

# LEIBERGIA, A NEW GENUS OF UMBELLIFERÆ FROM THE COLUMBIA RIVER REGION.

By JOHN M. COULTER and J. N. ROSE.

A part of the material upon which this new genus is based has been in the National Herbarium a half dozen years, and is doubtless to be found in many of our herbaria, either undetermined or incorrectly named. The receipt of some excellent additional material from Mr. W. N. Suksdorf and an abundant supply from one of our field agents, Mr. John B. Leiberg, gives the opportunity of separating what has appeared to us for some time to be a new genus.

**Leibergia**, gen. nov.

Calyx teeth obsolete. Fruit flattened laterally, linear, beaked, glabrous; stylopodium wanting. Carpels only slightly flattened dorsally, with five filiform ribs, the two lateral a little more prominent and turned inward; oil tubes small, single in the intervals, two on the commissural side. Seed face broad, slightly concave, but when dry becoming more or less involute.

Slender, glabrous, acaulescent plants from small globose tubers: leaves ternately divided into long, filiform leaflets; umbels irregular; fruit subsessile; flowers white.

The affinities of this genus are doubtful. It has much the habit of the bulbous *Peucedanums* of the Northwest, but the lateral flattening of the fruit and the absence of wings readily exclude it from that genus. Our plant is very closely allied to the two anomalous species, *Peucedanum ambiguum* and *P. leptocarpum*, which likewise have linear fruit with very narrow lateral wings, and is, perhaps, congeneric with them. The dorsal flattening of the fruit has hitherto been considered such an important character that it seems best, at least for the present, to base our generic distinction on this difference rather than to include these two species in the new genus. It also has the habit of *Orogenia*, but lacks the peculiar carpel of that genus. Technically it seems to come near *Oreomyrris* and *Chærophyllum*. From the former it differs in having a compound umbel, and from the latter principally in its peculiar habit, obsolete stylopodium, and less prominent ribs.

**Leibergia orogenioides**, sp. nov.

PLATE XXVII.

Slender, 1.2 to 5 dm. high: leaves nearly as long as the flowering peduncle; leaflets 1.0 to 7.5 cm. long, entire or with few teeth or linear lobes: rays of the umbel three to ten, very slender, often spreading, very unequal, 2 to 12 cm. long; umbellets with few flowers and fruits; pedicels 2 mm. or less long; involucre wanting: involucels three to four, small, somewhat united at base: fruit 8 mm. long, flattened laterally, but terete at base, terete and somewhat beaked at apex.

Collected by John B. Leiberg in the Santianne Creek bottoms, Cœur d'Alene Mountains, Idaho, June 24, 1895, at an altitude of 950 meters (No. 1027). Also by Mr. W. N. Suksdorf in Spokane County, Washington, in low damp ground along

streams, May 13, 1889. Mr. Suksdorf at this time obtained bulbs which he has since grown in his garden, and he has thus obtained most excellent fruit.

We take great pleasure in dedicating this genus to John B. Leiberg, of Hope, Idaho, a most excellent collector and one who has done much in developing our knowledge of the flora of Idaho, Washington, and Oregon. Mr. Leiberg writes as follows:

“The plant, in the region where I collected it, occupies the same place in the flora of the heavily forested region of the lower white pine zone as do the tuberous-rooted, early-flowering species of *Peucedanum* on the open plains of the Columbia, in Oregon, Washington, and Idaho; that is to say, it is an early-flowering species, coming into bloom very soon after the snow leaves, preferring basaltic formations, or soils derived from basaltic rocks. Wherever it grows it appears in such abundance that at the time of flowering it quite hides all other species.”

EXPLANATION OF PLATE.—Fig. 1, the plant, natural size; fig. 2, an umbellet of flowers; fig. 3, fruit as seen from the side; fig. 4, carpel as seen from the back; fig. 5, cross section of the fruit.