

Dear Sir June 23. Philad. April 23. 1841
In regard to *Bolandiera*, I say that without other means of comparison, I did
not suspect that it was the same genus with my *Siphonostoma*, made out before I ever saw your
^{as this ought to have been mentioned in my paper}
Ms., however, — for, on examining my very singular looking *Siphon subacule* (collected
as you well know by Ware in Florida) I found the achenia to be without margin. I then
naturally enough examined the other cognate species, and referred them accordingly — but
certainly without any aid from your Ms. I did not travel out of the second, I
merely examined the Siphonines for a congener with my *S. subacule*.

Then, a fairis, my old Arkansas plant collected as you will know in 1819
22 years ago. with the aspect of a Silphium or some of the characters of a Pan-
therium, was also described as named, as considered as a distinct genus
from its first discovery by me. — this I gave up, at once, to Mr. Gray —
b. Silphiumia as named after a very deserving botanist.

- it was his Eupatorium, & name given to it by
I am not aware that Aster filaginefolius was a suggestion of
as the source from I have not the smallest objection to allow it
Yours, - It was described in Beechey's Voyage Suppl. we read it over together, I and
my own judgment on the occasion. It was self-evident from the peculiar asperil-
liform stipules they mention that something like Coneostegia was there described. I
now, however, more than suspect that there but one species, whatever that
may be. one of them is winter restifis, & the other the more perfect plant
the perfect plant being glutinous I referred it to Lindley's Diplopappus in view
of your former opinion, for tho' the name filagine is a bad one.

the perfect flower of
as I am still of the same opinion, for tho' the male organ is
allowing for distinction by cultivation it may yet be the same. — You now
say, that D.C. plant has a bracteolate receptacle. I certainly never understood
you to say so before. You might have known so, but you never said so
in my hearing. — I therefore now perceive (when too late), what I had suspected
that my genus Heterostaphium is a good & distinct one. & ought not to have
been abandoned, altho' it appears to be almost isomorphous with Cosmiderium
Your Cosmiderium, I had described as a genus under another name,
— Leucosia plants. It is true, that you told me

This was also one of my old Arkansas plants. It is true,
Bidens gracilis belonged to it, who taught to have mentioned
You ought to have lighted Trichomanes where you found them.

You ought to have left my invention to me,
The only section which nearly approaches Gayophytum is the last with sessile fls.
and numerous seeds. my Trichomeia is still either a distinct genus, or a section
of Pentheria. — They are both, however, constant sections of Pentheria, taking
in the whole range in connection of this new genus. — Tarasia is far more dis-
tinct; but it was not proposed by Jussiae! nor it could not be worked out
to so much advantage. You do me great injustice by encompassing this
genus with such needless innovations. I have not deserved this treatment!

If I had been favored, (as on a former occasion) with a view of Douglas' collections now in Dr. Torrey's herbarium, I should of course have known Leptosyne as Cneorumyzus (both of which I had, suspected as it was), as to Acantha I have said nothing about it as I have only a minute scrap of it. The Psalms

(a peculiar Californian S.) with happens scales alternately shorter (*Coprodia*) deserve to be distinguished in some way. I had not, however, finally settled any of these things, but I say again. a mere injection of Doug's plants, w^t I could see at once in London would have quickly given me all the information I needed. At the same time, I thank

you for the your assistance in this absence

of my ferns *Coniogramme*. I should like Dr. Gray's remarks, & there are no doubt truly, that he had called it in his herbarium *Mesogramme*. But Pickering, who some time engaged in describing this neglected plant, as in my absence superintended the publication of our *descriptions* as well as myself, was not aware that any name had been given to it by Dr. Gray or any one else, & so you can enquire of him whence it comes, & I hope he will be in health & prosperity.

On the other hand. - I will now remark. That Dr. T.'s Anaphalis, (a letter name of 1837.) was, in 1830 given to me by Leavenworth with a bias that he should wish it called Leavenworthia, as it is named in my own collection. Not that I find any fault with Dr. T. on this occasion, at all, but merely to show that it will not do to change botany with apparent flagrations substituting one such other names from the original or common at those periods to local publications. So I hope therefore under Maranthes that Dr. T. will in all justice do away the unpleasant impression which his present statement suggests.

