



B. L. ROBINSON, Curator

CAMBRIDGE, MASSACHUSETTS, U. S. A.

29 Oct. 1908.

Dear Dr. Kennedy

Thank you cordially for your kindness in looking out the occurrence of *proēra* in the Manual. I will see to it that these places are annotated for correction.

I am sorry to say I do not know the rule of Andrews & Stoddard regarding *cēra*. I fail to find, in a hurried search, any similar rule or exception in Harkness' grammar or in Allen & Greenough's.

In accenting such words as *brachycera* I have supposed that the quantity of the *e* would be infallibly determined by the fact that it was from a Greek *e* not from an *η*. I note that other Latin derivatives of *κέρας* such as *cēratina*, *cēratias*, etc., are marked as having the *e* short in Andrews's Latin lexicon. On the other hand derivatives of *cēra*, wax, naturally have the *e* long.

The case of *Lonicera* is of course quite different and has no classical analogy, since the plant was named for the herbalist Adam Lonitzer. Dr. Gray in his later years used to throw the accent back to the antepenult in such names as *Palmeri*, *Neuchera*, etc., although he made the *o* and a long in such names as

Claytoni and Benthani. On observing several inconsistencies in this matter, it seemed to me that it would be best to follow English and Continental usage and treat such doubtful penultimate vowels as long, except in such cases as Cambigi, Pringbi, and the like, where the penultimate vowel may perhaps be considered as a part of the ending rather than of the stem. The name Lonicera was accented on the penult in pursuance of this somewhat arbitrary rule, just as Listera, Henchera, Palmieri, etc. have been treated as possessing long penultimate vowels. The matter is one which I have never seen discussed in detail and one is therefore forced to determine rules for his own guidance as he goes along.

I learn that my mother, who is now nearly ninety, is failing rapidly and I am in hourly expectation of a telegram which will call me out to Illinois.

With kindest regards, I am

Very truly yours,

B. L. Robinson.

J. G. G. Kennedy.



Robinson, Benjamin Lincoln. 1908. "Robinson, Benjamin L. 27 Oct 1908."
George Golding Kennedy correspondence

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