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Botanist and Plant Exploration on the Pacific Coast of North America: A Bibliography

James P. Smith Jr
Humboldt State University, james.smith@humboldt.edu

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This compilation is intended to be both a dictionary and a bibliography of selected literature on the individuals who made significant contributions to our floristic knowledge of the vascular plants (lycophytes, ferns, conifers, and flowering plants) of the Pacific Coast of North America north of Mexico. These were the botanists (professional and amateur), explorers, and others who went into the field, sometimes at great peril, to collect the specimens that now reside in our herbaria and that formed the basis of our understanding of the flora of our region. I have used the past tense because I have limited this bibliography to botanists who are no longer with us. This compilation has a California-Oregon-Washington emphasis. I am more familiar with the people and the literature of that portion of the coast. I have included a number of more broadly-based overviews of plant exploration. In a separate section, I have attempted to compile the literature relating to the important voyages and expeditions.

This bibliography is divided into the following sections: (1) general reviews; (2) the botanists; and (3) the voyages, expeditions, and government surveys.

1 • GENERAL REVIEWS


Jepson, W. L. 1899. Early scientific expeditions to California. II. Erythea 7(11): 129-134.


Jepson, W. L. 1934. The botanical explorers of California. IX. Madroño 2: 115-118.


LEROY ABRAMS (1874-1956). Professor of Botany. Stanford University


RUFUS DAVIS ALDERSON (1858-1932). Botanist-printer of the San Diego area.


CHARLES LEWIS ANDERSON (1827-1910)


RACHEL MERRITT AUSTIN (1832-1919). Plumas County naturalist.


RIMO CARLO FELICE BACIGALUPI. (1901-1996). First Curator of the Jepson Herbarium.


Baker, M. S. 1954. A partial list of seed plants of the North Coast Ranges of California.


WILLIAM HUDSON BAKER (1911-1985)


GEORGE BARCLAY (1835-1879)

ALMETA ZIBIA BARRETT (1831-1924)

MARY BEAL (1900-?)
Weight, L. 1969. The floral world of Mary Beal.


IDA MAY TWITCHELL BLOCHMAN (1854-1931)


WILLIAM DUNLOP BRACKENRIDGE (1810-1893). Scottish botanist with the Wilkes Expedition.


TOWNSHEND STITH BRANDEGEE (1843-1925). Botanist-civil engineer. Flora of Baja California.


KATHERINE AND T. S. BRANDEGEE


THOMAS BRIDGES (1807-1865). English botanist in South America and California.


**JOSEPH BURKE.** Collector of the Oregon and Washington flora (1844-1846), under the auspices of W. J. Hooker.


**ADELBERT VON CHAMISSO (1781-1838).** German botanist-poet. Naturalist on the Russian ship Rurick, commanded by Otto von Kotzebue.


**HARLEY PIERCE CHANDLER (1875-1918).** Botanist. Flora of northwest California, the Sierra Nevada, central Coast Range, and San Diego area.


**DANIEL CLEVELAND (1838-1929).** Lawyer-botanist. San Diego, California. Flora of southern California.


**JOSEPH WHIPPLE CONGDON (1834-1919).** Botanist-lawyer. California flora.


**THOMAS COULTER (1793-1843).** Irish physician-botanist. Flora of California and Arizona.


WILLIAM BURKE CRITCHFIELD 000


WILLIAM CONKLIN CUSICK (1842-1922). Oregon Infantry officer; later avocational botanist-rancher in the Powder River Valley. He sent many specimens to Asa Gray for identification.


NANCY JANE DAVIS (1833-1921)


DAVID DOUGLAS (1798-1834). Scottish botanist-horiticulturalist. Plant collector in the Pacific Northwest, California, and Hawai‘i.


Douglas, C. 1836. A sketch of a journey to the north-western parts of the continent of North America, during the years 1824, 5, 6, and 7. Companion to the Botanical Magazine 2: 82-177.


Loudon, J. C. 1836. Biographical notice of the late Mr. David Douglas, F. L. S., the traveller and botanist; with a proposal to erect a monument to his memory; and the list of plants which he introduced. Gard. Mag. 2: 602-609.


