

66

Recd. Nov. 30th

[Milledgeville, Georgia]

Dr. John Torrey

LIBRARY  
NEW YORK  
BOTANICAL  
GARDEN.

Dr. Sir,

Your kind favor came to hand when I was too sick to read it & continued ~~long~~ ill health of myself together with sickness in my family have prevented me from answering you at an early moment.

I will with great pleasure during the winter put up & transmit you a packet composed of such specimens as I think will most interest you. Unfortunately for you I have never paid any attention to the grapes & am therefore incapable of selecting those that would be interesting. I will, however, send you specimens of all on hand. Some may perhaps prove interesting to you. I will here remark that if I had known where to address you would have sent you specimens two years ago; but I understood you were in Europe collecting materials for your proposed work.

The *Boykinia* described by Mr. N. in the Journal of the A. Soc. of Phila. I have not seen. May not Dr. Hooker award it the same fate as he has the *Nuttallia*. Is it not likely it is too near a continent to be separated? I make these remarks because I have Dr. Hooker instantly failed to recognize *Nuttallia*. I would have been pained to have had Mr. N. let the plant sent you by Dr. Hooker bear my

Given by A. M. VAIL. From the J. D. Crooke Collection

name. It is legitimately my discovery & therefore I  
can claim it as my hunting. I am more indebted  
to Mr. N.'s friendship than money: for when he was  
lost in this Country I showed him a specimen & he  
at once pronounced it new & at the moment did  
me the honor to dedicate it to me. It has since  
been notoriously recognized as *Boykinia Tri-*  
*spora* (the specific name given by me). My friend  
Dr. May of Augusta has distributed it by seed & roots  
in his correspondence in this Country & in Europe sever-  
al years past <sup>under</sup> my name. Now what will those  
say when another *Boykinia* is announced? The first  
*Boykinia* is I think entitled to precedence. The alleged  
of Mr. N. has prevented me from reminding him of  
his friendly misapplication of my name.

I have a new genus which is not dedicated, which  
I will send you with a minute description. I  
ought to have remarked that the *B. Trispora* has  
never been described. Mr. N.'s specimens given  
by me were shipwrecked.

The *Scotia odorata* described by Mr. N. in the  
*J. of Nat. Science*, &c. is perhaps the same I  
had discovered & proposed to name *N. Tristicha*  
from its three rows of flowers. I perceived no fra-  
grance in mine. Flower Octobr.

I have a new *Polelia* legitimately aquatic  
grows in water with *Pontedria lanceolata* &  
*Villarsia cordata*. all of which you shall  
have.

I have made no list of plants of our vicinity, nor  
have I ever attempted to give technical des-  
criptions. I have not studied Botany minutely, I  
may be only called an amateur: for I have studied  
it only as an amusement & not for the purpose  
of publishing anything in my name. By giving  
you minute descriptions I may enable you to  
describe scientifically. Indeed I am now less  
perfect in Botany than I was some years past.  
The only Books I have, are Turtov's Pinney, the  
genera Plantarum. Pursh, Elliot, Nuttall,  
your Compendium of the N. of Middle States, Barton  
& Bigelow's flora of Ohio & Boston.  
Pray let me know what other good  
works may be had in your city.

I am greatly in arrears to my good  
friend Dr. Sherb. I failed to send him a  
package last winter, - He has the zeal to  
make a Botanist.

Be assured it will afford me great pleasure  
if I can be the means of furnishing you  
with any useful materials for your pro-  
posed work. The many late discoveries ren-  
der a new work on the botany of our  
country almost indispensable.

Very respectfully yours

W. B. King

Nov. 19. 1835.

Dr. John Torrey,  
New York.

Recd. Oct. 29,

D. P. W.

The boxes are mailed on your boxes & they placed at the stage office in the care of a friend who expects to start to Augusta in the morning with them. I have directed them to the care of a friend <sup>in Park</sup> with instructions to ship them to William Cooke & Co. 142 Water Street New York, where I hope they may soon & safely be in your hands. I have a box for Dr. Short & hope I may find a direct conveyance to him by means of horse or hog driving, otherwise I must send it by way of Philadelphia.

You must instantly on the arrival of the boxes open both for the purpose of finding the bats, I forgot which one contains it, you will find it ~~there~~ in a thin box pushed down on our side, when you get it out & see to its preservation go to the other box & commence your labours, you will <sup>then</sup> find most of the rarer plants in it. I beg you, in every instance, wherever I have called your attention to a plant by a mark of interrogation or otherwise to send me the true name or remark in a few words as possible what ~~may be suggested~~ from you think proper. In most cases, I have only given the genus, just for the purpose of economizing your time, we knowing a few moments of observation would only be necessary to one so well acquainted with the habits of our plants to detect the genus; in other instances I give the species, in others no name because you will instantly know them & in a few instances I had forgotten if I ever knew the plants & did not take time to investigate them. I recollect having inadvertently mis-called some & others again I occasionally forgot to label. In my letter a few days since, I informed you why the plants were put up so disorderly & why you would in a few instances find the same species in each box.





