

Wickenburg Arizona
December 16th 1867

My Dear Dr Gray.

Finding myself suddenly transported into a semi-tropical climate I have stumbled on some items of botanical interest. I am now in that singular Gila region where Cereus giganteus is a conspicuous feature in the landscape and strange forms of vegetation rise in every hand. interesting even in this season of vegetable rest. I find here not in fl or fr Olneya tesota which is remarkable for the density & hardness of the wood hence called "Iron wood" or Palo de hierro of the Mexicans. it has a dark colored heart wood, and can hardly be cut by an ordinary axe. — It is here an evergreen growth very much like a scrubby Locust. I also find here plenty with ripe capsules, Caustea? I think that is the

name of the Apocynaceae shrub first
collected by Bigelow in Whipple's Expedition.
I shall be able to collect good fruiting
specimens and ripe capsules. but I
fear I shall not get the flower which
is still a desideratum —

To day I found in full flower the
enclined shrub I take to be the
original Nicotia — ? of Fremont.
I send ripe seed that you may raise
it. Also I was glad to find just
in such localities as I had collected
Salazaria Mexicana 15 years ago. It
is just flowering and the seeds mostly
fallen. but I have secured a few
and some scruffy specimens. It is a
dense intricately branched divaricate slender
bush about 18 inches high and spreading
over 2 or 3 feet. It grows on the borders
of dry sandy ravines. This locality is
just intermediate between Fremont's
original locality Rio Virgen and my
locality on the Lower Rio Grande

I am in hopes to pick up a
few things on our route towards New
Colorado and California especially if
we are delayed. The weather here is
remarkable. no frost yet & the
leaves still on the trees though faded
and ready to give place to the new
crop which comes in in February

This is a noted mining localiz-
ation about 50 miles north of the Gila and
100 miles East of the Colorado.
We are now as usual on detached
duty and expect to leave tomorrow
for La Paz from which point I
expect to go on to California and
will probably reach San Francisco probably
by 12th Feby. I hope to stay there several
weeks and examine some of the
Academy collections &c &c. Should be
glad to hear from you. Your devoted
son of H. A. Bolander

Sincerely yours

C. C. Perry

Thoueria deltoidea is abundant here but not in fl.



Parry, C. C. 1867. "Parry, C. C. Dec. 16, 1867." *Charles Christopher Parry letters to Asa Gray*

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