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About the Institute

The Hunt Institute for Botanical Documentation, a research division of Carnegie Mellon University, specializes in the history of botany and all aspects of plant science and serves the international scientific community through research and documentation. To this end, the Institute acquires and maintains authoritative collections of books, plant images, manuscripts, portraits and data files, and provides publications and other modes of information service. The Institute meets the reference needs of botanists, biologists, historians, conservationists, librarians, bibliographers and the public at large, especially those concerned with any aspect of the North American flora.

Hunt Institute was dedicated in 1961 as the Rachel McMasters Miller Hunt Botanical Library, an international center for bibliographical research and service in the interests of botany and horticulture, as well as a center for the study of all aspects of the history of the plant sciences. By 1971 the Library's activities had so diversified that the name was changed to Hunt Institute for Botanical Documentation. Growth in collections and research projects led to the establishment of four programmatic departments: Archives, Art, Bibliography and the Library.

3 Julio 1916

Cap. John Donnell Smith
505 Park Ave. Baltimore
Md.

Estimado D. Juan:

Ayer recibí su reciente publicación sobre Plantas de Costa Rica, N.º XXXIX, acompañada de una postal, que me hizo recordar el precioso día que pase en casa de V. el año del 911. Mrs. Zebdon, al su regreso de Baltimore, me dijo que había estado en su casa y que lo había visto tan sano y bien como si el tiempo no corriese para V., de lo cual me alegré muchísimo, porque las buenas amistades se arraigan con el trascurso de los años cada vez con mayor intensidad. Muy agradecido le quedo por el referido folbeto y por la postal de su casa, que conservaré con particular cariño.

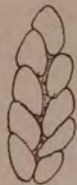
Con motivo de tener un hijo
mío, José Miguel, joven de 19 años, tra-
bajando en el Departamento de agri-
cultura, Bureau of Plant Industry,
al cuidado del Prof. A. J. Cook, con
quien vive en Loxham, Md., he
tratado ultimamente de coleccionar
muestras botánicas del algodón
que tenemos aquí disperso en
varios lugares del país, y he
creído reconocer cuatro espe-
cies: uno de hojas morenas,
tallo rojizo, flores amarillo pá-
lido, que se torna púrpura y
semillas envueltas en una
pelusa fina, 4 o 5 carpelos (*Gossy-
pium herbaceum*, L.) Recordada
V. qué diferencias sustanciales
tiene con el *G. hirsutum*?

Hay otras plantas
que recuerdan al *Gossypium barba-
dense*, L., de tallo verde, hojas fuer-
temente lobuladas, verdes, flores
grandes, amarillo limón, 3 car-
pelos, rara vez cuatro, y semillas
negras, desnudas y separadas
unas de otras. ¿No conoce la di-

ferencia que hay entre esta planta y el *G. vitifolia*? (5 pétalos, con una mancha rojiza en la base interna).

El Señor Pittier en su libro de "Plantas Usuales" determina nuestro "Kidney cotton" con el nombre de *Gossypium peruvianum*, pero en el libro de Wats aparece como *G. brasiliense*. Recuerda V. cual determinación es la correcta? Es una planta perenne, de tallo claro, ramificado, hojas tan grandes algunas de ellas que, en una que conservo, tiene 36 centímetros de periclo y 28 centímetros de nervadura en el lóbulo central, color verde intenso, flores amarillas, 3 carpelos, rara vez cuatro; semillas rennidas en forma de riñón, y a 10 en número, desnudas y negras.

En el único ejemplar que hay en nuestro Herbario Nacional, procedente de Boruca, las semillas están cubiertas de pelusa fina, como en el *G. herbaceum*; pero



unidas en forma de riñón. Mucho le habré de agradecer si V. tiene facilidad de indicarme la sinopsis de estas tres especies y sus formas afines.

Yo tengo en cultivo, en mi jardín del Museo, las especies indicadas y noto que las plantitas del "Kidney Cotton" prosperan mejor que las otras, son menos atacadas por el cult. worm y las visitan con frecuencia las hormiguitas negras Solenopsis geminata, Fab. Mis observaciones biológicas, sienden al estudio simbiótico de estas hormigas y el algodón; pero me interesa conocer con propiedad las especies de plantas que forman la base del estudio, para publicar a su tiempo el resultado de tales investigaciones.

Perdone, mi querido Don Juan, esta molestia que le ocasiona su afectísimo servidor,
Anastasio Alfaro

Guatemala, Captⁿ Donnell Smith, Nov. 1892.

Species underlined to be returned.

Determined by Mr. J. L. Baker

3532. Nemastylis tenuis, Benth.

920. Tigridia Pavonia, Ker

3530. Orthosanthus chimboracensis, Baker

3534. Sisyrinchium iridifolium, H.B.K.

3533. " alatum, Hook.

