

**CATALOGUE OF CHARLES JOHN CROSTHWAIT COSSART
FERN COLLECTION HELD IN THE HERBARIUM OF
MUSEU MUNICIPAL DO FUNCHAL (NATURAL HISTORY)
(MADEIRA, PORTUGAL)**

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With 6 figures

ABSTRACT. The Herbarium of the Museu Municipal do Funchal (Natural History) holds a fern collection, from the Island of Madeira, Portugal, made by Charles John Crosthwait Cossart and his wife between 1900 and 1930. A catalogue of that collection was made and is here presented. A small historic account on this family in Madeira, as well as a reference to a second Cossart fern collection in the Herbarium is also made.

KEY WORDS: ferns, Charles John Crosthwait Cossart, catalogue, Madeira.

RESUMO. Neste trabalho publica-se um catálogo de uma colecção de fetos, colhidos na Ilha da Madeira, Portugal, por Charles John Crosthwait Cossart e sua mulher entre 1900 e 1930, presente no Herbário do Museu Municipal do Funchal (História Natural). É feita uma referência histórica a esta família na Madeira, assim como a outra colecção de fetos existente no Herbário e constituída por outro membro da família.

PALAVRAS-CHAVE: fetos, Charles John Crosthwait Cossart, catálogo, Madeira.

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INTRODUCTION

The Cossart family is one of the oldest English families living in the Island of Madeira, Portugal, and are descendants from the Huguenots of France (Rouen) (COSSART, 1984). After the Edict of Nantes (1598), the Cossarts dispersed to the Netherlands, Germany, England and Ireland. The members of this family who came to Madeira belong to the Irish branch. The first Cossart to arrive in Madeira was William (1775-1837) in 1808 (Fig. 1) (CLODE, 1952). Soon after his arrival, he joined a local wine exporting firm called Newton, Gordon, Murdoch & Co. at which point the firm changed his name to Newton, Gordon, Cossart & Co. In 1831, at the age of 25, Peter Cossart (1807-1870), William’s nephew (Fig. 1), joined him in the firm and some years later, when he bought Russell Manners Gordon’s interest in the company, he became, together with his 5 sons, owner of Cossart, Gordon & Co. (COSSART, 1984).

Charles John Crosthwait Cossart (1853-1919) (Fig. 2) along with his brother Leland Cossart (1843-1898) took over the firm Cossart, Gordon & Co after their father’s death in 1870 (COSSART, 1984). At first, Charles was the managing partner of the firm, but when Leland died, in 1898, he became the senior partner of Cossart, Gordon & Co. He was also, for many years, Honorary Consul of Denmark, he owned a private ship chandlers company called the “Empresa do Cabrestante”, that dealt in nautical equipment, capstans, tug-boats, etc. and was the President of the Commercial Association of Funchal (HOARE, 2004; CLODE, 1983).

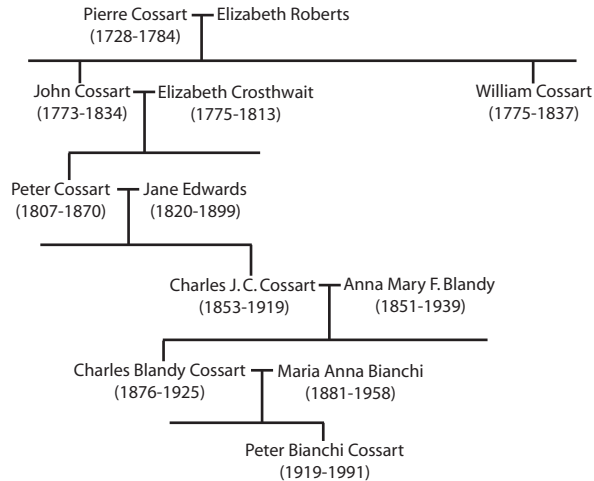


Fig. 1 - The Madeira Island branch of the Cossart family (includes only the members referred in the present catalogue).

According to the records of the Museu Municipal do Funchal (Natural History) (MMF 23152), C. J. C. Cossart and his wife Anna Mary Farber Blandy Cossart (1851-1939) collected 39 ferns on the Island of Madeira between 1900 and 1930. In 1970 their grandson, Peter Bianchi Cossart (1919-1991), presented the fern collection to the Museum in order to be incorporated in the Herbarium (MADM). This collection was taxonomically revised in 1986 by the Portuguese botanist José Eduardo Martins Ormonde and has an historical importance since it is the oldest in the Herbarium. The specimens in C. J. C. Cossart's collection belong to 7 orders, 15 families and 26 genera; they are mounted on paper, using the old sewing method. One of the species in the Cossart collection, *Cheilanthes guanchica* Bolle, (Fig. 6) is unique in the Herbarium.



Fig. 2 - C. J. C. Cossart. Photograph taken at *Vicentes Photographos*, Funchal, on July 30th, 1896.

In the Herbarium of the Museu Municipal do Funchal (Natural History) there is another fern collection (MMF 22951), also donated by Peter Bianchi Cossart in 1969. The registration mentions "Madeira ferns collected in 1850 by his father". According to our genealogic research (Fig. 1), Peter's father, Charles Blandy Cossart, was born in 1876 and died in 1925, thus making the collection date chronologically incongruent. If the date of the collection is correct, the only member of the Cossart family, living in Madeira at that period was Peter Cossart (1807-1870). At this point it was decided not to include this collection in the present catalogue.

