

Prof. Gray
Dr. Sir.

No doubt your time, like mine,
is constantly intruded upon by applications
for information, on points appertaining to
your favorite pursuits - With the admonition
of my own experience, to caution me against
pursuing such a course with others I cannot
refrain from taking your attention to
two or three queries - which are annexed
Query 1st - What is the Nat & Loc of the
No. 1. The Nut was obtained, by Mrs,
Gov^r Wood, either in Chile or on the Istmus
From it I have reared four plants, which
are thriving in my Green House - I have
not been able to ascertain its name
Query 2^d - What is the specific name of
the flower marked No 2. It proceeds from
a bulb, designated as "Sagrymus del Virgo"
an Allium I suppose - but I have not the
means of ascertaining its specific name.
Query 3^d - Would the *Berberis Darwinii*
and the *Paronia comalensis* stand

our northern winters - exposed in open ground?
The former I have now in flower & the latter I
reared from Neomexican seeds - Last Summer
it flowered freely & produced seed.

Lucy 4.th Has any one in your vicinity attempted to
obtain improved varieties of the *Diospyros Virg.* &
Asimina triloba? - The natural habits of the former I
have broken so effectually, that I have trees maturing
their fruits the whole season between the 20th of Sept
& the 1st of April - The fruit of one tree, is sweet,
edible & entirely freed from astringency by the 20th of Sept
a month before we can, here, experience any frost.

The size of the fruit has in no instance improved.
The *Asimina* I have not experimented with
but have seen it raised from seed by
other people -

Very truly Yrs
J. W. Kirtland



no 1

no 1



no 2



Kirtland, J. P. 1842. "Kirtland, Jared P. undated." *Asa Gray correspondence*

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