

Pacific District,

L. BELDING, Supt.

American Ornithologists' Union.

Committee on Migration.

Dr. C. HART MERRIAM, Chairman.

San Diego Stockton, Cal., Apr 18 1884

Prof Serrus Watson
Cambridge Mass

Dear Sir I find in
Bull Leaf Acad Sci page 5 Prof A. N. S. Gray in note to *Veatchi cedrosensis* refers
to Mr Veatch as the first & perhaps still
the only botanical explorer of Cedros Is.
and he is quite likely correct - but I got a
few plants on that island in 1881 which were
forwarded to him from the Smithsonian & he
named them or rather identified them as well
as he was able from imperfect specimens -
Two were given by him as new species
viz *Penstemon brevifolius* and
Harveya parvifolia - The latter being a
shrub I believe with scarlet fuschia like
flower - I suppose the plants were returned
to the Smithsonian - Were the new species
ever published - If not I would like them
to be as soon as convenient - Please call
his attention to them - I write to you
because I learn he is well along in years &
is also very busy - besides I wish to ask
you if any of the ferns & the few other plants
collected in the Victoria Mts Southern Lower
leaf were returned to the Smithsonian - or
if you retained them - & if they were published
If you desire to publish them you are at liberty
to do so for not being a botanist I shall make

no use of them & I do not think Prof
Baile or other Authorities ^{of the San Francisco} will ever use
them —

I think the ^{your} identifications as returned
to me were incorrect in this

- The Delavayella, a fine species, ^{wrongly} was given as
Lepidaphylla with which I am well acq-
-ainted

My no. 7-8-9 were returned as Quercus
grisea whereas one of them was a fine
evergreen species of oak — The other
two were probably 2 grisea a good or
appropriate name for the deciduous oak
of that part of Lower Cal —

There is also a third very distinct species
of oak of which I could not find the
fruit - the leaves seeming to partake partly
of the nature of evergreen oaks & partly
of the deciduous - It is in high mts —

No one who has not attempted to get to
that high mt. region can appreciate the
value of a few plants from there even if
but fragments & it may be long before other
collectors will visit those mts

I carried all I got - in my note book for
with gun - ammunition - food - blankets &
bird skins - barometer - field glasses etc.
etc I was on my horse was loaded down —

When the specimens were sent you I was expected
to revisit the mts which I did but on different
spurs when I found a few different plants which
I left at the Cal Acad Sci & the fate of
these & all the plants I have collected promptly

This letter of enquiry — My trip to Cerros alone
cost me \$500 — My work is one of love — I mention
the cost only to say that I am not working for money
Yours Very Truly
L. Beeding



Belding, Lyman. 1884. "Belding, Lyman [to S. Watson] Apr. 18, 1884." *Asa Gray correspondence* 1-2.

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