It may be proper to remark that the Baccharis, (I do not  
recalled the species) is a real straggler, it belongs to  
the low country, but two plants have been found  
in this vicinity. Millersville is in the primitive  
region, the secondary commences a few miles below,  
hence the variety of interesting plants in its vicinity.

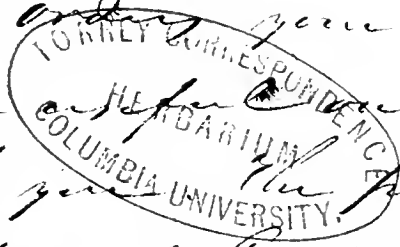
Dr John Tracy  
New York

Dr.  
New  
York

On the right ear of the bat I counted 8 distinct & somewhat imperfect tooth like  
processes, on the left 9 or an indistinct one. See the flap like process just  
above the meatus in drawing. The ears in drying have become under-  
laid, the mouth was apparently very wide & rounded so by the upper  
lip projecting over the lower, nostrils distant, more square, a row of  
bristles just below the nostrils.

Recd. July 17<sup>th</sup> - Acad. July 20<sup>th</sup> - Columbus, Geo. Nov 1837.  
Dr. W.

Your note with the accompanying payment  
was duly handed me by Mr. Calhoun, for which I beg  
to convey you my sincere thanks. As I have not given  
any attention to the study of Nat. orders your Edition of  
Sindley would have been more <sup>useful</sup> had it  
the elementary matter added by you. The present work  
requiring, I presume a previous study of Sindley's "Outline  
of the first principles of Botany" a <sup>little</sup> <sup>more</sup> <sup>is</sup> <sup>needed</sup> <sup>to</sup> <sup>be</sup> <sup>in</sup> <sup>his</sup> <sup>pre-</sup>  
face. Without a precise knowledge of the many  
new technicalities introduced, more especially in  
consequence of both new & more exact views in rela-  
tion to Veg. Physiology, I cannot make the study  
of the Nat. orders pleasant & profitable.



It is time really to give a new edition of  
Martius' Language of Botany.

Though I have been all the while in too in-  
firm health to Botanize, yet in all my yearning  
I have kept my eyes on the road side, for the  
"weeds", looking out for something of interest or  
something new. I flatter myself I have discovered  
one new weed of the Asclepiad order, in which  
you will I think concur unless a Florida Corres-  
pondent has not anticipated me. The plant  
may possibly be found in that Territory  
By a friend who goes to N. York in a few days  
I will send you a small packet of dried  
plants, - being mostly more perfect specimens,  
than those sent you last winter. As opportu-  
nities of the like often offer, I shall from  
time to time remit to you in the same way.

The growth here is very similar to that about  
Milledgeville, both towns have the same Geo-  
logical position, (see) at the termination of the  
primitive region. The tertiary formation below Co-  
lumbus is much more recent than that below  
Milledgeville say <sup>the distance of</sup> from 30 to 50 miles below the  
primitive region of each place.



This town is about 40 miles south of Millidgeville, - a number of plants, trees & shrubs grow here, that are only to be found 20 miles south of Millidgeville.

1<sup>st</sup>. A grass, collected 3 miles above this in the woods, 4 to 6 feet high. flowers all masculine. Do send me its name. May I have

2. *Brazieria*. with the fruit & fresh specimens of *Polyg. Polygamia*

3<sup>rd</sup>. *Utricularia Fibrosa*? if not close to it. Does exactly agree with Mr. E's description.

4. I do not know. - collected last summer & left at a house without an opportunity in examination - 20 miles below this place

6. *Guzmania Pedunculata*

7. I take to be *Amazonia Salicifolia*, found on the banks of the River, growing among the rocks & on Islands in the falls. It seems to differ from *A. angustifolia* mostly in pubescence of the leaves more acuminate. I observed that only the flowering stems put out the branches below the flower, as you see & these branches have grown out since it was in flower.

8. *Potostemon Ceratophyllum*. In great abundance on the rocks in this river. It is to be found in a natural & perfect state when always submersed & played upon by a strong current. In these circumstances it grows to the length of 10-20 & sometimes even 30 feet long. In this state of the deepest green imaginable. I send you a number of specimens, showing it in flower, in fruit, in a healthy or natural & in a stunted state. The little tufts so short & so crowded were scraped from the rocks left naked. In the natural specimens you find the leaves

TORREY COL  
HERB  
COLUMBIA

5<sup>th</sup>  
\* am *Utricularia* *Canadensis*?



