

Dr. Gray gave me a few mosses from Abasco-
town - among which were several interesting
species but I fear you have all from that
quarter - I have largely from that part of the
world given me by Dr. H. H. H. & Mr. W. H. H.

I have just examined and determined the
mosses collected by Edw. Palmer M.D. at San Felipe
Island off the coast of California. Among them I
detected some so interesting that I enclose 3
specimens two at least are new to this continent.
The *Barbula rigida* var. *pubifera* this variety
has not heretofore been reported it is unques-
tionably that variety - *Portulaca* (*Barbula*)
atrovirens Sm. is new - It has so many syn-
onyms - Writton carries it back to Smith's Eng
Botany where it was first named under
Grimmia atrovirens - The *Barbula vine-*
alis is a good thing - The other plants are
Grimmia, *Portulaca*, etc.

Very truly Your old friend
Thos. D. James

Cambridge Aug 3. 1875

J. S. Guerin Esq
My dear Sir

I am pleased to have your
welcome letter of the 30th ult. We seem to under-
stand each other with regard to the work to be
done in bringing out a Synopsis of the Mosses of
this Country. I shall do my best - throughout
the work. The purpose of submitting all
to European Authorities will be a good
thing - I think that many of America's new
species will be ignored under such a test as
the critical eyes of Schimper and Vindberg.
I hold myself in readiness to set to work
when I get the first consignment or order
from you. (I purpose on Saturday of going
with part of my family to make about two
weeks visit to Philad., and I am not sure
but that I shall have to go to Chicago Ill.
on the 8th Sept. - I am and have been the Treas-
urer of the American Pteridological Society for
twenty five years, and the Association is

to meet at that time at Chicago)

You have stated very precisely how the Synopsis should be gotten out. I like the plan in every particular and am fully convinced that no one but yourself is capable of doing the work properly. I submitted your letter to Dr Gray and he said after reading it "Well" - the plates he thinks there used in his manual can be had or if lost he would hold the publisher of his Manual responsible and cause them to make good the loss - He remarked that the figures were too crowded and contrasted - that Schimper had improved upon them. I cordially approve of the suggestion that we prepare all things quietly by ourselves for certainly Austin would be tempted to forestall our work otherwise.

I would not apply to Austin just yet to prepare a synopsis of the Hepaticae - How does he stand in the estimation of foreign authors of Hepaticae?

I have no idea of publishing a synopsis of Mosses myself - I have fondly entertained the thought - that now (when you publish) we should have a complete work. As to a cooperation with Austin or any other party, to Dr Gray I repeated all such a connection and I told him that I would not join any one in the matter but yourself - What extent of Country did Mr Sullivant propose to embrace in his Synopsis? Only the United States embracing Alaska? or did he intend to take in Canada and the British Provinces?

I can fully appreciate the visit you enjoyed at Prof Porter's - I have had much pleasure in my repeated visits to his domicile - I divided the collection of Mosses by Dr Kidd at Kerguelen Island made during his observations of the transit of Venus last autumn in to six or more parcels and as Dr Gray mentioned their destination I suggested that one be sent to you - I made 2 new Grimmia's



James, Thomas Potts. 1875. "James, Thomas P. Aug. 3, 1875 [to C. L. Lesquereux] [2nd item]." *Thomas Potts James letters to Asa Gray*

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