

SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION  
UNITED STATES NATIONAL MUSEUM  
WASHINGTON, D. C.

September 14, 1921.

Mr. Oakes Ames,  
North Easton, Massachusetts.

Dear Mr. Ames:

Upon return from a short vacation spent partly in the White Mountains of New Hampshire, I found your letter of August 22. I am very glad indeed to hear that you are progressing so well with the orchids of Central America. They must be a most difficult group and furnish greater difficulties in their treatment than the other families of Central American plants. If we can be of any assistance in the work we certainly shall be glad of the privilege of doing so. Mr. Johnson's orchids were, I believe, forwarded some time ago. We have a partial set of duplicates of his collections. It is unfortunate that he was not able to remain longer in Guatemala for his collections, in other groups at least, are of exceptional interest.

When I am in Salvador this winter I shall try to make a special effort to obtain as many orchids as possible. Mr. A. Tonduz is now collecting in Guatemala and it may be that if you are not already in correspondence with him you might obtain special material of the orchids by writing directly to him. I suspect that he has been sending his specimens of the group to Schlechter. His address is Dirección General de Agricultura, Guatemala City, Guatemala. The only person in Costa Rica of whom I know at the present time, who is likely to do very much in the way of collections, is Mr. Otón Jiménez. He, also, has sent collections to Schlechter, but he has promised to send us a duplicate set of his material which I expect will arrive before long. It would be a good thing, I believe, if you would write directly to him also, for he is very obliging and would probably be glad to send you specimens. His address is San José, Costa Rica. Unfortunately, he does not have a great deal of spare time for botanical collecting.

Last week we received a visit from a Mr. M. A. V. Smith of the Canal Zone. He visited this office especially to give us information concerning Mr. C. W. Powell, Balboa, Canal Zone. Mr. Powell, he states, is a most enthusiastic collector



Mr. Oakes Ames-2.

of orchids. For several years he sent material to Rolfe who promised to publish a list of the species he collected, which were very numerous. Of course this plan is now impossible of fulfillment. Recently Mr. Powell has been sending specimens to Schlechter but Mr. Smith stated that he was not very well pleased with the idea of sending material to Germany and that he should prefer to send it to this country, if its identification could be arranged for. We have just written a letter to Mr. Powell, and it would doubtless be advisable for you to write to him also. Judging from Mr. Smith's statements it should be possible to obtain a large amount of interesting material from Mr. Powell.

Sincerely yours,

*Paul Standley*

Paul C. Standley  
Assistant Curator,  
Division of Plants.





Standley, Paul Carpenter. 1921. "Standley, Paul Carpenter Sept. 14, 1921 [to O. Ames]." *Oakes Ames Orchid Herbarium correspondence files*

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