This is the "Moss" that cattles, deer, hogs & in former  
times, the Bison, feed with so much avidity. In the  
Summer, cattles, deer & hogs go into the shoals &  
feed upon it - Indians & frontiers hunters used to  
secret themselves, always by the shoals, to shoot the deer  
when they came to feed on the moss in the River.  
~~There~~ ~~was~~ ~~one~~ ~~of~~ ~~our~~ ~~cracks~~, Steele-Courna, meaning  
deer trap, the deer had but one place at a  
certain shoal to get to the creek to feed & when  
the Indian found him, he was as safe as, in a  
trap, he was sure of it, & hence the name.

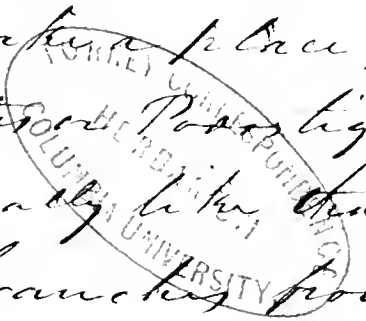
One fact in relation to ruminating & I have  
down with this long note. a gentleman  
congenitronable veracity who once lived in  
Kent River, after remarking how respectably  
found cattles were of the moss, said that  
cattles in feeding on the moss take in ~~them~~  
<sup>swallow</sup> with it a great many small pebbles, <sup>entangled in the moss</sup> & that  
during the night, while rechewing the previous  
days ingesta, they along with it regurgitate  
the pebbles & in this second mastication later  
came to drop the pebbles out of their mouths.  
We had often seen a large handful of  
pebbles they spit out by a single cow in the  
course of one night - Thus the moss gives  
us an additional cause for contemplating  
the wisdom of deity in constituting the  
order of ruminantia - This would have  
been a useful fact to the Compiler of  
the Bridgewater Treatise -

9. <sup>th</sup> Desaltea. Polyg. viridescens & Thesium

10. Solanum virgatum (Nutt.) abundant here.

11 - Asclepiades. Certainly not described  
in any authority to which I can refer. Did  
you speak to the Curator preserved by Mr.





Nuttall & Elliot, in dividing the asclepiadeae into several genera, you must also consent to, making place for this. It is quite as unlike asclepias or acerata as *Podoligona*. Perennial, root large & the colour externally like that of *A. Tuberosa* - the taste rather insipid, branches from the root many - decumbent - 12 to 20 inches long, stem large & purple hairy above, smooth below, angular above produced by the decurrent petioles. Leaves as you see them, observe their presence & ribentation - both upper & lower hairy uniformly, more tapering, those of the middle oblique at the end, midrib above purple, edge, sea brown, in the axils as in other asclepiadeae a row of tooth like glands, at the base of the leaf on the upper side of the midrib uniformly a cluster of these denticulated glands, hairy horizontal & decussating as though opposite.

\* Flowers mostly terminal, leafy, umbels single & compound umbels many flowered, flowers each & mature partially in all stages, on the same umbel - Calyx slightly tipped with purple, corolla each, campanulate, perhaps more strictly urceolate, duply divided, both sides greenish, edge, membranous & ciliate. Segments ovate, much larger than any of the kindred species.

Nectary, a stellular expanded crown, the leaves of the crown clavate, fasciate, of a deep purple - near the end 3 larger whitish spots, uniting at their base, at the union of these spots a minute or shorter horn, few only at its point & appressed, the horn not coming from the centre, but being a part of the integument of the crown leaf, the base & end of the leaf inflated. The stellular crown in expanding inflates the corolla considerably before its expansion. The stellular crown with its variegated spots giving the flower a beautiful appearance - Corolla large, its angle a fleshy hairy much bellied & large. a young follicle you will show that the seed will be coarse & situated as in asclepias - The above remarks with the specimens & a few flowers dried so as to show their information will enable you to describe the plant accurately.

\* Found on the coast of the Atlantic Ocean - 20 miles from the shore - flowers many & large - the smallest specimens were selected for drying.



12. *Helminium Gradistentatum* (f. Michx.)? March

13. Phlox. — *Eriocaulon villosa*?

14. *Pogonia Divaricata*. Rare in the up Country

15. *Aceratis longifolia* f. M. Ellik — *A. longifolia* (Michx.)  
badly described by Pursh. They are the first  
specimens I have <sup>ever</sup> seen.

16. *Sarracenia variolaris* — abundant here.

