

Camp on San Felipe creek 200 miles  
west from San Antonio July 10th/49

My Dear Doctor

I don't know that I should write to you at this time but to describe a very curious little plant found at this place. Its appearance and habit are those of a *Tragia* but when inspected all resemblance disappears. Fl. gillary on pedicels less than a line long. Calyx 5-parted segments slightly reflexed. Corolla wheel form with a very slender tube about a line long limb 5-cleft segments obovate. Stamen, (apparently) rising from the base of the tube of the corolla externally and curving outwards & upwards and adhering <sup>or from the extremity to the middle</sup> to the middle of the segments of the corolla where the <sup>narrowly oval</sup> anthers (dark purple) are very slightly elevated above the points of adhesion. Fruit 5-carpellary tuberculate hispid on pedicels elongated in fruit and reflexed. Flowers greenish July. In one locality only on a bluff near our present encampment.

I don't suppose the slender threads outside of the corolla are in any way connected with the stamens, but they are such a singular appendage that I do not know what to make of them. Plant 8-10 in. high branching from near the base.

I find here *Hymenatherum* *Gnaphalodes*, and three other species besides many other interesting plants.

We have lain here now four days and I don't know when we will move onward before long I hope. I had one light attack of the fever but I dismissed the intruder as soon as possible.

We have fine weather and I am making beautiful specimens. I am now of the opinion that I shall call round and see you next winter. At any rate as I wrote you last I shall be compelled

to return to San Antonio and when so far on my way I think  
I had better hup on to Boston and ~~see~~ my collection safely ~~carried~~  
carried to their port of destination If you receive this in time to  
send me an answer you may <sup>send</sup> ~~send~~ it under cover to Capt.

"J. G. French, Asst. Quarter Master San Antonio," for which liberty I  
have his permission, prepaying the postage You can then give me  
your advice concerning my future movements and communicate  
any other information which you think proper

By the way, I am a good deal dependens on Capt. French &  
may still be so if I continue my labors another year and as he  
is somewhat interested in the collecting of cunous plants and in  
science generally when they do not thwart his pecuniary interest  
I prefer to keep on the fair-weather side of him & perhaps you  
can help me to do so by sending him some books or memoirs read  
before the Academy which will not be too great a pecuniary  
sacrifice for you to make

He is said to be only eight miles from the Rio Grande and I  
think I was in sight of the farther bank yesterday I went about  
four miles down the creek and climbed a very steep conical hill  
some 200-300 ft high composed almost entirely of a friable  
conglomerate of a peculiar species of shell- Here I found one  
of the sp. of *Hyomenatherium* and only here It most nearly resembles  
*H. Wrighti* but I think it cannot be it

Present my regards to Mrs. G. & other friends

Ever Yours

Charles Wright

My dear Mr. [illegible] I am  
very sorry to hear that you are  
in some degree of ill health and  
wonder you are able to write  
I hope to hear of you again  
and help you to do so by sending  
you the Academy which I have  
in view for you to read

Gray  
Cambridge  
Mass

1860

Cambridge Mass

Dr. A. A. Gray





Wright, Charles. 1849. "Wright, Charles July 10, 1849." *Charles Wright correspondence with Asa Gray*

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