

4. Stigma and nervures pale; disk of propodeum dull, the entire area covered with irregularly anastomosing rugae. *paramorio* Friese.
Stigma and nervures dark testaceous; disk of propodeum shining, plicate on base only; mesothorax more closely punctured. *hypochlorus* Ellis.
5. Mesothorax coarsely punctured; flagellum dark; disk of propodeum suberescens, with anastomosing rugae. *herbstiellus* Friese.
Mesothorax weakly punctured; flagellum testaceous beneath; disk of propodeum shorter, shining, plicate on the base only. *exiguiformis* Ellis.

HALICTUS (CHLORALICTUS) SPINOLAE (Reed)

Since no recent or full description of *Halictus spinolae* (Reed) is readily available in this country, the writer gives the following:

Female—About 4.5–5 mm. long; head and thorax olive green; abdomen black; pubescence white, rather sparse. Facial quadrangle longer than broad; orbits converging below; antennae dark, flagellum testaceous beneath; front very closely punctured, giving an almost granular appearance; sides of face with more scattered punctures; supra-clypeal area and upper part of clypeus microscopically tessellate, sparsely punctured, with a brassy reflection; lower half of clypeus black; mandibles black. Mesothorax dull, finely tessellate and very closely punctured; punctation of scutellum similar to that of the mesothorax, two polished spots on the disk; disk of propodeum with fine, irregularly anastomosing rugae, making a reticulate surface; tegulae dark brown, impunctate; truncation well defined laterally. Abdomen obovate, shining, impunctate; pubescence sparse, especially on the first segment; apical margins of segments narrowly testaceous. Wings clear, anterior wing 3.5 mm. long; stigma and nervures testaceous; second submarginal cell higher than broad, receiving the first recurrent nervure near the apex; third submarginal gently contracted above, about one and one-half times as long as second on the marginal. Legs black with dull white hairs; hind spur pectinate with four moderately long teeth.

The following locality is new: 1 female (Foothills) Lima, Peru, December 5 (C. H. T. Townsend).

The description given above is based on this Peruvian specimen, which was found to be identical with a specimen of *spinolae* from Chile, determined by C. Schrottky.

BOTANY.—*New or little known Melastomataceae from Venezuela and Panama.* H. PITTIER.

In the course of my investigations on the flora of Venezuela, in which I have been so efficiently helped through the coöperation of my friend Dr. Alfred Jahn, I am constantly coming across plants which have never been catalogued. These are of course more interesting to me when they belong to groups with which I have become familiar during former studies.¹

¹ See PITTIER, H. *New or noteworthy plants from Colombia and Central America*, parts 1–8, in *Contr. U. S. Nat. Herb.* 12–20. 1909–1922.

I have described a few of these new species, for which there is no proper place in my present official publications. Besides, I have now and then had the opportunity to examine some of my former collections in Central America, Panama and Colombia, and have found among them several undescribed forms. Last, but not least, rare species established by older botanists are sometimes brought to light again, or others are found upon further examination to have been misplaced or misunderstood, good opportunities thus being offered for completing or correcting the original descriptions. The present paper deals with ten new or imperfectly known species of Melastomataceae from Venezuela and Panama.

***Chaetolepis sessilis* Pittier, n. sp.**

Subprostrata, ramosissima, ramis diffusis, gracilibus, acute tetragonis, ad nodos sparse setulosis caeterum glabris; foliis sessilibus, oblongis, obsolete trinerviis, glabris, basi attenuatis, margine tenuiter remoteque glanduloso-denticulatis, apice subacutis, subtus tenuissime albo-punctatis; floribus breviter pedicellatis, ad apices ramulorum corymbosis; calyce tubuloso-campanulato, tubo leviter costato, sparsissime setuloso, dense albo-punctato, lobulis triangularibus, margine purpureo-setulosus, cum setis 2-3 rigidis purpureis basi tuberculatis alternantibus; petalis luteis, glabris, suborbicularibus, basi brevissime unguiculatis apice longe unisetosis; staminibus subaequalibus, filamentis glabris, vix attenuatis, antheris sublinearibus uniporosis, basi in connectivum articulatum leviter contractis; stylo glabro, staminibus multo brevioribus; capsula ovoidea, leviter costata, sparsissime setulosa, pedicellata.

