

Charlotte, Vermont.
6, Dec, 1886.

Dear Dr. Gray,

I am just home from Mexico, and lose no time to write you and to show you the spoils of this last-journey. Like 1883 this year has been an unfortunate one to me. Whoever travels each year in the Southwest must expect to encounter now and again a season of drought; and other disasters are always impending over him.

I wrote you of my finding the state of Chilualma without winter or spring rains and with nearly all the vegetation in consequence dormant and of my coming home in April with a fever. At the end

of July I was in the field again to find the rains but just commencing a month later than last year and very scanty at that. I had been there only a short-time when my assistant came down with an obstinate bilious fever and I was compelled to bring him home to save his life, as I believe.

Then came on international troubles and talk of war, and I waited at home three weeks, till I saw this danger disappearing. Again in Chihuahua at the end of August I found myself in good season to begin collecting. The ~~growing~~^{collecting} season was limited to the months of Sept: and October. The rains were not - not sufficient to bring up all plants; some species, however, were more prominent than in 1888; so the aspect of vegetation was in a measure unfamiliar to me. With so short a time remaining to me

and with my funds reduced I did not venture to buy an outfit and travel the Sierra Madre region, but worked from the same base as before securing first the choice things of last-year which did not go into my distribution, and then exploring other and more remote mountain ranges.

I have material for 60 small sets of 125-species each, and have put in store so many specimens of desirable species previously collected by me as to bring the aggregate of my coll. of this year up to 10,000 specimens. A poor showing; but I have done what I could.

I send you two mail parcels, the larger, (712-811) composed of such species as I have not already sent to Cambridge, includes the plants for my next sets. The smaller (1125-1160) is made up of "odds and ends." If you will kindly give

me the names of the plants in the larger
parcel first, it may expedite the printing
of tickets. Written tickets accompany such
specimens of the smaller parcel as will
have no printed tickets.

Trusting you will find in this little
collection a few things of interest, and
begging your kind forbearance with my
shortcomings, I remain,

Yours faithfully,

C. G. Pringle.



Pringle, Cyrus G. 1886. "Pringle, Cyrus Guernsey Dec. 6, 1886 [Pringle to A. Gray]." *Cyrus Guernsey Pringle letters to Asa Gray*

View This Item Online: <https://www.biodiversitylibrary.org/item/258804>

Permalink: <https://www.biodiversitylibrary.org/partpdf/278275>

Holding Institution

Harvard University Botany Libraries

Sponsored by

Andrew W. Mellon Foundation

Copyright & Reuse

Copyright Status: Public domain. The BHL considers that this work is no longer under copyright protection.

This document was created from content at the **Biodiversity Heritage Library**, the world's largest open access digital library for biodiversity literature and archives. Visit BHL at <https://www.biodiversitylibrary.org>.