

Nashville May 13<sup>th</sup> 1880

Prof. Asa Gray

Dear Sir

Your P. L. reminded me that you ~~that~~ you would like to see new specimens of the *Leavenworthia* as soon as collected.

April 21<sup>st</sup> I arrived with the Nashville morning train at Lavigne, to return again with the 4 o'clock evening train. Having engaged a laborer to carry my paper, and after half an hour's walk stooped, the first thing to collect, - a *Leavenworthia* of new feature, like I had not seen before; think it is your *L. Kirkuxii*. *Plantago pusilla* was mixed between. Proceeding into the barrens, into the region which formerly had yielded so many fine things, I noticed a little *Houstonia*, looking quite different from the *H. caerulea*, especially on account of the deep blue of the corolla, without any yellow spot about the throat, the shorter tube and minute calyx lobes. The branches seem to be more divaricated, the leaves broadly oval and acuminate both ends. It does not agree with my Missouri specimen of *H. minima*. *Draba brachycarpa*, overripe, *ibidem*.

Reaching the depressed and springy part of the barren, I soon beheld a spot of the Golden-flowered *Leavenworthia* and regions after regions of it, on going on. It gave me some

moment to think about your surprise in examining  
the new specimens, for *L. Stylosa* will counsel you to  
"return Stylosa". It being as much caudulent as a rank  
Torrelaea. In the excitement of the chase, I underrated  
the number of my specimens, and am now very near not  
having enough of it for Cumbeis. *Neoporus decula*, which  
I had lost sight of for a long time came up too, and one  
more *Carabimona*, new for my Tennessee list. Next  
I discovered a golden yellow, bitaceous species, finding  
only 4 specimens, all of which very young. I do not  
know it and am even not positive whether it has really but  
one style, or three, which are yet coloring. I can not identify  
it with any in *Jam* or *Chapman's Manual*.

After that much good luck, I experienced a short spell of  
despair about not finding the *Phlox Sellowii*, time  
and locality both being correct. Lastly this little  
treasure dived up from a bed of *Cladonia rangiferina*  
and some *Hypanium*, filling my chest to their utmost  
capacity.

To give to the expedition a tinge of the adventurous, it  
happened that on my return, while anxiously counting  
the minutes on my watch, after reaching the R.R. track  
and yet  $\frac{3}{4}$  mile distant from Louerene, in company with  
my fat companion, we heard the whistle of the locomotive

in the  $\frac{1}{2}$  mile distant Longana. I jumped for my life  
and breathless we both arrived in one dash with the  
train.

Next week I hope to make another stir about  
the same place and to get plenty of fine  
specimens of the Golden Horned Leavenworthia.  
The plants named within I mailed to you this  
morning.

Yours sincerely

J. G. Geringer.



Gattinger, Augustin. 1880. "Gattinger, Augustin May 15, 1880." *Asa Gray correspondence*

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