

THE PARKER CLEAVELAND HERBARIUM OF BOWDOIN COLLEGE

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The Herbarium of Bowdoin College, Brunswick, Maine, which was assembled in the 19th century under the direction of Parker Cleaveland (1780-1858) was stored away in the attic of Searle's Science Building at Bowdoin College for over half a century. Professor Cleaveland was a distinguished naturalist in the nineteenth century tradition. He is best known for the collection of minerals housed for many years in the "Cleaveland Cabinet" in Massachusetts Hall at Bowdoin College. Cleaveland had studied under Goethe who recommended him highly when he began his career in Brunswick in 1805. That he had much knowledge of botany and of botanists is suggested by the important collections that came his way. However, the Cleaveland Collection, like many herbaria in small colleges, ceased to grow and became isolated and inaccessible after its auspicious beginning, and because of neglect, failed to fulfill the purpose for which it had been assembled.

Through the kindness of the President and overseers of Bowdoin College, the Cleaveland Herbarium is now on a ten-year loan to the University of New Hampshire.

By means of support provided by Mr. Sumner Pike of Lubec, Maine, the collection of approximately 9,400 specimens was given a thorough and painstaking rehabilitation by the senior author. Most specimens were in good condition with a minimum of damage by mold and insects but nearly all required remounting and, for a great many, some nomenclatural updating. The entire collection now is incorporated in the University of New Hampshire Herbarium (NHA), each sheet being stamped with the Bowdoin Seal for ready recognition.

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For a relatively small collection, the Cleaveland Herbarium is notable for its representation of important collectors. One can speculate that Professor Cleaveland intended at the beginning to create an important botanical center at Bowdoin.

The first two successful collectors who worked for Gray in the 1840s are represented with 124 specimens by Ferdinand Lindheimer (1801-1879) and 207 from New Mexico by Augustus Fendler (1813-1883) of which 39 are isotypes of species described by Gray and others. There are even duplicate isotypes for 13 of the taxa. Dupree (1959) briefly and McKelvey (1955) at much greater length discuss the activities of these two botanical collectors of the American Southwest.

There follows a partial and by no means complete list of other botanists whose collections are to be found in the Cleaveland Herbarium:

Michael S. Bebb (1833-1895) — 157 specimens, preponderantly from Illinois.

Joseph Blake (1814-1888) — nearly 1500, chiefly from Cumberland County in Maine and some in Cöös, Carroll, Grafton and Belknap Counties in New Hampshire.

William Boott (1805-1887) — 16 from the White Mountains of New Hampshire.

William N. Canby (1831-1904) — 256 from Delaware and adjoining areas.

Parker Cleaveland (1780-1858) — about 500, mostly from Brunswick, Maine.

Chester Dewey (1784-1867) — 4 of *Carex*.

Asa Gray (1810-1888) — 16 (*ex herbario* W. S. Poor)

John S. Henslow (1796-1861) — father-in-law of Joseph Dalton Hooker and whose recommendation led to Darwin's accepting the post of naturalist on the "Beagle" — 271 from Great Britain.

Marcus E. Jones (1852-1934) — 66 collected about 1880 in Rocky Mountain area.

Peter D. Knieskern, M.D. (1798-1871) — 119 from New Jersey.

William Oakes (1799-1848) — 52 from Massachusetts and New Hampshire, without date.

Thomas C. Porter (1822-1901) — 129 from Pennsylvania.

Henry P. Sartwell (1792-1867) — 114 from western New York State, 87 of these being *Carex*.

Frank Lamson Scribner (1851-1938) — the first U.S.D.A. Plant Pathologist — 140 from Manchester, Maine.

Edward Tuckerman, Jr. (1817-1886) — 250 mostly from New England, a few from central Europe.

George Vasey (1822-1893) — 160 from Illinois.

Oliver R. Willis (1815-1902) — 335 from New Jersey.

Nearly all the specimens of any particular collector are of different species and since many of the collectors were specialists on certain groups and worked in different parts of the world, the collection contains a very great number of species.

