

Mary Parry Haines, 1826-1884

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Mary Parry Haines was a naturalist whose scientific collections were well known to specialists in various fields. She was best known as a paleontologist although she made notable contributions to the botany of central eastern Indiana and published articles of geological and botanical interest. She was custodian of the Paleontology Department of the Museum of the Scientific Association of Richmond, Indiana, and a member of the Indiana Horticultural Society.

That her collections were highly regarded is expressed in the writings of other scientists. Dr. Dennis wrote in 1878, "I have had the constant use of her beautiful and complete collection. The use of her classified and labeled specimens has enabled me to do in a few months what would otherwise have required years". Coe F. Austin, in a letter to Mrs. Haines, writes, "Some of the best things in my herbarium were collected by you—"

E. T. Cox gives the following enumeration of her collection in 1879:

Fossils	1,628
Minerals	1,016
Land and freshwater shells.....	760
Marine shells and corals.....	753
Musci	296
Hepaticae	206
Filices	245
Algae	200
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Total	5,104

Mary Parry was born in Cinnaminson, Burlington County, New Jersey, December 24, 1826, and died (of a liver affection) in Richmond, Indiana, December 8, 1884. Her mother was Letitia Penn Smith, a sister of Oliver H. Smith, a well known Whig U. S. senator from Connersville, Indiana. Her father was John D. Parry. She married Joshua W. Haines in 1852. Mr. Haines formerly taught school in Wayne Co., Indiana and later became a successful drygoods merchant in Richmond.

The Haineses had three children, Letitia, who married Evans Cook; Parry, a son; and Francinia, who married Dr. Frank C. Dale, a surgeon in the U. S. Navy.

In 1880 Mr. Haines retired from business and purchased a large ranch in California. Some time after Mrs. Haines' death Mr. Haines, the Dales and the Cooks moved to the California ranch and they all died there. Most of the family is buried in Earlham Cemetery in Richmond, their ashes having been returned there from California.

Ada L. Bernhardt, librarian at the Morrisson-Reeves Library of Richmond, was an intimate friend of Francinia Haines, and was frequently at the Haines' home on North 13th Street in Richmond. From a letter written by Mrs. Bernhardt the following description of the Haineses and their home is drawn.

"Mrs. Haines was an unusually large woman with straight, dark hair and dark eyes. Joshua Haines, on the contrary, was a rather short man with very curly hair. They were probably birthright Friends of the Hicksite Branch. They were considered to be rather radical in their views, inclining toward spiritualism, woman's rights and anti-slavery". Mrs. Haines was a strong-minded woman and probably took the lead in family affairs.

"She had a large, high walnut case of drawers, in what was probably called a library in their large residence, and in it her collections were neatly arranged. Oil portraits of the family decorated the walls of their large 'parlor'." Thus far a picture of Mrs. Haines has not been found.

Some time after Mrs. Haines' death the collections were sold. The fossils and minerals were sent to the Walker Museum at the University of Chicago where they are still preserved. The disposition of the remainder of the collection is not known.¹

The Bryophytes and Lichens of the Haines Collection

In 1927 several collections of plants came into my possession, among which were the mosses, hepatics and lichens collected by Mary P. Haines. A few documents accompanied the plants. The following are the various items:

An album containing 269 specimens of mosses.

Herbarium sheets bearing 449 specimens of mosses, 71 hepatics, 293 lichens and 26 miscellaneous specimens.

Two letters from Coe F. Austin, Closter, N. J.

A letter from Miss H. J. Biddlecome, Springfield, Ohio.

A list of mosses from Jennie Watson, Massillon, Ohio.

Mosses	718 specimens	105 genera	360 species
Hepatics	71 "	36 "	71 "
Lichens	293 "	48 "	246 "
Total	1,082	189	677

Mrs. Haines assembled this remarkable collection in a short time. The specimens are small and are mounted on 3 x 4 inch cards. They are beautifully arranged and hours must have been consumed in their preparation. Some specimens consist of a single plant or a few stems very artistically spread out, others consist of small tufts or mats carefully selected and glued to the mount. Most specimens are well fruited, although many sterile plants are included, and all seem to have been selected for beauty and symmetry. Usually only one specimen was

¹I wish to acknowledge the collaboration of Dr. Winona H. Welch of DePauw University, and Mr. Lawrence J. King, of the University of Chicago, in assembling the data for this biography.

placed on a card but in many cases as many as four small species are arranged on one card. The names of the species are written on the cards and usually the locality is given, but other data are scanty. The habitat, date and collector's name are seldom given except for some specimens obtained from other collectors. Since the original names were written on the cards someone has added the family names of the mosses and indicated more recent nomenclature in many instances.

The care and devotion to this work is reflected in several poetical quotations included in the moss album. Two of them are given here.

Parent of God! we recognize thy hand
 In these minuter objects of thy care;
 Tread we the mountain's brow or ocean's strand,
 The humblest of thy work and praise declare.
 Thus are we taught thy wisdom and thy power,
 By care of sparrow's plume and moss's frond,—
 Much more of nobler creatures. Let the flower
 And verdant sward, that clothes the arid ground,
 Show us thy love displayed in Nature's field around.

