

July 27th, 1923.

My dear Mr. Powell:

Your letters of the 14th & 15th are just here. I have examined the *Hexadesmia* species once more and I find that #229 as represented in the herbarium matches vegetatively the fragment you have submitted and the sketch of your herbarium specimen. It would seem that you have made no mistake. The trouble lies in the description prepared by Schlechter. It does not measure up to that degree of accuracy which one expects when examining co-types. Your explanation seems to leave no room for doubt as to *H. pachybulbon*. Up to the present time I have not succeeded in matching your 3149 with any described species. It may be new. But I must examine it more carefully. I will compare it with *Scaphyglottis laevilabium* following your suggestion.

As to the *Habenaria* material sent Oct. 8th, and Dec. 9th, last year, I think the specimens represent a single species. For the present I think we may accept Schlechter's conclusion. But I am anxiously waiting for authentic material of *H. petalodes* Lindl. to come in from Brazil before arriving at a definitive opinion. The point of chief interest for you is the fact that the variation in flower-size does not, as I view it now, indicate the existence of more than one variable species.



I have a set of proofs of the plates published in Sched. Orch. 5. I will send the proofs to you under another cover. As to the photographs of the specimens in the Kew Set I am unable to promise much at this time. I have several negatives from which prints can be made at once. I will locate these and send prints to you. For the balance of the set you must wait until I have found time to complete my records. This I must do before winter comes, as I want to return the specimens to Kew.

Your reference to "other forms of terrestrials" comes as a welcome one. I am burning with curiosity to know what you have in hand. I wonder if the *Habenaria* you do not know is H. bicornis. (cf. Orch. VII : 107). This is a species that you have not as yet sent in. Pittier found it in Panama.

I think the discrepancies with regard to the alcohol collection may be accounted for by the fact that my assistant prepared the list. He probably omitted bottles that simply bore a number. I will attend to this business when I go to the laboratory next week. I have no reason to suspect that anything you have sent is missing. I assure you that the alcohol collection is most valuable and will be of wonderful use when we come to make drawings next winter.

Mrs. Ames and Pauline send greetings to you and your daughter. In these I always join.

Yours faithfully,





Ames, Oakes. 1923. "Ames, Oakes July 27, 1923 [to C.W. Powell]." *Oakes Ames Orchid Herbarium correspondence files*

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