

355 Commonwealth Avenue, Boston, Mass.

January 24th, 1922.

My dear Dr. Powell:

Your letter of the thirteenth January arrived this morning. It is surely good news to know that additional specimens of your valued collection are on the way. When they reach me I will acknowledge them promptly.

This morning I sent off to you a box of mounting paper, some felt driers, news-paper folders in which to lay out specimens between the driers, and some corrugated boards to place among drying specimens. These boards act as ventilators and we find that specimens dry much better when they are used. The news-paper folders we find simplify the transference of drying specimens. We arrange the specimens in the folders and do not touch them again until the material is dry. This method protects the specimens as they do not have to be handled each time a shift is made from wet to dry driers. In another package I mailed to you this morning a tube of the surgeon's plaster that we use in attaching specimens to the sheets. In the same package I enclosed some pockets of different sizes. In mounting specimens it is best to run the strips across the leaves. If simply anchored by the margins they are very apt to come up or get damaged. With your permission I will replace the plaster you used with the material that is now standard here. Furthermore, I will keep you supplied with any amount you want.

I am keeping your collection together as a special set. Later I will have a special case made to hold it. I know that this plan will meet with your approval and some day I hope it will be possible to show you the results.

I am sending you a couple of mailing tubes that



I had in the house. A dozen or more will be forwarded to you in the course of a day. About 6cc. formaline to 100 cc. <sup>70% or 50%</sup> alcohol makes the best solution for our purposes. Or you can send the material in the weak formaline solution and we will add the necessary alcohol here. If small flowers are put in little gauze bags and tagged several kinds can be safely placed in a bottle. We also find that if the liquid, if alcohol is used in the mixture, is poured mostly off the specimens keep perfectly well for many days. Any of the more common species will be welcome. Dr. Standley wants the species figured that one is most likely to meet in an ordinary trip through the country. New species, of course, must receive attention also.

Another copy of the paper on Panaman orchids has been forwarded to you. The book by Dr. Willis has been ordered. This, if it is in stock, should reach you shortly after this letter.

My work on the Central American orchids is now in full swing so that anything you send will be most welcome and very useful!

I have not heard from Dr. Schlechter for several weeks. I am afraid he is very human. By this time he ought to be on his way to Vienna, if he is not already there, and in that event we may not receive messages from him for some time.

If you get good material of Selenipedium ohica why not write it up for the Orchid Review. I know that Mr. Wilson, the new editor, is very anxious to get interesting material and he will welcome first hand information regarding the orchids of Panama.

With the best of good wishes,

Yours faithfully,

Oakes Ames.





Ames, Oakes. 1922. "Ames, Oakes Jan. 24, 1922 [to C.W. Powell]." *Oakes Ames Orchid Herbarium correspondence files*

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