Bluffton 25 Jan 1877 — 38

Only a word to say that both the parcel & the letter came together. I had them all before me yesterday when I was carried away a long distance, & now, I shall not write for or return what you want until next week. So we go!

I sent you a number of leaves of P. australis, & leaves & 2 leaves from a tree just cut, you had seen the 2. leaves already but from young plants.

I can also send you P. Todea 5-leaved & 2 leaved also if you desire it. Variation everywhere! From my query as to that bark wh. you "guessed" might be P. glabra I see you did not have read one of my letters on the bark wh. I said that it was from a tree of Rhus Copallina — 30-35 feet high & 6" in diameter. Usually only 8-10 ft. in diameter.

POSTAL CARD.

WRITE THE ADDRESS ON THIS SIDE—THE MESSAGE ON THE OTHER

Dr. G. Engelmann
3003 Locust St.
St. Louis. Mo.

Rec Febr 6
ans. same day

59

[illegible]

Bluffton S C
31 Jan 1877

Dr. Engelmann

My Dear Doctor,

This is the first chance I've had to write since I sent you the P.C.!

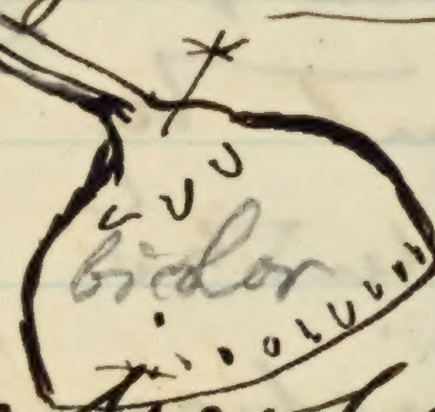
When I first examined & compared the various Sps sent by you I almost concluded that my New River michauxii, your Q. Prinus palustris from Washington (Vasey), and the Q. bicolor — were all one & the same. To night however I have gone over them all again — comparing & recomparing as carefully as was possible with me, & I now think that the two former are the same, but that the latter — Q. bicolor,

Your scraps from those German seedsmen remind me of the P. pub & Q. var. sent to who? Stillschwager & Co. N.Y.? some such name. You did not tell me whether they reached the Nursery-men safely & if they proved satisfactory.

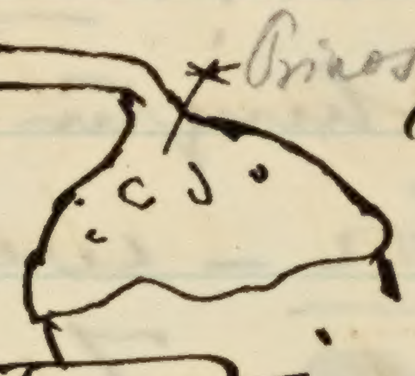
The seeds of P. pub were good as I raised several plants in a box — 'tho' one left now 8–10 inches.

5941

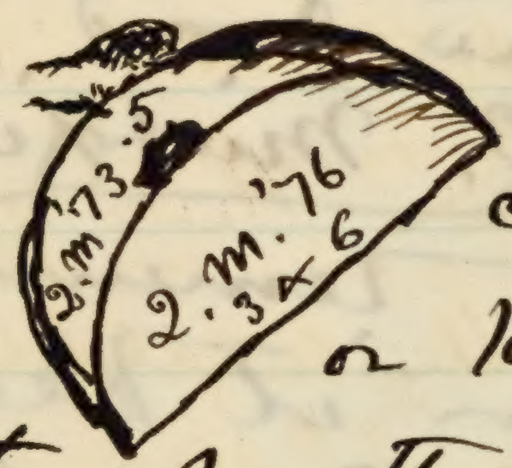
is distinct. I have to judge the latter only by the acorns you send, & these differ from the two former by the scales or leaves (?) being less defined, more indistinct in form & out-line than the former. Although the cup is hemis-pherical, it is less so than in the two others & more pointed or projecting at the junction with the pedunculo turbinate & in this respect it seems to approach to Q. Montícola



(8)



& the other (9). It is also thinner especially at the rim or lowest portion of the acorn, & in this respect differs remarkably from all of mine of Michauxii & I think also but in a lesser degree from of Q. Washington Palustris (Vasey). Now in all of my sps sent of Q. Michauxii (although the cup of one is singularly deep in comparison with others from

the same tree) yet, in one respect they are all alike – viz. (I mean the Washington & New Haven sps) in the outline of the cup & the absence of the projection at the recurved and also in the more  clearly marked scales (if scaly) or knots (if knotty). Although the Washn specimen is small it greatly resembles ~~my~~ Mr. 5 – "2. Michauxii sent 3 yrs ago", and one wld say that they are the same! My ~~flatter~~ shallower cups of 2. Michauxii (3 & 6) are like 5 in thickness – and especially in thickness just at or about the rim. I must frankly confess though that that single cup (a decorn) marked by me 2. Michauxii (your 5) is some-what puzzling – it is so much deeper than all the others I have seen – yet I have no recollection of

5981

its having come from any other tree than the one that bore the shallow cups! It is true that about 30 yards from that tree on the other side of the road there is one other of Q. Michauxii growing but I do not remember ever to have seen it bear fruit & I certainly do not remember having picked up any cup beneath it. Curious! But it came from a tree of Q. Michauxii – that is certain, be it deep or shallow. One reason why I was anxious to see again what I had sent you – was this. Some years ago my wife & I were engaged in making "rustic frames" for pictures & we got my father to send a box of acorns from Ft Mott or the Congaree but he sent only Alba & rubra & obtusiloba, if I remember aright, – certainly I saw no others. My Brother also from Dorchester near Chester sent alba. I also remember collecting

Rec Febr 6 1877

59b

cups of P. Michauxii (no accom I think) from New River, & I was anxious to see No 5 to say whether by some strange chance a mistake had not been made. But I am sure not, for I would have been too careful to have blundered in that incomprehensible way. I have examined what notes I have, & can find no cups of Michauxii. I have however found what I believe to be the same cups of Michauxii collected there (wh. were not used) and these I send; you will see that they correspond exactly with No 6 the last sent Dec 76. One or two are more lanceolate & less shallow and you may see some approach to No 5! I find one other wh. I think I collected at Pungoteague Sark — (when I sent you P. Grata) & wh. I mark now X. You will see the river sand shining among the scales. What is this? P. Virens I suppose. tho' the scales are not so prominent as in my

large marker - X ?

smaller

Swamp

Mid Atlan

59c

Also, one other of G. lyrata & other zubra (?) from Ft. Mitchell & also alba from same place & pertohs Dorchester also. I send hamster with buds from Michigan at New York. I did not get them myself — got an "intelligent negro" (!) to do so, giving him a leaf & describing the place. He brought these buds with the other leaves, so there is no doubt I think. But are these buds — these small buds of the Walthn. 2. palustris terrestris as you say? I haven't a good glass but I think I see the angles! When one sees a leaf what a difference it makes — (Volumes of description do not equal it. Thanks for these leaves I will learn the trees now at any time. I send some fragments of the Mid-Florida Swamp primus.

(Laurus - Catesb.?) almost sure

Catesb. have seen in Ga.

Ex?

I sent these specs of Veins, because they came from a tree & not from the little pine-barren sprouts. The tree does not seem to have borne, — then I send some of them from a large tree. One bunchlet from a smaller tree contains an acorn wrapped in paper. I send a 5 leaved P. Toda, & 2 leaved do. Some time back a little bunch of 4 & 2 leaved P. Australis from good size tree just cut on roadside. The bark was that of a Sumach — Rhus, Copal. Pardon my scrawl, this, is the best I can do at present. Don't know if those leaves of 2. Veins are revolute — will examine. —

J. H. Mann

Calob. long lines marked of leaves — the other (Laing & Schoolcraft) Pinus australis — Calob ?) almost so, all of a partially striped — leaves two, but all of them still hairy. I see the ends of the two upper bunches getting stiffer.

No 2. Cin — Calob. long lines marked of leaves — the other (Laing & Schoolcraft) Pinus australis — Calob ?) almost so, all of a partially striped — leaves two, but all of them still hairy. I see the ends of the two upper bunches getting stiffer.

1 Feb. I've just gone over these things this morning after "losing" a lot over them", & upon my soul I fear I am of as vacillating a mind as that poor fellow Disraeli & Bulwer who never did come to any conclusion upon any subject, — there was so much to be said on both sides & nothing to be fair, everything with him remained subjudice!! It seems to me a man to be sure ought to see a rait no of leaves of 2. Michii with a comparison of a great no of acorns from different trees & the same with the others. But if all of the acorns of 2. bicolor resemble yours I will suppose that what I referred to will be a good character. What do the leaves say? The only leaves I sent were of Walter, palustris wh certainly is our Michii. I repeat that I think ~~the~~ ~~the~~ the acorns of bicolor squamata at to Montreal, (8 & 9) and not ~~[illegible]~~ at my 2. prinus of Middleton Swamp. I know I make ~~[illegible]~~ many blunders in bot language & in many ways display ignorance & therefore you must be the last to suppose that I make the slightest pretension to accuracy in judging above & only give opinion for what it may be worth. I am sure no mistake was made by me in sending acorn of 2. Mich. but I thought it best to refer to the various lots received from Mr Mitchell & Worcester. you affecting 2. rivens leaves even often wanting in pubescence &c. yes (apparently) in cool edges — shaded edges of swamps. I send B to show — tree 25 feet. all leaves thus, large. — seen it before. O is from Pettea Cand. (Lauraceae) And now I must go & see

my twins

bad mistaken

bitter!! mistaken

Rec^d May 4th 1877

60

1. Myrtifolia — its present condition.

II. I think I sent you this before as one of the Var. of Pumila — dwarf — one, two or three feet in hight. Don't think I ever sent it to you in flower before.