Caules 10-20 cm. longi, adscendentes. Folia 0.6-4 cm. longa, 0.4-0.6 cm. lata, rigidiuscula, margine subrevoluta. Pedicelli 0.4-0.6 mm. longi. Calycis tubus 4-5 mm. longus, lobi 2.5 mm. longi, basi 1.5 mm. lati. Petala 4-5.5 mm. longa lataque, seto terminale 1.5-2 mm. longo. Filamenta circiter 5.5 mm. longa; antherae 4.5 mm. longae. Capsula 6 mm. longa, 4 mm. diametro.

VENEZUELA: Páramo de Aricagua, 3200 m., Mérida, fl. March 31, 1922, A. Jahn 1037 (type).

This species of the Section *Euchaetolepis* differs from *C. alpina* Naud., with which it has its greatest affinities, in its sessile leaves which are always oblong and without marginal bristles, its pedicellate flowers with elongate calyx sparsely covered with short appressed hairs, its orbiculate petals with a very long apical bristle, and its more elongated anthers. The leaves and calyx, moreover, are covered with white glandular dots.

The following key gives the differential characters of the species of *Chaetolepis* which are at present known to occur in Venezuela.

Calyx lobes without intermediary appendages; petals obtuse at the apex.

Anthers oblong; leaves 5-8 mm. long, papillose beneath.

1. *C. Lindeniana* Cogn.

Anthers ovoid; leaves 3-5 mm. long, densely hispid-hairy beneath

2. *C. alpestris* Cogn.

Calyx lobes alternating with aculeate bristles or teeth.

Branchlets covered with a hairy purplish indument; leaves ovate, broad at the base and with acute apex; calyx tube slightly villous.

3. *C. anisandra* Cogn.

Branchlets glabrous or slightly hairy.

Leaves sessile, not ciliate, covered as is the calyx with white glandular dots. 4. *C. sessilis* Pittier.

Leaves distinctly petiolate.

Flowers almost sessile, the petals ovate and acuminate; leaves with crenulate and ciliate margin. 5. *C. alpina* Cogn.

Flowers pedicellate, the petals obovate and obtuse; leaves entire.

6. *C. microphylla* Cogn.

Tibouchina brachyanthera Pittier, n. sp.

Fruticosa, caule tereti, ramis ramulisque longe denseque squamoso-villosis, cortice deciduo; ramulis erectis; foliis petiolatis, coriaceis, rigidis, supra obscure viridibus subtus flavicantibus; petiolo longe denseque squamoso-villoso; laminis ovato-lanceolatis, 5-nerviis, basi rotundatis, apice apiculatis, supra inter nervos adpresse villosa, subtus nervis exceptis squamoso-villosis sparse villosis, margine dense villosa-ciliatis; nervis marginalibus supra obsolete, subtus tenuibus, 3 interioribus supra valde impressis, tubum aequantibus; floribus majusculis, subsessilibus, ad apices ramulorum aggregatis; bracteis obovatis, acutis, densissime adpresse canescenterque squamosis, supra medium connatis, interioribus quam exteriorum pars libera longioribus; calycis tubo basi glabro, apice squamis magnis lanceolato-apiculatis marginibus setuloso-serrulatis coronato; segmentis rigidis, lanceolato-triangularibus, apice longe apiculatis, extus creberrime adpresse hispidis, tubum aequantibus; petalis obliquis, late obovatis, apice rotundatis, sparse ciliatis; staminibus paulo inaequalibus, filamentis glabris, antheris brevibus, subattenuatis vix arcuatis, connectivo glabro basi producto, bilobato; ovario elongato-oblongo, basi glabro, 5-sulcato, apice longiuscule canescenti-setuloso; stylo filiformi, longiusculo, glabro, superne arcuato; capsula matura deest.

Petiolus 2-5 mm. longus; laminae 3-5 cm. longae, 1.3-2 cm. latae. Bracteae exteriores circa 4 mm., interiores 6-6.5 mm. longae. Calycis tubus 6-7 mm. longus, segmentis 6.5 mm. longis, 2.2 mm. latis. Petala circa 12 mm. longa, 9 mm. lata. Stamina filamenta 6-7 mm. longa; antherae 4.5 mm. longae, connectivo infra loculos 1-1.5 mm. longo. Ovarium 5 mm. longum, 1.5-2 mm. crassum; stylus 13.5 mm. longus.

