

Albion Febr 15 1850

Dear Doctor included I send you Cartagene; perhaps too full but nevertheless not superfluous I hope. I wish you would abbreviate what you think necessary; but as these plants are so little known yet in regard to flowers, fruit etc., I have been on purpose a little full about them; why all the systematic classifications of the species are as artificial as can be, relying on the form of spines etc.

I have received Lindheimer's collection. A few good things, the balance only old species, but in very fine specimens, so *Quercus tortifolia*, *Cassia Acuminata* ^{discolor} etc etc. — I think we should class the new ones at once, so as to prevent any Scheeleing. I shall send you very soon your set, and seeds, which are copious; — meanwhile I have examined a few: your *Trepocarpus* var. which is certainly very different and probably a new genus, a new *Fedia*, a new *Passiflora* a beautiful *Echites*, which I had to examine to class it, for I did not know where it belonged! —

The boxes must be in your hands now, hope the living plants as well as the dried are safe.

Dr Wislizenus' departure has thrown more pressure on my hands. I can hardly work 2 hours in daylight — and those very frequently interrupted; my best time is from 8 or 9 p.m. till 12 — But I will tell you how I shall proceed now:

I shall first go through *Compositae* of Lindheimer, and make the notes you want, together with those his last collection may suggest.

Then I will again look through the *Ranunc - Valerian.* of 1849 and give you any notes you may want.

Select your set of dry plants as well as seeds. —

Cuscuta will have to come then.

Meanwhile I have to finish the geography of Lindh. Botany ground which would be a work of two hours for one on the ground, but for me will be very laborious, as I have to examine all Lindh's letters in that respect etc. —

My letter of Jan 30th you must have received by this time. I am sorry if my notes should not have come in time for the printing — but I could not prepare them sooner. — Botany I can only cultivate in leisure hours and they are not plentiful. These collections & distributions give me a great deal of trouble and cost a great deal of time. —

Collector for Smithsonian Institution. In those two boxes are (together with those sent to Short, Hillebrand & Durand) the best sets of Lindheimer's collections, — but they have already their destination, if any of the subscribers should refuse, then the set might be laid aside for Smithsonian. I am very sorry that I did not know any thing about this sooner; they must take for the present our inferior set but I will get Lindheimer to collect a very full set for them in future. —

I have told you that Lindheimer intends collecting largely, and all the common plants — every thing — fine specimens — and sell for \$4 or 5 in Europe — those coll. would be well also for Smithsonian Institute etc. — All the new or rare plants I would retain for a continuation of the \$8 collections, the others I intend to send at once, without taking any trouble myself with them, to Esslingen for distribution, but we must send a Catalogue along so that no such blunders as Scheele's occur again, at least where we can help it. — The plan I believe is good for Lindheimer's pockets, which are very empty, if revolutions and wars in Europe do not interfere. — Some sets probably will also be sold here. — I shall retain a full set and send you one. —

I have a very full and fine set of Gay's plants, about 300 species (Illinoenses) which are at the service of the Smithsonian Inst. — Of the old sets of M. Lindh. there may be a few yet in Prof Braun's hands I have none left. — Of the new collection I have still have all the sets distributed for Germany, of which some with about 350 spec. are not yet taken — but I see that I have sent you already a set. (31.) with 359 specimens. — The lowest sets are 3/15 the fullest about 460. — In future the Smith. Inst. shall get one of the best sets of all the coll. that pass through my hands. —

The sets are carefully made, so as to supply where it was possible the missing numbers of the old sets of the same number, so you find for example Krameria only in the sets nos 1-9 in Fascic I; in 10-12 in Fascic II, and in 13-40 in Fascic III because it was at first not collected in sufficient number and afterwards supplied. — It is necessary therefore to avoid confusion that each subscriber should get the same number set with the same number of first and second coll. —

I have not had time to look out Lowell's account with me I have been a little neglected in these things but shall have them in better order afterwards. — I shall see by and by how we stand.

Wiley just sent me a bill for a few books — I shall head up my account with him, when I get at Lowell's and include to you a letter for him.

I have not got Agaric Embryol. — Mails most miserable now!

Febr. 15. 1850.

So you will go to Europe! To Germany also?
How long do you expect to stay?

I shall have Hooker's Curatorial ready at all events — that is to say, if not entirely done with them, I shall notwithstanding send the off. I feel ashamed that I have kept them so long here and from him.

As to your being without children, you may yet follow our example; my wife had her first child after ^{being married} 3 years, which soon died, the second was born 4 years after the first (2½ years since) and no prospect for a third yet. — This boy, a fine healthy robust fellow of 2 years 7 month gives us a great deal of pleasure at present and hope for the future; he is of a serious disposition, fond of work, of employment, inquisitive & thoughtful, without being precocious at all. — But why talk in such a manner to one who having no similar feelings may only smile at what he takes for ^{a too common} the weakness of parents!! —

at sea voyage, a stay at one of the effervescent chalybeate springs in Germany or perhaps better than all a voyage over the prairies (!) may have the desired effect. —

You eastern men ridicule us, consider us not much better than barbarians, if we send invalids (I don't mean you now, of course — but mentioning the prairies reminds me of it) out in the plains and mountains, exposed to all the hardships of such a voyage, for their health!! Nevertheless the results are often wonderful. but of course not every invalid would be benefited.

over

I shall soon have to write again

Very truly yours

I forgot to mention that Dr. C. H. Schultz, "Bisop," as he calls himself, the Compositeur — ^{man} has sent me for you & Torrey some diplomas, ^{his portrait} and some pamphlets; he wants all the Compositeurs to send to him etc etc. I don't know him personally, but from his letter he must be a vain presumptuous person though probably not without scientific acquirements. I shall send the things with Dr. Thos. plants.

Please to send at once (probably best as a letter) the
pages of Bot. Journ., containing my Cart., as soon as
printed to

Prince Saluti Dyck

at Dyck
near Neuß
Rhenish Prussia

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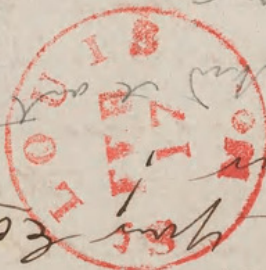
Prof. Asa Gray

Cambridge
Mass

Dear Sir - with much interest I have
received your letter of the 10th inst.

I have your letter of the 10th inst.

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If Fendler's sheets (page 49-53) could be sent in the same way
I should be much pleased. - He is publishing now a new catalogue
of his collection with notes etc. - and these data would be
desirable. - Lindl. ought to get a copy of Pl. Fendl. also. -
Among the new plants are full number of Ciss. filipendula
and of another white leaved species



Engelmann, George. 1850. "Engelmann, George Feb. 15, 1850." *George Engelmann letters to Asa Gray*

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