68. Rhipidium floribundum, Sw.

3531. Zephyranthes, probably new,

(isolated flower in cover different.)

2792. Zephyranthes carinata, Herb. typical

2793. " " var. brevipes (=1261)*

3535. Curculigo scorzoneraefolia, Benth.

914. Bomarea edulis, Herb.

295. Agave

213. Crinum erubescens, Ait.

404. " near erubescens, perhaps n.sp.

3536. Hymenocallis tenuiflora, Herb.

3527. Smilacina flexuosa, Hook.

938. Allium glandulosum, Link et Otto

3529. Echeandia parviflora, Baker

28². 3522. " tenuiflora, Ortega

2791. Smilax mexicana, Kunth

3526. " cfr. Botteri A.DC.

153. Maranta arundinacea, L.

216. Zingiber officinale, Rose.

2804. Heliconia latispatha, Benth.

2603. " (too young for determination).

2797. Canna glauca, L.

2799. " discolor, Lindl.?

173-221-279. Canna - subspecies of indica, L.

2798¹.

* probably
1671 is mislabeled.
901.

probably 8

3537. *Canna edulis*, Ker.?

137. *Costus spicatus*, Sw.

2801:2802. *Costus comosus*, Roscoe

2800. *Maleorticanus*, Wendl.

397. *Calathea violacea*, Lindl.

111:166:2805:2806. *Calathea insignis*, Peters.

2794. *Tillandsia stricta*, Soland.

3539. *brachycaulos*, Schlecht.

3538. *polystachya*, L.

2796. *cyanea*, E. Morren

2795. *bulbosa*, Hook. very large.

Determined by Mr. C. B. Clarke.

✓ 3520. *Commelina fasciculata*, Ruiz et Pav.

772. [" *pallida*, Willd ??] NB. Leaves only came.

770. *Commelina nudiflora*, Linn.

694. } " *virginica*, Linn.
✓ 3518 }

✓ 3525. *Tradescantia crassifolia*, Cav.

✓ ~~678~~ 3519. " *guatemalensis*, " sp. nova.

Corolla intense caerulea, antherarum
loculis ovatis approximatis.

This seems, from the inflorescence and
paired bracts near *T. commelinoides*,
Röm. et Sch., but the anthers are
quite unlike.

678. *Tradescantia* [*pulchella*, HBK.]

739. *cumanensis*, Kunth

✓ 3517. *Leptorhoe filiformis*, Hemsley

755. *Campelia Zanonia*, HBK.

✓ 3521:3522. *Tradescantia elongata*, Lf. F. W. Mey. var. *β. diuretica* (sp.)
Mart.

815:3524. *Tinantia fugax*, Scheidw.

695. " *leiocalyx*, sp. nov. Sepalis extus glabris,
otherwise as *T. fugax*, [Pistil with 12 ovules]

245. *Dichorisandra* (*thyrsiflora*, Mikan)
3540. *Kyllinga* *odorata*, Vahl
3550. " *pumila*, Michx.
3541. *Pycnos* *polystachyus*, Beauv. var. *η. paniculata*,
(sp.) Ro~~xb.~~ (*Cyperus fugax*, Liebm.)
3546. *Cyperus* *sesterioides*, HBK., forma minor
[i.e. *C. perpusillus*, sp. Beck.]
3548. " *Haspan*, Linn. var. *β. americana*,
Beck.
- 3². 3558. *Mariscus* *Mutisii*, HBK. }
(Nov. Gen. et Sp. vol. i [1815] p. 216 t. 66.) }
3351. *Mariscus* *flavus*, Vahl var. *β. humilis*, Benth.
= *M. elatus*, Kunth non Vahl, *M. redolens*,
Maury in Mem. Soc. Génér. v. 31 [1890] p. 126, t. 36A.
3542. *Mariscus* *Siberianus*, Nees var. *β. evolutior*
got also on Volcan de Fuego by Salvin.
- 3542 bis. " *Manima*, HBK. sub *Cypero*, var.
f. apiculata.
3543. *Mariscus* (*Declidium*) [*caferax*] very young.
3549. *Eleocharis* *nodulosa*, Schultes
3544. " *geniculata*, R.Br.
3554. " *montana*, Ræm. et Sch.
(= *Eleocharis montana*, H. Dombeyana,
partim, et *H. Vulcani*, Beck.)
3545. *Scirpus* *micranthus*, Vahl
3555. *Fimbristylis* *diphylla*, Vahl
3547. *Dichromena* *ciliata*, Vahl
(= *Rynchospora nervosa* et *R. leucocephala*, Bk.)
3552. *Carex* *viridis*, Schlecht. et Cham. (in *Linnaea*
vol. 6, [1831] p. 30.) Bott *Carex* v. 4 p.
159, t. 522.