VENEZUELA: Torococo, Trujillo, 1100 m., in sunny spots, fl. January 11, 1922, *Jahn* 755 (type).

This species, which, is apparently the third known of the group of the true *Tibouchinae*, differs from *T. aspera* Aubl. and its varieties in the form and indument of its apiculate leaves, the very short bracts, the calyx segments equal to the tube, the smaller petals, and the shorter stamens, as well as by the general appearance. It is at once distinguished from *T. spruceana* Cogn. by its 5-nerved leaves, and likewise by its smaller petals, which are ciliate at the apex, its shorter style, etc. The three species of the section are found in Venezuela and are distinguished one from the other by the following characters:

Eutibouchina.

Anthers straight, short-attenuate, 4-5 mm. long; leaves 5-nerved, ovate-lanceolate, apiculate; Andes.....*T. brachyanthera* Pittier.

Anthers arcuate, long-attenuate.

Leaves 5-nerved; petals 14-16 mm. long, ciliate at apex; anthers 7-10 mm. long; Guayana, Miranda, Zulia.....*T. aspera* Aubl.

Leaves 3-nerved; petals 20-25 mm. long, not ciliate; anthers 6-7 mm. long; Upper Orinoco.....*T. spruceana* Cogn.

Desmoscelis mollis Pittier, n. sp.

Planta robusta, caule erecto, modice ramoso, tetragono, ramis ramulisque longe molliter villosis; foliis petiolatis, pro genere majusculis, petiolo breve lateque hirsuto, laminis 7-nerviis, oblongo-lanceolatis, basi rotundatis, apice subacutis, supra dense villosis pilis e basi crassissima conspicua immersa productis, subtus pallidioris, villosis, indistincte nigro-punctatis; floribus pedicellatis, alaribus vel axillaribus; pedicellis gracilibus calycibusque longissime densissime molliterque villosis; calyce ovoideo, basi rotundato, lobulis anguste triangularibus apice longissime apiculatis; petalis roseis, obovatis, obliquis, apice rotundatis, margine sparse ciliolatis; staminibus glabris, alternatim majoribus minoribusque, filamentis gracilibus, flexuosis, purpureis; antheris majoribus leviter arcuatis, apice obtuso vix attenuatis vel truncatis, purpurascens, connectivo infra loculos elongatissimo, antice appendicibus duobus longissimis producto; minoribus brevibus, truncatis, connectivo breviusculo, antice in calcar breve latumque integrum producto; ovario calyci semiadherente, apice setis rigidis dense coronato; stylo flexuoso, purpurascens, apice in stigma flavum punctiforme producto; capsula ignota.

Caulis 0.50-0.75 m. alta. Folia patula, petiolo 0.2-0.7 cm. longo, laminis membranaceis 2.5-7 cm. longis, 1.5-3 cm. latis. Flores numerosi. Pedicelli 3-5 mm. longi. Calycis tubus 4.5 mm. longus, 2.5 mm. diam.; lobuli 3.5-3.8 mm. longi, basin 1.4-1.6 mm. lati. Petala 7-7.5 mm. longa, 4 mm. lata. Staminum filamenta 4-6 mm. longa; antherae majores 2-2.8 mm. longae, connectivo infra loculos 2-2.3 mm. longo, appendicibus 2.3-2.5 mm. longis; antherae minores 1-1.8 mm. longae, appendicibus circa 0.7 mm. longo. Ovarium 4.2 mm. longum; stylus circa 6 mm. longus.

VENEZUELA: Savannas of Mene Grande, Zulia, in low, damp places, fl. October 28, 1922, *Pittier* 10578 (type).

This is the first *Desmoscelis* reported from Venezuela, but it is probable that we also have *D. villosa* Naud., one form of which (*D. villosa purpureo-violacea* Cogn.) has been indicated by Karsten as growing in the plains of Villavicencio in Colombia. The above-described species differs from the latter in its distinctly petiolate and larger leaves, smaller flowers, longer filaments and anterior appendices of the connective, much shorter anthers and connectives, etc. The large and small anthers alternate regularly. The hairs on the upper face of the leaves issue from an elongated tubercle, brown in colour, immersed in, or adhering to, the parenchyma.

Monochaetum Jahnii Pittier, n. sp.

