

In view of the peculiarity of the bracts of *Betula nana*, var. *Mitchauxii*, it was interesting to find in the ravine of one of the headwaters of the Ruisseau à la Neige on Mt. Albert, Gaspé County, Quebec, a colony of small trees and shrubs of *Betula alba* L. (*B. pubescens* Ehrh.) which showed a similar variation. In the Mt. Albert trees the bracts are mostly oblong and unlobed but an occasional bract is 3-lobed as in the typical form of the species. This tree of Mt. Albert may be designated

BETULA ALBA L., var. **elobata**, n. var., trunco humili vel mediocri usque 6 m. alto; foliis maturis 4.5–6 cm. longis rhomboideo-ovatis basi rotundatis vel subcuneatis supra glabris subtus ad nervos pilosis; strobilis pendulis 1.5–2 cm. longis 7–9 mm. crassis, pedunculis 0.7–1.3 cm. longis; squamis oblongis integris vel undulatis ciliatis. Small or medium-sized tree (up to 6 m. high): mature leaves 4.5–6 cm. long, rhombic-ovate, rounded or subcuneate at base, glabrous above, pilose on the nerves beneath: strobiles pendulous, 1.5–2 cm. long, 7–9 mm. thick, on peduncles 0.7–1.3 cm. long: bracts oblong, entire or undulate, ciliate.—QUEBEC: crevices and talus of serpentine along Ruisseau à la Neige, Mt. Albert, Gaspé County, July 25, 1906, *Fernald & Collins*, no. 531 (TYPE in Gray Herb.).

GRAY HERBARIUM.

### THREE PLANTS WITH EXTENSION OF RANGE.

FRANK S. COLLINS.

PANICUM BICKNELLI Nash. At Brewster, Barnstable County, Massachusetts, Sept. 10, 1912. Distribution given in Gray's Manual as Ct. to N. C.

JUNCUS BUFONIUS var. HALOPHILUS Buchenau & Fernald. Shore of "Sunken Meadow," Barnstable County, Massachusetts, Sept., 1911. According to the Manual, Gulf of St. Lawrence to Mass.; but the southernmost locality hitherto reported is Plum Island, near Newburyport.

While these extensions are worth recording, I take no credit for the discoveries; for the past few years, whenever I have been on Cape

Cod, I have collected everything I came across, unless I was sure I had already collected it from the same locality. As regards grasses, sedges etc., my ignorance is so thorough that I have seldom refrained from collecting, and at the end of the season I have turned over the whole lot to the Gray Herbarium. In each case Prof. Fernald has been good enough to name the plants, and each season some have been found that were growing outside of their recorded range. It only shows that one need not be a specialist to contribute to our knowledge of the flora of the region. The wayfaring man, even in the extreme case mentioned in the scriptures, will not err if he collects freely, and sends his specimens to Prof. Fernald.

POTENTILLA TRIDENTATA Ait. Sandy plain, Eastham, May 30, 1913. This is on a different footing from the two species already mentioned, as it is an old acquaintance of mine, with many pleasant associations. I first saw it at Bath, Maine, in August, 1880, where I had to stop over Sunday at a hotel there, in consequence of a sudden and unannounced change of time by a local steamer; I feel sure that every reader who has travelled on the Maine coast will recall some similar experience of his own. Then when Mr. Dame and myself were compiling the Flora of Middlesex County, we found this species on the summit of Mount Watatic. The boundary line between Worcester and Middlesex counties crosses this summit, and Mr. Dame, Dr. C. W. Swan and myself went all over the open ground on our hands and knees, until we were sure that the plant, not then in bloom, was actually on the Middlesex side of the line. At the time the Flora was published, this station was the only one in the county, but the plant was afterwards found at Wilmington. Though I have seen it many times since, it always has a special interest for me, but nothing could have been more unexpected than its occurrence along a "road" (three deep ruts in the open field) near the Bay shore of Eastham, about half a mile northwest of North Eastham station. The colony extended for some rods along the road, and the plants were in full flower, with abundant seed capsules from last year. The range is given in the Manual as Lab. to e. N. E., where common in exposed rocky or gravelly situations, N. J., and southward on the upper Alleghenies; also westward, chiefly along the Great Lakes. The Wilmington station is probably the nearest to Eastham.

NORTH EASTHAM, MASSACHUSETTS.



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