

In sending specimens of plants for investigation it is desirable to have the leaves, flowers, and fruit; and, in the case of bulbous plants, the bulbs, also. When they are sent from a distance it is best to prepare the specimens by drying them under pressure between folds of absorbent paper, otherwise the parts shrink and break so as to be hardly recognizable. When the dried plants are sent they should be protected from breakage in the mail by being inclosed between pieces of stiff pasteboard. Packages weighing less than four pounds can be sent by mail at the rate of one cent per ounce. Write the name of the sender on the outside. In the letter accompanying the specimens state where collected, the date, and any other particulars of the plant, whether reputed poisonous, pestiferous, medicinal, or useful.

U. S. Department of Agriculture,

DIVISION OF BOTANY,

Washington, D. C., June 29th 1886.

Prof. Lescus Watson

Your letter of the 17th inst. duly rec^d. and I greatly obliged for the names of the specimens sent also for the notes on *Paspalum* & the seeds or spikelets of *P. lentiginosum*. I had observed the fact in our specimen of Curtis no 3576 that there were some culms (only tops) with pubescent flowers and the spikelets with an occasional ^{extra} lower glume, but I do not think these are the same as 350 Drummond, in which I have noticed no spikelets without this small glume. I find the extra glume frequently on other species, particularly *P. distichum*, and even when constantly present as in the *Dimorphostachys* of Fournier, I think should not remove the plants from *Paspalum*.

I doubt if I can give you a full list of the purchasers of Palmer's sets - We had one - 1 to Philadelphia, 1 to Canby, 1 to J. Donnell Smith, 1 to Columbia College N.Y. I think there was 1 or 2 more sold beside those sent to Europe - Yes, I think 1 set to C. G. Pringle. I have had no information from Dr. Palmer since he left. There is a letter here ~~from~~ ^{for} him from Europe - the stamps say, Helvetia & Valayre.

Prof. Britton writes that he has not enough tickets for his



Vasey, George. 1886. "Vasey, George June 29, 1886 [to S. Watson]." *George Vasey letters to Asa Gray*

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