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U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE.
DIVISION OF BOTANY.

CONTRIBUTIONS



FROM

THE U. S. NATIONAL HERBARIUM.

Vol. I.

REPORTS ON COLLECTIONS, AND MISCELLANEOUS PAPERS.

LISTS OF PLANTS, WITH DESCRIPTIONS OF NEW SPECIES, COLLECTED CHIEFLY IN THE SOUTHWESTERN UNITED STATES, WESTERN MEXICO, AND ADJACENT ISLANDS; INDEXES OF NEW AMERICAN SPECIES AND PLANT NAMES PUBLISHED IN 1891 AND 1892; SPECIAL NOTES AND OBSERVATIONS.

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LIST OF PLANTS COLLECTED BY DR. EDWARD PALMER IN LOWER CALIFORNIA AND WESTERN MEXICO IN 1890.

By DR. GEO. VASEY and J. N. ROSE.

Dr. Palmer spent some three months in Lower California in the early part of this year, and his work has proved very valuable in adding to our knowledge of the flora of this region. His work has been arduous, owing to the drought and heat, and the few accommodations to be had in this wild and sparsely inhabited country; this, added to his failing health, has made his work doubly trying.

The following are the places visited, with the date of collection and the numbers of the plants:

Places visited.	Date of collection.	Numbers (inclusive).
La Paz, Lower California	Jan. 20 to Feb. 5 ..	1-144
Guaymas, Mexico	Feb. 11	145-147
San Pedro, Martin Island	Feb. 13	148-150
Raza Island	Feb. 12	151-161
Guaymas, Mexico	Feb. 15 to 17.	162-176
Santa Rosalia	Feb. 24 to Mar. 3 ..	177-210
Santa Agueda	Mar. 4 to 5	211-264
Santa Rosalia	Mar. 15	265-273

In order that the fullest facility for the determination of the plants of the collection here described might be available, Mr. J. N. Rose, Assistant Botanist, spent some time at Cambridge, Mass., in investigating and comparing the plants with those contained in the herbarium of Harvard College. We gladly acknowledge the generous help of various botanists in the determination of difficult species, and especially that of Dr. Sereno Watson for his aid in studying many of the type plants in the Cambridge herbarium.

PLANTS COLLECTED AT LA PAZ, LOWER CALIFORNIA.¹

Great interest was felt in Dr. Palmer's trip to La Paz and vicinity this past winter and his rich collection has added much to our knowl-

¹ Read before the A. A. A. S. at Indianapolis, August 26, 1890.

ASCLEPIDACEÆ.

- Philibertia linearis** Gray, var. **heterophylla** Gray. Only one small plant found in a garden at Santa Agueda, March 4 to 6. **No. 231.**
- Asclepias albicans** Watson. Proc. Amer Acad. XXIV. 59. Santa Rosalia, February 24 to March 3. Also collected by Orcutt, 1889, from the Colorado Desert, California. **No. 193.**

HYDROPHYLLACEÆ.

- Phacelia scariosa** Brandegee. Santa Agueda, March 4 to 6. **No. 236.**
- Nama demissum** Gray. In an old garden, Santa Agueda, March 4 to 6. **No. 240.**
- Ellisia chrysanthemifolia** Benth. Probably from an old garden at Santa Agueda. **No. 239.**

BORRAGINACEÆ.

- Coldenia canescens** DC. Flowers rose-colored. On stony mesas and arroyos. Santa Rosalia, February 24 to March 3. **No. 195.**
- Tournefortia capitata** Mart. & Gal. A shrub 4 feet high, with many branches and a profusion of white flowers which are as sweet scented as the cultivated heliotrope. "Berries of a waxy-white color, and pulpy." Only 4 plants seen in a garden, Santa Agueda, March 4 to 6. **No. 246.**
- Krynitzkia**, sp. In an old garden, Santa Agueda, March 4 to 6. **No. 241.**
- Krynitzkia**, sp. With the last. **No. 242.**
- Krynitzkia racemosa** Greene. Santa Rosalia, February 24 to March 3. **No. 188.**
- Krynitzkia peninsularis** Rose, n. sp. Several feet high, compact, and bushy; older stem of grayish color, with a coarse, more or less compressed pubescence: leaves numerous, especially on the short lateral branches, linear, 9 lines or less long, pubescence papillose at base: spike more or less elongated, leafy bracteate: pedicels short, erect: calyx 3 lines long, deeply cleft into linear divisions: corolla white, 4 lines broad: nutlets 4, about a line long, with a large oval or triangular scar on the ventral side, below the middle; the ventral angle sharp.—A common plant in a peculiar cañon in a gypsum mountain near Santa Rosalia, February 23 to March 3.
- This is a peculiar species belonging to Gray's section *Amblynotus*. **No. 203.**

SOLANACEÆ.

- Lycium**, sp. Flowers 4-merous. A bush 5 to 6 feet high; flowers purple. In stony ravine, Santa Rosalia, February 24 to March 3. **No. 183.**

SCROPHULARIACEÆ.

- Mimulus luteus** L. In a waste field, Santa Agueda, March 3 to 5. **No. 233.**

ACANTHACEÆ.

- Calophanes Californica** Rose, n. sp. A very branching shrub, 3 to 4 feet high; older stems white; younger stems and leaves glutinous pubescent: leaves lanceolate, about an inch long entire: calyx deeply cleft into long slender lobes 6 to 8 lines long: corolla purple, 2 inches long with a broad open throat, abruptly contracted into a slender tube 1 inch long: stamens mucronate at base: posterior lobe of style short but evident, the anterior long filiform: capsule 9 to 10 lines long, including the style: seeds 4, flat and thin.—Collected at Santa Rosalia, February 24 to March 3.

The stickiness and odor is much like that of green tobacco. It has very large, handsome flowers. It resembles very much some species of *Ruellia*, but has the mucronulate anthers and 4-seeded capsule of *Calophanes*. **No. 190.**