The Herbarium of the University of New Hampshire (NHA) is now being computerized and it will soon be possible to provide interested persons with considerable information as to the collectors represented as well as information on the labels of the plants they collected. For the Parker Cleaveland collection, in the case of each important collector, we have made lists of all species represented. Thus we are in a position now to supply this information.

Wootton & Standley (1915) give type localities for all taxa and often specify the collectors. For Fendler, usually the collection number is cited making it comparatively easy to locate his isotypes. A large percentage of Fendler's isotypes of New Mexican plants is represented in the Cleaveland collection.

List of Fendler isotypes in the Parker Cleaveland Herbarium:

1. *Selaginella Underwoodii* Hieron., (in duplicate), *Fendler* 1024.
2. *Cheilanthes Fendleri* Hook., *Fendler* 1015.
3. *Poa Fendleriana* (Steud.) Vasey, (in duplicate), *Fendler* 932.

4. *P. Bigelovii* Vasey & Scribn., *Fendler* 931.
5. *Aristida Fendleriana* Steud., *Fendler* 973.
6. *A. longiseta* Steud., (in duplicate), *Fendler* 978.
7. *Cyperus Fendlerianus* Boeckel, *Fendler* 865.
8. *Salix Fendleriana* Anderss., *Fendler* 816.
9. *S. irrorata* Anderss., *Fendler* 812.
10. *Quercus novemexicana* (A.DC) Rydb., *Fendler* 809.
11. *Arceuthobium cryptopodium* Engelm., *Fendler* 283.
12. *Phoradendron juniperinum* Engelm., *Fendler* 281.
13. *Abronia Fendleri* Standley, *Fendler* 739.
14. *Lesquerella intermedia* (S. Wats.) Heller, (in duplicate), *Fendler* 38.
15. *Draba neomexicana* Greene, (in duplicate), *Fendler* 43.
16. *Arabis Fendleri* (S. Wats.) Greene, *Fendler* 27.
17. *Potentilla propinqua* Rydb., *Fendler* 198.
18. *Astragalus ceramicus* Sheld., (in duplicate), *Fendler* 161.
19. *A. lonchocarpus* Torr., *Fendler* 160.
20. *Euphorbia Fendleri* Torr. & Gray, (in duplicate), *Fendler* 800.
21. *Sphaeralcea Fendleri* A. Gray, *Fendler* 78.
22. *Galpinsia Fendleri* (A. Gray) Heller, *Fendler* 230.
23. *Cymopterus Fendleri* A. Gray, *Fendler* 274.
24. *Daphnidostylis Fendleriana* Klotzsch, *Fendler*.
25. *Dodecatheon radicans* Greene, *Fendler* 549.
26. *Mertensia Fendleri* A. Gray, *Fendler* 625.
27. *Oreocarya fulvocanescens* (S. Wats.) Greene, (in duplicate), *Fendler* 632.
28. *Oreocarya multicaulis* (Torr.) Greene, *Fendler* 636.
29. *Hydrophyllum Fendleri* (A. Gray) Heller, *Fendler* 642.
30. *Lycium pallidum* Miers., *Fendler* 670.
31. *Physalis Fendleri* A. Gray, (in triplicate), *Fendler*.
32. *P. similis* A. Nels., *Fendler* 575.
33. *Eupatorium Fendleri* A. Gray, *Fendler* 347.
34. *Erigeron cinereus* A. Gray, (in duplicate), *Fendler* 374.

35. *Actinella argentea* A. Gray, (in duplicate), *Fendler* 457.
36. *Actinella Richardsonii* Nutt. var. *floribunda* A. Gray (in duplicate), *Fendler* 460.
37. *Diplopappus ericoides* Torr. & Gray var. *hirtella* A. Gray, (in duplicate), *Fendler* 348.
38. *Bidens tenuisecta* A. Gray, *Fendler* 449.
39. *Agoseris purpurea* (A. Gray) Greene, *Fendler* 487.

For many years there has been a diminishing support for small herbaria, some of which, like the Cleaveland Collection at Bowdoin College, are of historic importance and have scientific value. The space they occupy has been encroached upon by classrooms and by modern research setups. This does not mean that the collections are less important than they ever were. It does suggest that the custodians of such herbaria should take steps, as Bowdoin College has done, to make their specimens available to the scientific community.

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