

Came back from Washington Jan 21st

St Louis Jan 12 1868

Dr E Palmer

Dear Sir

You're welcome.

Letter date Dec 25 was received
a week ago, and a few days after
both boxes arrived in good con-
dition. You have surprised
me by the richness of your
collection - pity that there are
mostly only single specimens of
the dried plants. Most of them
are not new, having been
described in Pacifica Therberiana
and in the Boundary Botany,
but nevertheless very valuable.
I was much pleased with my
first and hasty look at them.

The Cacti, you will have
noticed, are mostly dead.
Some of the living ones have been
sprouting in the box (coming
through the tropics, I suppose)
which will also kill them; but
you will survive, I hope. —
The Cactus seeds and some others



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are valuable and have pleased me much — they will be distributed here and in Europe.

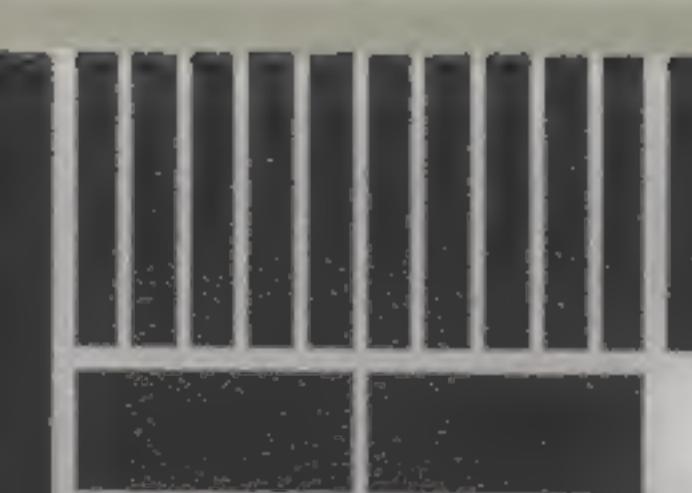
The case of *C. giganteus* you mention is your letters, I failed to get.

Please give me an idea of the geography or rather topography of the country, you made your collections in.

And when were they made? all in 1867? Or any also in 1866.

Where and what is Waller often mentioned — Name comp. Grant — What are the principal localities you collected in, and what their geographical position.

I was delighted to find first of that species called date which is often mentioned in the Boundary report and figured repeatedly. Does the figure (e.g. on sketch N. 42 of Dr. Schott's in first vol of Boundary Commission Report — or that in Capt. Whipple's Pacific Rail R. report vol III pag 121) correspond

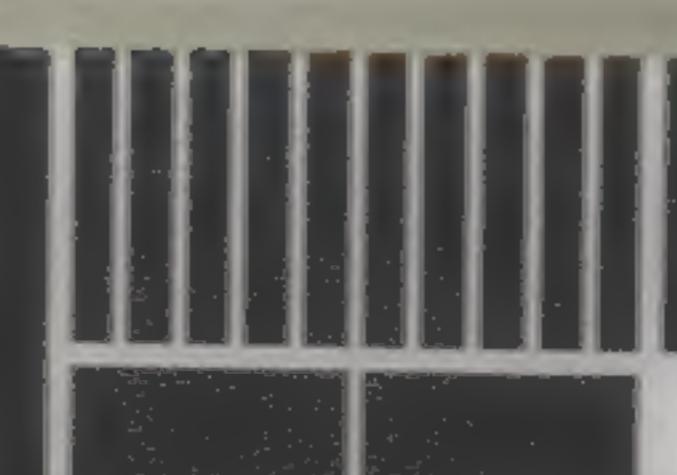


with which you have seen? Unfortunately the leaf & flower of which you speak in your note, attached to the fruit, is not in the collection. Well, we will be able to cultivate your plant from your seed, though it will take 20 years at least to make anything of it. how long the leaves? serrate, smooth edge, or fibrous on edge?

I judge, from your letter, that many plants have been injured by moisture - pity! but send them on - after drying - never the less, there may be important things among them.

I am arranging & classing your plants presently. I probably will take them & the old collection of 1865 with me to Cambridge where I expect to be in April and work them up - finally - with the aid of Prof Gray's herbarium & library.

Let me know at once, if there are more (the wet) specimens coming - for I want to have labels printed - so that I may the number of labels



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necessary.

You do not give me your direction
I therefore send to Prof Board
because I expect he will know
your whereabouts.