III. Obtusiloba — or ~~Stell~~ Stellata rather — true!

IV. Sinuata —

~~X~~. Pumila — diff^t conditions.

V. Dwarf Q. virens of the Pine barrens in flower — believe I sent you this before.

VI. Pumila — diff^t ctrs

C Bluffton S C
30. ap '77

My Dear Doctor —

I had expected to have ~~gone~~ gone to upper Ga to bring home some sick kinfolks who needed to come back to salt water & I had intended giving the oak(s) up; there is a shake for you; this was to be my compensation for a stumbling trip — but they've come here

I send you a few things
wh. you will find ~~most~~
most likely very much ~~most~~
marked up, but they will
do to examine & throw
them away. I send sps.
of the Valerian you say
is a familiar form of Alba.
Are you very sure? – it won't
do to say no – but at
least let me say "I'm dubious".
The bark is not flaky,
more dark than in Alba
& deeper furrowed. The sps I
send are wrapped up loose
in the pages and not la-
-belled! The two stellata
is wrapped up and marked
111 – for Jno. Comstock
wh. I think I don't dou-
-ble except with the noted ?.
The sps I send are un-
-doubtedly taken from the
same tree from wh.

and so now I give nine nine

a leaf! – Yours

Austin

initials on the back – & Turlo. The distinctness on the

the hail beaten ones were taken.
Oh no impossible! it must
be 'Obtuscloba' not alba.
What fine luck again!
I happened to be selecting on
the unique Scotland fronting
Caledonia sound from Mt Blanc
I was sent on that same
insect eaten Roxcinus. That
is its condition every year – next to
it is a very fine Hickory – C
glabra –? – Amara? – hardly,
smooth barked & handsome tree –
nuts I did not see. Last year.
The whole tree is covered with
these cumins & excrescences – looking
like a certain sound fungus,
which indeed I at first took them
for (!) next T, I supposed them to
be ~~the~~ abortive fruit (!) until I
got hold of them & found neither
fruit or fungus, but that
they were produced by same
insect. The unopened ones
are full of some wonder
insect. I expect T. have
sent them to Mr Riley
I suppose – but it seems so

Another instance of the hickory bark insects or the "Scale" or "Tortoise" of the children, for (!) scale!!

that with the art & history together & shall be insect attacks that I send it over as a curiosity — but perhaps the Cond^n is common with you I never saw it before. Near the same spot I came across the Fern sent, which I never before saw or Salt water, that I have together with a fresh water. Also leaves from a small tree which I take now to be in bloom — Ulmus, or Cerbinus, or Planera? (Charles?) I will look at it again. You will find a batch of young growth shoots of Catalpa of diff. sizes & ages, growing under the same tree (Catalpa). I planted in Jan various cuttings & only the "last hybrid" (catalpa bignonioides) seems to be coming up, in one quite young thus but another a few inches higher, it looks just like a young laciniata — which coincides with your last "guess" (?). I distrust thanks for your good wishes as to Hampton. We feel now more as if we had a state and a country —

they grow very little at first but mighty at last — hence the great cuts

that he has acted so badly to the planters — but in truth they

I enclose in pamphlet Pancratium Wetherill from New River — did I ever send it before — haven't seen it for some time! Bloomington Ill.

Rec June 8th

3. June '77

Dr Engelmann —

Many thanks for the sp. of Gonolobus which now enclose.

I had no idea such things were so beautiful & carefully prepared — but then I never in my life looked into a good Herbm!

— But even with the help of the leaf & the flr I can't for the life of me tell where I got it! Strange! for usually I remember such things accurately. For miles on the roadside I have examd diff-erent sps of Gonolobus, but only hirsutus is found, & now there remains only one other spot. If that fails, I must do for!

You will remember that I thought I saw the smooth follicle (cond at a certain place "before the war". I examined them (tho' I had but little time to examine with care) but I cld find not even the vine. I have as you desired collected several good sps of Gond'

× when they are dry I will send them
on. Colour is perfectly un-
-reliable at least in herbaria.
I saw them yesterday all turning to=
=yellow with the dirty brown, black
purple, — yellow, greenish yellow, ~~Sta~~
straw col.— with all the intervening
Variations. I enclose you some.
A relative in S. W. Georgia — a physn,
promises ~~me~~ to send me all about
him — I will send them to you.

And so the *Oakesphs still come
coming and will not down
at your bidding! They demand
a solution of their own mystery!
The Sphynx used to devour
those who ~~[illegible]~~ remember who did not
read her riddle, saying "If thou
knew'st who thou wert I'd eat you up!"
This is a kind of "open secret";
and ~~[illegible]~~ this hard to find the clue,
but you will find it, if any
mortal in this generation! I
I enjoyed the reading of that
strange tongue, — tho' I cldn't make
out the word! No! all I know
of that great man I got from
reading the works of his friend
(tho' so much younger). A translator ×

* Spikes carefully examined — I am
stellate — nothing, that I can make this
out — not even to be seen.

interpreter to the English shrieking people — Mrs Thos Carlyle. I long ago read his 61a
trans.n of Wilm Meister's apprenticeship & his Auto-biog from some other hand. For my part I somehow was always chiller by his frigidity & impassivity & his all-wisenesses! And then he was studying anything — the villany of his own heart — or his own love, or his own self-sacrifice, — anything whatever, — for what? — for Culture's sake! Still, I suppose if I could read German I'd reverence him like the rest. I remember a few things — such as "Die Aberglaube ist die Poesie des Lebens" & much about "Zeit-Geist" in Matthew Arnold's MSS & that from Faust?

"Thus at the roaring loom of Time I ply
And Work for God the garment thou seest him by"

Order & Plans & the "hyssop on the wall" — the changes & the changes of life — man's thoughts — man's deeds — nature's convulsions & revolutions — all are ~~[illegible]~~ now. Shall we say in what terrible loom?

Who is Dr. A. Batelin — Bot. I suppose to Royal Garden at St Petersburg — I hope onto you ~~the~~ his art on Insect ~~[illegible]~~ eating Plants — as I can't make out one word, not even such delicacies

Exp. Strasburger 61B

as Wachsthumsbeschleunigung, Empfangspunkte &c &c. This M. writes in German but such his name is French! — possibly he comes from Prof. Stocks! — a great many Frenchmen went to Berlin &c & believe after Rev. Edict Nantes, & did well as they did well Aus. But I suppose you have already seen his pamphlet..

As I at the time (I believe) kept you informed of some Experiments on Sar. Variolans, I wish to say that last fall I read an article on the same in Harper. It was great in wh. she reasons the opinion that the sweet exudation at the mouth of the leaf tubes is stupefying & intoxicating to insects. I again on four occasions, carefully — faithfully & patiently have tested the matter again, by tearing off the sweet & viscid portions but when fresh & when kept a day, & filling a newspaper with them & placing them flat on a table. During one hour I watched the flies (house) eating — sometimes they will sat for ten minutes in one spot & during that time there was no indication (not the faintest) of unsteadiness or tottering in them. They came, eat, & flew away —. If intoxication makes them fall within the leaf, why not when they eat the same thing, flat on a table? Why shd they not fall when eating outside, on the wing? — I have repeatedly seen insects of diff kinds feeding there, I never saw one drop, nor have I ever seen dead or stupefied insects outside at the bottom of the leaf. I tried the same expt. again with nests of the large ant & with precisely the same result. The fact is from all that I have seen, I conclude that the idea of the sweet secretion being in any way TOXIC is a mere fancy & hallucination not borne out by facts. I enclose a letter on subject to M. Gray & ask him what

S.V. sent that the secretion was viscid & intoxicating to insects. I will see from leaf of S. Variolans & see if it can be so. The point is worth while.

61 5 If you will much oblige me by examining the bulbs enclosed whether they have already bloomed this year! I have no idea what they are. Brought to me from the edge of a low, sandy, unshaded bluff near the ocean. The wild lectis-nums &c (allium) are now green. Can it be A. Carolinianum — for the small bulbs are clustered around the main bulb? — It is not a Pancratium. What can it be? I thought I was familiar with most of the Liliaceae &c about me. A queer situation! A friend found some of the bulbs which has fallen from the little bluff on a ledge near the mud, & some I digging found others — growing from 1 to 3 in the dry sand. Podostigma! Aselep. Angustifolia (Ell) & Pancratium also sent. I H M

I have thought of Hypoxis filifolia (Ell) ~~but~~ said to grow in dry sandy soil on Cumberland Isl. Va — but that is a tuber.

Don't think I sent Thaspium aureum &c before.

The flowers or I may say the petals of this Bluffton Case are purple at first & greenish with greenish yellow tips — on greenish

Yours Engelmann Rainy weather and recurved.

Rec'd June 11 74
Ans same day

My Dear Sir

I think now I am entitled to cry out Eureka, for I have just found the lost gnomo-lobus which I sent you in 74! — and where do you think I found it? Where else, but in my old burned lot, though why it happened to grow this morning! On this mise. Observing a delicate looking gnomolobus vine of some 2 or 3 feet in height only — with leaves resembling those you sent

but tender & white veined — I was satisfied I was on the track, and it was nothing before ~~[illegible]~~ I "struck". The mother vine only a few feet off twining on a young sapling which had run up from near the bricks of my old kitchen chimney! This vine was just blooming but I did find no old dried follicles of last year.

