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resided in the colony, and whose knowledge of European husbandry has enabled him to manage a Cape farm with considerable success; he is one of the small number of English colonists who at this time to be met with in the colony, and who is called Witteboom, a name which, with great propriety, it has received on account of numerous plantations of large Witteboom, or Silver Trees, which grow about it. The native station of this handsome tree is the sloping ground at the foot of the eastern side of Table Mountain; and at present very large plantations occupy the same situation on the northern side, next to the town. This species is also cultivated in all the gardens of the kingdom where it grows wild can be of no subject of wonder to any person who has the least knowledge of Cape botany, since the natural places of growth of a many other species are circumscribed by limits equally limited.

Here, then, is irrefragable evidence that the Silver Tree was extensively planted long ago in the peninsula, if not elsewhere. From his route map it would appear that Burchell had simply the localities in mind, and not the tree, for although he is silent on the subject, the Silver Tree may have existed there in those days. Yet it is surprising that it should have been so long overlooked or disregarded in so accessible a part of the country.

With regard to the cultivation of the Silver Tree Dr. Marlborough states it only grows in a soil strongly impregnated with decomposed granite. He nowhere mentions the adaptation of the soil, and attempts to cultivate the tree in and around Cape Town have, it is said, failed. Without going into the means of dispersion, the Silver Tree exhibits a very singular adaptation of the withered perianth, which doubtless assists in conveying the seeds short distances, at all events. Miss Nottley has noticed how the rounded bodies fly away from the opened cones, which disperse us much until we had examined herbaceous specimens, and ascertained what they were. The strongly bearded or partially bearded perianth parts fly away from the base of the light one-seeded nut, the lobes still cohering by their tips, and forming an outline through which the persistent epicalyx style does not slip. When the fruit is quite ripe and the weather dry and sunny the four lobes of the perianth spread outwards from below, and the wind carries them about, and from the gentle brushing of the style; the withered perianth thus forming, as Dr. Marlborough adrnissibly states. Such a circumstance almost processes until we take it to know, but of course much remains to be learnt in this direction.

In habit of growth the Silver Tree bears some resemblance to the Asafoetida. A similar cone-like aggregation of the seed-vessels adds to the likeness. It is, however, of comparatively small stature, not exceeding 40 feet in height, even in the most favourable situations. The male and female flowers of all the species of Lecanopsis, and the allied South African genus, Asafoetida, are borne on different plants, and in consequence of the cones being persistent the females are readily distinguishable from the males. This is very striking in Lecanopsis platypetala, an expanse of which is represented in one of the Botanic Garden.