

PROCEEDINGS
OF THE
BIOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF WASHINGTON

COLLOMIA MAZAMA, A NEW PLANT FROM THE
VICINITY OF CRATER LAKE, OREGON.

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In August, 1896, while engaged with Mr. John B. Leiberg in an examination of the flora of Crater Lake and vicinity, in the state of Oregon, a violet-flowered *Collomia* was discovered. It was at once recognized as a probably new species, and a description was drawn in the field from the fresh specimens. In the transmission of our season's collection to the National Herbarium at Washington, however, the specimens of this plant, with several other species from the same vicinity, were lost, and even after a most careful search could not be traced. Fortunately a single complete set of the numbers collected had been withheld from the main shipment and stored at a remote and, for a portion of the winter, snowbound point in Idaho. The two sheets of specimens in this set finally reached Washington late in February and now make possible the publication of the species.

Collomia mazama sp. nov.

Plant perennial, few to many-stemmed from a slender tap-root, 15 to 30 centimeters high, below the inflorescence glabrous or with a few arachnoid viscid hairs on the stem and leaf-margins; stems terete, commonly 1 to 2 millimeters in diameter, simple up to the inflorescence; leaves oblong-lanceolate to lanceolate, commonly 3 to 6 centimeters in length, acute at apex and base, acutely and somewhat laciniately 3 to 5-toothed above, the uppermost entire and sessile, the lower often oblanceolate and tapering into a short narrowly margined petiole; inflorescence subcapitately cymose, sometimes with additional short-pedunculate clusters of flowers from one or two of the upper axils, glandular-hairy and strong-scented; bracts similar to the uppermost leaves, entire, the lower usually 2 to 3 cen-

timeters long and slightly exceeding the flower-cluster; calyx commonly 7 to 9 millimeters long, with the plicate sinuses characteristic of the genus, the lobes equaling the tube, triangular-lanceolate, acuminate, in fruit reaching a length of 5 or 6 millimeters; corolla about 15 millimeters long, deep blue to violet-purple, above the calyx expanding into a funnel-shaped throat, the narrowly oblong-obovate obtuse moderately divergent lobes about 5 millimeters in length; stamens slightly exerted, the anthers white, the filaments of somewhat unequal length, but inserted almost equally about half way from the sinuses to the base of the tube; ovule single in each cell of the ovary; style also exerted, the stigma 3-lobed; capsule about half as long as the fruiting calyx, narrowly obovate, truncate or depressed at the three-lobed summit, loculicidal in dehiscence, the 3 valves partially breaking away from the axis; seed about 3 millimeters long, olive-brown at maturity, linear-oblong, obtuse at both ends, sulcate on the axial face and attached to the placenta for almost its whole length, dull but without distinct markings, developing the characteristic spiracles of *Collomia* in water.

Type specimen in the United States National Herbarium, collected August 15, 1896, near Crater Lake, in the Cascade Mountains of Oregon, at an altitude of 1,900 meters, by Frederick V. Coville and John B. Leiberg, No. 429.

This showy and beautiful *Collomia* is remarkable for its perennial habit and the deep violet-blue color of its flowers. The glandular hairs of the calyx and peduncles give off the odor characteristic of most of the *Collomias* and some of the *Phacelias*. The only other blue-flowered, perennial species of the genus is *Collomia debilis* (Wats.) Greene, a variable plant, first collected in southern Utah, later in western Montana, the Cascade Mountains, and the northern Sierra Nevada, one or more of its various forms probably susceptible of varietal or specific separation.

The plant grows in abundance in slightly moist, open, sparingly grassy places in the forest, in the vicinity of streams and wet meadows, about five kilometers west of the upper camping ground at Crater Lake, and continues southeastward at about the same altitude, at least as far as the lower camping ground, about two and a half kilometers south of the rim of the lake. For one starting from the junction of the Rogue River and Fort Klamath roads and traveling northward toward Crater Lake, the most convenient and probably the first place for finding the plant is on the flat ground where the road first crosses the stream on which the lower camping ground is situated. Specimens were seen here, but not in abundance. At the time of collecting, the species was in full flower, and very few of the specimens had produced mature seeds.