**WILLIAM RUSSEL DUDLEY (1849-1911)**. American botanist-forester. Head of the botany department at Stanford University. California conifers.


**GEORGE WASHINGTON DUNN (1814-1905)**


**ADOLPH DANIEL EDWARD ELMER (1870-1942)**. American botanist-plant collector. Flora of California, Washington, the Phillipines, Borneo, and New Guinea.


**CARL CLAWSON EPLING (1894-1968)**. Professor of Botany. University of California at Los Angeles. Labiatae.


JOHN CHARLES FRÉMONT (1813-1890). Major-general in the U. S. Army, explorer, politician, Governor of Arizona.


KARL ANDREAS GEYER (1809-1853). German botanist. Collected in the Oregon Territory.


Geyer, K. A. 1845. Notes on the vegetation and general character of the Missouri and Oregon territories, made during a botanical survey from the state of Missouri, across the South-pass of the Rocky Mountains, to the Pacific, during the years 1843-1844, by Charles A. Geyer. London J. Bot. 5.


ASA GRAY (1810-1888). Professor of Natural History. Harvard University. Trained as a medical doctor. Pre-eminent 19th century American botanist. Prolific author. Many western U. S. plants were sent back to him for verification. Collected in California in 1872, 1877 (with J. D. Hooker), and 1885.


Gray, A. 1865. Characters of some new plants of California and Nevada, chiefly from the collections of Professor William H. Brewer, botanist of the State Geological Survey of California, and of Dr. Charles L. Anderson, with revisions of certain genera or groups. 50 pp.


EDWARD LEE GREENE (1843-1915). Botanist and Episcopal minister. First Professor of Botany at the Univ. of California at Berkeley (1885-1893). Catholic Univ. of America (1895-1904) and Associate in Botany at the Smithsonian Inst. (1904-1914). Editor of Pittonia and Leaflets of Botanical Observation and Criticism.


Hall, C. C. & H. M. Hall. 1912. A Yosemite flora: a descriptive account of the ferns and flowering plants, including the trees, of the Yosemite National Park; with simple keys for their identification; designed to be useful throughout the Sierra Nevada Mountains. Paul Elder & Co. San Francisco, CA. 282 pp.


**GEORGE HANSEN (1863-1908).** Botanist. Flora of Amador County, California.


**WILLIAM HARFORD (1825-1911).** Conchologist-botanist. Colleague of Bolander and Kellogg at the California Academy of Sciences.


**KARL THEODOR HARTWEG (1812-1871).** German botanist. Sent by Horticultural Society of London to collect in California, Mexico, and the Andes.


JOSEPH DALTON HOOKER (1817-1911). Outstanding British botanist and explorer, Director of the Royal Botanical Gardens at Kew, President of the Royal Society, friend and supporter of Charles Darwin. In 1877, he visited the western United States with his friend Asa Gray, including crossing the Sierra Nevada and visiting Yosemite Valley, Mt. Shasta, and Monterey. While here they met with John Muir and John Lemmon. He took about 1000 dried plant specimens with him back to Kew. His many honors included being awarded the Order of Merit and having an oak in Chico named after him. He was knighted by Queen Victoria in 1877.


Howell, T. J. 1897-1903. A flora of northwest America, containing descriptions of all the known indigenous and naturalized plants growing without cultivation north of California, west of Utah and south of British Columbia. Published by the author. Portland, OR. Seven fascicles published as a single volume in 1903. 792 pp. + index.


EDMUND CARROLL JAEGER (1887-1983). Desert ecology. Taught for many years at Riverside Community College.

LORENZO DOW JARED (1832-1909). Surgeon and amateur botanist of San Luis Obispo Co.
Jepson, W. L. 1934. The botanical explorers of California. X. Lorenzo Dow Jared. Madroño 2: 133.

McNab, J. 1873. Discoveries of Mr. John Jeffrey and Mr. Robert Brown, collectors to the botanical expeditions to British Columbia between 1850 and 1866. Trans. Botanical Society, Edinburgh XI.

