

THE MISSOURI BOTANICAL GARDEN,
WILLIAM TRELEASE, DIRECTOR.

ASSISTANTS:
BOTANY, - A. S. HITCHCOCK.
HORTICULTURE, - J. C. DUFFEY.
JAMES GURNEY, HEAD GARDENER.

ST. LOUIS, MO., May 25th, 1890.

Dear Dr. Watson

I thank you for the information on the points of which I wrote. I hope you will not misunderstand me in regard to the nomenclature I intend to follow in my Catalogue. I have talked the matter over some with Prof. Trelease and I concluded to take this position - to adopt the earliest name which the plant had received under its accepted genus. This would give me a chance to become familiar with the literature. I will follow the Manual in its names & sequence of orders, the names (omit on a few exceptions) & sequence of genera. Where the species is different from the one given I will give the manual synonymy. There are many cases in the Manual where, for good reasons, the earliest name has not been used. As, *Cuscuta cephalanthi* Engelm. & *C. cryptophylla* earlier than *C. tumiflora* Engelm. & *C. inflata* Engelm. *Impatiens aurea* Nutt. & *I. biflora* Walt. are earlier than *I. pallida* Nutt. & *I. fulva* Nutt. But I am often

Confronted by difficulties of identity.
At this point I have appealed to some
high authority. For instance I had no
means of knowing that *Anemone*
dichotoma was distinct from *A. Pennsylvanica*
as I could not refer to the original description
nor to the plants. In the case of *Delphinium*
azoreum Michx. & *D. Carolinianum* Walp.
Galtus description was so unsatisfactory as
to lead me to suspect that there might be doubt
although *gum* is a synonym in the *Index*.
You have helped me over several difficul-
ties of this kind & I take pleasure in
again thanking you & shall add to my
statements in this case (if you have no objection)
[see Watson] I am doing the work in
the Catalog chiefly for its educational
benefits to be derived.

We have in the Engelman Herb. sets of
plants from Cuba, collected by Wright 1860-4 - Texas &
Mexico, Berlandier - Mexico Gregg 1848-9 - Can
you tell me if there are any published lists of
these sets?

Yours Very Truly,
A. S. Hitchcock

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Hitchcock, A. S. 1890. "Hitchcock, Albert S. May 25, 1890 [to S. Watson]." *Asa Gray correspondence*

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