

Galathenium sanguineum. *Lactuca sanguinea*, BIGEL. Flor. Bost., (ed. 2,) p. 287. Leaves very often nearly all entire, or only runcinately toothed; achenium one-nerved, black.

Galathenium ludovicianum. *Sonchus ludovicianus*, NUTT. Gen. Am., Vol. II., p. 125.

Obs. The plants of this genus (peculiarly North American) appear to be intermediate between *Lactuca* and *Mulgedium*. From *Lactuca* they differ wholly in the achenium, which, in *L. sativa* and others, is of a pale colour, and covered with longitudinal striatures. In *Lactuca perennis*, however, the striatures are few, and the achenia has a tumid margin, as in *Mulgedium*, but it is also furnished with a very long rostrum. From *Mulgedium* our plants differ in the form, compression, colour, and margin of the achenium, as well as in the presence of an abrupt and distinct rostrum, seldom, if ever, the length of the elliptic fruit, and of a different colour and consistence with the achenium.

LYGODESMIA. (Don.)

Subgenus *PLEIACANTHUS.—Capitulum four to five-flowered. Involucrum cylindrical-ovate, imbricate, of a few unequal, flat, lanceolate sepals, the external so short as to appear like a caliculus. Receptacle minute, naked. Achenium subcylindric, obtusely five-ribbed, truncated. Pappus bristly and barbellate, yellowish-white, long, and in several series.—A nearly leafless, divaricately branched, rigidly spiny perennial, with rose-red flowers in short racemes. Probably a distinct genus.

Lygodesmia **spinosa*; stem divaricate; branchlets spinescent, microphyllous; capituli subracemose, with an irregular involucellum.

HAB. In the Rocky Mountain plains towards California. About eight to fourteen inches high. Lower leaves linear, entire, sessile, rather thick; upper leaves and those on the spiny branchlets minute, like very small bractes. Stem divaricate and spreading, the base somewhat pubescent and producing remarkably large tufts of brownish matted down; the bud scales broad ovate. Flowers pedicellate, in racemes. Every branch and twig ends in a spiny point. Larger leaves of the involucre three or four, ovate, or ovate-lanceolate, three or four smaller ones at the base of the involucre. Florets rose-red, deeply five-cleft at the summit. Stigmas filiform, exserted, pubescent. Pappus rigid and barbellated.