WILLIS LINN JEPSON (1867-1946). Professor of Botany. University of California at Berkeley. Founder of the California Botanical Society. Editor of Erythrea and Madroño. His collections form the core of the
Jepson Herbarium.


Jepson, W. L. 1924. Flora of the economic plants of California, for agricultural students, including important crop plants, agricultural weeds, poisonous plants, honey plants, medicinal plants, chaparral shrubs, native timber trees, and the most common native plants of the spring flowering. Associated Students Store. Berkeley, CA. 223 pp.


Brandegee, K. 1893. Dr. Albert Kellogg. Zoe 4: 1, 2.


JACK MAJOR (1917-2001). Professor of Plant Ecology at the University of California, Davis.


BROTHER MARIE-VICTORIN (JOSEPH-LOUIS CONRAD KIROUAC) (1885-1944). Director of the Botanical Institute, Montreal.


GEORGIA MASON (1910-2007). Botanist and curator at the University of Oregon.


Mason, G. 1982. Plants of wet to moist habitats in and around Eugene, Oregon. Published by author.


EDITH VAN ALLEN MURPHEY (1879-1925)

LUIS NÉE (1734-1801). Spanish botanist with the Malapina Expedition.


DORIS KILDALE GILLESPIE NILES (1903-1995). Teaching assistant at Stanford, Humboldt State College and Arizona State College. Associate Professor (Extension), University of California Davis, Curator of Natural History at College of the Redwoods, Eureka.


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Soc. 104: 86-100.


Nuttall, T. 1841. Descriptions of new species and genera of plants in the natural order of the Compositae, collected in a tour across the continent to the Pacific, a residence in Oregon, and a visit to the Sandwich Islands and upper California, during the years 1834 and 1835. Trans. American Phil. Soc. New Series 7: 283-453.


**CHARLES RUSSELL ORCUTT (1864-1929).** Botanist-collector. San Diego, California. Collected extensively in California, the Southwest, and Mexico.


Piper, C. V. 1915. Flora of the northwest coast, including the area west of the summit of the Cascade Mountains, from the forty-ninth parallel south to the Kalapooia Mountains on the south border of Lane County Oregon. Press of the New Era Printing Co. Lancaster, PA. 418 pp.


CARL (CHARLTON) ELMER PURDY (1861-1945). Botanist-nurseryman. Ukiah, California.


CARL (KARL) ALBERT (ALBRECHT) PURPUS (1851-1941). German-American botanist. Collected in California on various trips between 1894-1913.
Beidleman, R. & B. Ertter. Purpus among the peaks. ucjeps.berkeley.edu/Purpus/patp1.html

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Rattan, V. 1898. West coast botany: an analytical key to the flora of the Pacific coast in which are described over eighteen hundred species of flowering plants growing west of the Sierra Nevada and Cascade crests from San Diego to Puget Sound. Whitaker & Ray. San Francisco, CA. 221 pp.


BENITO (BENEDICT) ROEZL (1824-1885). Czech botanist. Collected in California (1869, 1870, & 1880), Mexico and South America.


GERTRUDE LESTER ROWNTREE (1879-1979). Botanist and horticulturalist of Carmel.


**JOHN ORVILLE SAWYER, JR. (1939-2012).** Botanist-ecologist. Professor of Botany at Humboldt State University. California vegetation, conifers, flora of northwestern California and the Klamath-Siskiyou.


**CARL W. SHARSmith (1903-1994).** Professor of Botany. San Jose State University. Alpine flora of the Sierra Nevada.


**WILLIAM HILLMAN SHOCKLEY (1855-1925).** American mining engineer-avocational botanist. Flora of the White Mountains and adjacent Nevada.

Jepson, W. L. 1931. The botanical explorers of California. VII. William Hillman Shockley. Madroño 2: 26-


Smith, C. P. 1938 → 1953. Species lupinorum. 768 pp. Published by author.


ALBERT N. STEWARD (1897-1959)


LUCIA A. SUMMERS (18??-1898)


ROY LEWIS TAYLOR (1932-2013). Canadian botanist. Canadian Department of Agriculture, Ottawa, Director of the Botanical Garden and Professor, University of British Columbia; Director of the Rancho Santa Ana Botanical Garden in Claremont, California (1994-1999).


