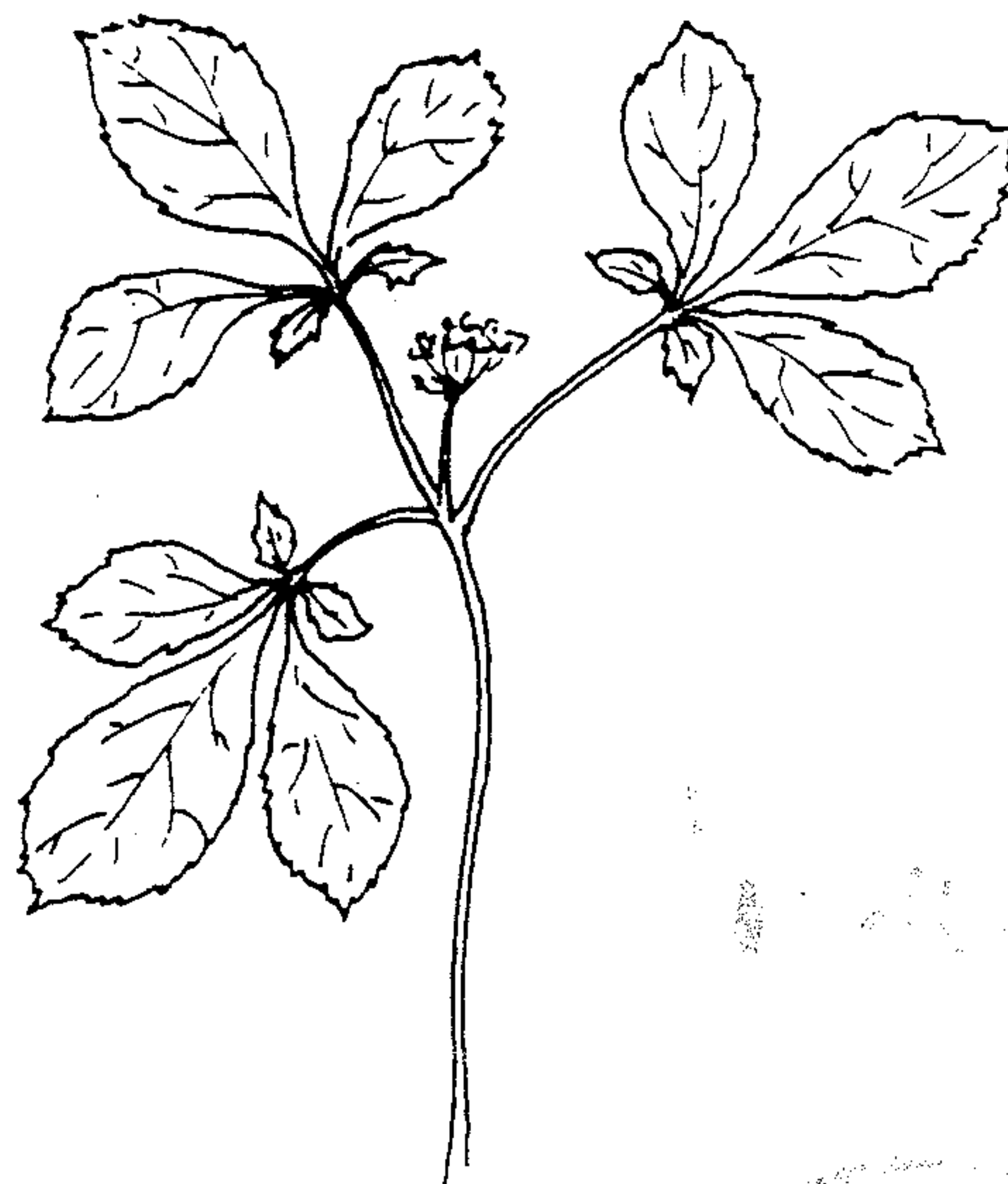


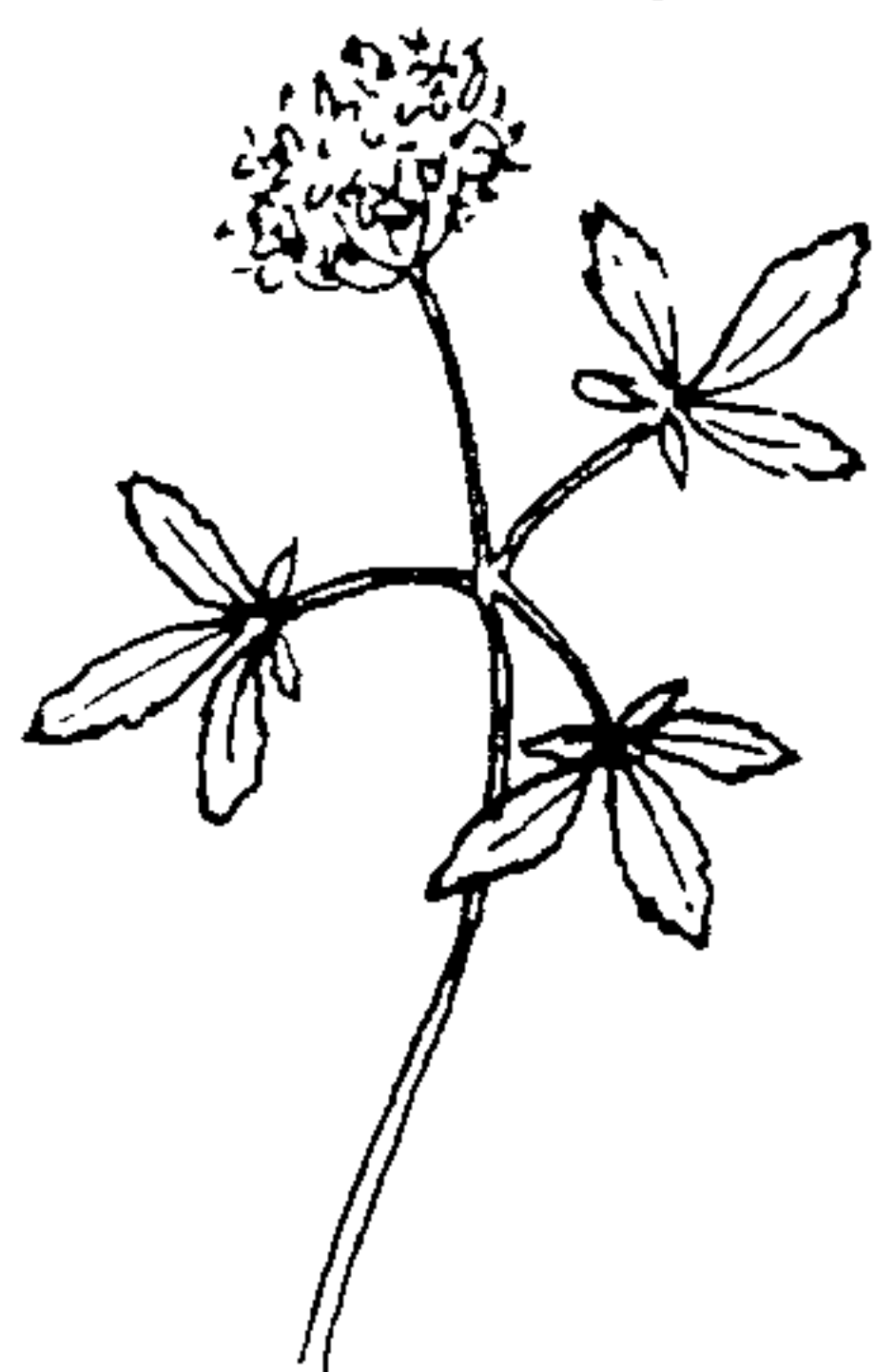
LOOK AGAIN !

It is probably safe to say that anyone who has botanized in the eastern mountains has made at least one conscious attempt at finding Ginseng. The search is made especially tantalizing by the knowledge that there are places where it grows in relative abundance--although perhaps known only to "sang diggers."

When present, the bright red berries make the task easier, but in summer the tiny greenish flowers are insignificant so usually it is the foliage that one must look for. Panax quinquefolius--to give it its scientific name--averages about 15 inches in height. Typically the stem terminates in a whorl of 3 long-stalked, palmately compound leaves each consisting of 5 stalked leaflets with toothed margins, the lowermost pair being conspicuously smaller than the rest. The flowers are borne in a stalked umbel.



P. QUINQUEFOLIUS



P. TRIFOLIUS

Dwarf Ginseng (P. trifolium) is common in the north but rather scarce in the southern mountains (but not because of any valuable properties). It is less than 8 inches tall, and its 3 to 5 leaflets are sessile. The flowers are white, crowded in a rounded umbel, and appear in early spring; they are followed by yellowish berries.

Dick Smith