

355 Commonwealth Avenue, Boston, Mass. March 24th, 1922.

My dear Mr. Powell:

My long silence is explained, of course, by my knowledge of the fact that you were absent from home. I am delighted to know that you are again among your orchids and that I may expect to hear from you as frequently as you are disposed to write to me.

The five specimens of orchids reached me in good condition and have been added to your other specimens. It is needless to inform you that all material is welcome and awaited with intense interest.

I am glad that the little book by Willis is just what you wanted. I have found it one of the best botanical desk-books that has been published, and I know that you will enjoy possessing it.

I read the copy of Schlechter's letter with deep interest. What he says about your contribution to orchidology is ~~time~~ I would add to the list of notable achievements, however, the collection made by Chaplain Clemens on Mt Kinabalu. You have a record of this in the sixth volume of my Orchidaceae.

Schlechter has recently returned from Vienna. While there, he made for me about two hundred drawings from Reichenbachian types. During the work he froze his feet. He must have worked under very trying conditions!

Use your own judgement about the preparation of specimens. I realize the difficulties in your way, and the impossibility of supplying parts of the vegetative system of the species when the plants are too small to warrant division.

I have booked passage for England on June 28th. I want to consult some types at Kew and I also want to have a go at the Reichenbach herbarium. In this regard you will be interested to learn



that the authorities at Vienna are putting aside for me , as far as is possible, duplicates of Reichenbach's types. So you see, we will have right here a very helpful nucleus of the critical species that have been difficult to understand because of Reichenbach's atrocious descriptions and slovenly work. With the tracings made by Schlechter, the photographs and drawings I intend to make at Vienna this summer, and with the specimens sent to me in exchange, we ought to be able to get on pretty well.

Vol. 7 of Orchidaceae comes out on April 5th. A copy will be forwarded to you at once.

Keep me informed of your needs. It is so simple to get materials for you.'

A column with anther etc. of *Cattleya Deckeri* in formalin solution will be very helpful. I have used one of your specimens to illustrate this species, but the column needs to be drawn from material that is as near natural condition as possible. A lip too, would help.

Dont forget to study colony formation of orchids in the light of mycorrhiza.

Would you be interested in Knudson's recent publication on the germination of orchids by means of nutrient solutions. Perhaps you would be pleased to try your hand at raising orchids from seeds in your garden.

Yours faithfully,

Oakes Amer.





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

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