Ramis teretibus gracilibusque longiuscule hispidis; foliis parvis longiuscule petiolatis, plerumque late ovatis, basi truncatis submarginatisve, apice acutis, 7-plinerviis, utrinque densiuscule hirsutis, pilis sparsissime glandulosis;

floribus cymosis, breviter pedicellatis, pedicellis calycibusque tubi apice pilis glandulosis coronato excepto glaberrimis; calycis lobis brevibus ovato-obtusis, longe ciliatis; petalis roseis, orbiculatis, glanduloso-ciliatis, densiuscule punctatis; staminibus 8, antheris subrostratis; ovario glabro, calyci adherente; stylo apice truncato.

Frutex ramosissimus, ca. 1 m. altus; rami gracili, angulosi, fusco-virides. Petioli 4-9 mm. longi, dense hirti; laminae supra solute virides, subtus pallidiores, 1.5-2.5 cm. longae, 1-1.5 cm. latae. Pedicelli ca. 2 mm. longi; calycis tubus 5 mm. longus, 3.5 mm. latus, purpurascens, lobi 1-1.5 mm. longi; petala 5.5 mm. longa lataque; filamenta staminorum majorum 4.5 mm. longa; antherae majores ca. 4 mm. longae, cauda cultriformi arcuata basi crassiore 5 mm. longa; antherae minores erectae, 3-3.5 mm. longae, cauda brevior, refracta, lineari; stylus ca. 5 mm. longus.

VENEZUELA: Between Palmira and Páramo de la Sal, 2700 m., Andes of Mérida, fl. September 1, 1921, *Jahn* 607 (type).

This elegant species should be placed near *Monochaetum glanduliferum* Triana, from which it differs in the longer, sparsely glandular indument, the leaves with longer petioles and also scarcely glandular, and the perfectly glabrous calyx tube ending in a dense crown of glandular hairs, and with glabrous, ciliate lobes. The stamens are also very distinct in shape and size and the drawing of the anthers differs from that accompanying the original description of *M. glanduliferum*.

MONOCHAETUM DISCOLOR Karsten ex Triana, Trans. Linn. Soc. 28: 63. 1871.

A striking and not very well-known species, the description of which can be completed as follows:

Petioli 2.5-4 mm. longi (sed nunquam 6 mm.); laminae 15-18 mm. longae, 7-10 mm. latae, subtus canescentes et strigillosae. Flores numerosi, pedunculis adpresse setulosis 5-10 mm. longis. Calycis tubus subglobosus, indistincte 8-costatus, circa 4 mm. longus, lobulis acuminato-triangularibus tubum subaequantibus vel longioribus, basi 3-3.5 mm. latis. Petala obovata, basi sensim cuneata, apicem versus minute strigosa, margine ciliolata, 13 mm. longa, 8 mm. lata. Stamina inaequalia, filamentis 6-7 mm. longis, planis, plusminusve distortis, antherarum caudis loculam subaequantibus vel interdum multo longioribus foliaceisque. Stylus 7-8 mm. longus, glaber; stigma punctiforme.

VENEZUELA: Agua de Obispo, Trujillo, 2500 m., fl. September 24, 1922, *Jahn* 1165.

Up to the present, eight species of the genus *Monochaetum* have been reported from Venezuela, all from the andine or subandine belts with the exception of *M. multiflorum* Naud., which was collected near Esmeralda on the open plains of the Orinoco by Bonpland, but is also indicated as growing in the Quindío, an elevated region of Colombia. These Venezuelan species can be distinguished by the following key.

Monochaetum.

Calyx lobes deciduous (*Grischovia*).

Branchlets densely villous; leaves 7-9-pinnerved; calyx 12-15 mm., the lobes 15-18 mm. long. 1. *M. hirtum* Triana.

Branchlets appressed-setulose and slightly hirsute.

Leaves 7-plinerved; calyx tube 1 cm., lobes up to 1.8 cm. long.

2. *M. Humboldtianum* Hook.

Leaves 5-plinerved.

Petals entirely glabrous, 2-3 cm. long. 3. *M. latifolium* Naud.

Petals ciliate, 1 cm. long or less. 4. *M. meridense* Naud.

Calyx lobes persistent (*Eumonochaetum*).

Pubescence glandular, long; calyx glabrous, its tube with a crown of glandular bristles at the apex; leaves 7-plinerved.