Continuing my search amid the trees & shrubs & vines (for it's all grown up now) I found several others, on one of which only did I find the fruit of last year & this I now send you. It is smooth and 5 angled. But when is that corky

condition which gives them. 62a
name? I do see something
~~both~~ at the base of the stem,
but isn't that on the
spring bulbils also? I haven't
one to examine. The enclosed
flowers therefore and the other
~~&~~ bulbils are from diff.
vines! The enclosed leaf
~~are~~ goes with the flowers.
I have long been
mistaken at my
~~to~~ discrepant statements
about ~~the~~ having seen & not seen
the fruit of both macrostylus
& brisculus - but I believe
I explained to you how
it was, ~~that~~ that before
was when collecting
seeds & plants for a friend
(who had promised not
to mix them) I did
remember getting the bulbils
of a gonolobus at Pritchard's
plants esp. at this distance

628

Wm Hemsley

Letter Lost March 1887

of time I thought was, or ^ might be the smooth & angled species. Now although I Laffermans (in my haste ?) do say that I had never seen seeds, I think now that my first impression was correct although so many years had elapsed. And I am inclined to believe that these vines in my old garden of Macrophyllus (up to this time after careful search I have found such no where else about here!) came from the ~~the~~ follicles I brought hither so long ago ^ wh I had expected to germinate in the garden in the Plantes. Whenever left our home here my office was full of the collections & seeds to be sent, ^ as carefully tied & sealed everything to the mind & settled my gymnotheca seeds were dropped into the shrubbery & it is like that the plts. from seed are the lineal heirs succeeding of the same. Am I not justified? — the I acknowledge to the careless writing & thinking. I have sent plts. like yrs to Dr. Gray as he wrote me last fall. As soon as the ~~fr~~ fos. hirsut s/s are ripe, I'll send, and one or two from Macrophyllus, but I must be careful, as I want fall fruit! I have painful misgivings that I troubled you

With

Rec'd July 10th 01

(3)

P.S.: What's this Polygala leptostachys? 4. July 01.

My Engelmann —

My Dear Sir

Your postal came last night, & this morning I hunted up the little box & found your letter! — Thanks! —

I send you now a parcel — containing the best sps of fonolous hirsutus & cedgesi from various vines, & bearing diff. coll. flrs. On acct of the mist & atmosphere they became very mouldy.

1. contains f. macro = phyllus from my last year collection. The other seems to be a different thing

— but I send you — P.S.: What's this Polygala leptostachys?

macro phyllus found this

63

Cousin Mr Cromwell of Albany Sa. It contains leaves & flrs from this place. The very young fruit and flrs in this letter are from Mr Cromwell.

I shall watch the live oaks you refer to, another sp of the non-stellate stellata you will find in the parcel, — as also Mrs Y 2. Cin ~~Calcit.~~ falcata. A. sanguinea has not been seen for three (?) years. No one will ever again see that plant growing. I have hoped carefully for it not only where I first found it, but wherever I went.

Vines

you will find Helenium,
Symphytum Nivea, 63a
(an old friend yet!)
P. pubens, Polygonum
Amplexicaule (?) (without fl.)
from rice-field banks,
and Melanthium Virginicum,
which I never saw
before. It is the
-here very rare in
the low country. It
was a very great pleasure
to me when I came
across it. a week or
two back — a long
distance off. Look
at the enclosed mon-
-strosity of P. hirsutus
enclosed, & others in
old almanac in
pencil!! Instructive!

63

All the lower leaves in hand are those of S. hirsutus. Rhexia lutea I believe I never saw before. Is it from this case like dices or seeds in the albany gs. Sh of S. M. print, - that the name Suberosus is de-rived? My dear you see improves with age! I send Ami-anthum also I think. I believe this is one of the hottest days I ever exp'd in my life - the negroes have all gone into the woods with a big drum, to dance (!) and eat (!), and the few whites - young people, (my dis among them!) a-yachting to Dauphin Isld. I don't envy them! very truly

J. H. Sm

(The first chance I have to Sav by boat I'll send said bottle for you to try. — So you can look out for it.)

Bluffton S.C. 16. July 1877 — 64

Rec July 20th
Aug 29

Dr Engelmann —
My Dr Sir:

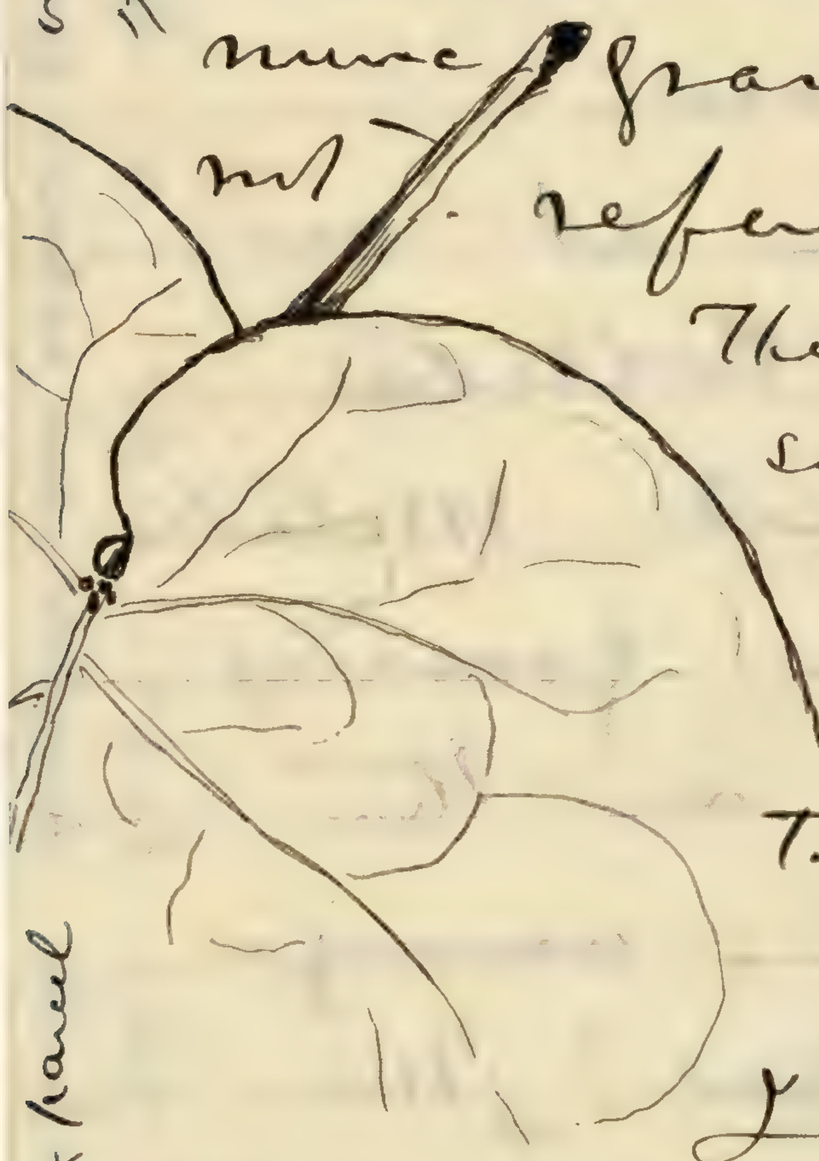
As you wish other & better Sps of G. macrophyllus I send you some collected a few days since.

I found them at an old place on the Colleton River — wh. I had not visited for some years, — growing under live oaks on the edge of the marsh, among yuccas, palmettos &c! No young fruit as yet, and only one follicle of last year found, — just like the one I sent you some time back. The leaves in the parcel are from

But you will think me an epicure! Alas! we have nothing to be epicurus on except the few dishes the good provides us out of the woods. I can live like a Spartan on black bread or hog & hominy, nevertheless, Palmetto pickles we esteem good & so also the boiled 'cabbage' of the same!!

(3) I send you letter & pencil sketch of the Petunia

the same vines. I observe on these leaves — just where the petiole joins the blade, two, three, four, (and rarely five) purple glands (?!), or, what shall I call them? — rudimentary pistils? I first see this alluded to in Dr. Gray's Bot contributions — the "nunc granulosa" surely does not refer to this condition!



The purple colour changes soon to brown when drying — you don't I mean to say that this is the "Saber!" Which I wish to remark, and my language is plain" — that I can't find that out anywhere satisfactorily! As for the curl when seen or dried of the petunia they are the shots from which the pistils dropped, and are to be seen

in hirsutus as well. 64a

It may be that the half
form follicle will show
something suberous — at
any rate I can't say I
see anything which could
give such a name!

When I first saw these
purple grains, or glands
or prickles — on the leaves
of monophyllus, I thought
they were peculiar to that
species and they are more
prominent & better marked
there, — but, I find ~~xx~~ them
also on the leaves of —
hirsutus. I wonder if all
the species have them? They
must be easily overlooked
on the dried leaf — but hardly
on the green! I state that
that I found these vines
among yuccas & palmettos &c

648

Of the former I saw M. abiflora in bloom & also with young fruit — promuba in the flowers i — and a few beet off — just on the margin of the salt marsh — the finest sort yet seen of M. bracteata in bloom — the stalks clothed with walnut — as before related. Flowers very large — leaves very along — I send specs of both. Whenever I go in this section I find angustifolia, bracteata & laevigata preserve their ancient characteristics — it was only at Tungsburg I was somewhat stumped. Here they are always peculiar & well marked. Many thanks for the specs of Nasturtium — indicating the "struggle". No! I have never met with Isoetes — shall I see it, will let you know. The other day I saw Mrs M — fixing up pickles of the heart of the large a Cabbage hat-metto. I think they are filtrate, I told her to fix up a bottle for you. It is possible you have never tried them — I know they are not much

eaten in winter.

The Cabbage palm is an evergreen tree or bush — "cabbages" are used by the natives.

Lemuel

abundance with which the tender heart eat

The Cabbage palm is a favorite food with the Indians, eating the heart raw or cooking it in "butter"!

