

Department of Agriculture,

Washington, D. C., May 14th, 1886.

Prof. Serrus Watson
Dear Sir

I am always pleased to see your
Chirography, even when in reply to a query of some
other person, as in the card of the 11th inst.

Last year I sent you a leaf of a *Rumex* which
had been sent from Texas or New Mexico, which I sup-
posed might be *R. hymenosepalus* Torr., but I then had no
flowers. I now send a leaf with a small branch of the
flower panicle and a few matured flowers. The difficulty
or at least one difficulty as to its identity is that, Dr. Torrey
in his description says root white while the root of this
is dark red. He also quotes Dr. Thurber for "foliage in-
tensely bitter", which is not applicable to our plant.
The root is used in New Mexico for tanning purposes.
it is thick and tuberos. When you write again please say
what you think of it.

I had a letter a short time ago from Mr. G. Loomis
making enquiry about grasses which he sent to me

in 1875, and which I according to his desire
divided with Dr. Gray. I made one new species
which I called *Poa Lemmonii*. It is of the *Sclerochloa*
section and should perhaps be called *Glyceria*.
Mr. Lemmon seemed a little anxious lest in the
coming volume of Cal. Botany his grasses should
not be sufficiently noticed. I replied to him that
I had sent Dr. Gray full half of all the grasses
he sent me and that whoever elaborated the grasses
for the Cal. Botany would probably have access to
them. I have given manuscript names to several
California species, in which however Prof. Thunberg
and others may disagree with me. I will especially
mention a *Gymnostichum* of my sons Collection which
I have called *G. Californicum*.

Yours truly
Geo. Vasey



Vasey, George. 1880. "Vasey, George May 14, 1880 [to S. Watson]." *George Vasey letters to Asa Gray*

View This Item Online: <https://www.biodiversitylibrary.org/item/268647>

Permalink: <https://www.biodiversitylibrary.org/partpdf/253444>

Holding Institution

Harvard University Botany Libraries

Sponsored by

Arcadia 19th Century Collections Digitization/Harvard Library

Copyright & Reuse

Copyright Status: Public domain. The BHL considers that this work is no longer under copyright protection.

License: <https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-nc-sa/4.0/>

This document was created from content at the **Biodiversity Heritage Library**, the world's largest open access digital library for biodiversity literature and archives. Visit BHL at <https://www.biodiversitylibrary.org>.