

Davenport Iowa Aug 18th 1866

My Dear Dr Gray

I have for a long time been waiting for a good Excuse to drop you a line. hoping thereby to merit a return. — So here it comes in the shape of a nice addendum to the Northern States Flora, Sida hispida Sh from Rock Island Ile within half a mile of my residence!! The history of the discovery is this. I was enjoying a brief visit from our good friend Dr Engelmann who was called up here by what might have proved a distressing circumstance he had sent his son George up the river. to spend vacation; and he was stopping with me a few days on his way. Complained of diarrhoea which he had contracted on the boat, which with quiet & rest we hoped might pass off. but two days after his arrival cholera symptoms supervened. and I telegraphed at once to his father who got up in time to find him fairly convalescent, in the mean time we heard that the boat from which George debarked here had 13 deaths from cholera between here and St Paul. So that the escape was a very narrow one. Dr & Mrs Engl. staid two days for George to pick up strength enough to travel. and left for St Louis last evening — Well, the anxiety of the case being removed the Dr & myself made some

Excursion in this neighborhood, mainly in search of Junci
in which we had very poor success, and were about
returning home, when on a shelving rocky ridge I
observed a single plant of the enclosed, being attracted
by the singular capsule. Dr. L. at once recognized
it as Sida hispida Pl. which he had found 30
years before in similar location at St. Louis Mo.
Making a careful search we found it quite abundant
and I can supply you with any number of specimens
desired. - There seems a discrepancy in the
description in N. A. Fl. referring to the Georgia
plant which Dr. L. thinks may be distinct from
the western. - probably you have specimens from
Dr. L. original ~~specimens~~ from St. Louis. Though
none of the books I have contain any reference
to that locality =

I am at present occupied in a short paper on
"the character of snow accumulation in the Rocky Mts.
and certain features of the alpine flora" - I find
some very interesting deductions flowing from a
review of the subject. will publish in the next
Vol. St. Louis Transactions. Hope to hear from
you shortly, as you are probably now enjoying your
Summer vacation.

Very sincerely yours

C. C. Parry

I can send the specimens desired by mail if you will
indicate how many you want!



Parry, C. C. 1866. "Parry, C. C. Aug. 18, 1866." *Charles Christopher Parry letters to Asa Gray*

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