Rec'd Aug 14th
Ans 14th

65

Bluffton
Ill.
Aug 9

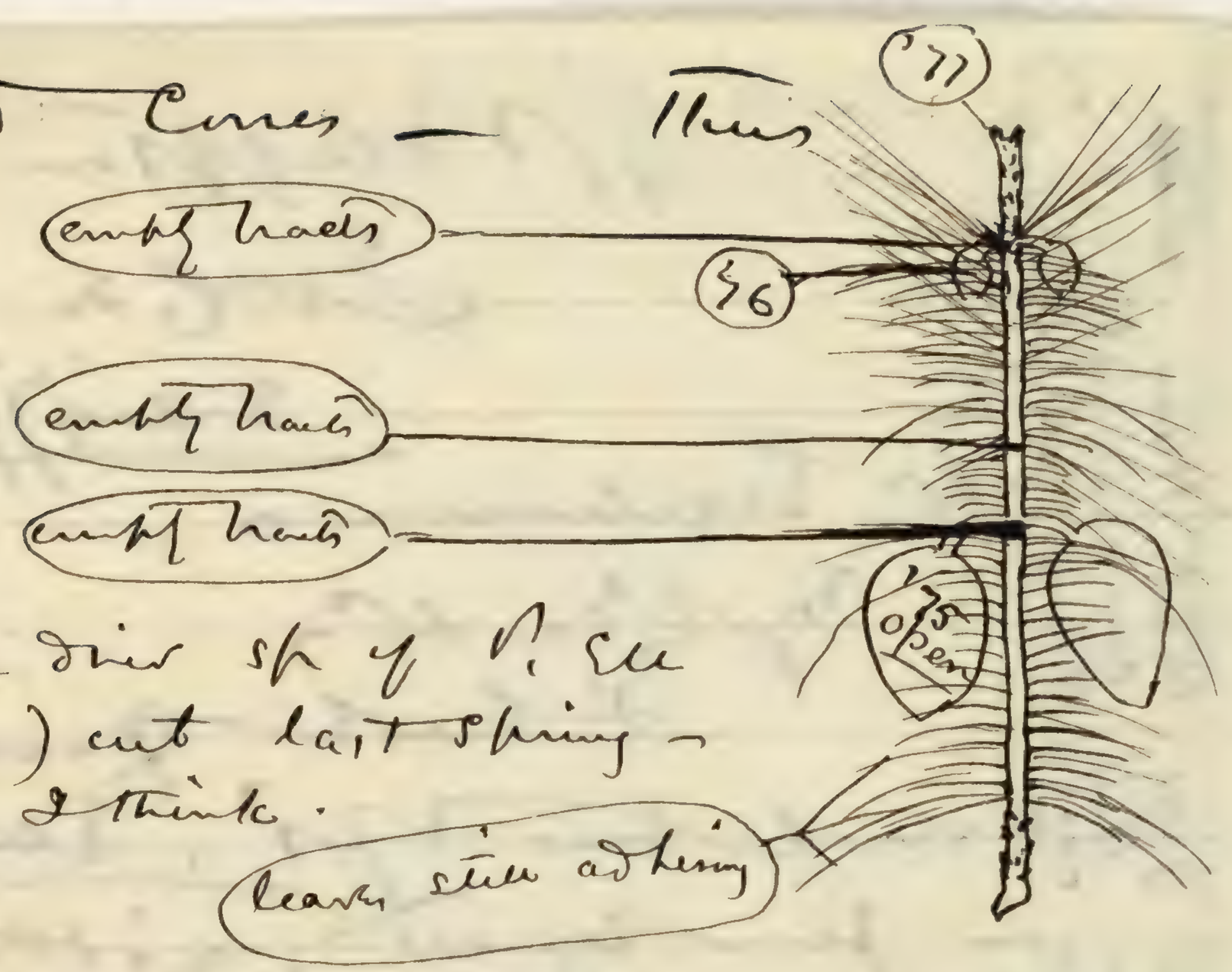
Dr. Engelmann,
My Dear Sir,
I have examined several times Mr. Curtis' as you request, & it seems to me that there is little or no space above the cones free of leaves. I do find a few bracts empty of leaves, and this is the only approach to the condition observed in P. Serotina & other pines.

A few (and only a very few) of these empty bracts may be found above the cones but the most you will find at the base of the se-

(3rd Aug) Thanks, & congratulate you & your friends, that there are not more of them! I wish there were more of them! I am so lazy that I can scarcely write to you (thanks for it!) myself.

I congratulate you & your friends — & rejoice that there are some Americans who have yet to learn what they are equal to! — Sincerely Yours of all kinds
Asa Gray

– curved Cones – Thus



From a dried sp of P. ellu (sapling) cut last spring – March I think.

But I send the sps you want with them come bth of last & this year – you will hold them to guess a judge for yourself! From a young vigorous tree on edge of a field a few feet from the river.

In some dried sps from old trees which I've just examined the leaves seem to be curved down quite close just above the young cones, with no empty bracts at all. I will send these too, but by the time they reach you

they may be all here & mutilated.
Look at the one with Malo
ants. I say old trees, that
is my impression.

Yr truly yrs
J. H. Muenscher

Yr remark from the
Gardener's Chronicle that
zoologists & botanists will
soon begin to study Dam-
-ing & bees bird skins
& other plants, recalls some-
-thing very diff. I suppose
from yr allusion, and yet
the thought is always being
forced upon me, — so far
the mere fun of it I'll
quote what amused me
so much — from "the Sage of
Concord" Essay on Beauty!
So he goes — "Our Botany
is all names not powers:
Poets & Romancers talk of herbs of
grace & healing, but what does the

Botanist know of the virtues of his weed? We should go to the ornithologist with a new feeling, if he could teach us what the social birds say when they sit in the autumn council, talking together in the trees. The want of sympathy makes his record a dull dictionary. His result is a dead bird. The naturalist is led from the road by the whole distance of his fancied advance. The boy had juster views when he gazed at the shells on the beach, or the flowers in the meadow, unable to call them by their names, than the man in the pride of his nomenclature. Bugs & stamens & species, on which we labor so many years, are not finalities, & man when his powers unfold in order, will take Nature along with him & emit light into all her recesses.

The collector has dried all the plants in his herbal, but he has lost weight & humor. He has got all snakes & lizards in his phials, but science has done for him also, and has put the man into a bottle!" — and much else! Now all that is pretty transcendental but it is very well to look on that side of the question! —

But will you excuse my folly for taking up your time in reading such bosh on ornithological structure?! —

Rec. Oct 23rd — Blowing Rock N.C.
Ans. Oct 26 — 1900
and letter Nov 21

66

My dear Dr. I just get in one time with the walk on-
-closures — which have already
blanketed. The acorns reminded me
most of G. falcata. This is
the first chance I've had
to write. For the past month
I have had but little opportunity
to indulge the literary fever,
— indeed, I have been terribly
uneasy on account of the illness
of my wife who is at last
up! What with loss of sleep
at night, and looking after
sick people in the day I
have been most hard pressed.

But times are shi-
-ning again — and I later a
long breath! — When
I last got the acorns
from you of the varieties (?)
of G. stellata I somehow
that they were very few

on the trees — especially on the shadowy one. Passing the latter last week I found see but one acorn on the tree although it was full in the spring. Will anyone to get one or two from Britt & also from Cimicifuga-foetida which I haven't looked at. I lately picked up one or two things which are hardly worth sending herbarium, but I place them in the "American Naturalist" & a very pretty of Polystichum acrostichoides from an enormous fir rock I happened under the other day at "Bull's Isld". This last you will find in even in bloom later. Also Magnolia Michaux, — Herpestis Cuneifolia, & Vigna globosa? I'm not sure whether I've sent them to you before. This last I found on edge of Lake water at Bull's Isld, but it abounds on the rich field banks on the Sav River. Please if you have time read what I had to say in reference to Mrs Treat's observations published in Harper's last year on the Sar. Vanilla's question, and if it happens to come in your way I'd like you to give it to Prof Riley (in case he has not seen it) because he rather endorsed my view of the matter & one doesn't like to be caught nothing [redacted] in such matters.

If convenient — but not otherwise — please return the "American Naturalist" mentioned.

Please return Herbarium specimen.

66

I place in the parcel a not very young plant of I. from Michigan — why not try to cultivate it in St L? It is well worthy of cultivation. The root I believe runs up to 40 & 50 lbs, — but I don't think I ever saw one over 20 ordinarily!

J. H. M.

Acc' Mark 2 J. Bellevue Ill.
Ans — 7

23, Feb. 1878.

67

To
Dr. G. Engelmann,
My dear Doctor —

Thanks for your kind letter & the accompanying pamphlets. In reference to these last I venture to send a portion of Mr. Ravenel's letter wh. expresses what I myself feel with great heartiness and sincerity — — if you will pardon my outspokenness! —

Some two weeks since Mr. Curtis sent me a sp. of P. Elliottii in bloom, from the neighbourhood of Jacksonville Fla (I suppose) asking me whether it was P. Elliottii or P. Toeda. —

I had no doubt that it will be found in Fla

especially as Mr Canby be=
=lieved that he had seen the
tree there. Mr C — also
sent a sh. of P. Toeda wh.
he supposed to be P. mitis
— but he seemed doubtful.
There was no doubt at all
of its being the former — its
three leaves and unmistakeable
cone did not differ in any
respect from our "old field Sob=
=bolly". I was somewhat sur=
=prised at his hesitation, for
calling the two pines are
very different. But one
must look at pines a long
time to know them thoroughly.
As you will probably ex=
=hand the pines this year
and among them our old
friend P. Elliottii — I send
another a last (?) spring
bloom! On many of these
lines the pollen has already
been discharged, and the
aments are now dropping

on the ground. Certainly this pine is always our earliest bloomer & the soonest to drop its cones. Last week travelling a very sandy road over wh. I had not halted for many years - I met with a clump of broad leaved yucca filamentosa wh. had evidently bloomed last year. I sent one leaf. Wherever I go in my little round of say twenty miles - the four "varieties" of Y. filamentosa wh. I have so frequently sent you - still hold their own - presenting all of their characteristics. At Punxsutawney however you may remember I was somewhat puzzled a few years back. The pine cones of P. australis were later from a tree just cut wh. I happened to hap on the occasion. They seemed somewhat peculiar

678.

from the excessive growth of a few of the upper scales. All of these young ones that I examined were so. The yucca aloifolia st. I cut this afternoon on Hunting Bell, and the new growth as you see is immediately next to the old flr stalk — no leaf intervening.

