

Nurseries, York.

4/6ms — 18<sup>th</sup>/4

Dear Dr. Gray

Small box safely to hand  
containing Agave Utahensis  
for which many thanks.

Also for the most interesting  
pamphlet on Botanical  
explorations in Western Wyoming  
&c, for which I am also in-  
debted to thy kindness I suppose.  
Did not the travellers last  
year succeed in obtaining  
seed of the choice things that  
are enumerated — Aquilegia  
Jonesii &c &c? If so it is much  
to be regretted, & I understand  
that M. Royle (the Mexican &c  
traveller) intends to start im-  
mediately for the region of

them — i.e., the "Yellow Stone region"  
doubtless with an eye to intro-  
duce them into England first!  
I cannot blame his energy  
— far otherwise! but I shall  
nevertheless feel sorry if  
he supplant Dr. Parry.

Could any dried specimens  
of the plants of that region  
be spared for me? I would  
gladly purchase a series, such  
as I understand were formed.  
And permit me to ask when  
the rest of thy own invalu-  
able work on the Flora of  
N. America is likely to be  
published? Having been favour-  
ed with one half of it, I  
long to see the rest! But pray  
let me pay for it, for I know  
such works are very costly.



I want too to get Engelmann's  
descriptions of the genus  
Isaetes

Primula suffrutescens is  
promising to do well this  
year. We have several  
growing very nicely, & lots  
of P. Parryi. The 3 pentate-  
mons are all in flower.

Lewisia does best in a cold  
moist position, where not a  
ray of sun can reach it.

Should opportunity occur, I  
could well take in another  
100 good roots of Cyp<sup>m</sup>-acaulis  
And if a chance presents for  
half a dozen strong roots of  
Clitoria Mariana, please do  
not forget it.

Silene regia is doing well

with us; but most unfortunately  
the plant sent was a wretchedly  
bad variety of it! with very  
small flowers & very narrow,  
incised petals: widely different  
from the description of its flowers  
in the Manual. A plant of  
Polygala paucifolia is in bloom  
with us & very pretty. We  
have the fine Cyp<sup>m</sup>-macran-  
-thum in flower also - a rarity!

Very truly thy friend  
J. A. Backhouse



Backhouse, James. 1874. "Backhouse, James June 4, 1874." *Asa Gray correspondence*

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