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W. G. WRIGHT, Amateur Botanist, and Collector of

PALMS, YUCCAS, CACTI, LILIES, FERNS, RARE DESERT PLANTS, MEDICINAL HERBS,

AND SEEDS OF TREES, SHRUBS, AND FLOWERS.

H ✓  
San Bernardino, Cal. Nov 28 1880.

Dear Sir

Your kind letter duly received. I ought to have written you sooner, but have been very busy, & everything in the pass business collapsed so suddenly that nothing more was to be said on that subject.

Dr Parry was with me when your note announcing refusal was received: we had that day been over to see the Parish Bros: & <sup>on the way home</sup> he had kindly volunteered to suggest that he would try & get one passed, along with himself, when he went to Arizona, (he is endeavoring to get a pass, from Gov. Stanford), in the winter or spring; & that of course

opened my mouth, & I told him of the effort then being made to get a pass for me; & he was greatly pleased, & planned all the way home what good times we would have in Arizona; & that same evening I got your card! Parry was sitting in the big rocking chair when I got home, & I handed him the card without saying a word: he read it, & sat a long time in silence, for he was sadly disappointed. Presently he looked up & said "Where does that place Lemmon?" as he was granted a pass upon request <sup>from</sup> ~~of~~ the same source. But Redding personally helped Lemmon.

Tell it's all ~~over~~, I suppose. The only resource left that I know of, is to secure political influence - these Railroad magnates

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fear neither God, man nor the  
S-l, but they do bow to  
political power, & omit nothing  
to curry favor in that quarter.  
They are also courteous to  
other railroads; but the idea  
that "the laws of the State, &  
their own strict rules prevent",  
is the most transparent bosh.

Perry is now in San Francisco,  
but will be here "early in  
December" to stay some months.

I am glad to know that you  
are getting on with your fern book;  
I must have a copy. Probably  
you know much more about the  
"reproduction" of ferns than I do, yet  
I will briefly recount my own  
success in raising young ferns from

seed, or spores. In Sept. 1879  
I found *Woodsia Oregana*, & *Crypt.  
acrostichoides*, & took them home, &  
planted perhaps a dozen bunches of roots  
of each, separately in a box  $14 \times 20$ , &  
 $5\frac{1}{2}$  deep, & covered the boxes with a  
framework containing glass, after the  
manner of a Wardian case; the roots  
nearly all died, one after another,  
till only 3 *Woodsias*, & 4 or 5 *crypt.*  
were left alive - these continue  
growing yet. Well, sometime this  
last summer, say June or July, I  
first noticed a fine, moss-like  
green vegetation all over the *Woodsia*  
ground, & believed it to be some kind  
of moss - later however, as the fronds  
began to enlarge, I saw that it was  
a carpet of young ferns! They are  
all doing finely - many of the  
little fronds being nicely fruited.  
The *Woodsias* do much the best -  
more plants having started, than of  
the *crypt.* These young ferns all

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must have come from the ferns that died. The cryp. does not produce fertile fronds in the box.

With regard to the "Pellaea". I showed Parry a good many samples, but he expressed no decided opinion. Probably you know from Prof Eaton my own experience with it:— I found it a month or two before the Parishs & sent various specimens to Eaton— everything from a single frond at first to the living plant at last, & he, after a long delay, wrote— "I must call your new fern a dense form of *P. Wrightiana*." I added in P.S., "You ought to be content, as it is Wrightian already". Just at that time I

saw the Parishos, & they said  
you had also so named the  
plant for them.

Now it may be *Wrightiana*: I  
don't profess to be wiser than  
yourself:— I can say however  
that in several respects it is very  
much alone:— it never varies or  
runs into other forms:— it grows  
naturally & best  
at an altitude (9000 ft.) at which  
no *ornithopus* or *Wrightiana* ever  
is seen; and its habit & manner  
& time of growth are entirely different  
from any other. Only a week  
ago Mr. Van Stout of N.Y. wrote  
me asking for specimens of it,  
& I sent him all the rooted  
ones I had. He said he believed  
it a new species. By the way,  
he also said he thought the "Scaly  
fern" was neither a *Fendleri* nor  
a *myriophylla*, but also a new sp.

Yours truly

W. G. Wright



Wright, W. G. 1880. "Wright, William G. Nov. 28, 1880." *George Edward Davenport correspondence*

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