

New York Nov 18th 1854

My dear Doctor

Were it not that Doct. Torrey occasionally says that he "has a letter from Doct. Gray" I should have no evidence of the existence of that gentleman - Has he forgotten Thurber and his *Plantae novae*? - How long before the world will be enlightened by the appearance of the memoir? - I am now

quite broken into the routine of the assay office & have no reason to complain of either the tyranny of my chief or the portion of the auric which falls to my share.

I suppose that Doct. Torrey mentioned that Gray the Surveyor collected a bundle of snipes on his journey to explore the "Moonshine Rail Road" route - Such specimens! you would think those by Parry perfect monsters after seeing these. a considerable proportion of his collection is exceedingly valuable, being composed of apricots, Quince, Fig. Lucerne & other cultivated monstrosities - He seems at

lost to have the flowers of my nondescript
leguminosae. (441) Doct. L. says that you propose
to call it *Olneya* if agreeable to me - I cer-
tainly should be glad to have Cool Olney
genera-lized from my collection & if you
think he would be pleased with the genus
I hope you will let his name attach -
he has however always expected a visit
to be done into a Cyp. but I suppose he
would have to wait until he was nearly 40
before one would turn up - Lesotho, the specific
name you propose is applied to several hard-
woods, it is from the Spanish Leso. hard.
tough - Hard Olney! Tough Olney!! - He may
hardly be willing to be classed with Joe-Pag-
stocks yet - I send you a few flowers,
which screen all the stocks will afford,
for you herb - I enclose several little
bits for your decision - An Hosackia which
I cannot make out - A fragment of
Streptan thus, apparently yellow, from the
Oregon Int. New Mex - ~~this~~ This by the way is
my whole stock & a fair sample of the collection
A single specimen of a Fitzinger occurs without
any foliage - it has smaller flowers, shorter
pedicels & perfectly smooth fruit to distinguish

it from F. Wislizenii - but I suppose you will
consider it a variety of that species -
Am I right in putting down the Zygoph. as
Fraxinus Californica. Rather Bumelia Bot.?

Gray wishes a cutaneous of the plants for
his forthcoming book which is to be published
on private account & wishes 8 or 4 plates -
The new parasite will make one & I have
not concluded upon the others - do you think
the medium dignified enough to picture
the *Olneya*? - Please ascertain if Sprague can

make 3 or 4 drawings right away -
How come on the Berlandier plants, will there
be any chance for pickings among the os &
ends? - But I have already made more
? than will be looked upon with! - by answering
her botanist. you will much oblige

Very truly
George Thurber

P.S. I believe you have all my specimens of
the fruit of the *Olneya* - save me out one
or two good ones for my desk -



Thurber, George. 1854. "Thurber, George Nov. 18, 1854." *George Thurber letters to Asa Gray*

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