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Collinsonia

Labiatae
[*Lamiaceae*]

Collinsonia commemorates an English Quaker cloth merchant and amateur naturalist, Peter Collinson (1694-1768). He cultivated an English clientele interested in growing American plants and corresponded widely with many leading figures, including Sir Hans Sloane (1660-1753) as President of The Royal Society of which Collinson became a Fellow, and Benjamin Franklin (probably electrical issues relevant to any relationship between static electricity and lightning in which Franklin was interested). Through these correspondents, his trading interests with the North American colonies and his Quaker associations (especially scientists and horticulturists) he was able to introduce plant species both ways across the Atlantic.