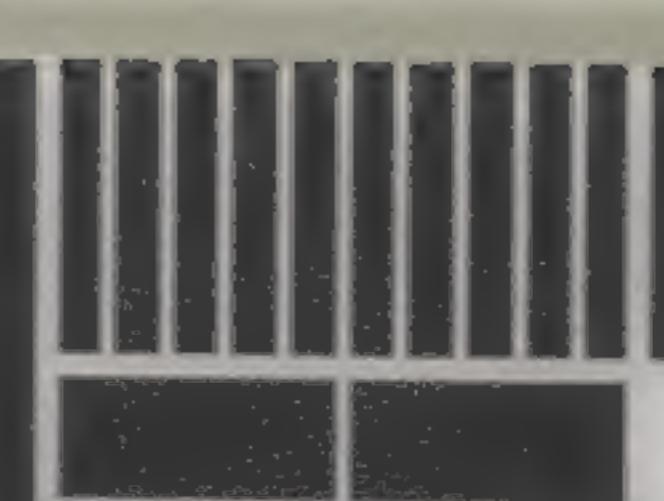
Did you get my letters in
Arizona last Spring and
Summer?

What are you after now?
I shall be much pleased
to see you here, and question
you a good deal about all
these plants.

Very truly yours

J. Engelmann.

How is it that no Pines are
in your collection? Do they not
occur in Southern Arizona?



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St Louis Jan 8 1870

My dear Doctor Palmer

I had just returned from an 18-month tour in Europe, when I received from our friend Parry a fine fruit of a Cactus, sent by you. and was thus practically rewarded of your zeal, activity and success in botanical and cactological investigations, though I had heard before already of your repeated expeditions into the fertile (fertile in botanical novelty) regions of the south west.

I had taken the seeds sent by you two years ago, with me to Europe and distributed them there, but unfortunately many or most of the most interesting ones were gathered before maturity and would not germinate; but they showed to the cover of this



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family of plants, what might be expected from that region. Some of the most common ones, that copper blossomed *Opuntia* growing near the forts, with spiny fruit, was much desired but all the seeds unripe, and so on.

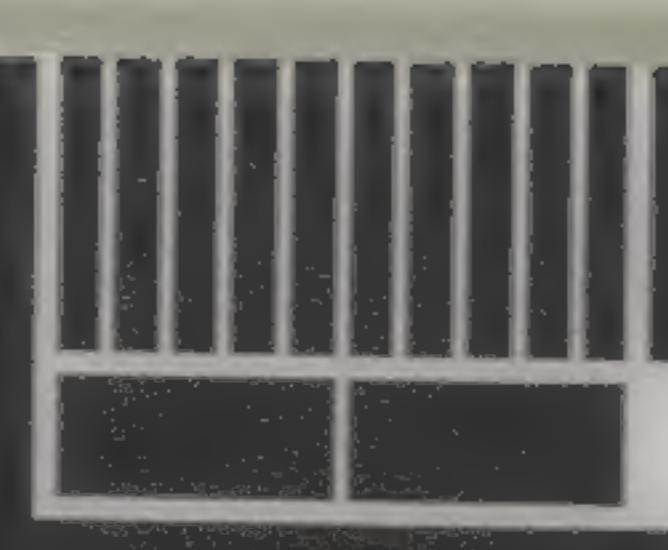
Cereus giganteus is still a great desideratum, and as to *C. Thurberi* and *Schottii*, they are not anywhere in cultivation.

The fruit sent to me by Dr. Parry bears the number 70 but no notes or memoranda accompanied it.

I wish you would give me as full information about the plant, as you can, for I mean to publish it under your name:

Cereus Palmeri, as it is decidedly distinct from any thing we have heretofore had from that region.

The fruit is oval, over 2 inches long and beset with numerous areoles which bear no scales as far as I can find, but bunches of short stout spines sometimes 6 - 8 in number. The seed is larger than ^{any} of the known *Arizona Cerei*, and the embryo



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has strongly hooked cotyledons.
Fruit and seed justify me
in considering the plant a distinct
species.

Where does this *Ceratodon* grow,
how does it grow; what its ^{Nemopogon}
number of ~~ribs~~ ribs, distance of
branches of spines, number and size
of spines — what the flower —
the time of day when flower is open,
colour, fragrance etc; shape and
size of flower, stigmas etc — fruit
edible? colour? etc etc —

I hope to hear from you
direct or through Dr Parry
to whom I send the letters
as I do not know your direction.

Very truly yours

J. E. Gilman

Letters directed to me at St Louis
reach me safely.



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Sent to Dr. Parry to
forward - tell us where
where you are

C. Parry



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