

Harvard University, Cambridge
April 2. 1855.
Dear Prof. Oliver.

I have a difficulty about a Nothern U. S. & British
Shr. Crucifer (the Turritis stricta
of my Manual), about which I
 crave your kind aid. The plant
I name or was the flowers
erect and the young pods some-
times quite strictly erect, but at
length they are commonly patent
or ascending or ascending prostrate;
and hanging as in T. patula,
with which it has been confounded
at Kew, in District. Bonjean's Palisser
coll. i.e.

"Turritis patula Brab. Rocky Mts. coll. C.
Bonjean, 1858" with erect pods,
ditto, "Lake Miniply Valley, 1857"
ditto "Miniply Valley 1859"
all = Turritis stricta, of my Manual,
and of my Ganna Pl. 55 (opt.)

I do not see any reason why T. patula
Nat. of the Rocky Mts., of Brewans Pass in
K. Mor. can be confounded in Turritis stricta (Mexico).
The other species opposite to T. patula & "Mc Greg."
et alius coinciding with Bonjean's plant described
et al. "the" austroamericana of T. patula.
("See Bonjean's Leg. off. 18 and 1858") except that
the colors of the flower are in general white while white the
latter is lavender with purple.—

My idea of *Turritis patula*, Griseb.,
is Hensler's, N. Mex. 27.
Hall & Bartram's 36.
Parry's — 94, } which

agree with the plant in the Botanical
Gardens — say Leipzig. 10 years ago.—

"*Turritis patula*, Saskatchewan, coll.
E. Bousman, 1858" is not quite in
condition to tell. But I suppose it
may be what I ~~do~~ call:

(*T. patula* differs from *T. retrofracta* in
greater smoothness, and in glumes pointed,
but they run together. Perhaps my
T. stricta runs into *patula* also,
as you would seem to think at least.

Now my enquiry is, What is the
original *T. stricta* Graham?

Graham passed no specimen in his herb.,
We must rely upon the plant of Dr. W. L.
Brewster, of Drummond, Rocky Mts., has
Dr. Hook any specimen of Graham's
cultivated plant, originally described?

What is Sturtevants plant? Can you
give a fruit, or a sketch, with its
mat. size? Is it like that
of Bousman, Rocky Mts. 1858. "*T. patula*"
with erect pods 2 1/2 - 3 inches long.

Compare also no. 35, Hall & Bartram's
" *Trichtanthus angustipilus* Nutt.", which
I had taken for a short-petaled form of
my *Turritis stricta*. But it must be
different, with its short & broader pods, &c.
Can this be Graham's *T. stricta*? But
the flowers are reddish, and the pods too
short.

The only thing I have from
Keck named "*T. stricta*", is one of
Oregon Boundary Commission, *Turritis*
no. 2. *Turritis stricta* Griseb.? Reichenb.
Mts., at 7000 ft. alt. Dr. Lyall, 1861.
That too has reddish or pinkish flowers,
and might be a very dwarf alpine form
of Hall & Bartram's 35. No fruit.

If ever you can throw any
light on *T. stricta*, please do, without
taking too much of your valuable time.

I had proposed, in the reduction
of *Turritis* to *Turritis* to call *T. stricta*,
Turritis drummondii. But is my
plant of the Manual really the
plant of Drummond, that is the
question. Ever des Prof. Oliver
This most curiously A. Gray



Gray, Asa. 1866. "Gray, Asa Apr. 2, 1866 [to Daniel Oliver]." *Asa Gray correspondence : letters from Asa Gray to various individuals*

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