

ON THE POSITION OF THE GENERA *CARLEMANNIA*
BENTH. AND *SYLVIANTHUS* *HOOK. F.*

by

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In the *Rubiaceae* corolla and androecium are, as a rule, isomerous. In the genus *Praravinia* *Korth.*, however, the number of stamens has been said to be double the number of the corolla lobes; and of several other genera species have been described in which the stamens should outnumber the corolla lobes: where I could re-investigate the materials on which these statements had been based, i.e. in almost every case, I have, on the contrary, always found a perfectly regular alternation between the corolla lobes and the stamens.

In two genera, to wit *Carlemannia* *Benth.* and *Sylvianthus* *Hook. f.*, on the other hand, the number of stamens is indubitably smaller than the number of corolla lobes. If these genera are rightly referred to the *Rubiaceae*, they would form, therefore, real exceptions to the rule. The position of these plants with their dentate or serrate leaves and rudimentary stipules, however, is by no means sure. As a matter of fact, *Sol er e d e r* (*Bull. Herb. Boiss.* I, p. 173—178, 1893) already long ago has transferred them, as a result of his anatomical studies, to the *Caprifoliaceae*. *Hallier* (*Just's Jahresber.* XXXVI, 3, p. 221, 1910) put them in the *Gesneriaceae*, and a year later (*Meded. Rijksherb.* 1911, p. 40) in the *Saxifragaceae*, but in a note subsequently written on one of the sheets in the Leiden Herbarium he once more changes his opinion, and confesses himself converted to *Sol er e d e r*'s point of view. To my mind too the affinity with the *Caprifoliaceae* is quite plausible: the strong reduction in the androecium, though unknown in the family itself, occurs in the nearly related *Valerianaceae*.