

Botanic Garden Cambridge May 30/85

By mail I have
sent Pl. Linch., pt. 2.
M.

My Dear Mr Wright

A few weeks ago I wrote you that I had just heard of the appointment of Mr Bartlett as Commissioner of the United States Survey of the boundary line of New Mexico. Some two or three weeks since I wrote to Professor Hensy of the Smithsonian Institution to procure for you a situation in this party. A little later I forwarded to you the Secretary of the Interior's letter which did not amount to much. I now send enclosed an original letter of the Commissioner himself which you see is very satisfactory and offers all the facilities that can reasonably be expected. On receipt of this letter I trust you will make no attempt to start before the Commissioner's party arrives at Laredo. As to funds I wrote to ask whether the Commissioner would take what I have for you. If you have not already drawn upon me do not attempt to draw, I will forward, either, the funds on a certificate of deposit in the Washington or New York banks by the Commissioner. You will go with that party to El Paso and then direct your movements according to circumstances. If you explore further west on the boundary line which will be well you must have a good understanding with Dr Parry who you will remember was surgeon and botanist under Emory.

As he does not collect for subscribers there will be no difficulty in this. By going on west to the boundary of California you might get an opportunity of reaching the Great Salt Lake through a novel region next Spring. The distribution of your sets the highest number is 828. This runs through my set Torrell's on Smithsonian. The *Penstemons* which I pay for is 680, *Harvey's* 690, *Hooker's* 650, *Heuchers* 644, *D. Greene's* 631, (as he advanced 500 this leaves only 138 coming from him), *British Museum* 519 - *Nuttall* 453 (These two last are not engaged but I hope they will take them, I shall carry them abroad for the purpose) A set I have offered to Durand contains 498. As he bought a former *Repar* collection from you which contains many of the same things and has also *Lindheimers*, I have written to him offering this set for 408. Should he decline I shall try to dispose of it abroad for 508 but there will be some expenses. In the distribution I have used those collected between Salvestre and San Antonio where they held out well, also I have used the *Pico Grande* plants and ^{also} the old collection. Hereafter do not send those collected in Texas or any formerly collected as they deteriorate your sets every one of our subscribers have them from *Lawrence* and *Lindheimers* before. It was not well thought of to send that *Texas* bundle, as they are of no use, except that I have used a few to make out other sets. For the rest - *Torrey's* set 433 specimens, when the ^{new} *specimens* come about his are always scraps; those go against his paper &c. To Engelman I have sent a number of *Diagnoses* and plants which I want him to study. *DeCandolle's* set amounts to 410 specimens, these I have offered to him as you proposed in exchange for the *Woodwards*, I shall bundle up the other *Texas* plant remains here and send to.

De Candolle with them I have no time to label them now
but must do that at intervals of leisure while I am
at Geneva this Summer The above enumerated to the old
your collection Supernumeraries of interesting plants are
thrown into my set from which specimens can be taken
hereafter for yourself If Desand, Webb, and the Brit Mus.
take the sets saved for them they will all be off our hands at
once I sent by private hand some of the earlier numbers
numbers of the set and home to Bentham and have got the
returns of the Leguminosae, which I asked him to elaborate;
they have much novelty and interest I have little time to
reply to your letter of April 10th; you cannot fail to get
the paper and the flora now; if you can answer this, it
shall be across the water but you can continue writing
to me by enclosing to Professor Joseph Henry Secretary of
the Smithsonian Institution at Washington as he knows
my address and will forward me While you are in
the field you can send small parcels such as seeds &c
through the Commissioner to Washington whence Prof Henry will
forward to me by the Despatch bag to the American Minister at
London It will probably be better to write through Henry than
through Sullivan; and all the funds which I shall get in
London, which I can't advance you before I go, I will send
to him for you I hope to get new subscribers abroad for
you, Thiers for Sullivan would recd him for Washington or
from New Orleans perhaps better; He should write you, do
not depend too much on Agassiz It is quite impossible
to get him to give names, and drawings of shells &c which you send
to him; he is overwhelmed with work Sullivan, I think,
must have written to you; but whether or not you can always
depend on him; he will always pay well for collections of masses

when they come to hand I have sent him all the mosses of the
 last collection, very few indeed; also I have sent all the Lichens
 down to Turkermans room; he is still abroad.
 Copy of account as it now stands in my Book.

Dr.

Cr.

May 5, 1849.

Charges on plants & books from Texas -
 via N. H. & N. Y. to Cambridge -

\$ 7.40

July 19. Paid on box from Harvard (Lichens)

2.30

Oct. 29. " Draft (Baker)

150.00

Jan 1. 1850. Postage on Catalogue

1.40

Feb 9. " On Coll. of plants from Texas -

10.00

" 19. Paper & other things sent by

27.75

Bank Nt. N. York (assured)

April 1. Paid for publications sent, for Lichens

4.14

binding of Flora

.50

" 30 Expenses on package of plants fr. Texas.

3.38

May 20 Printing labels for sets

6.00

\$ 212.87

May 1849

Proceeds of seeds in box of

May 5. (Box sent) \$ 7.00

July 25. Cash (receipt) from Mr.

2.30

Truckee, for Lichens

Oct. 1849. Cash from the

150.00

Smithsonian Inst.

20.00

May 1. 1850. Bot. Garden for seeds

100.00

April 1. Receipt of J. A. Lowell

68.00

May 28. Bentham's set

\$ 347.30

When I write, I will advance for Fielding \$ 64.00
 & perhaps Henry \$ 9.00.

Yours very truly

A. Gray



Gray, Asa. 1850. "Gray, Asa May 30, 1850." *Charles Wright correspondence with Asa Gray*

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