

an indication of the natural process of
involucral evolution. Besides in
Nyctaginaceae, there are all the gradations
from a calyciform to a connate or
free bracted involucre, and also to say
where the spiral ends, or the true verticil
commences. 3. I am therefore willing
to go this far towards your view, as to
allow that where the distinction is
plainly marked between a naked flower
verticil, and a bracted spiral (not yet
made into an involucre.) there is
sufficient grounds for founding a
generic character, and so will like
your advice & "let Nemocaulis alone".
I have not time now to discuss Lactuca
which seems to me to rest on very different
ground. which I have tried to make clear
in my paper. I send 10 extras for distribution
Our present intention is to leave him next week
going direct to New York or Conn. Hoping to
have in the mean time of improved health &c

I am. Truly

C. C. Perry

Davenport. May 6th 1884

Dear Dr. Gray

We all very much regret
both the cause & the effects of your
inability to visit us. We felt confident
of being able to interest both yourself &
Mr. Gray, and hoped that it might
be a mutual pleasure & benefit.
I am hardly surprised at Mr. Shaw's
silence to your proposal to meet him.
I hardly think it is from any aversion
to your plan, but at his extreme age
(84) such a serious modification of
his plans, may cause hesitation, and
besides, as Dr. Engelman well
understood he has naturally certain
"commercial views" which induces caution
in the matter of expenditures, that do
not involve immediate pecuniary returns.
It is this that kept Engelman aloof
though still maintaining most friendly relations

I have ventured on my own discretion to write to Mr Shaw, advising him of the desirability of a personal interview, and at the same time intimating that the nature of your engagements are such that any delay may prevent you from carrying out your proposed visit, I have also written to George Engelmann on the subject. I feel no personal anxiety in the matter, as it is only from a sense of duty that I would venture to assume such responsibilities in taking the position of Curator, giving up in a measure my own independence.

We will still hope then, that settled warm weather may restore Mr Mayo's health, and afford you both a needful recreation. In this connexion I have a message to you from Dr Barroeta of San Luis Potosi Mexico, viz^d "Be so kind as to tell Dr Mayo he can come to my house and be lodged and live as if it were his own."

I deem it exceedingly kind, that in the midst of your absorbing occupations you are willing to discuss such outside questions as Nemacaulis &c, I would not have you think for a moment that after these long years of considerate friendliness, I could not take in the same spirit any criticism however sharp though none the less friendly.

The real point of difference seems to be narrowing down to a fine point, viz^d as to whether the involucral whorl is in exactly the same plane, or a reduced spiral. To sustain your view there is the uniformity which is obvious in most Eriogonae of a marked change from a substanding floral bract spirally arranged to a closely united involucre, but where this adhesion seems to give way in E. salicigermum, with nearly disjunct foliaceous divisions, to the broadened outer bracts of Nemacaulis getting ready to make an involucre, then seems at least

C. C. PARRY. HERBARIUM.

No.

Chrysanthemum Lactariaceae Involucral segments 5 mm =

Showing the internal ones
representing the perianth?

Locality,

Coll.,

C. C. PARRY. HERBARIUM.

No.

Embryo —
Chenopodium Lasiantherum Parry

Locality,

Cal a

Coll.,

C. C. P.

1883



Parry, C. C. 1884. "Parry, C. C. May 6, 1884." *Charles Christopher Parry letters to Asa Gray*

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