

mation that they occur in other than wild land. Yet in these flowering specimens I recognize at first glance one of the common vetches of the Old World, *i. e.*, *Vicia Cracca*.

ERIGERON CONFINIS, Howell, Eryth. iii, 35, a fine species, has, through my own forgetfulness, a synonym in *E. Blasdalei*, published in the same volume, at page 124. The specimens obtained last year by Mr. Blasdale are of three times the size of the Siskiyou specimens on which Mr. Howell based the species; but there is a perfect agreement between the two in all essential characters. The species is a beautiful one, and probably rare; some four hundred and fifty miles intervening between the two stations that are now recorded for it.

*Ribes Howellii*, as a name, may well replace the *R. acerifolium* of Howell, ERYTH. iii, 34. There is a much earlier *R. acerifolium* of C. Koch.

POLYGONUM BICORNE, Raf. Fl. Ludov. 29 (1817). *P. longistylum*, Small, Bull. Torr. Club. xxi. 169 (1894), and Monogr. 62, t. 18 (1895). The prominent characteristics of this excellent *Persicaria* are so striking that no botanist can well be supposed to have overlooked them. The extremely long forked style, with its branches upright and gradually divergent, like a pair of horns (instead of being recurved or deflexed as in nearly all closely allied species) were as clearly emphasized by Rafinesque as by Mr. Small; and each author allowed this remarkable pistil to suggest a specific name. It seems to me that the botanist last named must have been unaware of the fact that a number of these plants of the lower Mississippi had been named and defined in the *Flora Ludoviciana*. Nor are the descriptions in any case to be complained of as too short. They are even rather more full than the most eminent botanists in the early decades of this century were in the habit of giving. Very likely Mr. Small could tell us, after due examination of the text, with the polygonums of that region before him for comparison, what Rafinesque had in view as his *P. maculatum*, and *P. pachyum* of his work on southwestern botany. Certainly as to the absolute identity of his *P. longistylum* and the earlier *P.*

*bicornis* there can be no room for two opinions. The original description, covering almost half a page, is answered to in every particular, by the plant whose salient features are so well shown in Mr. Small's plate 18.

*GILIA CAPILLARIS*, Kell. Proc. Calif. Acad. v. 46 (1873). Very glandular and somewhat viscid throughout; branches rather short and ascending, the panicle not effuse; corolla white or pale purplish, barely 2 lines long and only about twice the length of the calyx, the proper tube not surpassing the calyx-teeth: style short, the stigmas not exerted.

*Gilia leptalea*. *Collomia leptalea*, Gray, Proc. Am. Acad. viii, 261 (1870), chiefly. Less glandular, often quite glabrous: less leafy and the leaves narrower: branches more slender and divergent, the panicle therefore truly effuse: corolla fully  $\frac{1}{2}$  inch long, of a deep rich red-purple; the slender tube twice the length of the calyx, this widening into an ample funnellform throat which is nearly as long as the proper tube: style elongated, the stigmas borne beyond the corolla-lobes.

Thus are given the essential characters of two perfectly distinct species belonging to the middle and higher Sierra Nevada of California; one an insignificant weed, the other a very beautiful plant.

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## REVIEWS AND CRITICISMS.

*The Structure and Development of the Mosses and Ferns.*  
By DOUGLAS HOUGHTON CAMPBELL, Ph. D., Professor  
of Botany in the Leland Stanford Junior University.  
(Macmillan & Co., 544 pp. 8vo., price \$4.50 net.)

The Pacific Coast of the United States is to be congratulated that a work of the importance and certain influence of the present volume has been sent forth from its borders. Professor Campbell has been for several years a well-known student of morphology and embryology of the archegoniate