

St Louis July 25th 1842

My dear Doctor;

Any thing which you have for me, Mr Brown, the bearer of these letters will take with him; I have nothing at present for you but lots to come! a small parcel has been taken from here for you 3 weeks ago by Mr Tewes (of the firm of Himin & Tewes) and if you have not got it just send to Poppe's. Have you got the box? — Let me know how you like the plants and what you have to say about them. — A letter from Lilliman tells me he has send my notes about *Cuscuta vermosa* to you. sorry to see you troubled so much with that thing!

I would with a mark of interrogation put to *Cuscuta virginica* as syn: *Cuscuta americana* Hook? flor. bor. am. 2. p. 77. — And to *C. saururi* syn. *C. umbrosa* Beyer? in Hook. fl. b. am. ibid.

I believe that to be the true relation of both plants, though I can not be quite sure.

I have found several interesting plants this season; e.g. *Leptopoda brachypoda*; — the *Cuscuta*, so far as they are out confirm all I have said about them.

Polygonum: I have send you one with acrid taste and green pendulous spike and flowers partly axillary — that is very common here more so than the *P. punctatum*, which has erect ^{interrupted} spike, whitish flowers ^{smaller}.

and no axillary ones, — both across leaves, and glandular flowers. — this one is certainly *O. punctatum* Ell. fl. 8 andr. — the first one is very near *O. hydrogiper* L. fl. 6 andr. 2-3 yrs. In no work I see the true *hydrogiper* mentioned should it not be cast? — Unfortunately I have a very miserable specimen only and can not compare. — Ours has large 2-3 angled fruit with blunt angles and convex opaque rough surfaces. — this may be the difference of ours and the european *hydrogiper* which I believe has smooth shining seeds, concave surfaces, sharp angles. But I am not quite sure — send me a seed if you have one there appears to be no other distinctive and it may be the american form of the european plant — a geographical variety not imported which would be the more probable if it should grow only in the Mississippi valley not cast.

*Verbena*s I am studying now, and find more hybrids! I shall send you a large quantity of forms. They are very interesting indeed.

I believe I have a hybrid between *Artemisia canescens* & *obtusifolia* also and *Polygona* may possibly furnish more hybrids!

The small *Nasturtium* which I send you is most probably *tenuacetifolium* — is most probably *obtusum* Nutt, and certainly distinct from *N. palestinense*

As soon as you say, I will collect rare seeds for you and get Texans for you. Are you already in Cambridge? — I am very glad that a man of energy takes hold of so important a thing for the study of botany as such a garden. I long to visit you and see the long rows of *Asters* and *Solidago*s and of hybrid *Verbena*s *Astragalus* etc —

By the way I have from Texas an *Astragalus* which I forgot to send you very similar to your *A. distortus*, but besides other *Hyoscyamus*? fruit very much reticulated, not smooth. I am in a hurry therefore excuse me but write soon —

I received with pleasure a few sheets of your flora manual, and shall be glad to get the whole when finished.

Please to give to Dr Brown a copy, if finished; also 1 copy of flora II, 1 and 2 and 1 copy of flora II, 2. — He will defray the expenses. — Also any plants you might have. Yours truly

D. Engelman

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FORWARDED

Dr. A. Gray

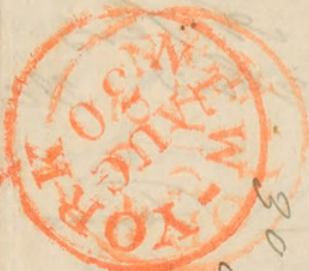
~~Care of David J. Tracy~~

30 ~~Mr. Deane Street~~

21 July Little Brown

~~Massachusetts~~

~~Boston~~





Engelmann, George. 1842. "Engelmann, George July 25, 1842." *George Engelmann letters to Asa Gray*

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