

Virginian plant for its type, if the species can be said to have, with Linnæus, any type at all. Miller's *X. Canadense* is perhaps as complex; but, as he defines no species at all, the name might well be treated as a *nomen nudum*; and especially in view of what, to me, is manifest, that it has been applied by different botanists to perhaps not less than a dozen distinct North American species. The *X. Americanum* of Walter and *X. maculatum* of Rafinesque are equally indeterminate, insomuch that the elder De Candolle, to get rid of so bad a lot, proposed a new name *X. macrocarpum* var. *glabratum* to cover all the North American members of this group known to him. In a monograph by Wallroth, published in 1842, that author seems to have found the difficulties with the older North American species altogether insurmountable. He therefore rejects all the older names, assigning new ones to the five species which he makes out as belonging to our country. The identification of these will devolve upon him who shall undertake to disentangle eastern and southern Xanthia. At present I know nothing as to what his *X. lævigatum*, *pungens*, *Pennsylvanicum*, *xanthocarpum* or *oviforme* are. Presumably, however, they all belong to the Atlantic slope of the continent. Little or nothing was known of this genus as represented west of the Mississippi in the year 1842. As all the following are from far-western regions, I shall, in naming them as new, incur small risk of becoming a manufacturer of synonyms.

**X. VARIANS.** Upright, simple or sparingly branched, fructiferous in all the axils almost from the base: stem very sparsely and minutely setose-hispid: leaves varying from lanceolate and serrate in the lowest to rhombic-ovate and broadly ovate-trigonous in the upper, these not lobed but doubly serrate-dentate, all tapering (though some abruptly) to the petiole, both surfaces scabrous: fruiting involucre oval, 8 to 10 lines long, densely prickly, the prickles half as long as the diameter of the body, slender conical, brownish-

hirsute to the middle, the body of the involucre with a few short stiff dark prickles beneath the main ones: beaks stout, short-hispid up to the very short incurved tips.

Sandy banks of the Columbia River, Klickitat Co., Washington, Oct., 1893, W. N. Suksdorf, n. 1583, distributed as *X. strumarium*. Remarkable for the variability of its foliage.

**X. AFFINE.** Size of the preceding, the inflorescence equally scattered, the sparse roughness of the stem strigose: leaves variable but all more or less distinctly deltoid, none lanceolate or rhombic, the uppermost broadly ovate-trigonal with truncate or subcordate base, though abruptly narrowed to the petiole, all doubly dentate, but none lobed, the surface sparsely strigulose-scabrous and minutely resin-dotted: fruiting involucre 8 lines long, narrower than in the last, with only about half as many uncinatè prickles, these more slender, far less hirsute, the body of the involucre between them bearing rather many short black truncated or gland-tipped aculeæ; beaks more slender, less hispid and with longer incurved tips.

Habitat of the preceding species, and by the same collector, distributed without a specific name, under n. 1584. Distinguished from *X. varium* by the appressed hairs of the stem and very different fruit.

**X. SILPHIIFOLIUM.** Stem stout and tall, glabrous and purple-dotted below, strigulose towards the summit: large leaves from lanceolate-deltoid to deltoid-ovate, 4 to 8 inches long including the petiole, not at all lobed, but very evenly coarsely and doubly dentate or serrate-dentate, the base either almost truncate or abruptly tapering to the petiole, the surface sparsely muricate-scabrous and resin-dotted: fruiting involucre oval, 1 inch long or more, densely echinate with long prickles which are strongly and retrorsely hirsute, especially dorsally, up to the long naked horny tip, this somewhat doubly (or circinatèly) uncinatè and fish-