*New determinations of
the plants and herb. 1892.*

Plants from Guatemala Comm. Capt. J. Donnell Smith.

Determined by J. G. Baker.

3632. *Bomarea acutifolia*, Herb.
 3875. " *edulis* Herb. (1838) = *B. ovata*, Muhl. (1804)
 4292. *Agave* (Manfreda). Probably a new species.
 3872. *Calathea* cf. *Allouya*, Lindl. also 3876.
 4290. *Canna*.
 3870. *Pitcairnia* (*Neumannia*) *Altensteinii*, Lem.
 3879. " (*Eupitcairnia*). Net?
 519. *Acrostichum viscosum*, Sw. Net?
 3593. *Cipura paludosa*, Aubl. Net?
 3624. *Rigidella*?
 3644. *Sisyrinchium tenuifolium*, H.B.K.
 3666. *Nemastylis triflora*, Herb.? Net?
 3871. *Sisyrinchium micranthum*, Cav.
 3874. *Schænocaulon officinale*, A. Gray.
 4293. *Crinum erubescens*, Ait.
 3645. *Hedychium coronarium*, Koen.
 3877, 3873. *Xiphidium floribundum*.

Dioscorea. Determined by W. B. Hensley.

3878. Very young, not matched.
 3869. *Dioscorea* sp. n.? near *densiflora*.
 3880. " *capillaris*, Hemsl.?
 4291. " *prospingua*, Hemsl.
 4103. " *convolvulacea*, Ch. et Schl.? Net?
 2565. " sp. not identified.

Commelinaceæ. Determined by C. B. Clarke.

3887. *Commelina coelestis* Willd. var. *Bourgeani*, C. B. Clarke.
 3881. *Tinantia fugax*, Scheidw.
 3883, 4287, 4288. *Tradescantia commelinoides*, Roem. et Sch.
 3885. " *pulchella*, H. B. K.
 3665, 3886. " *guatemalensis*, C. B. Clarke.
 3882. " *cumanensis*, Kunth, var. *glabrior* C. B. Clarke.

corr. 3872.
24876

Digitized by Hunt Institute for Botanical Documentation

sub 3873
corr.

4284. *Gradescantia amplexicaulis*, Klotsch.
 3884, 4285. " *elongata*, G. F. W. Meyer.
 Cyperaceæ. Determined by C. B. Clarke.
 3897. *Kyllinga brevifolia*, Kottb.
 3893. *Cyperus amabilis*, Vahl.
 3890 b. " *diffusus*, Vahl. Net?
 3890 c. *Mariscus jacquinii*, H. B. K. Net?
 3891, 3894. " *Marimæ*, H. B. K.
 3890. " *Mutisii*, H. B. K.
 3889. *Eleocharis nodulosa*, Schultes.
 3896. *Fimbristylis diphylla*, Vahl.
 3895. *Scirpus riparius*, Presl.
 3888. *Ponbostylis capillaris*, Kunth.
 3894. *Dichrymena ciliata*, Vahl.
 3892, 3892 b. *Carex cladostachys*, Vahl.

consolidated with 3892

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE,
BUREAU OF PLANT INDUSTRY.

BIONOMIC INVESTIGATIONS OF TROPICAL
AND SUBTROPICAL PLANTS.

Washington, D. C., Feb. 28th 1900.

Dear Mr. Donnell Smith:

I have just asked Mr. Maxon to send you
a sheet of a Guttiferous plant which I cannot place. There are only
male flowers and these have either 4 sepals, 4 petals or 2 sepals and
two petals. The stamens, of which I enclose a drawing, agree more or less
with those of a Calophyllum, and the leaves may belong to this genus.
But the plant would then be a new species.

I have an idea that I have seen the same thing somewhere else.
Do you know it, and if not, to which genus do you think it
should go?

Many thanks for your kindly informing me about Tetraphyllum.
It is likely that my specimens belong to the only species described, al-
though I cannot remember having seen such large leaves.

Hoping you are well and thanking you in advance, I beg to
remain

yours very truly

H. Pittier.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE,
BUREAU OF PLANT INDUSTRY.

BIOLOGIC INVESTIGATIONS OF TROPICAL
AND SUBTROPICAL PLANTS.

Washington, D. C., Feb. 5, 1909.

