

Tucano May 7th 1866

Dear Dr.

Yesterday I collected in abundance *Socratea vergata* Sw. The form of the samara well described within quotation marks determines this species without a doubt, but the flower is badly described in what relates to the keel & its appendage just like the others. Mr G. says the "appendage equals the lobes." Now what he means by lobes I know not unless it be the plane basal portion, for there are in this as in the others no lobes and the appendage is quite small not more than $\frac{1}{4}$ or $\frac{1}{5}$ the length of said parts & in the bud is folded backward and across their edges just as in the others and not between them.

I have already written to you of *Chalassia* and another little plant I think. Now I have a third. I had observed in shallow water on sand a bulrushy endogen and several times I had dug up a little without finding any fructification. Now however I have a great abundance of the ~~&~~ and a little of it. This is perhaps passé though the other is in all stages of growth. I dug up a great quantity in search of more. ^{This plant} has its flowers in the axils of bracts which are racemose, ^{or distantly} ^{or openly} ^{epicarpe & subscorpoid} on branches of a 2-3 ft. scape from the creeping rootstalk - the rootstalks forming thickish entangled masses. Stem & subsessile or on a very short thick filament included (not seen exerted) linear oblong 4-celled blunt cells ^{at the base} acute and free from the filament. Flowers 2 terminated by a long thick style which is deeply divided into 2 long slender recurved stigmas. The seeds are placed edge to edge flat with a thickened border much like some seeds of *Clematis*. Ovule suspended with a cylindrical appendage (radicle) ascending from about the middle of one edge. Stem & leaves teste. A foot high more or less.

12th A few days ago I went up Guajajiba nearly to the top. I meant to get there & stay all night. But it was hot & I was thirsty. I carried but one bottle, ^{I water} & found none of the precious fluid in the Cillandias. So I was obliged to make a short trip of it & got an *Amphistelma* which compares well with *A. ephedroides*.

except the follicles and these are so described as to make me think there has been some fault of quite a different thing mixed up with Goniobarts specimen. Pray come here when you have time for the sake of accuracy. I don't remember any of those little Podalyriads which thick to say nothing of an inch. So well as I remember they are all nearly linear. Gauussia shows no signs of flowering. A friend brought me some specimens of a Glechoma quite new to me and I got a pretty good supply of a crinum which I wrote you not long ago of I am not mistake ^{Don't tell Specimen yet} for many times I have climbed a very tall tree ascent snatched up with Gibici—an Athrostylidium or something of the sort to find this crinum—makes or with leaves only. Now however I can hardly doubt that I have a pretty good supply tho' the leaves are very small—perhaps from growing in dry savanas. In the mountain I got a Phlomis which has a reddish look

Phoradendron is said to be dioecious and Arceuthobium leafless. I have now a mucronous Phoradendron or a hirsut Arceuthobium. Take you while you paid you money. Afterwards I found a Loranth. apparently truly leafless on which I could find only 2 fl. (truths young it is true but I examined many fl. and all the upright ones which were most developed were male)

19th And now I have a very leafy monosocious Phoradendron with yellow anthers (as well as I can judge) The two genera will get tangled up if somebody don't look out for 'em.

Friend Blain wrote me the other day that Sauvage had sent to him ^(Bogotá) a parcel of books for me which I have been looking for so impatiently. He had no opportunity to remit them to me. & with me also that he had collected fl. of the Culicaria acuminata Gr. the tree of the limestone red wood. Before then were only buds. Now if we can get the fr. we will know almost all about it. But there is the next party soon the owner will sell & then it will be very difficult to get to the trees.

On former occasion I have collected here for & buds of a plant which I referred to Pithecellobium (Leguminosae) Now I have fl. expanded from the same tree (the only one I know)

25th Just got yours of the 9th inst containing on 2 small sheets of note paper various answers to questions & the remarks of one stereograph unfortunately just the kind I don't want for I bought a plenty of icy ones with me. It is moreover considerably wrinkled up on the ^{+ 10%} forwarded ~~now~~ ^{and forward} ~~now~~ ^{5 to 6} (single letter) on returning Havana in charge 12th etc. Hence I advised you to send these things by express. The 6 which you say you sent I have not received but on the 10th of last month Mr Marmitz sent a letter for me to Retiro which is there still. If they are in that letter I shall get them soon if not they are lost probably. You send the Australian seed by all means unless very much wanted elsewhere. Friend Blain loves to potter with such things. I won up in Pavorias. Of course one ought not to be too confident when depending on memory.

I am looking not very confidently for Mr Blain who has ^{arrived} ~~arrived~~ back of which he says "En las Poras hay muchissimo" — but of all that great quantity I haven't been able to find a twigs, well and I made a good deal.

My conscience rather smites me for bothering you about a affair even when it is really a common affair while you are so terribly driven about your own. But I see that in this letter I have returned again to Nigra, Phalaesia & their brethren. May bless you. I thought I told you that (to God) the 2 of Phalaesia was unknown till now. I have made a good discovery and you say you don't know at all what it is all about." The pith of the matter is I have been trudging in the Big Pond & have made the acquaintance of three of its denizens but of two of 'em I don't know the names & its of course to ask you for & don't know their lingo i.e. me falcon libro del libro secondo well I want books.

When you send any thing to Blain the best way will be to send it through Sauvage (P. A.) Calle (street) de San Ysidro no 57 Hab by the hundred. I learned the other day & they all assembled

here I don't know why for here there is nothing but me "muskatoes
and crabs - plenty of them & of the others too in all conscience

I enclose bits of the "Nayado" that you may no longer say you "don't
know what it is all about" and I don't know as I have anything
else of great interest to add.

With regards to Mrs. G. & to my friend down the street from

Yours truly Chas Wright

Post Box Number 262
with best
City Sea Gull
Cambridge
Mass



P.S. Mr. Muniz asks me to have letters for me (advise my friends to
address their letters) sent under one cover only to "Chas Wright
caring J. M. Morales &c" — to save trouble & postage



Wright, Charles. 1866. "Wright, Charles May 7, 1866." *Charles Wright correspondence with Asa Gray*

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