts. Yet, common as *Pteris aquilina* is, it is not found in any of our insular floras except that of the Bermudas.

Aspidium aculeatum presents an infinite variety of forms, from a few inches to several feet high, and equally diverse in the degree of cutting of the frond. The Juan Fernandez plant is a common southern form remarkable for the copious brown scales on the rachis.

***Aspidium capense*, Willd.**

Aspidium capense, Willd., Sp. Pl., v. p. 267; Baker in Mart. Fl. Bras., fasc. xlix., p. 463, t. 29 (sub titulo *Swartziano*); Lowe, Fil., vi. t. 46.

Aspidium coriaceum, Swartz, Synopsis Fil., p. 57.

Aspidium (Polystichum) coriaceum, Hook., Sp. Fil., iv. p. 32.

Polystichum coriaceum, Gay, Fl. Chil., vi. p. 513; Philippi in Bot. Zeit., 1856, p. 631.

JUAN FERNANDEZ. *Scouler*; *Philippi*.

Generally spread in tropical and southern extratropical countries, including St Paul Island and Tristan da Cunha.

We have seen only one specimen from Juan Fernandez, and that was collected by Scouler in 1828.

***Aspidium flexum*, Kunze.**

Aspidium flexum, Kunze, Anal. Pteridogr., p. 44.

Polystichum flexum, Gay, Fl. Chil., vi. p. 517.

Aspidium (Polystichum) flexum, Hook. and Bak., Synopsis Fil., p. 255.

Aspidium berterianum, Colla in Mem. Accad. Sc. Torino, xxxix. p. 42, t. 70; Hook., Sp. Fil., iv. p. 33 (*berteroanum*).

JUAN FERNANDEZ.—Endemic. On rocks and roots of trees in the mountain woods—*Bertero*; *Scouler*; *Cuming*; *Douglas*; *Reed*; *Moseley*; *Downton*.

***Nephrodium (Lastrea) villosum*, Hook.**

Nephrodium (Lastrea) villosum, Hook., Sp. Fil., iv. p. 134, t. 264; Hook. and Bak., Synopsis Fil., p. 286.

Aspidium villosum, Swartz, Synopsis Fil., p. 56.

Polypodium (Phegopteris) berterioanum, Hook., Sp. Fil., iv. p. 269.

JUAN FERNANDEZ.—In shady woods—*Bertero*; *Douglas*; *Scouler*; *Reede*; *Philippi*; *Moseley*.

A very common fern in Peru and Chili, the indusium of which is commonly undeveloped, hence it has been partly referred to *Polypodium*. Philippi appears, from specimens in the Kew Herbarium named by him, to have mistaken the non-indusiate state for *Polypodium rugulosum*, a very distinct plant. *Nephrolepis altescandens* has a very fugacious indusium, and in consequence has also been referred to *Polypodium* by some authors.