Dear Mr. Innell Smith,

I have just identified no. 7609 and 11965 as one species belonging to *Tetradhylacium*. This is one of the most remarkable discoveries made in the botanical exploration of Costa Rica. The question now is whether my specimens, that are from large trees in the Rio Naranjo Valley and near Boruca (Rte. ^{Turkey}), belong to *T. macrophyllum* Poepp. & Endl. Seemann, when describing his *Edmonstonea pacifica*, considered as synonymous, speaks of a frutex. He also gives the leaves as dentatis, basi obtusis vel inequilateralibus, whereas I have entire leaves, deeply cordate at the base. I have also the small fruits, with seeds; they are eaten by the Brunke Indians under the name of zapote, much used, and certainly misused in the present case.

Would you kindly see in Poepp. & Endl. Nov. Gen. III, p. 34, & p. 340, what they say about the leaf, ^{the} size of the tree, and the fruit and seed, and let me know. If the information you give me does not settle the matter to my satisfaction, I may go over to Baltimore, what will give me a good opportunity of having the pleasure of seeing you

Yours truly

H. S. Gittier.

Geneva Sep^r 7th 1902

Dear Mr Donnell Smith

Pittier's n. 10119 is not in
the collection sent to me.
As my manuscript on *Melioscena*
costaricensis is unpublished,
I should be quite in time
to mention that number
or describe it, if it is a
new species.

So you would greatly
oblige me by sending me
the plant, as you kindly

offer to do. I shall
return it shortly together
with some other specimens
belonging to you and which
are still here.

I am very glad to know
that you are in Europe
and I hope you will,
this time, push as far
as Geneva.

Yours very truly

Geneva Cour de 3^e Pense 3
November 15th 1902

My dear Mr. Sonnell-Smith

In answer to your last letter
I can tell you that Pittier's n.
10119, you sent to me some
time ago, has turned out to
be a fruiting specimen of a new
species which I had already
described under the still un-
published name of *Trichilia*
Brachylepis, founded on Pittier's

n^o 977 which bears flowers
only. Availing myself of your
kind permission I keep here
that n^o 10119.

As for n^o 11808 also mentioned

in your letter, I have as yet
never seen it. Perhaps shall
I find it amongst some other
Meliaceae announced in a
recent letter of Pittier's, and
which must soon arrive
here. In that case I shall
at once let you know what
I make of that number.

I am going to post to you
to-morrow a parcel containing
all the plants belonging to
you which are still here,
that is to say: 33 Piperaceae,
8 Begoniaceae, 6 Meliaceae,
all of which are determined,
plus 1 Hedyosmum, 1 Acalypha

and 1 ~~Euphorbia~~ Ophryoglossum.

I need not tell you how grateful I am for all your gifts and loans, and that I remain quite at your disposal for other determination of plants in which I could help you.

Believe me yours very truly

C. de Candolle



THE ACADEMY OF NATURAL SCIENCES
OF
PHILADELPHIA

LOGAN SQUARE

December 24th 1898

Dr. John Donnell Smith
Baltimore Md

Dear Sir

Replying to yours of the 23rd below find copy
of original description of *Magnolia portoricensis* Bello
Ann. Soc. Exp. Hist. Nat. Vol X (1880) p 233 viz:

Magnolia portoricensis.

Folia coriacea, glaberrima, ovata, obtusa, basi
interdum subacuta, laevia, nervis inter se distantibus,
nervulis vix conspicuis (17 cm long., 13 lat., pet 2 1/2).

Stipulae intra petiolares, coriaceae, in vaginam integram
oblongo-conicam, bisulcatam, caducam connatas. Flores
terminales, solitarii, a folio supremo vix 4-5 mm.

distantes; sepalis 3, rotunda, concava, viridiuscula;
petalis circiter 9, sepalis paulo majora (6 cm), alba
ovata, obtusa, interiora basi subangustata; staminibus
∞, antheris sessilibus introversis, linearibus, acutis,
nuncpe, connectivo semicylindrico apice in
filamentum productis; pollen ellipsoides-oblongum.

Ovaria 20-25, biovulata in strobilum ovatum,
pubescens concreta, stigmatibus linearibus, glabris,
recurvis, facie internâ visceratim papilloso superata.

THE ACADEMY OF NATURAL SCIENCES
OF
PHILADELPHIA

LOGAN SQUARE

Fructus ovoides vel ellipsoideus, carpellis facie
externa bivalvatis dehiscentibus, valvis tunc
retrofractis, apice angulari tantum liberis,
nervum suturalem persistentem denudantibus.
Semina 1-2 extra capsulam e funiculo sericeo
basilari sub arillo, recurvente partique
embryoni opposita perispermia, pendula.

Arbol leñoso de los montes interiores,
Manduro, etc. *Montu vulgar Mauriciis*

Respectfully yours
Edward A. Brown