

AUGUST 24th, 1923

My dear Lankester:

Maxon came to my laboratory on the 18th August. He shared with me many of the pleasant memories he brought home from his brief visit to you. His remarks about the opportunities for telling discoveries in the vicinity of Cartago made me restless, and my expressions of regret at our not having stimulated the interests of collectors in Costa Rica touched a very tender spot in his attitude toward the future. It is highly probable that Mr. Standley will make concentrated efforts to extend our knowledge of the flora of your more prominent mountains and that he will begin his work early next winter. In fact we are now convinced that no delay should be suffered.

Powell is diligent. His indefatigable zeal is one of the joys in my contemplation of Central American orchidology. His specimens are often works of art. I assure you that for a self-trained worker in the technic of the herbarium he has made startling progress. I want to make his collection a creditable memorial to his enthusiasm.

I enclose one of the labels that I had printed for your Costa Rican set. I have five hundred of these labels. When may I expect the pleasure of ordering another supply?

I am afraid that my boyish enthusiasm must seem to you inordinately intense, but I take courage in the thought that you have experienced similar enthusiasm among those fluttering things that seem to rival the orchids in beauty of color-patterns. The collector's spirit, whether the hobby centers in plants or animals is specifically the same and the victims of it understand each other.

Your specimens have arrived from Washington. They made my day cheerful to the end. I wished there were more. But if you had sent ten times as many, I would still say that.

The *Masdevallia* sent in your letter of Aug. 1st. is surely *M. Reichenbachiana*. I did not boil up the flower and will wait for more material before attempting a sure diagnosis. It hurts to mutilate anything in the category of unicity.

When may I expect the specimens that Jimenez has in hand? Now is the time to get this material under the lens.

With the best of good wishes,
Yours faithfully,

Massachusetts Men's League for Woman Suffrage

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