

If you had had access to the work  
you would have found M. flava  
to pubescens, or kept it up. Perhaps  
but only is the size much less  
than M. grandiflora, but both the  
descr. & figure make prominent  
the granular-tuberculate in side  
of the perianth-leaves, and the  
acute (subulate) tips to the  
anthers. It makes the latter  
more prominent than in Pubescens,  
while he represents it blunt the  
anthers as blunt spindles in M.  
grandiflora.

I have set about today  
to look up the Curtis plants  
of the list you sent (which are not  
yet in their places in the herb.) Some  
of them, I think have concrected labels  
already corrected (by Curtis) labels.  
The Syptis is on my table at the  
present, - and I will see what I  
can make of it - perhaps in time  
to add a slip to this letter.

When this reaches you, Mrs  
Goodloe will be nearly over  
the ocean, I suppose.  
Mrs. Gray send kind regards &  
I am always yours Asa Gray

Nicholson House. Ken. 20 Aug. 11  
My dear Watson

I have had yours of the  
7<sup>th</sup> for several days, but have  
not been quite ready to answer  
it, and to send a few requests.

As to the latter, we have  
made here some arrangements about  
Carpet, &c. - and have two in wear.  
on the floor of the Library i.e.  
the room next my study, is in a  
sideway, having settled in the  
middle & with an upward ridge  
when it is supported by a wall in the  
cellar.

I should like to have  
it levelled, but I suspect if it is  
touched it will be found that the  
walls have badly rotted (they  
lay a few before I came into the  
house, & I had supports put under  
in some places). Let I suppose  
they could be caviborated without  
taking the house to pieces. If  
much has to be done, we had  
better have a new floor laid.  
I should wish to have it of rice

had wood, say ash & spruce  
or ash & hard pine in alternate  
courses (3 or 4 inch) board, I would  
pay the difference. The Carpet,  
as now is, not to come to the  
sides of the room, but leave a  
few inches. So the floor should be good.

I think the floors of the Parlor  
& the Dining room are in fair  
condition. But perhaps they  
should be seen to.

And will you order for me,  
of Richardson, or whom supplies  
College coal -

10 tons of Furnace coal

10 " Kitchen-range coal,  
such as we have always had,  
and have put in the cellar,

I expect to be back in time to pay  
for it.

\* I think we have just Villars, bought  
in 4 lbs (strictly 3) gwt. Unless we  
have it very recently. Let me know if  
we have it; for I will try to secure  
one of the duplicate copies here.

In road botany. I had a long  
and nice letter from Engelman from  
Colorado and I have replied.

As to the Campionula, he is right  
about its capsule opening near top  
(Mrs. Moore has no ripe fruit) &  
so that it is not to go with C.  
Schenkiorum, with any of the several  
plants so called. I have here  
seen the original figure of Villars.\*

I have asked Engelman to let  
the Colorado plant be ~~a~~ named  
till I get home to see the  
Atka plant. which is my  
var. heterolepis (of Bryant's C.  
heterolepis, but not that  
of de Vast). Now I think that  
it has the same delusion,  
but the only fruit I have is in too  
poor a condition to tell.

To-day I took up Smith's  
Ext. Pl. and noted his Muraria.  
It fully confirms my old &  
fixed impression about M. flava.

Debaudres use of Sulphide  
of Carbon has ridde him  
Hab<sup>r</sup> completely of insects,  
Potions which we prescribed  
12 years ago remain per-  
fectly fr.

About dampness. I now  
wished it do to have much  
steam pipe run along the  
bottom of cases (from undermost),  
to let on occasionally in winter  
& spring, and to raise a  
little steam for the purpose  
now & then in dry-days.—

When the principle damage  
occurs, please turn it over  
in your mind,

Should we not have tight cases,  
or bags to hold all accumulations to  
~~up~~ in the upper rooms?

A.S.



Gray, Asa. 1881. "Gray, Asa Aug. 25, 1881 [to Sereno Watson]." *Asa Gray correspondence : letters from Asa Gray to various individuals*

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