

Should you at any time wish a particular plant, and you have retained the numbers, please send for it by number, and Prof. Case or I, if at home, will cut out and forward my duplicate.

The necessity of sending again many of my plants was because I did not but upon the present mode of securing the numbers to specimens, hence a great deal of annoyance to you and of uncertainty to me.

The *Silenes* are in such a muddle from different reports before Prof. Watson's article clearing them up, that I send many again to be sure of identity specific name,

Also some *Compositae* are sent to correct errors made two seasons ago, before securing tickets,

Finally I found my lost seed of the little *Platyspermum scapigerum* and enclose them, Hope they will grow.

Must take another sheet and talk of your "Contributions"; &c,

J. G. Lemmon,
Sierra Valley, Cal.
Amateur Botanist, Collector in Natural History,
AND DEALER IN
SEEDS, BULBS and ROOTS of Rare California Plants.

Sierra Valley, Cal., Jan 29. 1876.

My dear Dr. Gray,

Two more packages of plants for you, by this mail. Have finished the long, careful selection and packing of Dr. Hasey's *desiderata* and while making the complete examination of all my collections, many plants not before reported, turned up and I was so at fault, at times, when my duplicates were marked with "???" or specific character not given for various reasons, that I determined to send a few of such again, — hence the 2 small parcels herewith.

Please take your time about determinations and report as usual to

me here. Prof. Case will take charge of my botanical correspondence and acknowledge letters, transact business &c. in my absence, — if I go. A little doubtful yet.

The plants for Dr. Vasey filled tightly, a box 3 ft 3 in. ^{long} by 2 ft 6 in. wide & deep. — Beside the plants he has marked as desirable I put in everything you or Prof. Watson marked as any way interesting. Of each species the specimens were from 3. to 20. all put into convenient bundles. — tied, labeled, time, — and must arrive in good order.

I sent a large number of specimens of Conifers and other ligneous plants, remembering that you wrote me that collectors seldom gather such bulky things. I think he will be delighted with the entire collection.

As you proposed. I sent all my *Gramineae* to him except where the quantity of a species was too large to be in proportion. As I sent by express, I could not afford now to forward the rest of my coll. in that way, so will tie up securely, and stow away until a convenient season when they may be boxed & sent somewhere, as freight.

The number of species now seems double of that reported last season. A small, or otherwise suitable one of each, I placed as before, into large books, fastened to the right hand pages, securing the book by two strong, long straps with buckles. I now have 4 such books stuffed out with a specimen of every plant I have collected. This constitutes a very convenient portable herbarium. An index accompanies each.

found of two sorts as to leaves.
 The most numerous are with dark
 apple-green leaves on both sides; the
 white bloom entirely absent. Other trees
 fewer in number, in the same locality,
 often intermixed with the first, branch
 with branch, presents the silvery
 sheen with unerring constancy on
 every branch. I think I
 have never met with it, grandis var.
lasicarpa you wrote of once, though I
 have no description.

Am waiting a letter from Dr. Parry,
 deciding whether I join him next week
 or next Aug.

I calculate to gather a large
 stock of conifer seed this season,
 of the beautiful fir especially.

Hoping that some of my to-day's
 seedings may prove interesting. I
 remain

Sincerely Yours.

J. S. Gumm.

Thanks for your last
 "Botanical Contributions." Am
 pleased to see that Mrs. Ames
 is honored again, also that the
 species of Isilia Larsoni holds good.

I judge by its absence that
 your materials for the new Pent-
stemon Gummii were insufficient.

If it is either of the two ~~left~~
 now sent, I will get better
 plants this season, perhaps.

Really the results of Dr. Palmer's
 scrutiny of southern Cal. is some-
 thing wonderful. A dozen or so
 new species and three ^{or more} new
 genera! Dr. Parry writes that
 he meets with new things, too,
 several capital ones.

He writes that he "expects to
 grub along alone as you are

are bound for the Centennial, & see",

I have replied that I will gladly join lines first for three months upon the southern Sierras, then, if able, go east.

The opportunity of getting items from an eminent botanist in the field, is so good that I ought to make some sacrifice to enjoy it. Then, perhaps, as you and others conjecture, the Exhibition may give one more annoyance than gratification, and if I fail to reach it I will still make the best of it, and may be the better for being unable.

How may I understand the new Solanum Hanti? Is it the former Coracba nana? It was reported for me once as "Physalis Pennsylvanica, var.". I have a large stock of specimens in all stages, for you.

Dr. Fleck of Vienna writes me offering to assist me in a business way, in selling seeds &c. in his country. I will write him a description of our rare conifers and see what can be done. Shall we still call our queen of the firs here the Abies amabilis, or yield to Dr Englemann and call it A. magnifica? Dr. Parry also communicates a doubt from Mr Backhouse of Eng., who says "the true A. amabilis has leaves like A. nobilis but longer, broader, very dark green, ~~leaves~~ very silvery beneath with the ends looking as if clipped off square." Then too, I never have found "the cones covered with a wooly-like substance" which Dr. Bolander describes. The silvery leaves is a queer matter. Trees having apparently the same bark (red where broken.) cones, growth &c. are



Lemmon, J. G. 1876. "Lemmon, John G. Jan. 29, 1876." *John Gill Lemmon letters to Asa Gray*

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