

355 Commonwealth Avenue, Boston, Mass.

January 20th, 1923.

My dear Mr. Powell:

Your letter of the eighth January has come. I am very much pleased to learn that the plate of *Selenipedium chica* reached you in good condition. By this time you are in possession of the 2d number of the *Schedulae* which contains the article that explains the plate. In connection with this species I wish you would investigate the fruits and ascertain if they have any suggestion of *Vanilla*. This is an interesting point and one that needs confirmation.

Schlechter has not yet sent me proof of the Panama paper. I will be interested to see this. What you say about his *Scaphosepalum panamaense* is momentous. In my letter of September 27th, 1922 you will remember that I informed you that I was unable to understand on what grounds Schlechter ran this species into *Scaphosepalum*. Now, in my opinion he has made a mess of the whole thing. I have not yet attacked the problem from the new light, but it would seem that we have a tangle to undo. Surely he is wrong in his conception of *Masdevallia Livingstonii*, but you will remember that you and I probably know more about this species than does anybody else. PLEASE do not take this matter up with Schlechter until I have had an opportunity to read his paper. Such things are best attended to from this end where we are on the watch for critical work.

We sail on the *Heredia* from Havana late in February and expect to have enough time in Panama to pay you a visit. We must reach Honduras by March third. I am sorry that my <sup>time</sup> does not allow of an expedition with you, but I feel that Panama is in good hands and that I can go to new fields more profitably.

I sincerely hope that you have discovered *Masdevallia Livingstonii*. Coax it into bloom and treasure it like a child.









Ames, Oakes. 1923. "Ames, Oakes Jan. 20, 1923 [to C.W. Powell]." *Oakes Ames Orchid Herbarium correspondence files*

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