5. *M. Jahnii* Pittier.

Pubescence eglandular.

Branchlets covered at the base with bristles, these scaly; leaves triplinerved, 15-18 mm. long. 6. *M. discolor* Karst.

Branchlets more or less hairy.

Hairs simple; calyx lobes much shorter than the tube.

7. *M. Bonplandii* Naud.

Hairs more or less feathery; calyx lobes much longer than the tube.

8. *M. multiflorum* Naud.

MARCEZIA ANDICOLA Naudin, Ann. Sci. Nat. III. 15: 44. 1851.

Fruticulosa, caulibus adscendentibus, teretiuseculis, ramosissimis, cortice laeve, cupreoso, leviter excoarctato; ramis juvenioribus subangulosis, dense glanduloso-hirtellis; foliis brevissime petiolatis, integris, 5-nerviis, valde revolutis, apice acutis, utrinque glanduloso-puberulis supra impunctatis; floribus axillaribus, solitariis, brevissime pedicellatis; calyce breviter glanduloso-hirtello, tubo ovoideo segmentis lineari-subulatis remotiusculis paulo longiore; petalis roseis, ovato-lanceolatis, basi uniauriculatis, apice acutissimis; staminibus leviter inaequalibus, antheris basi biauriculatis omnino exsertis; ovario 4-loculare; stylo apice lateraliter acutato; capsula globosa, leviter 8-costulata, sparse glanduloso-hirtella.

Fruticulus 40-80 cm. altus. Petioli 0.5-1 mm. longi; laminae 6-8 mm. longae, 5 mm. latae. Pedicelli 1-1.5 mm. Calycis tubus 3-3.5 mm. longus, apice 3 mm. latus; lobi 1.5-3 mm. longi, basi 1 mm. lati. Petala 9-9.5 mm. longa, 4.5-5 mm. lata. Filamenta 6.5-7 mm. longa, antherae 3-4.5 mm. longae, basi 1 mm. crassae. Stylus 12 mm. longus. Capsula 3.5-4 mm. diam.

VENEZUELA: State of Mérida, 2300 m., *Funck & Schlim* 1200 (type). Páramo Quirorá, 3000 m., Mérida, fl. and fr., October 8, 1921, *Jahn* 708. Páramo La Trampa, 2100 m., Mérida, fl. March 12, 1922, *Jahn* 990.

This species, known locally under the name of "*romero*," which other species belonging to the Andes also bear, has probably been confused with *Marcetia juniperina* and *M. cordigera* DC. It differs from the latter by its leaves, which are petiolate and broader, and by its decidedly larger flowers, from the former also by the distinctly heart-shaped leaves, the five nerves of which are clearly visible in the fully developed blade. Moreover, it lacks the superfoliary punctations indicated as being characteristic of *M. juniperina* and the calyx tube is longer than the segments thereof; the petals are very sharp-pointed but not long-acuminate, and the stamens stand out the whole length of the anthers. These differences are accentuated when the dimensions of the various parts are taken into account.

Naudin distinguished the *Marcetia* collected in Merida by Funck and Schlim (no. 1200) under the name of *M. andicola*, but this was later reduced by Cogniaux to the rank of a variety of *M. cordigera*. We take Naudin's plant to be the same as the one described here, and believe that it cannot be assimilated with *M. cordigera* on account of having petiolate leaves, nor with *M. juniperina*, primarily because of these being 5-nerved. Certainly it shows a close relationship with the latter, but still it differs from it sufficiently to justify its being considered as a distinct species.

After writing the above, I had the opportunity, thanks to the kindness of Professor Lecomte, of the Museum of Natural History in Paris, of comparing the materials collected by Dr. Jahn with the type of *Marcetia andicola* Naudin. Thus I was able to convince myself that this and Jahn's collections are identical, and moreover, that the species of Naudin should not be mistaken for *Marcetia cordigera* DC. nor even be considered as a variety of it. This opinion is further confirmed by a careful comparison with the original descriptions and analytical sketches of Naudin, of which latter Prof. Lecomte also had the kindness to send me tracings.

