

225 Bay State Road, Boston, Massachusetts. January 24, 1925

My dear Lankester:

To describe my position to-day by a good old New England term, I am snow-bound. Yesterday winds of gale force drove a heavy fall of snow into huge drifts so that this morning we look out on a white city. In places the ground shows, that would be where the wind had a full sweep, but twenty feet away the drifts will measure four or five feet in depth, quite impassable by automobiles.

I am wondering what you thought of the fourth number of the third volume of Botanical Museum Leaflets. Are you able to recognize the Lankester numbers from the plates? It is extremely difficult to interpret Stelis flowers from any kind of material and during the process of reconstruction long drawn out arguments take place between the artist and the taxonomist. We actually made two plates of S. Storkii before we were satisfied, and I assure you the lips differ from flower to flower and during the process of accidental drying on the microscope stage. I hope we are doing a little to amuse you and that you have occasion to feel that we are not altogether foolish.

Another long paper of Central American

Epidendrum is now on the press. I think you will find this paper illuminating. The key to Epidendrum has been completed and will, I hope, be published promptly.

Stelis glossula is still much desired. What is the history of this species. You informed me in one of your letters that flowers had been placed in alcohol for me, but as yet I have not received them. I hope this is simply the result of Lankesterian procrastination and is not the result of an accident to the bottle in transit. If we are to understand *Stelis* at all, it must be through living or alcoholized flowers. Every study from such material is a distinct contribution to systematic botany. You can do so much to help this work!

With all good wishes,

Sincerely yours,

Charles D. C. Jones

C. H. Lankester,
Cartago, Costa Rica.



Ames, Oakes. 1935. "Ames, Oakes Jan. 24, 1935 [to C.H. Lankester]." *Oakes Ames Orchid Herbarium correspondence files*

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