

Wilmington N.C. Oct: 31, '46.

Am.

Nov. 6.

My Dear Sir

My parcels of plants left Hillsborough some ten or twelve days ago, & I must now hasten to inform you that the vial of *Paspiflora* fruit will not be found in the parcel of plants directed to you. I thought the safest place of deposit was in the paper box directed to Dr. Gould. You will therefore open that, & will find the vial wrapped in brown paper & directed to you. I hope it will reach you in sufficient order for your purpose.

I have troubled you with those parcels to Gould, Baker, & Sullivant, as the most convenient to me, & in the hope that no particular inconvenience would fall upon yourself. Will you do me the favor to set them in motion towards their proper destination?

I found here a package which has been lying six months awaiting me, & which I had not cared to have forwarded, supposing it was hardly worth the freight. Today I have opened it, & find it a very beautiful collection made in S. Car., & containing many very desirable species, though I have yet reached nothing, I believe, which is unknown to me. They were

given me by a clergyman of S. C. who has relinquished his Botany, & has no further use for an Herbarium. Among them I found three beautiful specimens of *Villarsia lacunosa*, one being in good fruit. This reminded me of your wants and has hurried me to write. I enclose two or three capsules for you, hoping they will be of service.

I made a blunder in my last letter. When I came to examine my *Gaura*, I found it was *G. biennis*, only rather smaller than usual.

I am anxious to do great things here for two or three weeks among Lungi, Lichens, Musci & Hepaticae. I have already looked upon things (I arrived day before yesterday) which would make Sullivan & Tuckerman dance a hornpipe. Think of *Grimmia Grunowii* for the former; & *Ctenomyce leporina* for the latter.

I have sent Berkeley some 500 species of Lungi. I am getting in love with these things more & more, & rather think I shall accomplish something yet. But I tell you what, it is a huge work before me.

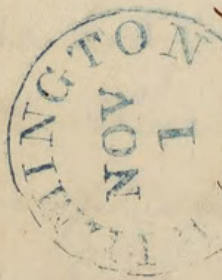
I noticed *Cuscuta compacta* near streams between this & Goldsborough. I see it also in this new collection from S. C. growing upon *Ribes glabrum* or *coriaceum*. It must therefore be common from the coast to the mountains, I think.

I write in haste, & must get my letter in the office. I return to Hillsborough in about three weeks (S. C.) when I shall be glad to hear from you. So you want Plea? McKee has had the kindness to collect quite a number for me.

Very respectfully & truly yours

W. A. Curtis.

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Prof. A. Gray

Cambridge
Mass.





Curtis, M. A. 1846. "Curtis, Moses A. Oct. 31, 1846." *Moses Ashley Curtis letters to Asa Gray*

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