

Camp on Yellowstone
below Big Caion.

Aug 14th 1873

My Dear Dr. Fung

I am likely to have another chance of writing before leaving on our return route to Camp Brown. We are now waiting the return of our supply train from Ellis bringing us 20 days rations to carry us to our starting point at Brown which we shall be obliged to reach by 10th Sept and thence onwards via Ft Steele. It does not look very promising for doing anything for Backhouse in the root line this fall all will depend on the time spent in getting to the RR of as late as Oct I shall not attempt anything in the high alpine region this season. You will write me to Brown and advise me in this matter.

I find very little of botanical interest
in the Park. The high Mts are not high
enough to reach the true alpine vegetation
and the lowlands and pine forests (mostly
P. contorta) are mostly common. The hot
spring & mud volcano district of which
this region is full offers nothing new
except perhaps in microscopic forms.
I shall be able to add considerable to
Hayden list however and will get
up a pretty good Park list. We have
got to see the great sight of the
geysers. The falls are more prett than
grand and the Cañon is "no great shakes"
being accessible everywhere, and Hayden
"immense colors" are more red & yellow
darks. His description has caused much
amusement to our company when read
in the opt. I have seen one patch
of Porterella, very Lobelia looking, green
on residated pond holes, not muddy flat -
I expected. I hope to see it again. later
when it is fully green my specimen are
about 1' high

I send specimen of Aster Haydenii Peter
which is the same as high Mt Aster
and I judge hardly a distinct species.
It is pretty a bright purple color.
I also send a specimen of Monotropa
which I take to be a Robeyae.
I have found Geotheca hypericoides in fruit
red sub-acid, & pleasant eating.
I also enclose a Robyichium lately found
in high Mt valleys very rare. There is
a large robust form of which I have
seen barely 2 specimens.
I hardly expect to do much more on
my return route as by the time we
reach the high Mts the alpine plants
will have retired for the season.
I shall however do all I can & collect
mostly of choice desirable things.
As soon as possible after my return
I want to get up a paper for the
Naturalist to contain descriptions of new
a little known species collected in the
Trip, as otherwise my report may not be
printed for a year or more, if at all.

(congratulate you on it)

The collection sent via H Ellis. ought
to reach Omaha before us. and I shall
have all the ballance with me so that
I can quickly sort up on reaching Dawson
& send you a complete set. In the mean
time your notes will be something of a clue
to what is most desirable.

I now call to mind that Lanceolatum Nuttallii
the small flowered capsule they grow
from River. (not large white flowered) of which
I have plenty in the early state, but did
not meet it again after leaving from River
So must again close. after seeing the
geysers shall be anxious to push for home
we find the atmosphere of the Sulphur
Spring district quite debilitating. not good
for invalids! The Lake & Falls are good
in their way. but the Park as a whole I
regard a failure.

Sincerely yours

C. C. Parry

I am getting Allison for Watson



Parry, C. C. 1873. "Parry, C. C. Aug. 14, 1873." *Charles Christopher Parry letters to Asa Gray*

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