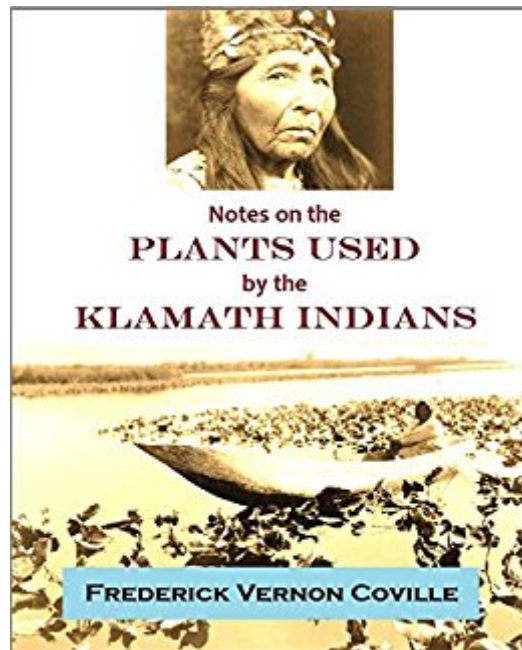




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Notes On The Plants Used By The Klamath Indians Of Oregon



Synopsis

Frederick Vernon Coville (1867â “ 1937) was an American botanist who participated in the Death Valley Expedition (1890-1891), was honorary curator of the United States National Herbarium (1893-1937), worked at then was Chief botanist of the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA), and was the first director of the United States National Arboretum. He made contribution to economic botany and helped shape American scientific policy of the time on plant and exploration research. The author writes: "As opportunity has offered, the members of our botanical staff, when working in the field, have recorded all the reliable information they could secure on the uses of native plants by the American aborigines. In the present series of notes are included a few plants which give suggestions of usefulness in our own arts and industries. Among these may be mentioned the yellow pine-lichen, which produces a beautiful canary-yellow dye; the Rocky Mountain flax, which furnishes a strong, fine fiber; and several of the tuberous-rooted perennials of the parsley family, which make palatable and nutritious foods. The fact on the one hand that such native American plants as Indian corn, the potato, canaigre, cascara sagrada, istle, and many others have already become established articles of trade; and the fact, on the other hand, that we are constantly striving to find agricultural products suited to our subarid regions, make very pertinent the question whether we shall not make a serious attempt to domesticate additional species of our native plants which are known to withstand a dry climate perfectly."

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