

3003 Locust Street.

St. Louis, Mo., July 25 1878

Bletia aphylla, Missouri, J W Letterman; lip with longitudinal purple lines and folds or ridges; flower 10 lines long.

Bumelia No mention is made of sharpis of stamens
being opposite to petals, which is urged in *Bimular*.

The above was written 10 or 12 yrs ago.
The heart has unmoved my wife and
I will have to build her up on the
shores of Lake Superior. We leave July 21st.
Don't know, whether much botany will
come up there — but then, there is
always something to see, if the eyes
are kept open.

A Mr Douglas of Illinois, nursery man
(associated with Sargent and with Meeker)
has sent me many seedling *Conifers*, and
I find what I suspected from my Colorado
examinations, the cotyledons of *Menziesii* - *Perrinii*
serriulate on the keel, like *exelsa*, while *Canbyi*
like *alba* & *nigra* has a smooth, entire keel. Now
I want to see Cetyl. ^{seedling} of the *Perrinii* for *Menziesii*!
If only somebody had it! Can not Sargent
be induced to raise it?

Here turns up a nice dist. of Abies &
Picea in the cotyledons: Abies flat 
Picea compressed, keeled  - but how is
nobilis & magnifica - how Menziesii
and albertiana?

I find from a memorandum that H. Bracon
years ago pointed out, how Murray, Parton

and others were wrong in ascribing to the
Meyersii Group stamens on the lower side. And
indeed it is singular, to convince oneself that
they are on the upper side! Look at a spray
of Alouqueana which Sargent can give you,
and you will have to look twice and three
times before you are satisfied. Look also at the
curious twist of the woody base of the leaves
of the lower side. Murray figures this twist
without understanding it.

I write particularly to tell you that
before I leave, I return your Murray ^{Japan}
with thanks.

After a number of failures to send
living Agave to Brown and DeBary, I
succeeded last fall by picking it in the mud,
on which it grew. A few buds retained life and
DeBary writes that it ^{now} grows as the most luxuriant
weed over tanks, pools, even in watering pots.

Did I tell you that Hoopes has sent
me Pinus Bungeana living with young cones?
George will always forward me letters
sent here, but you might write direct
to Houghton, Michigan



Engelmann, George. 1878. "Engelmann, George July 25, 1878." *George Engelmann letters to Asa Gray*

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