

H  
Dane 22 Feb 1889

Dear Professor,

Many thanks for your excellent new contributions concerning the flora of your southern States and the neighbouring Mexico, which - I have no doubts - will after more or less years be entered into the limits of your great dominion. That is the inevitable strength of circumstances! What a charming flora of these regions! and what a delicious climate it must be! flora and climate seems to be very near to that of our Riviera of Mentone or Nice: dry, sunshine throughout the year, and the most beautiful colors of the world! Lately my friend Mr. W. Bailey of Providence has sent me the fine *Baileya* of these regions.

You will be astonished by receiving this letter written in your tongue, and - I am afraid - not a little puzzled by the numerous mistakes of my English style. The truth is

that I began seriously to learn English, because the knowledge of this language is more and more necessary to every botanist and, I must add, to every man desiring to stay in a living contact with humanity. I remember very well what a pity it was not to talk fluently with you when you called upon me so kindly a few years ago. Now, I hope, when you will make me another visit, I shall be able to converse with you a little better, but not without the involuntary humour of many mistakes. Lately, - it was in Italy - I was seated at table near an Englishman, and I said to him that all Christian men should speak the same language. Yes, he said, and it should be the English language.

Allow me to send you my likeness. I should be very glad to receive yours!

I must ask you for a service. In order to make up a collection of diurnal butterflies and Gosphingides, as complete as possible, I wish to exchange a great stock of rare and interesting species of the Alps and of southern Europe for American species. I should be very glad to enter in correspondence with a competent collector in your country.

Yours sincerely

L. Christ

Paul. R. Jacob - No. 5



Christ, H. 1889. "Christ, K.H.H. Feb. 22, 1889." *George Edward Davenport correspondence*

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