

MOUNT HALCON, MINDORO

Expedition of November, 1906 - A biological and zoological expedition to Mount Halcón was organized under the direction and with the support of Maj. Gen. Leonard Wood. The members of the expedition were Maj. Edgar A. Mearns, Surgeon, U. S. A.; Elmer D. Merrill, botanist of the Bureau of Science and W. I. Hutchison of the Bureau of Forestry. The highest peak on Halcón was reached on November 22, 1906, twenty-one days after leaving the coast. A narrative of the trip and a description of Mt. Halcón was published in the Philippine Journal of Science, Sec. A, Gen. Sci. (1907), 2, 170. The botanical material collected by Merrill amounted to 759 numbers, representing about 700 different species, of which 206 species and varieties were ferns and fern-allies. The botanical exploration of Mt. Halcón added representatives of two families new to the Archipelago, seven genera new to the Islands, fifteen species previously described from surrounding regions and many new to science. A general description of the Flora of Mount Halcón, Mindoro was given by Merrill in The Philippine Journal of Science, II, Botany, 1907, p. 251. The Pteridophytes collected by Merrill in Halcón were described by Copeland in The Philippine Journal of Science, II, Botany, (1907) p. 119. Christ of Basel, Switzerland undertook the classification of the Philippine Species of Dryopteris, in the Philippine Journal of Science, II, Botany, 1907, p. 189. The orchids collected by Merrill at high altitudes on Mt. Halcón and those found by McGregor and Merritt near Mt. Halcón were described under the name *Orchidaeae Halcónenses* by Ames