***Miconia rufostellulata* Pittier, n. sp.**

Frutescens, ramis gracilibus petiolis inflorescentiisque dense stellulato-furfurascentibus; foliis membranaceis, parvis, 3-5-nerviis; petiolo breviusculo, laminis ovato-oblongis, basi rotundatis, apice breve acuminatis, margine obscure crenulatis, sparse ciliatis, supra laete viridibus sparsissime pilosis stellulatisque, subtus purpurascens, secus nervos creberrime demum sparse stellulatis; inflorescentiis ramulis lateralibus oppositis bifoliatisque suffultis, paniculatis; floribus pedicellatis, tetrameris, minutis, brevissime pedicellatis; calyce tubuloso-campanulato, eleganter rufo-stellulato, limbo 4-lobulato, lobulis acutis apice subulatis; petalis albis, obovatis, apice oblique rotundatis et emarginatis; staminibus ut petalis reflexis, antheris basi dilatatis subbiauriculatis; stylo glabro.

Frutex ad 1.5 m. altus. Petiolus 0.3-0.8 cm. longus; laminae 3-8 cm. longae, 1.5-3 cm. latae. Panicula 1.5-3.5 cm. longa. Pedicelli 0.5-1 mm. longi. Calycis tubus 1.5-2 mm. longus, lobuli 0.8 mm. longi. Petala 2.4 mm. longa, 1.4 mm. lata. Antherae circa 2 mm. longae. Stylus 3.5-4 mm. longus.

PANAMA: Forests around Pinogana, southern Darién, fl. April 16-21, 1914, *Pittier* 6535 (type).

Miconia rufostellulata belongs in the Section *Eumiconia*, in the series *Paniculares*, and should be placed near *M. brevipes* Benth., from which it differs in the indument, the coloring of the leaves, the larger petals, and other characters.

***Clidemia gracilis* Pittier, n. sp.**

Ramis lignosis, compressis subulatisque, glaberrimis; foliis sessilibus, valde disparibus, majoribus quam opposita 8-16-plo longioribus, ovatis ovato-oblongisve, basi rotundatis subemarginatisve, apice breve sensimque acuto-acuminatis, margine integerrimis, 5-nerviis, supra glaberrimis laevibusque obscure viridibus, subtus cinereo-viridibus, ad nervos nervulosque

pubescentibus; nervis nervulisque supra prominulis subtus venulisque valde prominentibus; foliis minoribus ovatis, acuminatis, 3-nerviis; paniculis axillaribus, longissime gracillime pedunculatis, subnatis; ramulis oppositis, divaricatis, 1-2-floribus, sparse puberulis; floribus ignotis; bacca globosa, puberula, in sicco leviter 10-costulata.

Arbusecula ad 1.5 m. alta. Internodia 2-4.5 cm. longa. Folia majora 11-19 cm. longa, 4-8 cm. lata, minora 1-2 cm. longa, 4-8 mm. lata. Panicula ad 16 cm. longa, depauperata, ramulis 4-5 cm. longis; baccæ 4 mm. diam. bracteolis 2 minutis suffultæ.

PANAMA: Head of lake in Gatun Valley, Canal Zone, in shady forest, fl. and fr. August 16, 1914, *Pittier* 6748 (type).

This species, of which I have at hand only fruiting specimens, is very closely related to *Clidemia dispar* (O. Berg) Cogn. of the Section *Calophysoides*, collected in eastern Peru by Spruce. It differs in the compressed, glabrous branchlets, the much larger leaves with entire margin and with appressed-pubescent, not stellate, nerves, and finally in the long, slender and few-flowered inflorescences. According to the notes taken on the spot when collecting the plant, the flowers are small and white. It is likely that some will be found on the specimens elsewhere distributed.

CLIDEMIA GRANDIFOLIA Cogn. in DC. Monogr. Phan. 7: 1018. 1891.

My no. 8917 coincides with the description of this species as to the characters of the branchlets, leaves and inflorescence, but it differs slightly as to those of the flowers. It seems likely, however, that the plant is specifically identical with the one described by Cogniaux.

