

Buffalo, July 5, 1864.

7 1/2 P. M.

My dear Gray:

"The Plains" between Buffalo and Williamsville were, it is said, Oak-
springs, when the first White men came
into this region, covered with tall grasses,
which were regularly fired by the Indians,
in late Summer, to draw thither
the game, by the temptation of fresh
herbage in the Autumn. The under-
lying rock comes close to the surface,
& is a limestone filled with horn-
stone. I need not say to you that,
in the heat of Summer, the Plains
are exceedingly dry. I took a
short stroll on them, this after-
noon, in the dry time - and
there, snatched up the enclosed
tuft (the only one I saw) of
a sun-dried, withered thing.

which may be the little Scirpus I
sent you. If it be, Murray must
have played me a strange trick,
and it must have been something
else which I picked up in the cran-
berry marsh near Akron. If it
be that Scirpus, and I live and
am here next year, you shall
have a cock of it.

I also inclose to you, from the
Plains, two specimens of the *Tritidum*
repens v. *gemminalis*, of very in-
ferior ^{quality} ~~material~~ - ^{but} named on
the authority of Dr. Thunberg. You
subsequently decided it to be a
variety of *T. caninum*. Mr E. Hall,
to whom I sent it with this thing,
wrote that he was glad to get
it from this part of the country - that
he had collected it, or had it (I for-
get which) from the Rocky Mts, &
was confident that it was neither
repens nor *caninum*.

I can assure you that it has no run-
ning stock. I inclose it thinking
you might possibly be pleased to re-
examine it; and I can safely promise
you any quantity and in any
condition that you may desire.

I am infinitely obliged for the
Selaginella Selag. It is very dif-
ferent from what I had imagined.

I am much obliged to you for
the acquaintance of the Rev. Jas' Fowler.
He is a clever fellow. I saw one very
duplicitous - or the larger portion of
them - with him, & made up a
quite a package, with which he
started off, last evening, expressing
himself much pleased.

Yours ever -

J. W. Chittenden

Prof. Asa Gray



Clinton, George W. 1864. "Clinton, George W. July 5, 1864." *Asa Gray correspondence*

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