I now come to a most grave accusation or charge w^t you have made against me. It is an enquiry whether I ever saw a fern in Dr. Toney's Herbarium called Petalanthus! To this I answer, as before the last time, that I certainly never did!!! I never saw the name in any other than my own or the Academy's collection I received from Dr. T., the Herbarium, I had without any attempt at a name of any kind I have often seen the Herbarium from Dr. James. The name is an appropriate one and must have been coined at independently of each other. — You have bestowed upon me this unjust & injurious distinction probably for many years. ~~at least~~ it has come out. I am obliged to you for the disclosure at last!

Happening to take up *Linnemann's Journal*, on page 223, I find you have quoted Raphinesque as to his proposal of the genus *Motostoma* into two, &c., &c., &c. w^t (the 1 genus & Lin.) he proposes to form a Nat. order, or tribe, to "Motostomae". You then readily go out of your way to add "Here we have the order, or subtribe Motostomae in the state 10 years before its publication by Nuttall!" I look upon this assertion, as placing on me the charge of plagiarism. — but — to the best of my knowledge, I never saw this remark of Prof.^r before! — nor, to 20 me justice does the order, as I proposed, stand on a single genus, but on 3 or 4, or I shd. certainly never heard of proposing it. At the same time, had I known it, I should have quoted a Raphinesque as justifying my innovation. This you ought to satisfy, if not, I shall. It is ungenerous & injurious in you to publish this assertion without giving credit to me. You do not yourself know the half of Prof.^r publications, & why change any one with the neglect of what they now saw.

You appear also in that notice, pretending to be a sketch of the
habit of the man) to give an undue importance to a mere trifling name
in the early part of his career, which you sweep aside by later names like so many
eshells. Yet I think his intellect may as abounding then as at any other period judging
from his system of botany w^t he brought with him from Sicily. His Italian name of
Hickory, has been longer used by the inhabitants generally than by Rapini, and yet there
is nothing to say saved in an uneventful Indian name, unaccompanied by any des.
=cription. Now is it worth his exclusively adopting by botanists, for at this rate it would be
meaning to alter Nigella with Tapely, Magnolia into Toola (Greek) &c. &c. the above
=Btly & w^t is too bizarre to require any further remark.

Menziesii; for which he quotes also *Hemichara Menziesii*, tab. 80, of Hooker, his name angle therefore to be adopted, as you may if you like give me. No creditable
of painting & cut. Your *Echinocactus* is also described by him, as exactly as he personally
describes

You also go out of your way, I think, to speak of Dr. Baldwin's *Moll.* names
where good, like other mere novices, they have been worth adopted, but for any other names,
lots of names or catalogues, the degree of uncertainty attending upon them, & the possibility that
the author himself might, as we often do, alter such names as circumstances require
renders them no further binding than as they are appropriate & convenient. Parsh did
not adopt my names given in Fratzen's Calotropis, altho' accopmd by the living
objects themselves, & to shew the uncertainty, even here, of such names your own
remarks about *Anompha nana* (Nutt.) are all wrong from beginning to end

I forgot to mention in my last, that I do not wish to be held up
as a buckster to Sir Wm. J. Hooker, & I therefore wish you to send him the specimens
now in Compton's I want you, as a present from myself.

From circumstances, over wch I have no control, I am obliged to use
the utmost economy, to live. There is & every thing I can able, to keep
out of debt, as I therefore, tho reluctantly, desire Mr. Tandy, to return
me the \$1000 I sent to you, so having free from debt, (I
have Academy of Nat. Science) it is as much as I owe to a cause
that you patronised or assisted me in any thing, or to affix what
I have received most largely ^{and} truly to your life. As returning
this with my manuscript, I will, if desired, send back 2 or 4 add.
numbers of your flora for wch I have now no further use.

Yours. very respectfully.

Mr. Nuttal.

If I have said any harsh or improper expressions, I hope you will excuse them, as attributes them to an undue exuberance.

I am going to Washington in about 10 days and shall be there one or 2 months so that any thing to me had best be sent to the care of F. M. Carpenter, Druggist Market Street who will take charge for me.



Nuttall, Thomas. 1841. "Nuttall, Thomas Apr. 23, 1841." *Asa Gray correspondence*

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