No. 2 Bibl 11

Jacksonville
Illinois
Feby 8/61

Dr. Engelmann
Dear Sir

Though not personally acquainted with you, I take the liberty to write you a few lines. Hoping I do not intrude to much by doing so

Nearly two years ago I received through the kindness of a friend in your City (Mr. John, Grieve Since dead) a lot of seeds of the family Cactaceae, some 40 varieties, mostly Mammillarion. I have been quite successful in growing

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them, and now have some very fine seedling plants, 2 years old

Mr. Grieve told me the seeds came from you, and I hear from a friend in your City that his collec=tion of seedling plants were in your possession.

And as I promised him (that is Mr. Grieve) if I was successfull in growing them that he should have any he might want of them.

And it would now give me pleasure to send you ~~to sent you~~ some of these plants, I have near 300 of these seedlings also a fine lot of Cereus, gigan=teus, raised from seed last year. My collection of Cacti at present is near 3,000 varieties

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P. C. Andras

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and I have a small
Green House devoted to
nothing else, All through
this winter I have had a
fine show of Ephiphy=
=llums in bloom and
shall soon have some
fine Cereus plants in full
flower,

The mode I took with
the Seeds Mr Grieve gave
me was this

I took a box of suitable
size and filled it nearly
full of the finest leaf
mould, pressed it light=
=ly, and then divided it
into the requisite number
of divisions. planting each
variety in its seperate
squares, merely pressing
the seeds below the surface

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and then covering the whole box up close with glass and placing it in the hotest place in the Green House subject to a temperature of a 100° to a 110° Fahr".

By this mode I have caused seeds to germinate that there was hardly any hopes of, any other way These Cacti Seeds were all up in from 4 to 6 days after this treatment, and by being carefull in watering them, I have lost but few plants

Let me know how I shall send them and to whose care

Yours Respectfully
John, C, Ariolvas

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Rec'd May 28th
Ans May 30th

Jacksonville
Illinois
May 27

Dr. Geo. Engelmann
Sir

I send you per mail a few flowers of Rhipsa-lis salicornoides. Put them in full sun shine and they will open in a few hours.

The plant they are taken from is some 7 or 8 years old and has bloomed well the last 3 years I have a bunch that will be in flower in a week or two, when it comes in bloom will send you flower and part of

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the plant, so that I may find out what its proper name is,

Yours Respectfully
J. C. Andrews

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Rec'd March 12th

Andras

Jacksonville Morgan Co.
Illinois Mar 6/68

Dr. G. Engelmann

Dear Sir

Your letter of the 10th of February was received by me to day, on my return from Chicago.

I still cultivate Cacti, and will be thankfull for any seeds you can send me, and if success=full in growing them, they are at your sevice. I have some nice plants of Cereus gigantus raised from seed, if you would like I can send you.

Since 1863 I have been a year in England and spent a good part of my leisure time in Kew gardens. I dont know

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in all my travels as fine a collection of exotic plants. the great Palm House some 70 feet high filled with its tropical growth of Palms and other equatorial Plants is far finer than I thought could be produced in a country where the Sun gives so little light compared with their native country, of Cacti the collection is poor, there is a better and more carefully taken care of collection in the Botanical gardens of the city of Glasgow, Scotland.

With thanks for your kind recollection of me I remain

Yours Truly

John, C, Andras

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