

size objects in the same proportion, with
same rate of magnifying
a note in the first line of both genera
peristens for persistens

That will do for tonight
I think I ought to send Brewers and
your Oaks back, after carefully looking
over them again.

Agave Shawii is in bloom now at
Shaws. Those immense bracts distinguish
it very much.

What may be Gregg's 784 - a heavy
low gonolobus like Adelpiad, but with tubular
flowers, pendulous almost orbicular pollinia, pointed
stigma. I can not make it out - I
had sent you and Hooker specimens at the
time.

Gregg's Boxianus I have not from him.

Good night

Yours Truly

G. Engelman

What is Cervidiophyllum from Japan? I find it in
no book of mine.

GEO. ENGELMANN, M. D.
3008 Locust Street.

St. Louis, Mo., Febr 6 1877

Dear Gray

I got your card today. Yes,
send me those Revisia a Recounts
of my herbs at once. It probably anticipates
me and serves me right - for keeping back
so long; a much worse, as I knew that
Mr. Hall was working at such things; but
his former publications did not seem to me
to be of much value.

Your Arthrop. to come some time ago.
Thanks! - A good work, I would have reviewed
it sooner, but wanted to go over Gonolobus
carefully. - I have finished that today. What a
confusion those pods, without flowers, will
what pods make! This suberosus, which
you probably ought to have credited to Dr. Br.
(Gynerium Lin.) I have from Carter and from
Walsingham - both say that the pod is misrated!
Well Mr. W. will find out next summer. But here
comes another trouble in an out of the way
place I find a gonolobus from London; leaf-
less pods and flowering sp. in same sheet,
marked: pod circular in section - the other
another sheet: pod wing-angled in section.
Now, the flowering sp. are all the same
G. laevis, smooth or strongly hairy, with oval, or
off almost pendulate leaves, subsessile or peduncled
unequally, - but this smooth terete fruit, of

I read you one is a power. It could not be *Enclavia*? that has a slender fillole. Nor could Lewis have both kinds of fruit? I have written Lathrop about it, but he will scarcely help us - 75 years!

I have found a good thing; the ovary shows ~~distinct papillae~~, where the fruit is ~~uninucleate~~; and I believe, I find ridges in Lewis-ovaries - but can not be so positive; I suppose in the fresh flower there will be no difficulty about that.

Our *Gordobas*, which Sargent has growing, is (*G. Caroliniana*) - very deep purple. My *hirsuta*, from Georgia is neither very *hirsuta* nor deep purple, rather *div.* - but has the short oval bud etc.

G. sessiliflora, *pervifolia* & *hirsutata* I do not have.

Now about *Asclepias*. For my taste there are too many subdivisions - but then, it is to be as a key - And would it not be better to be more systematic with those signs ^{and adopt the same ones for all} e.g. after the ^{grades} which marks sections & have first Number. I. 1. the letter A. a. & that gives you 6 orders already - then you may commence with signs $\dagger$ & $\times$ also having the larger first - and none lying $\dagger$ or $\times$ - else takes too much room. I cannot say, that it is difficult to make out the order in which your signs come; also because they are not pushed back (what is the technical term?) from the margin according to their subordination.

A few errors of the pen are p. 65 1st line $\times$ at anther's remoti

+ p. 72 *Podostemon* : anther as long as sepals
+ p. 76 *G. hirsuta* corolla 10-crenata

About the species I have little to say. That character of the *Decursiva* ^{or ent} fruit is peculiar though seen every day, has been unnoticed by me as every body else; it is a very pretty and good one. Your quinquedentate is a nice discovery; but my specimen shows two young fruits, particularly *Decursiva*. For *A. nyctaginifolia* you might have given me credit. And *Leucophylla* you merge in *crocea* which is I suppose correct.

I suppose also that *Anemone*, *Asclepias* and the other genera will be as good as many others in this and other such families (Compositae - Gramineae) but I object to your putting species characterizing in the generic ones e.g. the ^{columna} ~~proportion~~ of the corolla, which is so excessively variable in true *Asclepias*, ought not to help to characterize *Anemone*; the ^{very} distinct pollenia show that it is a genus, for such other good characters such as will be found; I think you know more than in the anther's remoti

I find among my foreign notes a few happy remarks made in looking over Cesati's *Herbarium*, which may have some interest.

I ought to have said a word about Canby etc. - Good! I hope you will cultivate it. I notice here again that characters of trifling value (proportion of anther & filament) are given as generic. In the plate the size of the ungerminated seed ought to be marked in both are about equal. So as the entomologist does, adding a line (I) to show the real size, or state it ($\frac{1}{10}$) etc. - If possible it is best to give the



Parry, C. C. 1877. "Parry, C. C. Feb. 6, 1877." *George Engelmann letters to Asa Gray*

View This Item Online: <https://www.biodiversitylibrary.org/item/227886>

Permalink: <https://www.biodiversitylibrary.org/partpdf/255761>

Holding Institution

Harvard University Botany Libraries

Sponsored by

Arcadia 19th Century Collections Digitization/Harvard Library

Copyright & Reuse

Copyright Status: Public domain. The Library considers that this work is no longer under copyright protection

This document was created from content at the **Biodiversity Heritage Library**, the world's largest open access digital library for biodiversity literature and archives. Visit BHL at <https://www.biodiversitylibrary.org>.