

MINOR PLANT NOTES, No. 4.

W. A. KELLERMAN.

BRACTED RACEMES OF LAPPULA VIRGINIANA.—In his description of the Virginia Stickseed, *Lappula virginiana* (L.) Green (given in Gray's Manual as *Echinosperrnum virginianum* Lehm.), Britton says (Ill. Flora, 3:55) of the racemes that they are "bracted at the base." Gray (Man., 362) includes this species in a section which has the racemes "leafy-braceteate at base." Mr. F. H. Burglehaus calls our attention to the fact that the plants growing about Toledo have racemes bracteate almost to the apex. Specimens in the State Herbarium from the counties of Clermont, Fairfield, Franklin, Huron and Union also exhibit bracts, not

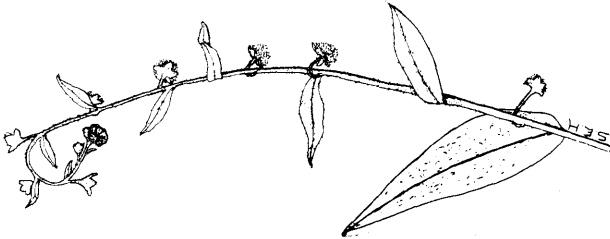


Fig. 1. A RACEME OF LAPPULA VIRGINIANA, SHOWING BRACTS.

only at the base, but these are continued, though much reduced upwardly, well toward the tip of the raceme. Specimens in the General Herbarium from Oklahoma and Tennessee are similar in this respect. A slight emendation of the printed description seems desirable. A sketch, natural size, is here appended (Fig. 1) to show the bracted raceme, taken from one of the Ohio specimens.

A NEW SUNFLOWER.—A few years ago roots of the native species of *Helianthus* were brought from the vicinity of Columbus and planted on the college campus south of the Botanical building, Ohio State University. In 1897 a form was noticed that differed materially from the enumerated species of the state. Later it was observed more carefully, and finally specimens were submitted to Britton of the New York Botanical Garden.

The accompanying plate will give some idea of this elegant sunflower. It is not coarse and weedy in habit as so many of the other species, though rather tall. It is a good bloomer and would doubtless be desirable for ornamental planting. Roots will be furnished gratis to botanic gardens and to all who may wish to grow this form for observation or for ornamental purposes. Herbarium specimens are likewise on hand for those wishing the same.

OHIO NATURALIST.

Plate 12.



HELIANTHUS KELLERMANI BRITTON.

Dr. Britton has described this sunflower in his "Manual of the Flora of the Northern States and Canada," published by Henry Holt & Co., New York, 1901, from which the following is reproduced:

"*Helianthus Kellermani* Britton, n. sp. Kellerman's Sunflower. Stem $\frac{2}{3}$ m. high, very smooth, much branched above, the branches slender. Leaves narrowly elongated-lanceolate to linear-lanceolate, drooping, rather thin, distantly serrate with very small teeth, long-acuminate at the apex, attenuate at the base into short petioles or the upper sessile, scabrate and sparingly pubescent on both surfaces, pinnately veined, the lower about 2 dm. long and 1.5 cm. wide; branches of the inflorescence pubescent; bracts of the involucre linear-lanceolate about 1.5 cm. long and 1.5 mm. wide at the base, ciliate, long-acuminate; rays golden-yellow, $\frac{3}{4}$ cm. long; chaff of the receptacle linear. Columbus, Ohio. W. A. Kellerman, Sept. 5, 1898."

SCUTELLARIA PARVULA AMBIGUA (Nutt.) Fernald. — In *Rhodora*, **3**: 198-201, July, 1901, Fernald gives an interesting account of "*Scutellaria parvula* and *S. ambigua*." He says that *Scutellaria parvula* was published by Michaux in 1803, as follows: "*S. pusilla*; dense pubescens; foliis ovalibus, integris, omnibus conformibus; floribus axillaribus. Obs.—Affinis *S. minori*. Folia sessilia, parvula, ima interdum subdentata. Hab. in regione Illinoensi et Canada." In 1825 Sir William Hooker noted another character, namely, "plant everywhere covered with short glandular pubescence." The other form, the smoothish plant, was first described by Nuttall in 1818 as *Scutellaria ambigua*, having a "stem four to six inches high, smooth, mostly purple." This was, however, reduced to *S. parvula*, and neglected generally, though Gray described it as "var. *mollis*." Britton raised it to specific rank and called it *S. campestris*. Mr. Fernald furnished diagnoses of the two forms, *S. parvula* Mx. as a species and *ambigua* as a variety of the former. The distribution in Ohio as shown by specimens in the State Herbarium is as follows: *Scutellaria parvula* Mx., Ottawa, Clarke, Madison and Hamilton counties; *Scutellaria parvula ambigua* (Nutt.) Fernald, Franklin, Greene, Montgomery and Gallia counties.

The following donations have been received for the zoological museum recently:

A fine specimen of the Florida tarantula, from Southern Florida, by William F. Sauer, of Columbus.

A specimen of the Gila monster, *Heloderma suspectum*, Cope, from J. W. Estill, of Oracle, Arizona.

A specimen of Cassowary from Australia, from Sells' Brothers, circus managers, of this city.