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*Dyera*

*Apocynaceae*

*Dyera* commemorates an English botanist and classical scholar, Sir William Turner Thiselton-Dyer (1843-1928), who was director of the Royal Botanic Gardens at Kew for ten years from 1885, succeeding his father-in-law, Sir Joseph Dalton Hooker (1817-1911). Before this ultimate appointment he was successively professor of natural history at the Royal Agricultural College, Cirencester, professor of botany at the the Royal College of Science, Dublin and then a professor at the Royal Horticultural Society, London. In 1875 he became an Assistant Director at Kew and apart from immersing himself in Colonial issues such as the introduction of various plantation crops, from 1877 he ran the first Jodrell Laboratory (built at Kew initially for physiological research) which acquired an enviable name, and from 1881 designed a new rock garden. Among the changes under his directorship of the Gardens were an Alpine House built in 1887 and, with the completion of the Temperate House, he oversaw the emergence of the largest greenhouse in the world at that time. He was appointed Royal Commissioner to the Paris International Exhibition in 1900 and the St. Louis Exposition in 1904, and from 1902 he was also botanical adviser to the Secretary of State for the Colonies until 1906 the year after his retirement. Among his published works are *Flora Capensis*, and *Flora of Tropical Africa*.