Rec^d Sept 18th
Ans — 23^d

Lincolnton N.C. Sept 12th 1871

Dr. Geo. Engelmann

Dear Sir

14/c

Your letter of Aug 7 has been rec^d & I hasten to write a few lines in reply.

The species of Yucca or Bears Grass (Y. recurvifolia) to which you refer, and of which I published in the "Rural Carolinian" a paragraphic notice I discovered last Spring 5 miles west of Lincolnton in a sandy & nearly exhausted field. This locality accords precisely with Nuttalls habitat "In sandy fields N.C." adding his usual "v. v" (seen alive). It is allogether probable I accidentally visited the very locality where he found it. as it is known he visited Lincolnton in his botanical tour about 55 years ago (See his remarks relating to Magnolia macrophylla) I was only enabled

to procure some of the radical leaves, & four small rootlets which ~~have on such instot~~ have grown but little in consequence of the severe drought through which we have just passed, — I have not since visited the locality (about 20 miles from my residence) but have spoken to a gentleman who resides in the immediate neighborhood to procure me some of the seed this Fall — If I am successful in my efforts to procure seeds, or small roots I will take pleasure in supplying your wants, & imparting any information as far as I have it in my power to do so. Although we are personally unknown to each other yet I believe little, or no apology is necessary among the different cultivators of science in seeking an interchange of useful information.

I wish some one would publish a monographic notice of the Coniferae. Several years ago I discovered on Crowder's Mountain (Gaston Co. N.C.) the handsome trailing shrub Juniperus communis. In Dr. Gray's "Manual of

Botany" its most southern locality is "dry sterile hills, N.J.". In Dr. Curtis' Catalogue of N. C. plants, of which I presume you have a copy, it is omitted. I have since called his attention to this and several other omissions which will be inserted in a future edition.

If you have duplicate copies of any of the Western & Rocky Mountain surveys I shall be pleased to receive them, and will endeavor to reciprocate the favor in some other way.

Respectfully & truly yours

C. L. Hunter

Address.

Cottage Home, Lincoln Co. N.C.

P.S. I enclose one of the leaves, a good deal shriveled, nearly of the full length, and bent each time in the direction of its curvature. The Y. filamentosa is very common in this vicinity.

Rec'd Nov 13 1871
Ans May 27 1873

Lincoln Co. Mo. Nov. 6th 1871

Geo. Engelmann M.D.

Dear Sir

Your favor of 23d Sept. has been rec'd, but a short absence from home attending our State Fair has prevented me from replying as promptly as I should have otherwise done.

A few days ago I made a visit to the nearest locality of Yucca filamentosa in this neighborhood but failed to find a single stalk which had gone to seed the past season. Like other allied species of endangered plants (Agave americana etc) it is alternating, often several years, in blooming. If I am successful the present season in finding matured capsules, I will advise you of it. I now simply send you a leaf of Y. filamentosa. The leaf I formerly sent

you may be, as you suggest, P. pulcherrima, a species which I have not seen.

I notice in one of our agricultural papers that "a species of native palm grows luxuriantly in the Cañons on the eastern slope of San Bernardino Mountain Cal. It bears a small black fruit of a sweetish taste, which is highly prized by the Indians as an article of food." Can you give me the botanical name of this palm, if such it really is? The Eucalyptus of Australia, is now attracting considerable attention in some portions of the West, as a highly useful tree, and is being rapidly introduced. ~~Has~~ It been introduced near St Louis? A friend in New Orleans sent me a small package of seed last Spring but they failed to vegetate. As I am interested, to some extent, in arboriculture I shall be pleased to receive from you at any time hereafter, seeds of useful and ornamental trees, peculiar to the Pacific slope.

I herewith also send you a few seeds, of the Magnolia macrophylla, a rather rare tree, collected a few weeks ago, from one of its native habitats in this neighborhood. It would be well to plant them immediately in light, loamy soil, about one inch deep, and slightly covered with rotten leaves or mould — By becoming dry, they lose their vitality, and seldom vegetate in the spring —

As regards the publication you spoke of in your letter I already have nearly all of them including your article Cactaceæ in the New Mexico Boundary Survey, a copy of which I possess, & have perused with pleasure & profit.

Hoping to hear from you as often as may suit your convenience I remain

Yours truly

C. L. Hunter

Address

"Cottage Home, Lincoln Co. N. C."

Rec^d July 12th

Lincoln Co. N.C. July 7th 1873

Dr. G. Engelmann

Dear Sir

Your letter of May 27th and package of seeds were duly rec^d —

In consequence of sickness in my family I have been prevented from making any botanical excursions this season — It is probable, as you suggest, that Nuttall was mistaken in assigning the Yucca recurvifolia to our Sandy old fields — If I can have it in my power to leave home for a short time I will revisit the locality this Summer with the view of procuring seed, and if successful will inform you hereafter —

Great fears are held in some portions of this State on the rapid spread of the Cholera, but it is hoped, under proper precautionary measures, its ravages will soon cease —

I thank you kindly for the package of seeds — They reached me too late to plant this season, but I will reserve them for next Spring & plant them about the 1st of April — I shall be highly pleased if the Eucalyptus succeeds in this climate as well as the Sophora & others —

Hastily & truly Yours

C. L. Hunter

Hunter