The systematic classification and nomenclature of the ferns are according to JARDIM & SEQUEIRA (2008). The catalogue is alphabetically organised by Order.

CATALOGUE

KINGDOM PLANTAE
DIVISION PTERIDOPHYTA
CLASS FILICOPSIDA

ORDER ASPIDIALES
FAMILY ASPIDIACEAE

GENUS *Arachniodes*

Arachniodes webbiana (A. Braun) Schelpe [MADM No. 1833]

GENUS *Dryopteris*

Dryopteris aemula (Aiton) Kuntze [MADM No. 1841]

Dryopteris affinis (Lowe) Fraser-Jenk. subsp. *affinis* [MADM No. 1837]

Dryopteris aitoniana Pic. Serm. [MADM No. 1839]

Dryopteris maderensis Alston [MADM No. 1840]

GENUS *Polystichum*

Polystichum drepanum (Sw.) C. Presl [MADM No. 1842]

Polystichum falcinellum (Sw.) C. Presl [MADM No. 1834]

Polystichum setiferum (Forssk.) Woy. [MADM No. 1835]

FAMILY ASPLENIACEAE

GENUS *Asplenium*

Asplenium aethiopicum (Burm. f.) Bech. [MADM No. 1827]

Asplenium anceps Lowe ex Hook. & Grev. [MADM No. 1825]

Asplenium hemionitis L. [MADM No. 1823] (Fig. 3)

Asplenium marinum L. [MADM No. 1826]

Asplenium monanthes L. [MADM No. 1824]

Asplenium onopteris L. [MADM No. 1828]

GENUS *Ceterach*

Ceterach lolegnamense Gibby & Lovis [MADM No. 1829]

GENUS *Phyllitis*

Phyllitis scolopendrium (L.) Newman subsp. *scolopendrium* [MADM No. 1832]



Fig. 3 - *Asplenium hemionitis* L. (MADM No. 1823).

FAMILY ATHYRIACEAE

GENUS *Athyrium*

Athyrium filix-femina (L.) Roth [MADM No. 1830]

GENUS *Cystopteris*

Cystopteris viridula (Desv.) Desv. [MADM No. 1816]

GENUS *Diplazium*

Diplazium caudatum (Cav.) Jermy [MADM No. 1831]

FAMILY DAVALLIACEAE

GENUS *Davallia*

Davallia canariensis (L.) Sm. [MADM No. 1817]

FAMILY ELAPHOGLOSSACEAE

GENUS *Elaphoglossum*

Elaphoglossum semicylindricum (T. E. Bowdich) Benl [MADM No. 1846] (Fig. 4)



Fig. 4 - *Elaphoglossum semicylindricum* (T. E. Bowdich) Benl (MADM No. 1846).

FAMILY THELYPTERIDACEAE

GENUS *Christella*

Christella dentata (Forssk.) Brownsey & Jermy [MADM No. 1838]

GENUS *Lastrea*

Lastrea limbosperma (All.) Holub & Pouzar [MADM No. 1836]

GENUS *Stegnogramma*

Stegnogramma pozoi (Lag.) K. Iwats. [MADM No. 1845]

ORDER BLECHNALES

FAMILY BLECHNACEAE

GENUS *Blechnum*

Blechnum spicant (L.) Roth subsp. *spicant* [MADM No. 1821] (Fig. 5)

GENUS *Woodwardia*

Woodwardia radicans (L.) Sm. [MADM No. 1822]

ORDER DENNSTAEDTIALES

FAMILY HYPOLEPIDACEAE

GENUS *Pteridium*

Pteridium aquilinum (L.) Kuhn subsp. *aquilinum* [MADM No. 1820]



Fig. 5 - *Blechnum spicant* (L.) Roth subsp. *spicant* (MADM No. 1821).

ORDER DICKSONIALES

FAMILY CULCITACEAE

GENUS *Culcita*

Culcita macrocarpa C. Presl [MADM No. 1809]

ORDER HYMENOPHYLLALES

FAMILY HYMENOPHYLLACEAE

GENUS *Hymenophyllum*

Hymenophyllum tunbrigense (L.) Sm. [MADM No. 1810]

Hymenophyllum wilsonii Hook. [MADM No. 1819]

GENUS *Vandenboschia*

Vandenboschia speciosa (Willd.) G. Kunkel [MADM No. 1818]

ORDER POLYPODIALES
FAMILY POLYPODIACEAE

GENUS *Polypodium*

Polypodium macaronesicum A. E. Bobrov [MADM No. 1843]

Polypodium vulgare L. [MADM No. 1843]

ORDER PTERIDALES
FAMILY ADIANTACEAE

GENUS *Adiantum*

Adiantum capillus-veneris L. [MADM No. 1814]

Adiantum reniforme L. [MADM No. 1815]

FAMILY HEMIONITIDACEAE

GENUS *Cosentinia*

Cosentinia vellea (Aiton) Tod. [MADM No. 1812]

FAMILY PTERIDACEAE

GENUS *Pteris*

Pteris incompleta Cav. [MADM No. 1811]



Fig. 6 - *Cheilanthes guanchica* Bolle (MADM No. 1813).

FAMILY SINOPTERIDACEAE

GENUS *Cheilanthes*

Cheilanthes guanchica Bolle [MADM No. 1813] (Fig. 6)

GENUS *Notholaena*

Notholaena marantae (L.) R. Br. subsp. *subcordata* (Cav.) G. Kunkel [MADM No. 1844]

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