

North Easton, Mass. August 4th, 1924.

My dear Lankester:

Your welcome letter of the 18th July has just come in. I realized when I saw the Costa Rican stamp, that I have been a most delinquent correspondent of late, but the summer time is in my bones, and I do very little beside farming. Botanical work has been sadly neglected since early June. My friends have been neglected for a longer time. I suppose it is a wholly human attribute to put aside the more serious side of life, when the mind and body have been pushed too hard.

When the camera arrives I shall give it close attention. You will be interested to learn that I made another effort about a month ago to secure the necessary slides, but failure resulted. The manufacturers do not make slides of the type you use, and I have been unable to find an equivalent in any of the shops. The photographs are really good. They make me wish that you would attempt to make some lantern-slides of the epiphytic orchids at home. Last spring when I gave a lecture of tropical orchids, I was unable to find any good material for lantern-slide illustrations. Undoubtedly you can help me in this fascinating work and at the same time turn out some plates for half-tone illustrations in any work we may do jointly on



the orchidology of some selected region. You will remember that we have discussed this subject in earlier letters.

I am unable to identify your *Pleurothallis* at this time. When I pick up the threads of my work again in Boston, I shall report on it. I have a long list of determinations for you. I would have sent them long ago, but I fully expected to get out the Sched. Orch. that is to contain the descriptions of your new species, in June. Now I must wait until the fall of the year when I take up the serious side of life once again. Several months ago you took me up on the determination of a *Pleurothallis* that you thought was a member of *Cryptophoranthus*. I shall not go into this matter now, but, the determination I gave you is correct in so far as it is the species described by Reichenbach from Cuba. Reichenbach may have made a mess of the genus, but that fact does not change the identity of your species.

I expected to report on your *Utricularia* before this, but I did not put it before the proper authorities before the summer vacation began. I have it in mind, and I shall give you the name in the autumn.

Standley's box of gems has arrived, but like everything else, it must remain covered until the leaves begin to turn.

Yours always faithfully,

Oakes Ames





Ames, Oakes. 1924. "Ames, Oakes Aug. 4, 1924 [to C.H. Lankester]." *Oakes Ames Orchid Herbarium correspondence files*

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