He prayeth well who loveth well
 All things, both great and small,
 For the good God who loveth us,
 Made these,—and loveth all.²

When the collection came into my possession it was in a badly neglected condition. Apparently it had been stored for many years in a leaky and poorly protected place, for soot and mildew have discolored some of the mounts and nearly obliterated the writing. The album has been kept intact, but the other mounts have been placed in envelopes.

Sources and Localities

Apparently Mrs. Haines did not begin the byrophyte and lichen collection until 1875. This date appears on the fly leaf of the moss album while dates appearing on a number of the specimens collected near Richmond range from 1876 to 1877. Specimens from other collections bear dates ranging from 1820 to 1879.

Eighty specimens of mosses, ten hepatics and fifteen lichens were collected near Richmond by Mrs. Haines. In addition there are thirty specimens with no locality given which probably came from the Richmond area. Some of these were mounted and labeled by someone else. Mrs. Haines also collected in Pennsylvania and New Jersey but the exact plants are uncertain. She sent most of her specimens to specialists for identification and named a few herself. Coe F. Austin probably named her mosses and Prof. Tuckermann the lichens.

The following is a letter from Coe F. Austin:*

Closter, N. J., Nov. 22/79

My Dear Mrs. Haines:

It is to be regretted that you cannot get a little leisure for moss collecting. Some of the best things in my herbarium were collected by

² Alterations in these lines are Mrs. Haines'.

* Other letters will be sent on request.

you: e. g., *Leskea denticulata* in fruit, *Leptodon Ohioense*, *Cylindroth. compressum* and *Calypogia arguta*. By the way, I sent a bit of your specimen to Mr. Richie who returned me a fine lot of it.

If you have no copy of the Bulletin for Sept., 1879, in which *Orth. Hainesiae* is described, I will send you one.

I am now preparing an article for the Bulletin which every Bryologist ought to see. It will probably appear in the Dec. No. It is a criticism on a paper recently published in the Proc. of the Amer. Acad. of Arts & Sciences, entitled "Description of some new American Mosses", by two of the most eminent American Bryologists, and claimed to have been personally revised and sanctioned by the justly renowned W. P. Schimper.

I return your specimens, regretting that time would not permit me to name them all.

Have done nothing with moss since last spring. Hope to be able to take them up again soon.

Should like to hear from your Colorado friend again.

Very truly yours,

C. F. Austin

The largest part of the collection was obtained from other botanists. Mrs. Jessie Roy, of Royston Park, Owen Sound, Ontario, contributed the greatest number of plants of any of Mrs. Haines' correspondents. Mrs. Roy was a collector of importance during the last century and her contributions are mentioned repeatedly in the Lesquereux and James Manual of Mosses. It appears that Mrs. Roy obtained most of these specimens from other collectors both in Europe and America. One hundred twenty-six specimens of mosses bear the name of The Rev. J. Ferguson of Forfarshire, Scotland, and forty-seven specimens were collected by various people in England. Mrs. Roy traveled extensively and mosses from Canada, Colorado, California and Europe are attributed to her.

Sixty specimens of mosses, four hepatics and seventy-one lichens were collected by G. W. Clinton of Buffalo, New York, and most of them have his printed forms pasted on the backs of the cards. The largest number of these came from the vicinity of Buffalo and a few others from scattered localities in western New York.

Fifty-four mosses, sixteen hepatics and ninety-five lichens appear to have been collected by J. Wolf of Canton, Illinois. Nowhere in the collection is J. Wolf's name cited except that two species are named in his honor and noted as new species. Hence, it is assumed that they were collected by him and are part of the type collection.

Elihu Hall contributed twenty-six mosses, two hepatics and seven lichens from Oregon, and a few specimens from Illinois. These may have reached the Haines collection through Mrs. Roy.

Thirty-four mosses and fifteen lichens from Alma, Park Co., Colorado are among the most interesting plants of the collection. Only one bears the collector's name, a Mrs. Douglas. This is apparently the "Colorado friend" mentioned by Austin in his letter to Mrs. Haines. Three species out of the fifteen mosses are described as new by Austin. *Orthotrichum Hainesiae* Aust. commemorates Mrs. Haines' name in botanical literature.

Miss H. J. Biddlecome of Springfield, Ohio was a close friend and correspondent of Mrs. Haines. She contributed about forty specimens

from the region around Springfield and Urbana, Ohio. Mrs. E. J. Spence also contributed specimens from western Ohio, and a few from Colorado and California. Nine specimens from Painesville, Ohio were apparently sent by Dr. H. C. Beardslee. Miss Jennie Watson of Massillon, Ohio sent a few plants from that region and a few from Florida.

About thirty-five specimens from the New England states were probably collected and sent by Thomas P. James.

About twenty specimens from California were collected by a Mrs. Rhodes of Magalia, Butte County. Also T. S. Brandegee and Mrs. E. J. Spence contributed a few specimens from the west.

About thirty specimens from Hawaii are unnamed and were probably collected by Dr. F. C. Dale (Mrs. Haines son-in-law). His name is on one of the mounts.

About seventy specimens from the Atlantic and Gulf states and the Mississippi Valley are without collectors cited. About thirty specimens came from foreign lands including Mexico, Central America, the East Indies, and others.