Yr truly & respectfully
J. H. Mueenkamp

P.S. I sent Mr Curtiss small sts of all your pines — miles — Slabs & bits whole of them! I am not sure what oak leaves you refer to, — certainly I never sent you D. byrsa at all last year. I expect to take a look at that great oak at "Beech Hill" — see planting this spring & report. I have not seen it since I wrote for about it — a very great tree! I suppose they had a grand day yesterday in Chicago with Hamblin (22d) — "consuls" Hayes — not Grant — who so tumbled our spirit last yr!!

Bluffton, Mo.
6. April 78.

Rec'd April 13

Dr. Engelmann

My dear Doctor

I need not tell you how time back but I thought it best to wait for the flowering of that glabrous leaved Smilax (Smilax Illinoensis) before writing. About two days ago happening that I examined the vine carefully & to my surprise found that it was hardly an annual vine. It had evidently not bloomed in any profusion for I found no flowers on the ground & none (dried) on the branches as is frequently the case. However, I at last espied three or four umbels on a lower branch which hardly seemed mature enough to take — but not knowing when I may have an opportunity will offer I again I deemed it best to

1st I have had Smilax glabra bearing umbels & they being a branch on top of a high bush, but not a single one of these umbels seemed mature. Even a dwarf Smilax herbacea, which grows with hollow stem, & Smilax Illinoensis, which grows in my open & thrives best in the shade!

way

Missouri Botanical Garden
George Engelmann Papers

secure and press them which I have
done & then I now send with all
freshly plucked branchlets (today).
On the very youngest leaves you
will see a rather sharp stellate
pubescence but evidently it gets
rubbed off pretty quickly for there
is none yet to be seen on the
fresh ~~&~~ & older leaves pricked
to-day. When I read your letter
I was amazed — almost stupe-
-fied at the thought of this
Beechhill tree being lyrata
for such a thought had never
entered my head — since then
however looking at the leaves of
your seed & learning the variability
of oaks (an uncertain race!) I
think it likely that it may
be lyrata after all. But I
feel by no means sure — my
notion was that it was a
hybrid. But I hope to settle
it this year some time. A young
friend of mine — a lad who
has time to work down this
has promised me faithfully
— this was 2 weeks ago —

Young Quercus foliis obtusis (Quercus Prunus) sent me
seeds — you sent me
a stem

69a

to get flying specs for me but I have as yet heard nothing from him. The poor boy is watching the theering darkeys all day long at the rice planting & carries out his frugal dinner with him. The rice-bunting & I dare say has not had the time. But I wrote also to the overseer whose house is but a few yards from the trees to do the same for me & from him I may hear as he promised to look after his wife. But I hope to get them myself for I am coming to Georgia & be satisfied. I have just been reading some letters of old Peter Collinson to Bartram & have been much interested & amused by them. There is an ~~in-esp~~ cautionary to B. in reference to birds & their vanishings. Since wh I wd now transcribe & inquire did I not put half some fine morning here seen it was then most prime procession about you this spring? We have a prolonged drought & probably this was the cause of the immense

Seed in this beautiful soil – especially if we put on! – everything

Schedule of the birds of you & can find out

Third

69*

discharge of this yellow dust. I saw it
everywhere, in my piazza — in the
marsh, the river, — the roadside
— all about, & once coming from New
River I saw what I took to be
a regular pollen smoke or cloud
in the wood — looking like greenish
smoke! The wood it is true were
burning & had been burnt everywhere
— the smoke too appearing, — but, if
this remarkable appearance I did
not suppose to be smoke — but pollen
I knew as it was wafted along
the road my eyes felt it & my throat
became rough & the grains on my coat
in the vehicle wh I examined under a glass & were
pollen grains. But one would have thought
it smoke at first & of course it may
have been, a pollen & smoke but I
think not! Having to write to Prof
Sargent I alluded to it briefly & what
was my surprise last mail to find that
he was going to publish a letter to
what I said in the Bulletin — he
mistaking what I said as to the
greenish appearance of the pollen
cloud & the greenish hue of the
woodsides near where the pollen was
incorporated with it & when it had
remained long in the damp piles —
and thinking that I meant to say that
the pollen was green — wh he said
he had never before heard of & that you were
glad to be informed about it. I never saw
any pollen wh was not sulphur colour. I
immediately wrote to Prof S — so as to correct
his misapprehension but the letter hadn't gone

were just wipes for the mind wh happening to come like a flake
of authors (?) should it out from the Jones (?) so many thousands of trees

in the greenish pollen

the amounts of pollen grains

Imagine how natural & [illegible] the

April 1878 — * ten days back 68

The parcel contains —

{ sp. of leaves & a few aments of the glabrous Stellata, (Obtusiloba)* and of branchlets just planted.

{ One set of 2 Stellata with flat anthers — sent last year — (Hail storm!) — just planted.

{ One sp. of seedling of 2 Mich.ii planted by myself.

{ sp. of P. Elliottii with the young ones now recovering!

{ Some more leaves of the Var.i of Yucca filamentosa — the freshest & greenest & widest wh. are with outside have just been sent me from a place on the Mexico. At first sight looked almost like flaccida but I believe it is a bracteata

68a

Another most pale & smooth with very long filaments I found some ten days or more back in a high, dry & sandy pine-barren. Although so different I believe that also to be bachata! The other is the smooth laevigata from a little isld in mayRiver. But these various sps are unsatisfactory to you botanists as they are not sufficiently fixed & defined?! The parcel has a most imposing look & yet I fear there is nothing in it acceptable to you! Strange about those young pine cones not appearing in the parcel last sent! I know I put them in, rolled in the mail — "les Misérables"!!

J. H. M.

Rec April 27 14
Ans 28

69 II

Bluffton MO
22. ap 78.

My Dr Engelmann –

My thanks for the 74th
duly received. I have
looked for the drawing
D stellata today but
found most of the plants
burnt. The one however
from Mr Dr that before
sent from Sps was in-
-lact with a few dried
aments still clinging.
I have pressed it &
when dry will send.
Although this special
sp is not over eighteen
inches or two feet high
it has fruit yet &
has sometimes wondered

Whether these small shrubs are not runners from larger trees which have suffered for years from burning. In some of
* these places I meet with the small stumps of
2. Stellata long black & burned & which are shooting up. The small dwarf shoots may be very young but they may have ancient roots.

Although you have no interest in that Beech Hill oak (feeling so certain) I have, and I intend to hammer at it until I feel
* assured what it is!
I expect sts you will soon & if so will

