

DAVENPORT

Academy of Natural Sciences.

Davenport, Iowa, October 5th 1878.

Dear Dr Gray: I am getting in working trim again, enclosed P. order for \$5.00 to pay for Flora. I have taken time to consider Hemsley's letter, I think he is calculating on too big a job. My collections (which will not exceed 500 sp) were mainly with a view to connect the Mexican table-land flora, with U. S. and that is the point which I wish especially to bring out, which the larger work in progress will only briefly refer to. I do not think the determinations will be difficult and Yucca hechtii^m is probably nearly as well supplied as Kew with N Mex plants. At any rate what you cannot name readily will make but a small parcel to be sent else where. I think I would be willing to send a quite full set to Kew from my own interest in the collection (1/5) receiving in return their determinations of doubtful things and also a copy of the large work now being published. I to do the numbering & arranging in sets for subscribers. I suppose Palmer's interest

also (1/5) he will want to sell. Palmer writes
Aug 28th that he is making collections in the high Mts
near St Louis - but the rains have injured his plants
I hope he will get some interesting additions.
My collections on At Metamoras waiting the raising
of guarantee blockade. will hardly reach here before
November. - I am now selecting and will send you
soon a set of ^{the} Compositae collected on the route
from San Luis to San Antonio.

I think I told you the genuine Solanum tuberosum
grows near San Luis. the tubers sent to Sargent are
different. They have raised them here quite respectable
size (2 inches diameter) The genuine brought to market
by natives is called "Papas Castellanas" or Spanish potatoes
I have good flowering specimens indistinguishable from
cultivated. It has not escaped cultivation. In strange
to say potatoes are not cultivated in Mexico, only
the wild ones used. An Irish man in Saltillo. tried
hard to raise the cultivated species but did not
succeed. I have told Palmer to collect ripe fruit
& fresh tubers.

Please ask Watson to send his Populus paper
which I have not seen. will send Populus &
Platanus in Comp parcel.

Yours truly

C. C. Parry



Parry, C. C. 1878. "Parry, C. C. Oct. 5, 1878." *Charles Christopher Parry letters to Asa Gray*

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