



CLEMATIS COLENISOI

This is the first of a series of drawings by Miss Nancy Adams, illustrating the New Zealand species of clematis. *C. colensoi* is not uncommon about Wellington in coastal scrub, open beech forest and old stands of manuka. It is an attractive plant, because of its foliage, even when out of flower. There is much variation in the form of the adult leaflets, but so far no one seems to have made a detailed study of the species. The juvenile leaflets are entire or nearly so, a fact not mentioned in botanical books.

NOTES ON THE FINDING OF A NEW SAPROPHYTIC ORCHID

During October 1949 I spent several days near Kaitaia, in the company of Mr. Owen Gibson of New Plymouth, searching for some of the rare orchids reported many years previously by R. H. and H. B. Matthews.

Realizing that *Corybas unguiculatus* (*Corysanthes matthewsii*) would have finished flowering two months previously, we paid particular attention to all seeding *Corybas* which appeared in any way unusual. We made several interesting finds near Kaitaia but were still looking for *C. unguiculatus* when we reached Wellsford on our way back to Taranaki. There, in long-established manuka scrub, Owen paused to examine what he thought to be a group of seeding *Corybas*.

No leaves were showing so he removed the loose leaf mould expecting to find a withered leaf at the base of the stem. To our surprise he uncovered a fragile, translucent, red-flecked bract about $\frac{3}{4}$ in. long. Unlike *Corybas* the plants had no tubers. Below ground the plant consisted of a succulent, branching caudicle from which the