

Academy Science, San Francisco  
Oct 20<sup>th</sup> 1887

Dear Dr. Gray

By all accounts you should have returned by this from your Jubilee trip. at least I will venture to send my congratulations and hope that the journey has proved invigorating - Of course many things will claim your attention after your absence - You see I am still lingering in the Pacific Coast, not very lively, but trying to do what comes to my hand. I have looked at Arctostaphylos (W. W. W. W.) as you will see, involving some changes which ought to be for the better, if faithful conscientious work is deserving such a result - At least I think that I should know pretty well the northern forms having studied them in all stages of growth

Botany at Academy is at a low ebb. What with the open hostility of the two Curators, Greene & Curran and the absorption of the latter in political maneuvering to keep her precarious position Botany has the go bye

Scholar Stanford is going on with his University buildings. but is not ready to organize for instruction, will go back to his Senatorial work this winter. (The long session) You will miss Prof Baird at Smithsonian! Well if you have time let me hear from you, specimens sent by mail  
Yours truly

L. C. Parry



As I shall send you samples,  
accompanying my paper you can  
best judge for yourself.

What has surprised me most of all  
is that A. viscida, one of the most  
clearly marked and distinct species,  
should have been so long overlooked  
or compounded with other species, but  
that of course is due to the fact,  
that specimens have not included  
fl & fr. — It is such a discovery  
that confirms my views in distinguishing  
A. Margaritæ, michx. from A. pungens H.B.K.  
They would certainly have to be  
discriminated some time, and I  
do not see why I should not take  
it up. But I need not argue  
these matters now.

A. parvula Nutt I have now seen in  
the original locality in fr and am  
satisfied of its distinctness.

I have also lately seen A. Nevadaensis  
which is also clearly distinct.

What is now needed is to take  
up the Southern forms, which I  
hope to do at least partially.

Mr Greene keeps on the uneven  
terrain of his way "slashing right  
and left," he has fallen out  
lately with his Academy associates  
and will publish hereafter in his  
own publication (Nitensia)! and in  
his own way. I think he has  
lately taken up Polemoniaceæ and  
will of course do some revolutionary  
work, removing some Jelias to  
Phlox, reinstating Navaretia &c &c.  
He is also getting ready to reduce  
Hortelsia & Loxera to Potentilla  
to anticipate your work.  
There are rumors that he will soon  
take orders in Catholic priesthood!



Parry, C. C. 1887. "Parry, C. C. Oct. 20, 1887." *Charles Christopher Parry letters to Asa Gray*

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