JOHN TORREY (1796-1873). Physician-botanist-chemist-geologist. Professor at Columbia Univ. &


JOHN BOARDMAN TRASK (1824-1879). American botanist. First state geologist of California and one of the eight founders of the California Academy of Sciences.


ILYA VOZNESENSKY (1816-1871). Russian explorer-naturalist, Russian Academy of Sciences.


JEAN-FRANÇOIS DE GALAUP COMTE DE LAPÉROUSE EXPEDITION (1785-1788)


ALEJANDRO MALASPINA EXPEDITION (1789-1794)


THE GEORGE VANCOUVER EXPEDITION (1790-1795)


Mackenzie, A. 1971. Voyages from Ontreal on the river St. Laurence, through the continent of North America to the Frozen and Pacific Oceans in the years 1789 and 1793, with a preliminary account of the rise, progress, and present state of the fur trade of that country. Tuttle. Rutland, VT. 412 pp.


Vancouver, G. 1798. A voyage of discovery to the North Pacific Ocean, and round the world; in which the coast of north-west America has been carefully examined and accurately surveyed. Undertaken by His Majesty's command, principally with a view to ascertain the existence of any navigable communication between the North Pacific and North Atlantic oceans; and performed in the years 1790, 1791, 1792, 1793, 1794, and 1795, in the Discovery sloop of war, and armed tender Chatham, under the command of Captain George Vancouver. G. G. & J. Robinson. London, U. K. Three vols.


NIKOLAI PETROVICH REZANOV VOYAGE (1803-1806)


LEWIS & CLARK EXPEDITION (1804-1806)


Thwaites, R. G. (editor). 1904-1905. Original journal of the Lewis & Clark expedition 1804-1806. Printed from the original manuscripts in the library of the American Philosophical Society and by direction of its committee on historical documents together with manuscript materials of Lewis and Clark from other sources including note-books, letters, maps, etc.... Now for the first time published in full and exactly as written. Seven vols. + atlas. Dodd, Mead & Co. New York, NY.


**OTTO VON KOTZEBUE EXPEDITION (1823-1826)**


**FREDERICK W. BEECHEY VOYAGE (1825-1828)**


Hooker, W. J. & G. A. W. Arnott. 1830-1841. The botany of Captain Beechey’s voyage; comprising an account of the plants collected by Messrs Lay and Collie, and other officers of the expedition, during the voyage to the Pacific and Bering’s Strait, performed in His Majesty's ship Blossom, under the command of Captain F. W. Beechey, R. N. in the years 1825, 26, 27, and 28. H. G. Bohn. London, England. 485 pp.


**AUGUST DUHAUT-CILLY VOYAGE (1826-1829)**


**NATHANIEL J. WYETH EXPEDITIONS (1831-1836)**


EDWARD BELCHER EXPEDITION (1836-1842)


CHARLES WILKES EXPEDITION (U. S. EXPLORING EXPEDITION) (1838-1842)


JOHN CHARLES FRÉMONT EXPEDITIONS (1842-1854)


Frémont, J. C. 1887. Memoirs of my life, by John Charles Frémont. Including in the narrative five journeys of western exploration, during the years 1842, 1843-4, 1845-6-7, 1848-9, 1853-4,... A retrospective of fifty years, covering the most eventful period of modern American history ... with colored plates. Belford, Clarke & Co. Chicago, IL. 635 pp.


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WILLIAM H. EMORY EXPEDITION (MEXICAN - U. S. BOUNDARY SURVEY) (1846-1847)


Emory, W. H. 1848. Notes of a military reconnaissance from Fort Leavenworth, in Missouri, to San Diego, in California, including part of the Arkansas, Del Norte, and Gila Rivers... made in 1846-47, with the advanced guard of the Army of the West." U. S. 30th Congress, 1st session, Senate Exec. Doc. 3(7): 1-126.


AMIEL WEEKS WHIPPLE EXPEDITION (1853-1854)


DEATH VALLEY EXPEDITION (1890-1891)
