

*Ph. arboreus* Linn. out of which others  
make two species of *Brachystelma* (without  
having seen the specimen or the plate) is  
a true *Physalis* however described. Mr.  
Miller took it up from Miller and  
Miller's very good figure shows general  
leaves solitary pedicels the true corolla  
and vesicular angular fruiting calyx of  
*Physalis* - and nothing to do with *Brachystelma*.  
Miller describing a tall thick almost  
wood stem of 10. or 11 feet gave rise to  
the name *arboreus*, as has been  
given to many herbs which simulate  
trees - It must be a very singular  
perhaps distinct species of *Physalis*  
but a certain congener.

*Cephaelis Barrovia* and *Brachystelma*  
are those genera with the fruiting calyx  
united very near each other but  
distinguishable.

Many thanks for your excellent ledge  
of *Physalis* which was well deserved

Yours very sincerely

George Bentham

I put *Malacocarpus* as a tribe of *Convolvulaceae*  
*Glossyina* is a large slender tree  
are never closely to each other or over them &  
the fruit is drupeous, with usually 1 but sometimes

25, WILTON PLACE.  
S.W.

Jan 15/75

My dear Gray

I have several notes to thank  
you for and especially for the proofs  
from *Proceedings* which I made full  
use of

I cannot identify your two  
Antitype with any of our specimens  
I should rarely think them congeneric  
with the Brasilian ones which have  
strictly opposite leaves and the nublets  
are attached by a small almost stipitate  
areola at the corner basal angle to a flat  
receptacle

The small perforation through which  
passes the petiolaris pinnule is common to  
a great many of the hard nutted *Boraginaceae*.

I have done *Convolvulaceae*, *Styrax*  
and *Ledum* go into *Breweria*? That  
without doubt and are indeed nearest  
some of Brown's Australian species

than are the great tropical ones - some  
of the African ones, certainly approach  
Bonomia in habit but I think they all  
have the true Convolvulus corolla -  
the broad short lobes or angles crossed  
by deeply plicated intervals whitish  
Bonomia (which I have in bud only)  
the corolla lobes are quite distinct  
widely apart but having outliers to the  
margin without any folded connection  
- having this, the corolla of the European  
is hypocotyle & dicarostyle (although  
larger) not that of Convolvulus

Evolverea thewrewia etc. so that I  
think Bonomia must remain a  
monotypic Malagasy genus  
(said to be an erect tall shrub) and  
Siphona peduncula and Procoptilon very  
in America

I have begun upon Solaneae  
I think that your Chamaescaracha must  
stand as a distinct genus nearest to

Thysallis than to Saracha - the latter has  
always an enlarged very spreading  
fructifying calyx leaving the whole fruit  
very exposed and a deeply lobed corolla  
Atheaea (which includes Saracha vicina  
Lamad figured by Don and probably  
Humboldt's Saracha) has a deeply lobed  
corolla and the fructifying calyx enclosing  
the berry - membranous and much  
enlarged often vesicular but not  
angular - Sarachas are all West  
American extending from Bolivia  
to Mexico - Athaeas are Tropical  
Brazil & Bolivia to Mexico or at least  
Central America - Your Chamaescaracha  
is limited to your species. S. acutifolia  
there is founded on a poor fragment  
with a few buds and one open flower  
the pedicels all simple (not  
somewhat 2-flowered) and to my mind  
it is a genuine Thysallis the specimen  
too imperfect to match with certainty  
and perhaps an undescribed narrow-leaved  
species with a rather large corolla



Bentham, George. 1875. "Bentham, George Jan. 15, 1875." *George Bentham letters to Asa Gray*

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