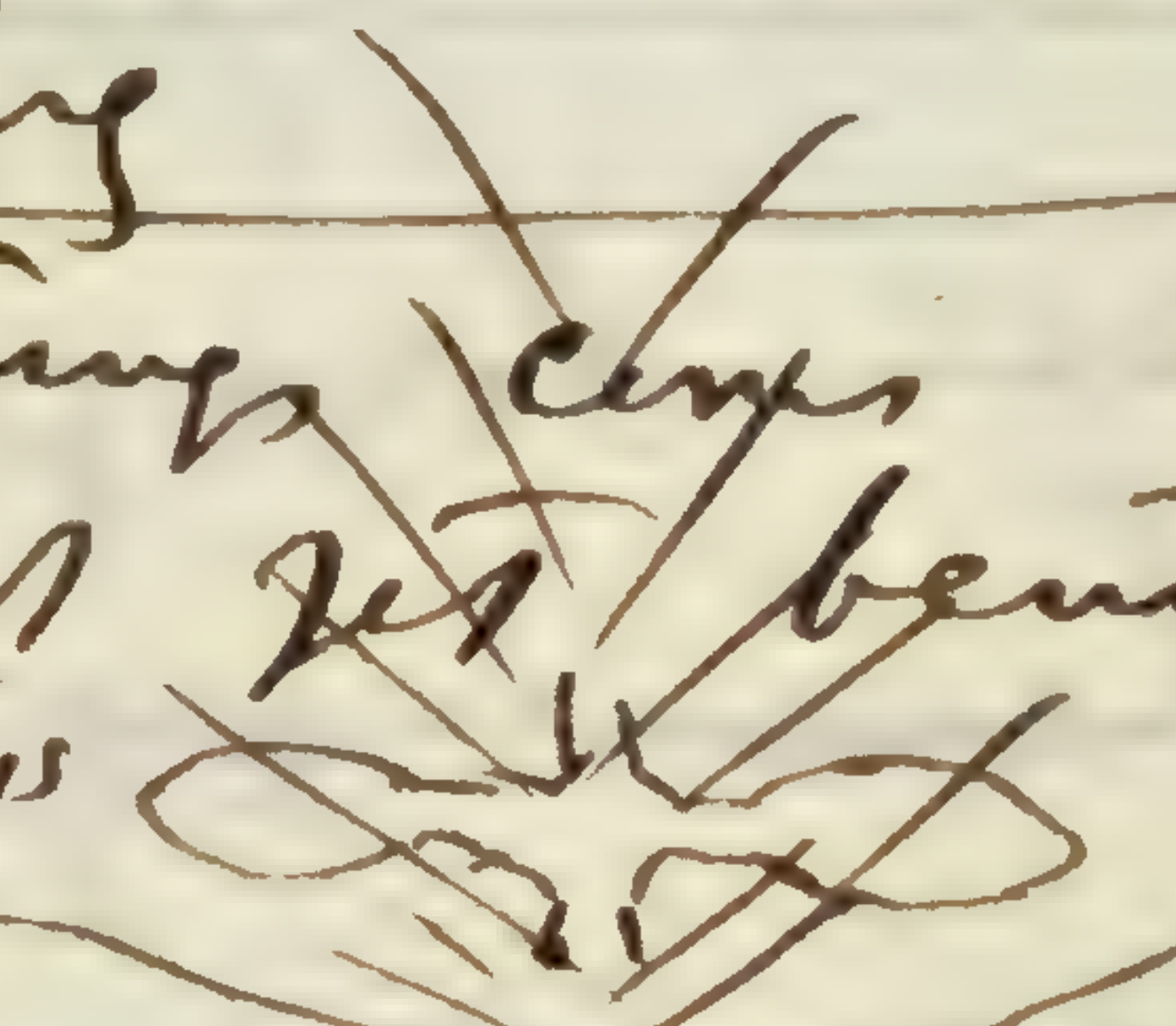
you tell me if I don't find out

now

sent them to you.
On the tenth or
eleventh of this month
(same time last year?)
we had a hail storm
wh beat down many
fine sps of Smilacina
& the laurifolia byland.
I have collected some
of these & may send them to
you. It is no harm
to re-examine seed
from year to year.
By the by — the
hail stones were the
largest I ever saw.
most of them were
as large as a "guinea
hen's egg" — a large
number as large as a
hen's egg & some of

still greater size.

Yesterday having leisure I collected sps of all the pines & I send them as again indicating the remarkable peculiarities of P. Ell from the rest as to ~~the~~ its precocity & what you called my attention to long ago — viz the early bending downward of the young cones — close to the stem. It differs in this respect perhaps from all other known pines? But I fear I may burden & worry even myself with too much repetition of sps!

I. is P. mitis — young tree.
II is P. glab. — sapling
III is P. taeda — last springs cones are now not yet bent down thus

IV is P. serotina.

one sp. with two 5 leaves tied to stem with a red string is from a sapling 8 feet high — examine for such leaves.
— The others from old tree
P. Ell & P. aust unmarked. a sp of P. Ell from the growing young sapling — I cut in half. — all pressed. My [illegible]

3 Yes! I regret that you did not see Mr Roetter at that peculiar condition of cones.

Rec May 28
a 31 — Bluffton Mo
22. May 1878

Dr Engelmann —

My dear Sir

I send you two things — one they I have received from Bluffton. The last from the bank & leaves, etc reminds me of J. stellata — ~~[illegible]~~ the flat variety. J. glauca has sessile acorns, has it not? — but that is not much. Please examine & confirm that this not J. glauca but some hybrid of J. stellata. ~~a [illegible]~~ !!

The J. stellata I may O had only a few galls & they drying under stem. This sh is the smallest I have ever seen (you have almost the whole size) & the smallest leaves.

After the pine land has been burned one may see for a long distance shrubs like I, — occasionally, a tree too of high with bark as I, — ~~[illegible]~~ sometimes

700

trees 15 – 20 ft high. Doubtless if one of these shoots were trimmed & kept from fire it would eventually run into a tree as above. I have never seen (I think) a Platanus growing – the only Platanus I have sallata was the tree sent you last year – but that did not mature its fruit & it was full in Spring.

Cinereo falcata – is quite last here – I think it will die this year. An unusual sort "sickness" probably prevailed that Christmas.

Please look at the Acacias.

Very truly & really

J. H. Maiden

Mr Riley

Hol

I am very glad you will help him.

Is you will find a Medicago in the parcel – when I was on James Isld a few days since – near Chilton my cousins brought it to me stating that it was overcoming a vetch they have there. It is not found about here. When I see a Camas bog I shall look for that Mexican. Is Mr Cash

Is there any such thing as Cestrum aurantiacum in Tas. – I never saw it here – What is it good for?

Kindness elsewhere?

Rec Bayfield Aug 31st
Ans — Sept 1st

Burton
Sir
G a
11. aug 18

My Dear Sir
A young friend just from Sav.
Riv — or rather from
"Beech Hill" desires
Say — has just given
me his parcel of seeds
& begges him
to accept. They are
from the same tree
which I sent you — (Sta
gathered & sent you in
the spring) and are
taken from every portion
of the tree. I had hoped

Dr Engelmann
Sir
I was so pleased
that I could
send you
a little of
what we
are doing
in the
shooting
line.
The
man
is
a
'shooting
fever
inveter.

71a

to get across for you, but he bites me not one was to be found. I don't know if these leaves can tell anything more — but I send them, & also others from the Flat: another Dr stellata — which has been blown down some six weeks or more ago. I can get you acorns of this later as it is bearing abundantly. Some of comes on the flat: leaved Q. stellata. I enclose leaves of Gnomonia Suberosum with a fungus. I found vines covered with it (not about here but in an unexplored place on the edge of a new-field. I thought I had "struck" something new — but Mr Ravenel says he found it long ago & that this Puccinia Gnomoniae; "Rav." I don't know if you have seen the enclosed letter of Prof Collinson in Darlington's Botany but one day I will show it to you as it seems with reading. The Dr Star is raging & I'm glad to stop — but come heat or cold I am always Yrs

Rec'd Aug 23
Ans Sept 1st

Blufftown
Florida
18 — Aug 1878 —

Dr. Engelmann —

My Dear Doctor

Last week I sent you a note enclosing Mr. Ravenel's Puccinia Sonolobi found on vines of Cucurbitus on edge of rice field. That fungus is not found here on salt water.

Learning from Dr. Gray that you had "gone to Lake Superior — to Cool", I did not send the parcel with books from Beech Hill. I concluded to wait until you returned home, and for another reason also I

delay, as I am just drying some pressed oak sps with abundant fruit of the same Glabra J. Stellata wh I first sent in two years ago — mature fruit of wh you will remember I failed to get!

Hybrid trees seems to me must necessarily be scarce, — "sporadic", — perhaps sometimes there may be but one sp of a certain type growing in the forest. But if we find several trees unvarying as to foliage & fruit we may then have to give up hybridity & call the new trees "species", or "variety"! Who knows but that Jaumay have to do this with the Glabra J. Stellata !! Since my last note I have found

and carefully examined four
(no great number it's true)
undoubted trees precisely
similar to the oak growing
near here. And where do
you think? — Where else
than on a small island of
five acres or so — away off
in the marsh near the mouth
of my River! This place
formerly the nesting place
of sea-fowl & the haunt of
otters & raccoons, has been
cleared (save a small por-
-tion) by an old freedman
friend of mine, & is of
wonderful fertility. Somewhat
tired out with work &
melted by the overpowering
heat I had a day of it
down there — out of reach of
all calls, & well was I
repaid for the outlay! —

72B

The isle, tho' so far away in the mud & marsh rests on a red clay foundation, & on the margin I saw various trees as Linden — Celtis, &c mingled with the usual growth of Live Oak & Palmetto. I saw four trees of fine size of our Platanus P. Lettata, — these growing on the highest part of the isle ~~[illegible]~~ in the little cotton patch, & one on the margin so tilted over in the marsh as to afford me abundant opportunity of leaves & acorns. But I obtained specs from all four & they were all the same. The bark on these was flaky — very much like the White Oak, & precisely like that from the other sent you, but on one it was closer & not so much disposed to flake, — possibly a younger tree. (As regards the flaking or not

flaking — the scaling or not scaling of the Bark I lay no stress upon that, at least so far as Q. stellata is concerned, — because I have seen trees of fine size which were the undoubted "simon-pure" Q. stellata — in no way flakers — with large-lobed rusty leaves (at this season) & yet their bark did not be distinguishable from that of Q. alba. I have seen two such trees growing within a few feet of each other on the Oketee — the one with bark such as we frequently or most usually see it in Q. stellata — the other scaly like Q. alba — the leaves of both being the same. Yesterday coming from New River I again examined two trees growing each other on each side of the road: the one, being a pure Q. alba — the other a pure Q. stellata,

