

January 19th 1866.

Dear Gray,

Inclosed nine Dollars Due you by the Academy -
With many thanks for your trouble.

In my particular, I am much obliged to you for your
paper on new species of California and Nevada plants.
It has interested me ~~highly~~ highly as containing several spec.
which I owed to your attention, or which I had from
other sources. Your description of Artemisia tridactylis,
has satisfied me that all my specimens were too incom-
plete to discover whence ^{tridactylis} they differed from triphylla.
I long for your opinion on A. coarctata of Gray.
I really believe that the small flowers A. triphylla
of Nuttall might well be tridactylis, but I have
not it here to compare.

In breaking house keeping, I have placed myself
in an unpleasant predicament, that of being separated
from my herbarium.

At last, my Dear Gray, I have the satisfaction to see my
name specifically attached to a dwarfish plant of
California. It is well worth working at for any
for over fifty years to arrive at this unique result.

But why did I stay at home, instead of starting far
far off exploration from whence I would have brought
plenty of new things to illustrate my name, like
Parry, Peckler, Wright, &c. ? Were I twenty years
younger, I would start to-morrow, but now 72
strike for me next Thursday 25th instant, and my
only resort is the Pennsylvania mountains, where
I cannot find anything new - And even this may be
refused to me, as I consider my old friend Frit
seriously ill.

I saw a note in the sheet of one of the plants you
have returned, which has caused me regret: You
say that you have not Centaurea partibikensis -
Why did you not take it, in as much as there were
two specimens, a small one collected by Dr. Woodhouse
and a very large one labelled by Nuttall. C. Calitrapa
Recollect - If there is any thing in the package
not examined; such, for instance, as the specimen of
Vaccinium elevatum and a Leucothoe which I con-
sider as a new species, &c. - Keep them for you. I
consider Gray's herbarium as the Type N. Am. herb.
which ought to have all the rarities.

I need not repeat that you will have all my
Nuttall's autographs; but let me enjoy them for
the few years that are left to me. I have instructed
my son, when I take my start for the other world,
to place my herbarium at your disposal.

Adieu & believe me Cordially yours
E. Durand



Durand, Elias. 1866. "Durand, Elias M. Jan. 19, 1866." *Elias Durand letters to Asa Gray*

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