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## ON SOME CANADIAN SPECIES OF GENTIANA : SECTIO CROSSOPETALÆ, FRÆL.

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(With four Plates.)

That very natural group of North American species of Frœlich's section *Crossopetalæ*<sup>1</sup>, the so-called "Fringed Gentians," has long been in need of careful revision. The latest treatment of the genus, as it occurs in North America, is the one presented by Asa Gray in the Synoptical Flora<sup>2</sup>, wherein the species, however, are described with much the same distinctions as in other works of the same author. Writers of a more recent date have generally felt so much influenced by that author's decisions that they have not seemed to question the correctness of his pronouncements, and have not examined the diagnoses further. Consequently the same species are enumerated and the diagnoses faithfully reproduced in the manuals and local Floras, on the strength of which botanists abroad have finally attributed a geographical range to some of these species extending throughout the northern hemisphere.

Among these *Gentiane* is Gunner's *G. serrata*, which by Gray and subsequent authors is unanimously regarded as an inhabitant of North America, and its geographical distribution is by Gray (l. c.) given as "Newfoundland, Canada and N. W. New York to Saskatchewan and northward, and west to Colorado and W.

<sup>1</sup> Frœlich, Joseph Al. De Gentiana dissertatio Erlangen, p. 109. 1796.

<sup>2</sup> Gray, Asa. Synoptical Flora of North America, Vol. 2, p. 116. New York. 1886.