

355 Commonwealth Avenue, Boston, Mass. December 26, 1923.

My dear Mr. Powell:

I suppose you are laboring under the impression that I am forgetful of your existence. The truth is, I have been busy keeping abreast of my work and driven pretty hard by the numerous duties that are mine to attend to. On top of everything, Schlechter's Costa Rican paper came in. I have been much perplexed by this publication and I imagine it will take the better part of the winter to assimilate and digest its numerous proposals. I hope this Costa Rican venture puts an end to Schlechter's Central American efforts for some time to come.

I sent off to the mounter the greater part of your "field specimens", last week. Among them was the *Scaphyglottis* in which you are interested. I will have the specimens in hand again in another week, and then I will give my undivided attention to this genus until your questions are answered and your mind is put at rest. I cannot leave this subject without telling you that your specimens will make a creditable showing in the herbarium and that they are a source of great joy to me. Some of the specimens are perfect examples of herbarium technique and I am sure that you can keep up with the best of the leaders. I am overjoyed to have the different localities represented and to know that you are working conscientiously in my interests. Surely I have in hand the best collection of Panama orchids that exists. If you keep at work, there will be no hope for future rivals.

I am afraid we must change *Epidendrum brevicaulis* to *Epidendrum Schlechterianum*. Schlechter published an earlier species under this name, therefore it is untenable for the Panama species. Kindly take notice, but refrain from using the new name until it is published in Sched. Orch. 7.

Your unnamed *Maxillaria* specimens have come in and I intend to work on them at once. The *Epidendrum* mentioned in your postcard has not arrived. I imagine the Christmas mail has been pretty irregular.

In your letter of the 10th, November, you refer to a *Stenorhynchus* species on which you asked for a report. I cannot place this. What was the number. The only specimen in your set is 300, on which I reported last summer. (Cf. Sched. Orch. 6, p. 8.). I don't remember having sent any unnamed *Stenorhynchus* to be mounted and I cannot in the wilderness of bottles you have created, locate the specimen without a number.

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343. I am calling *Polystachya Powellii* sp. nov.

In your letter of the fifth December, you refer to your plans for another expedition. When I send you your next check, and I expect to get this off tomorrow, I will feel that I have for the present taxed my capacity in the way of orchid-financing. If by the middle of January, I can see my way clear to do so, I might send you an additional one hundred to help out on the trip to Veraguas Province, over and above the regular \$200. that comes due in the course of our agreement.

How about Cana? Williams got things there that I have not seen since. He got that big *Pleurothallis praegrandis* there that I described in Sched. Orch. An enormous plant, and the only specimen is in the New York Bot. Gard. Herbarium. I am figuring this in Sched. Orch. 7 which I held up on the receipt of Schlechter's paper. (This number, by the way, ought to go to press any day now. I am still waiting for the plates of *Pleurothallis* before printing.).

Yours faithfully,

Oakes Ames

Cf. your letter of November 6.
Lockhartia. The top one is the best match for
Reichenbach' *L. Oerstedii*.



Ames, Oakes. 1923. "Ames, Oakes Dec. 26, 1923 [to C.W. Powell]." *Oakes Ames Orchid Herbarium correspondence files*

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