I have noted the following complementary data:

Frutex 2-3 m. altus, erectus, paucirameus, ramis robustis. Petioli crassi, 5-10 cm. longi; laminae 15-25 cm. longae, 14-21 cm. latae, supra sparsissime breviterque setulosae, subtus ad nervos sparse furfuraceae, demum glandulis minimis translucidis adpersae. Paniculae in axillis fasciculatae, laxae, subnatis. Pedicelli 5-6 mm. longi. Calyx tubuloso-urceolatus, 3.5-4 mm. longus, basi 4-bracteolatus, dentibus interioribus nullis, exterioribus 0.5 mm. longis, obtusis; bracteolae ovatae, obtusae vel acuminatae, circa 1.5 mm. longae. Petala alba, oblonga, obtusa, 2-2.2 mm. longa, 1.2-1.3 mm. lata. Filamenta 1.7 mm. longa; antherae 2.5 mm. longae, oblongae, basi apiceque acuminatae. Stylus 6 mm. longus, basi setosus.

Type collected between Maracay and Choroni, Venezuela, 1300 m., (*Fendler* 2263). Our samples were collected on the hills of Guaremales, 450 m., near Urama, Carabobo, fl. July 2, 1920, *Pittier* 8917.

Ossaea trichocalyx Pittier, n. sp.

Fruticosa, ramis obtuse tetragonis, glabris vel minutissime furfurascentibus; foliis membranaceis, integerrimis, modice petiolatis, imo magnis, petiolis angulosis, glabris, lamina ovatis, septuplinerviis (junioribus 5-plinerviis?), basi rotundatis in petiolum decurrentibus, apice sensim acuminatis, supra glaberrimis subtus ad nervos venasque minute ferrugineo-furfurascentibus; floribus 4-meris, ut in *Henriettea* supra nodos defoliatos 6-12-fasciculatis racemulosisve brevissime pedicellatis; calyce urceolato-tubuloso, extus furfurescente, limbo brevissimo, dentibus exterioribus longe productis, spinuloso-setaceis; petalis albis, glabris, ovato-oblongis, apice rotundatis

setis 1-4 munitis; stylo staminibus duplo longiore, stigmatibus minutissime papilloso; bacca subglobosa, 5-locularis.

Frutex ad 2 m. altus. Petiolus 0.7-1.5 cm. longus; lamina 10-25 cm. longa, 4-11 cm. lata. Pedunculus communis 0.8-1 cm. longus; pedicelli 0.5-1 mm. longi. Calycis tubus 2.5 mm. longus, dentes exteriores 2-2.5 mm. longi; setae terminales 1-1.5 mm. Petala 2.2-2.5 mm. longa, 1.2 mm. lata. Antherae apice uniporosae 2 mm. longae.

PANAMA: Caño Quebrado, Canal Zone, in shady forest, fl. June 14, 1914, Pittier 6667 (type).

On account of the cauline flowers and general appearance, this species was placed first in the genus *Henriettea*. But further investigations showed the presence of fibro-vascular bundles both in the cortical layers and in the pith, so that if this character, given by Krasser,² is to be considered as constant and conclusive, there is no choice but to place the plant under *Ossaca*, Section *Euossaca*. It differs, however, from all the other species of this group, first in its leaves, glabrous and smooth above and more or less fuzzy beneath, and then in the prominent calyx teeth, provided with tiny spinelike articulate hairs up to the apex, which ends in a long bristle, and in the petals, also bearing from one to four long setae on their rounded upper end.

SCIENTIFIC NOTES AND NEWS

DR. GEORGE OTIS SMITH was reappointed Director of the U. S. Geological Survey, effective September 24, when the Coal Commission, of which he was member, was dissolved. P. S. SMITH, acting director, has returned to his former position of administrative geologist of the Survey.

The Priestley Medal, given every third year by the American Chemical Society to an American chemist for marked service to science, was awarded to DR. IRA REMSEN, President-emeritus of The Johns Hopkins University, at the sixty-sixth convention of the society, recently held at Marquette University.

ALEXANDER WETMORE, Bureau of Biological Survey, has returned from Hawaii where he has had charge of an expedition organized by the Biological Survey and the Bishop Museum of Honolulu, in cooperation with the U. S. Navy, to prosecute a general scientific survey of the Leeward chain of the Hawaiian group, and Johnston and Wake Islands.

DR. TRUMAN MICHELSON, of the National Museum, returned last month from his season's field work in Labrador. In studying the origin of the Indians of that region and their dialects, Dr. Michelson made important discoveries regarding the Nascapi language, and the ethnological diffusion in the Labrador peninsula.

² In Engl. & Prantl, *Nat. Pflanzenfam.* 37:182. 1893.