

## P R E F A C E.

In 1919 Dr. SVEN HEDIN asked me to assist him with the working out and publication of the botanical material which he had brought home from his travels in Inner Asia. I had already had the greater part of the Flowering Plants for study 10 years or so ago, and Dr. Ove PAULSEN and I had at that time identified most of the specimens, but several circumstances prevented us from finishing our work and the material was sent back to »Stockholms Högskola« to which institution Dr. Hedin had presented his collections.

To the request of Dr. Hedin I replied that I was willing to meet his wish if he would provide the collections with the necessary notes on locality, altitude, date, etc. This he most kindly agreed to, and in the spring of 1920 I got the collections and the notes sent to me. Dr. Paulsen expressed his willingness to assist me as he had done on the former occasion.

As the material of some of the families of Flowering Plants at an earlier date were examined by some botanists at the Botanical Museum of Berlin, I asked Dr. L. DIELS, Dr. H. HARMS, Dr. R. PILGER and Dr. E. ULBRICH to continue their work with these families which they most kindly did.

The material sent consisted of the *Flowering Plants* collected by Dr. Hedin during his travels in 1894—95, 1899—1901 and 1906—07. Those collected during the expedition of 1896 were presented to Kew, and a list of the species named by W. B. HEMSLEY and H. H. W. PEARSON was published in Dr. Hedin's paper in »Petermanns Mitteilungen« (Ergänzungsband 28, 1900); these are also included in the present work.

Besides Flowering Plants Dr. Hedin collected a series of samples of *Algæ* which were given to Dr. N. WILLE of Christiania for determination. A list of the *Algæ* gathered in 1896 is to be found in the paper in »Petermanns Mitteilungen« already referred to. The other samples have now been worked out by Prof. WILLE and a full list of all the *algæ* is published as a separate paper in the following pages.

Mr. F. HUSTEDT of Bremen subsequently had the samples of *algæ* for examination with regard to the *Diatoms* and has given his result in another separate paper published here.