

And June 14

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My dear friend.

Yesterday I had the pleasure of receiving the parcel on which You had spoken in Your last letter, containing Acta Acad. v. pars I., some smaller reports and the fine 'Lake Superior', which together with Silliman's Continuation forms one of the finest accessions to my library. For all this I thank You heartily and I wish to be soon in the position to prove my feelings by some worthy thing. For the moment I am exclusively occupied with the bot. Garden. A large glass building of 160,000^{ft} has been or is to be (partly) to erect in our Garden for receiving the exhibition for 1854. This has to begin 15 July and till that period not only the building but also the garden in its new features must be ready. I had planned 1852 a new plantation after a new series of orders; now I must make a new one. Many plants are dislocated very far, others - trees - are cut down. It is a sacrifice to my feelings brought in the hope of a great and general relief of the gnatcatcher, but now war is perhaps overrunning Europe, - and then? - what may be then the sort of the poor garden? Perhaps we arrive only in the mid of this great change. You may judge, any

dear friend, whether all this is fit for keeping me in high spirits and in an active correspondance.

On the other side when I hear from my excellent friend Asa Gray, I learn allways some things - he is allways full of spirit, penetration and ideas of "longue portée", therefore I dare wish, that you, for consolation will very soon give me farther and circumstantial news.

I hope, that fasc. XII. of the Flora (Urbicini. auctore Miguel) shall be or arrive soon to your hand. It was send to Roding 2 months ago. Now I am preparing Salicineae, Podostemeae, Polygoneae, Cheimodaeae. I was very much struck with Torreys previous observations on Batis, which proved, that I was in right, to distinguish them as an order. On account of its affinity I am doubtful. If you could once procure me good specimens of the plant (flower even in spirit or salt water) it would be very gratifying to me. In general I dare hope, that you may not forget - me if distributing plants. The south-western country is very little represented in my herbarium, and the accession of to my herbarium is quite the only fresh pleasure reaching me in the desert and sterile occupations of my manifold offices.

Pray, present my thanks to the Amer. Academy for the kind communication of Part V. of their Acta.



Martius, Karl Friedrich Philipp von. 1854. "Martius, Karl F. P. von Feb. 3, 1854."
Asa Gray correspondence. Senders McA-Ma

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