

Cheney, N. H. May 26th 1879

My Dear Mr. Gray

So now I wish to drop the whole matter. I am ready to meet any pecuniary claim, on one whether reasonable or otherwise, but I am unwilling to carry a burden of discontent that will unfit me for necessary work. I have not even mentioned the matter to my wife who as my faithful assistant knows how much gratuitous work I have assumed to make the collection a success. I keep no record of the correspondence and shall try to forget as soon as possible. Please consider this in the same light & when read send to the waste-basket. Promising not to trouble you again & thanking you for all your friendly interest in the matter I am

Very truly yours

C. C. Parry

Canby's letter in answer to my explanations, of which he says he sends you a copy, makes matters worse rather than better. I answer briefly and feelingly expressing my regrets and declining all farther correspondence on the subject, having given all the essential facts in the case. I made out a fair money estimate of what I had so far distributed of the general collection without asking the formal consent of subscribers, amounting, sum total to \$180.00! I have asked as a special personal favor to be allowed to return this pro rata, to any who may feel oppressed at my disposition of the plants. I can hardly hope they will accept but that would be much the easiest solution of the difficulty.

It would have been an easy matter to show up the unreasonableness of many of Cady's suggestions. he intimates that you had no share in the distribution not recognizing that Mr Sargent's subscription was virtually yours. in the interest of the Bth garden & Herb.

His complaint of scarcity of Cacti & Conifers, pertains necessarily to the whole collection, and not his particular share. he should have had enough experience as a collector to know that such things cannot be packed away by a traveller in an inhospitable country like grass. and besides are next to worthless without notes.

In reference to Mr Redfield. I think it would have been in better taste to let him speak for himself. and fortunately or otherwise I have written Mr R. a confidential letter on the subject. besides the distribution is not complete. I was only anxious to get the load off my shoulders. & then

go leisurely to work to put the material "where it would do most good."

Just now I am upset. having my work room plastered. but as soon as this is finished I shall at once distribute the surplus. and get the whole thing off my hands.

In reference to Palmer's supplementary set. in which you seem to set a high value. I feel that I have really nothing to say. as it was made after the close of the collecting season (Dec & Jan.) at his personal expense, if he chooses to incorporate into the regular sets I certainly have no objection. my single aim was to get ^{it} in the hands of collaborators so that the scientific results might be made available and to Palmer receive due credit. then I was anxious that he should at least realize actual outlay expenses. hence suggested disposing in bulk to Vasey. which has been done by his permission. I still retain some of the material here subject to his disposal.



Parry, C. C. 1879. "Parry, C. C. May 26, 1879." *Charles Christopher Parry letters to Asa Gray*

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