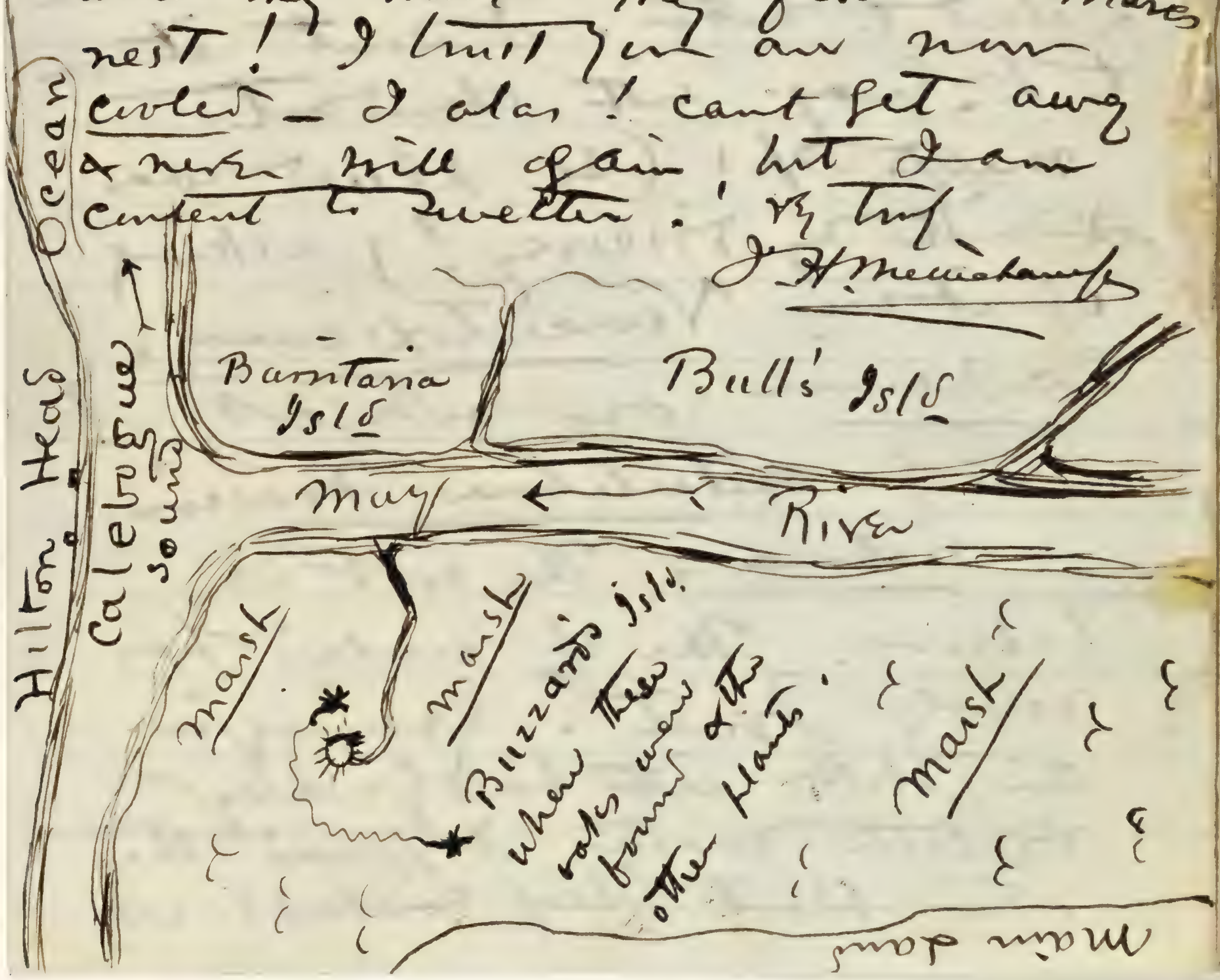
both having the scaly-black bark of the true Q. alba. I assume that if you had been brought up to the trunk of the Q. ~~obtusiloba~~ stellata without seeing the leaves you would unhesitatingly have pronounced the tree to be Q. alba. I cite this instance as the trees afford me an opportunity of comparing them accurately they being so near.

Well! we will now get some fruit of this glabrous Q. stellata on Buzzard's Isle, my Rio, for Mr Freeman Robinson Crusoe (Mr Caspius Morell!) promises to get me a quantity this season in the fall! I shall send the ops. whenever you give me to do so, as well as those (Casper & Butler) of the enclosed Asclepiadaceous vine from

the same isle & wh I doubt 73c
whether it has ever been before
seen in Carolina. The northern
margin of this isle is a mass
of crumbling & decaying oyster-
-shells brought there doubtless
hundreds of years ago by the
Red men & here I found un-
-der the various trees this vine-
climbing some six or eight feet -
tangled, - intertwined & matted!
The minute flowers are greenish
or greenish yellow — becoming a
deeper straw colour when mature
& about to wither. I sent it on
to Dr. Gray with abundant
matted sps (so pleased was
I with my discovery!) asking
if it was Vincetoxicum
Scandens or what?
Hab. Metastelma Fraseri
or Melina. The root is
fibrous. The st. erect has
young fruit. Growing in
the shells with hard & any
vegetable matter I found the
other plant (leaf enclosed) wh

12th almost like cultivated & must belong I suppose to the Ranunculaceæ. I sent all this to Mr Gray & a lot of your Alaska orchis also in fruit with them. I wonder if you are a careless Mr — immersed as he is in work will thank me for thus interrupting him! But that must be the penalty with you my Mr, & he must pay — to be worried, the poor dear when they think they find a mare's nest! I trust you are now cooled — I alas! cant get away & never will again but I am content to wait. Yr truly

J. H. Macadam



Rec Sept 26
Ans

Bluffton, S.C. 11. Sept. (1878 –

My dear Sir, Many thanks for thinking of me in your new lacustrine Home! I opened my eyes at G. laevis, but will you pardon my audacity if I doubt? I have just examd good specs. of the new field plant, & I will send them to you with Quercus when you get back & I think I can convince you that it is only a form or transition variet. of G. suberosus. True, the lobes are flatwise & quite hairy at the tips & the other is all. The flos of both are light purple – foliage the same – perhaps that of the rice-field plant more crisp – but I'm not sure. The description of G. laevis in Spry as to calyx – and umbels & petiole will not apply to our plant. But you will judge when you get my specs. I happened to pass the spot last week – no fruit. The fungus (Puccinia) has destroyed the vines almost. Mr. G. says the asclep. is Vincetox. scep. The Ranunc. plant Aquilegia canad !!! what a queer place! Raining & blustering, – making up we fear to a Sept. gale. My [illegible]

POSTAL CARD.

BLUFFTON
SEP

U.S. POSTAGE 1 CENT

WRITE THE ADDRESS ON THIS SIDE—THE MESSAGE ON THE OTHER

Dr. Geo. Engelmann
St. Paul
~~Bayfield~~ Minn.
~~(Lake Superior)~~
~~Wis.~~

Rec'd Jan 4th
ans Jan 20.

Bluffton
S.C
30 Dec 78

75

Dr Engelmann

My dear Doctor

I often think of you — fearing that you may still be suffering the agonizing pains of Rheumatism! — but I trust not and hope you are now quite well!

A terrible case getting you did have for some months past in the lad with bad Cancer com=

= plications, but he presented himself before me a day or two since seemingly well, — but possibly the heart is unsound now or has been before.

It has been hot & humid about Calif. between here & San Rio, & so I was of necessity kept with my Brother to the isl. where I found Vinceloxi Tenpm. Examined again the trees of Stab. L. Stellata. Nothing new to report.

75a

I collected a good many mature follicles of No. 5, and a few of Enclosure in this. Near this time in company with Aquilegia & Thaspium bastinode I found Trillium budding & soon to bloom. Never saw a Trillium in this section before, though often near Charleston. Curious little isle in the marsh!

Too late when you get this, but I wish you a happy New Year. I'm dead tired having just come from Lark. With I'm also good night

Yours

Rec May 8
Ans 1 8

Please write on 1 May 1879 whether you want

Blufftown Ga.

14

Dr. Engelmann —

My dear Doctor —

I was very glad to hear from you again. I have just fixed up the lot of grapes you sent — having examined a good many of V. Vulpina — both wild & cultivated. I see no difference in them at all — they all have the pith continuing through the nodes just as you have sketched it. I send specs also of V. Aestivalis (or what I take to be it) and V. cordifolia. In some of the young & tender shoots of the former it seems

74a

hard to find the
break in the pith
— but it is easy enough
in the older. —
With the exception of
about a dozen or so
specimens from the two
Scuttlemouth & Peerse —
all the rest are from
wild vines — one sh. ~~x~~
later from each vine
for a quarter of a
mile as I went
along — and as I said
before every one contains
the pith through the
nodes as you will
see in examining
them. If you notice
— see it — I can
get completed sps

74a

V. Cordifolia and V. Aestivalis. The parcel contains

I. "Peedee grape" from Mr Ravenel cultivated from V. Vulpina.

II & III somehow these sps got mixed but by far the greater part are from wild vines — eight or a dozen are from two vines of here "Scuppernong" (V. Vulp) in my garden. —

IV. V. Aestivalis (?) from five vines.

V. V. Cordifolia from two vines. —

I shall continue the examinations & will see if I have anything worth telling!

745

Yes! the two Y. Recurifolia have grown with a stem about a foot or so but have never flowered!

A month ago in shingling my house the leaves got all twisted & torn & so I had to cut them off & they look now fulsome enough. We had a terrible cyclone in the next co destroying Walterboro' & most civil & killing & wounding a good many people. The chief Doctor there — a nice man — was out, & came back to his house in utter ruins — his wife killed & a daughter wounded mortally, I believe!. Our missionary Pastor — poor fellow — didn't come last week — for he is homeless — These things are common in the west but almost unknown in our Car law country. Our Sep. gales wh we have twice regularly damage crops, &c but seldom produce such utter ruin. I must try & go off for a few days holiday — bad pain in heart — had it off & on for some years but worse this spring. I'll have to give up tobacco smoking at night & it'll be hard on me. If I go & I find anything will send to you. Writing I am

Friendly & Gen. Yours

What an awful wind

What a terrible storm it must have been!

Rec Oct 11
Ans Nov 2

75 II

Bluffton S.C.

5.10.1879.

My Dr. Engelmann.

My Dear Doctor —

Last week when I was plunging through the wet woods some miles from Charleston (St. James' Goose Creek) I collected one or two things for you, — not however of much interest, — but which I expected to send, mostly or entirely to indicate that my thoughts were with you in the woods, — as indeed they often are at many other times my dear Dr! —

Getting back to the city one night I found

awaiting me an immediate summons home on account of the illness of my wife. Such is life! — I had but a little while to pack up and take the night train, so in this way the Sp.s were left behind. Should I ever get them again I shall send them on to you. Mrs M— is at last better so that now I have a little easier. I forgot to say Cariñus — when I first approached it — in a swamp I said here is L. P.'s Planera at last — which I've so long looked for, — but upon examination it proves to be only Cariñus which I suppose is common with you. —

75 II a

I trust you are quite well & still hard at Vitis. It seems to me I saw Vitis long ago in the borders of the Park at over Ponsbury; — shall I ever get them again I'll look it up.

