

Silver City. Feb. 8. 1881.

My Dear Mr. Watson;

It is very refreshing
to see your handwriting again, after so
long a time of dearth. The Bot. Cal. vol. II
came a week ago in perfect condition.

I had already bought a copy from California,
for as soon as I heard it could be bought I lost
no time. I have not understood that - any
copies were to be distributed gratuitously; but
no bill came with this you sent. What is it?
If you have for disposal copies of Vol II, do
send me one immediately registered and
tell me the price, so that I can send a
post-office order, paying for the two, at - one
sending. My extra copy of Vol. II I have
an opportunity to dispose of here in Silver City.

There are one or two of your notes on my plants
to which I wish to reply, viz. 1st. That my
idea of the white flowers in Ribes leptanthum
is from what I have seen of it in the
region whence it was first obtained.

Throughout Colo. & N. Mex. I have never seen
it of any color but white (which in drying
gets a tinge of green, but not of yellow) as
in the fragment I enclose, from the Mogollon
Mts. The Californian "var. (?) brachyanthum" which

of Agave. H. N. A. you will have to take this for the type of just one more *Saxifragaceae*, genus. Those calyxes & sepals will never do to go with them of *Whipplea undulata*. They are more pointed & strongly *Stenolobus* than those of *Whipplea* itself! *Whipplea undulata* has its own very peculiar habit of growth.

It is an exanther, (centrifugal) mostly opposite-placed inflorescence, not to repeat its perianth of white calyx, & of petal.

In those *Portulaca* again, with a "rim instead of sepals" I had overlooked the possibility of an enlargement of calyx, after pushing of sepals.

Dr. Gray does not admit any *Polianthus flavus*, though everybody else does, though he does not know whether to refer it to *Cephaelis* or *Polianthus*!

He has not seen flowers of *Psychotria pumila*, when he has named it *A. Linnæi*. *Psychotria* & *Asclepias* have some flowers & admit the species. Still I suggest having it if you sit a point, after what you say. And, it has a *Psychotria* character - *Psychotria* twice as long as the *Asclepias*! *A. Linnæi* "nearly looks equaling them" and the flowers are the latter are "acute, not apiculate" and some other & *Asclepias*. How can the latter be?

I should now trouble you often, I know. As to the L. L. G.

I take to be a good enough species, has flowers tinged with rose, but otherwise white, not yellow at all. I am sorry to have seemed to contradict; but from the original character being always white flowers, I supposed the character would be constant. Dr. Gray wrote that there was in his herbarium no good flowers of the species.

Bizelia juncea you will find to be very distinct from *B. Bigelovii* by its yellow sepals, those of the latter being entirely smooth. Dr. Gray admits my species without hesitation.

About *Whipplea* & *Gundlachia* about he now says, on having received at Kew, my best specimens: "One can see that it ought to be a *Gundlachia* and not a *Whipplea*, even though the character of the former genus has to be altered to admit it." In habit and in *Stem* & calyx & capsule, as well as seed, the two genera are "apparently as distinct as can be; and the *Whipplea* should be in all these points wholly *Gundlachia*. But that in *Height* & stamens it is like *Whipplea* is just as true. Still the preponderance of points is decidedly, is it not, with *Gundlachia*. But I guess when you good folks get out another big vol.

Postscript.

214 which you call Mollugo verticillata
must be another species.

M. verticillata grows here, but only along ways-
ides &c, as if introduced. This is of very
different habit being erect, though spreading
out its branches & that in the dried specimen
it may seem prostrate. It grows on hills in
oak woods, or on the open plains.

I find no other Mollugo attributed to this region,
but this is so common that I can not believe
I am first to collect it. I must now
distribute to my correspondents, this & many
other long withered plants, ~~to my correspondents~~,
and I am ticketing it Mollugo glauca,
n. sp. for I am sure it will hold distinct
from verticillata. It is very glaucous, as you
can see from my younger specimens. I will
not, however, print it without permission
from either yourself or Dr. Gray. I do
wish you may have time to look at it again.
In view of several Mexican species of Cupressus
to one of which the Chorizanthe may be found to
belong, I leave it to you to dispose of as you
may find necessary. I know to whom specimens
have gone under my name, & can write to them
all to suppress it if it proves necessary or
desirable to do so.

Mr. Sargent can show you)
wood, bark, &c. of the)
Cupressus!

Sincerely yours,

Edw. L. Greene.

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Greene, Edward Lee. 1881. "Greene, Edward L. Feb. 8, 1881 [to S. Watson]."
Edward Lee Greene letters to Asa Gray

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