Very truly & respectfully yrs

J. H. M.

P.S

Just found Collinsonia scutellaria = = ovalis. Did I suppose, — or possibly ovalis of the mountains? Never saw it before, — only C. punctata ~~too~~ of Ell. I enclose sprig and leaf.

J. H. M.

Thickness of Bark of P. Elliottii from an old tree — about 50 feet high. 76

Rec'd Dec 9th
an — 20

Blumenau, S. Ctm

May thanks for
Calif. Cupuliferæ. 4579

My dear Doctor —

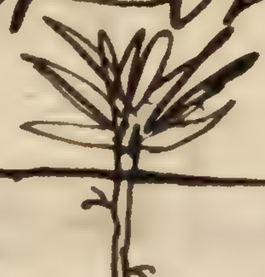
I was very glad to get a letter from you again, and I need not say how with Mr Roettcher's faithful drawings of our sea-board pine. They are splendid, and I am never

trust of looking at them. I have read your MS, and as soon as I have the leisure (which I think will be in a few days) I shall do so again, and if any corrections be necessary – will make them. Many thanks for the plates which you lent me to keep! You may remember my sending you a rough drawing of a leaf sprouting flower stalk of Yucca filamentosa which is found in Dauphin's

76a

Beach last fall — 1898 —

~~I cut off the plants~~ ~~stalk~~ I brought it home and planted it in my garden but last aug, or perhaps long before that, finding the leaves yellow and every sign of its rotting, I pulled it up & threw it away.



Happening to pass the spot a short time since I found it had put out many leaves & was rooting! (you will call that "rooting" won't you?) I send it on to you with this — thinking you might like to look at it.

76b

also a section of bark of P. Ellipticus.

Add the (which has exfoliated) loose upper layer of the solid bark to the cover & you will have the usual thickness of the bark. This from a tree about fifty feet high I "guess" — an old tree. The enclosed ~~two~~ cut twigs of oak are about the thickness as measured on same tree. I suppose it differs on diff. trees — young & old. I shall send the Wdsh. of Florida from seed & in all other respects try to do as you desire. I write at present in haste — write have more time next week.

Always yr. bro. faithfully yours

J. H. [illegible]

76 II

If you have time my dear Miss Morris please look on the Examiner under Jan manuscripts (magnifying how many times?) the little brown Specks which you will find between the Cajeu of S. Isle Cotton. Negroes & white too — have repeatedly come to me with an eye terribly inflamed and sometimes ulcerated — the painful symptoms all due to this little brown foreign body. On Sermalococcaium I

had concluded that
it was the wing or scale
of some part of a
little insect — but
I do not feel sure.
It may be from
the Cotton plant, or
from the Pine — will
you be so good as to
examine it & tell me
what you think of it.
This one I've just taken
from an negro woman who came
from Pinckney's Island. I have
seen eyes almost blown (out (by inflt?))
from this minute speck.
Recovery is rapid
after its extraction.
But I fear I
bother you much!!

S. Mitchell

Seems to be animal, not of vegetable origin.

I do circle to know if your MS reached Jno. Isabelle.

Bluffton Mo.
15 Nov. '99

Rec Dec 20th

Dr. Engelmann

My Dear Doctor -

Some time ago you asked me what had become of the "Beechtree oak"! I have hardly kept the run of it, for I seldom get in that neighborhood, and when there was so prepared that I did not examine it. However - a few days since in returning from a rice planting on Lost Riv I went to the tree & obtained a few acorns which I now send.* What was my surprise to find the smallest acorns there closely resembling *

J. H. Allen

2. Obtusiloba. Compare them if you please with those I sent you from the smooth 2. stellata from the little islds at the mouth of my River. Such oaks are variable enough to puzzle anybody!

In the same parcel you will find one acorn a-piece of the two chestnut oaks ~~from~~ such as I sent you before. Also sp of P. Elliottii with the male amts just tinged with violet, — and a young plant of P. australis with two leaves, which also I sent you long ago.

77a

As regards the seed
of P. Elliottii you
said — "germinating
in — before cold weather".
I forgot to say that
that was rather a
doubtful mode of
propagation — as that
depends upon what
one considers "cold
weather"! The seeds
fall about the last
of October or about the
first week in Nov
according to season —
and they soon germinate.
It is then cold or
coldish weather altho'
with no real winter
weather seldom comes
until Dec.

[illegible] Perhaps it would be better to say that they germinate in Nov.! The woods are now full of the young plants such as I sent you in a letter last week. —

P. Australis also is "coming up" about a dwelling in the woods &c. I returned your papers to Mr. Elliott last week. I forgot to tell you that some months ago Mr. Thos. Wood an accomplished physician (I believe) of Wilmington N.C. wrote me for specimens of Ill at the same time asking me to give him a description of that pine as he proposes a work on the subject. He is an enthusiastic botanist, but a lover of nature — a scholar I think, and a gentleman

Mr. Sartwell

"Longer days" — he is writing to him — he has better [illegible] I think he will be [illegible] in a fortnight.

Mr. Sartwell

Pines.

J. H. Mellichamp

a perfect [illegible] & a verbal [illegible] most [illegible]

Rec'd Jan 30
Ans — 5

Bluffton
Illinois
29. Dec. 79.

Dr. Engelmann.

My dear Doctor.

The pleasure of receiving your letter was somewhat marred by my having to face that blunder or in=accuracy of "P. Ell. 130 ft. high"! I can't possibly ac=count for it — I must have been drunk — but then I'm not a drinking man! Are sure that I wrote that? I remember a friend dictating to me a pine of great size which had been cut on his place at the mouth of Newport — for U.S., — and which I believed to be P. Ell — could I have referred to that? I'm =possible — for I never saw it.

Thank you for the section I will send you.

Can't help it, — I try to be accurate & neither understate or overstate, — but the imagination plays tricks at times when knowledge or overtakes. I never saw a pine 130 feet high in my life that I know of. As for the flowering last of P. glabra — there are only one or two near me & I dare say I may have judged too hastily from them. It is true I have seen australis & Taeda & glabra & mitis — all pretty much blooming together; but, after the observation of some years I think my last statement accurate, — viz — P. Elliottii by at least two weeks or more — according to season, — next australis & Taeda, next glabra & mitis, — last, serotina. The ♂ male aments of all of the pines are commencing to show now in Dec — but P. Ell is a — head of them all. I enclose sp^n. Did you my last letter of two?

weeks ago I referred to the germination of seeds of P. Ell ~~in~~ but as you said nothing about the acorns of the "Beech Hill oak" wh I sent, and of wh I wrote in said letter – I conclude you had not yet rec'd it! Have you by this time? I objected to seeds of P. Ell germinating "before cold weather", – better say – in Nov, or early in Nov: – It is hardly winter there but people call it "cold weather" – tho' our real cold comes after. –

(3) I cannot at all agree with you about P. Elliottii having a bark so very peculiar & differing vastly from P. australis. They are most alike in colour & both lamellate & exfoliating, – only as Elliott re= = marked the flakes of P. Ell are larger. I could show you trees of both wh I think you could not distinguish unless you looked up at the bams. To prove what I say I send by this mail specs of Bark & flakes (the very thin outer one also) of P. australis & also of P. Elliottii. I collected them myself from a tree of P. australis cut

a few weeks ago, & the other from ~~the~~ a ~~tree~~ living tree of P. Elliottii. Certainly there is a difference & I can usually tell the trees at a glance in the woods, — but tell me now what that difference amounts to? ——————————

13 As regards the wood of P. australis the rings seem usually much close & regularly concentric — whereas those of P. Elliottii are usually coarser & larger & ~~usually~~ more irregular, — but I do not know that there is any special difference in colour either in the resin-brown or pale rings. P. australis shows the brown & white rings like ~~P. australis~~ P. Ell; — why don't all pines show such rings — Taeda & the rest of them — and is it not so with all other pines over the whole earth? How else can one count the rings if there was not a streak of pale to separate the brown rings? I thought it was so with all pines. "Does it get darker with age — the pale part disap= =pearing"? — I don't think so un= =less the tree runs to what we call "Light wood"; — but even there I think one can trace the pale rings. At least so it seems from what I see so far.

13 P. australis loves the white sandy – dry pine – barrens, & that name is its appropriate one as the southern pine; – but nevertheless it is found occasionally in damp & wet places with P. serotina & P. Elliottii near – but only occasionally yet the name of P. palustris is absolutely incorrect. I wonder if the first observer – who still in the low country of Carol. did not mistake P. Elliottii for P. aust!

I am sorry to think that there may be a chance of giving up our "native" name (P. Ell) for the Cuba or Bahama pine! I fear the risk for this seems a salt water tree. If the Cuba tree has leaves – 2 – 3 ^ such cones as P. Ell – I shall fear for the result.

78c

If you speak of the "interminable trouble" you give me as to P. Ell &c, it is my W. L. no trouble to me, it is only that I fear at times I even "bore" you with trivialities & things irrelevant, & thus take up precious time! But you are very forbearing with an untrained & rather ignorant man & I feel this kindness & courtesy of yours in continuing to write even tho' I blunder or have inaccurate.

---

yes! I send you of 2. Nov – I thought I was to send the W(as) quercus ~~[illegible]~~ in Mex. –

2. falcata X cinerea has been dead some 2 years & has utterly disappeared under the axe. I feel pretty sure that ~~it~~ its peculiar appearance was due to its situation near edge of cove – an unusual one for falcata & that it was stunted & lived on unnutritious food & thus assumed this poor cretin (!) like cond^n. ~~A~~ I am just called off to Sar – sick – must be back well in the night – Doctor's work – wish have this & the hand sent of mail – Let me know whether you got last letter ~~about~~ & parcel of acorns of Beech ~~[illegible]~~ Hill oak. Yr truly

G. H. M.