Dr. Short writes me you determine my *Cucurbitacea*  
to be a *Bryonia*. But for the arrangement of the  
seeds & their number uniformly 3. I should have thought it  
a *Bryonia*.

I beg you to send by the first opportunity to our traveling  
friend Dr. Short — a specimen of nos. 1. 3. 10. 7. 8. 9.  
(that is a *Schwalbia* & *Polyg. virginiana* & the *Thesium*  
unless you desire it.) 10. 11 (2 specimens). 12. 15. & 16.  
(the flower & fruit) this I presume is no rarity to  
you — the Dr. is anxious for all our *Sarracenia*'s.

If Mr. Nuttall is in Phs. I will thank you to  
present him, with my remembrance, a specime  
men of No. 11.

When my dear Sir, will you favor us with your  
proposed Botany of N. America. I have under-  
stood your materials were of perfect value,  
as you could make them from all sources both  
in this Country & Europe. Mr. Nuttall's late trip  
will furnish much matter — It is really true  
that the many late discoveries in Botany be  
embodied in a <sup>single</sup> ~~new~~ work. I understand  
you have a great hoop for the sexual sys-  
tem. But should you publish a work in bot-  
any, I deem it best for Tyros in this Country  
that you use the Linnæan Classification.  
Have an addenda in which you may say  
as much as you please about Nat. order.

I should, if the person who attends to my business  
below on the River, had known how to preserve  
them, have sent by thy conveyance other speci-  
mens of the yellow rat, & besides, certainly, all  
pigmy of an animal not described as far  
as I know whose existence has not been known  
by any inhabitants of this region. My man being  
instructed to watch for every thing curious had  
before mentioned it, but I was fearful of inti-  
mating its existence in my previous letter for  
fear it might be a young *Sorex*. A sight  
of one of these little animals ~~was~~ in a putrid  
state convinced me it was altogether different  
from any animal I had ever seen described.  
It is little larger than a half grown domestic  
mouse, with the feet <sup>steps</sup> of a *Sorex* & with a long  
conical head terminating in a moveable ~~snout~~  
snout, tail about 2 inches long, the shape of  
its mouth like an acute isocelis triangle,  
the under incisors seemed to make barely  
an angle with the jaw, projecting almost  
straight forward, eyes very small. I regret  
I did not examine it more carefully, but I  
was quite sick & fatigued & the smell of the  
animal (attempted to be preserved in a solution  
of nitre) was so offensive I could not remain  
by them when turned out of the solution.

The animal is exceedingly feeble, putting  
it <sup>in</sup> the waistcoat pocket killed it. They  
seem to be gregarious, the man tells me  
he exposed about 20 at <sup>one</sup> time last <sup>spring</sup> in tearing  
up a rotten stump. I shall soon or later  
secure some of these rarities, having at  
hand now 8<sup>th</sup> wire for their preservation.  
Let me hear something about my new ap-  
prehensions, I shall be so disappointed if it be not  
even to you a new "word". Very sincerely yours  
Samuel Boykin



Mr John Jay

New York

Dr. Fri.

Recd. Aug. 26<sup>th</sup> and. Sept. 28<sup>th</sup>.



It has been a long time since we interchanged communications. You should have heard from me had I any thing to communicate. For two years, it is true, I have paid but little attention to plants, but whenever in the woods I have always been on the watch & have only found the enclosed Arabis. I obtained it last spring on the Chat. River about 20 miles below this place. I regretted that sickness of my family prevented me the past spring from making an excursion to an interesting region not so west of this. Should I live until next spring I will endeavour to make the excursion.

Pray how are you progressing in  
your botanical work? I have heard  
that some of the N<sup>o</sup>s are in the  
State, but have seen none.

If you have enough completed  
to make one vol or even two  
please have them bound &  
sent to the Counting house of  
Leroy M. Wiley F.C. when the  
bearer of this Mr. Wiley ~~and~~  
will find it. I shall instruct  
him to pay & if he wishes run  
you or your agent to have the  
money with Mr. Wiley.

Please let me hear from you  
by mail. It is always a pleasure  
to hear from you.

A professor of botany in our Metho-  
dical female College at Macon Ga  
has published a manual of Ga  
& Southern plants, -

I regret that he has omitted very  
many well known plants & scarcely  
any of the plants discovered by many  
persons since the death of Mr. Elliott.

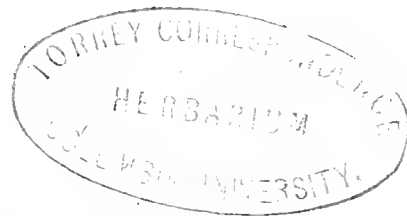
Very sincerely yours

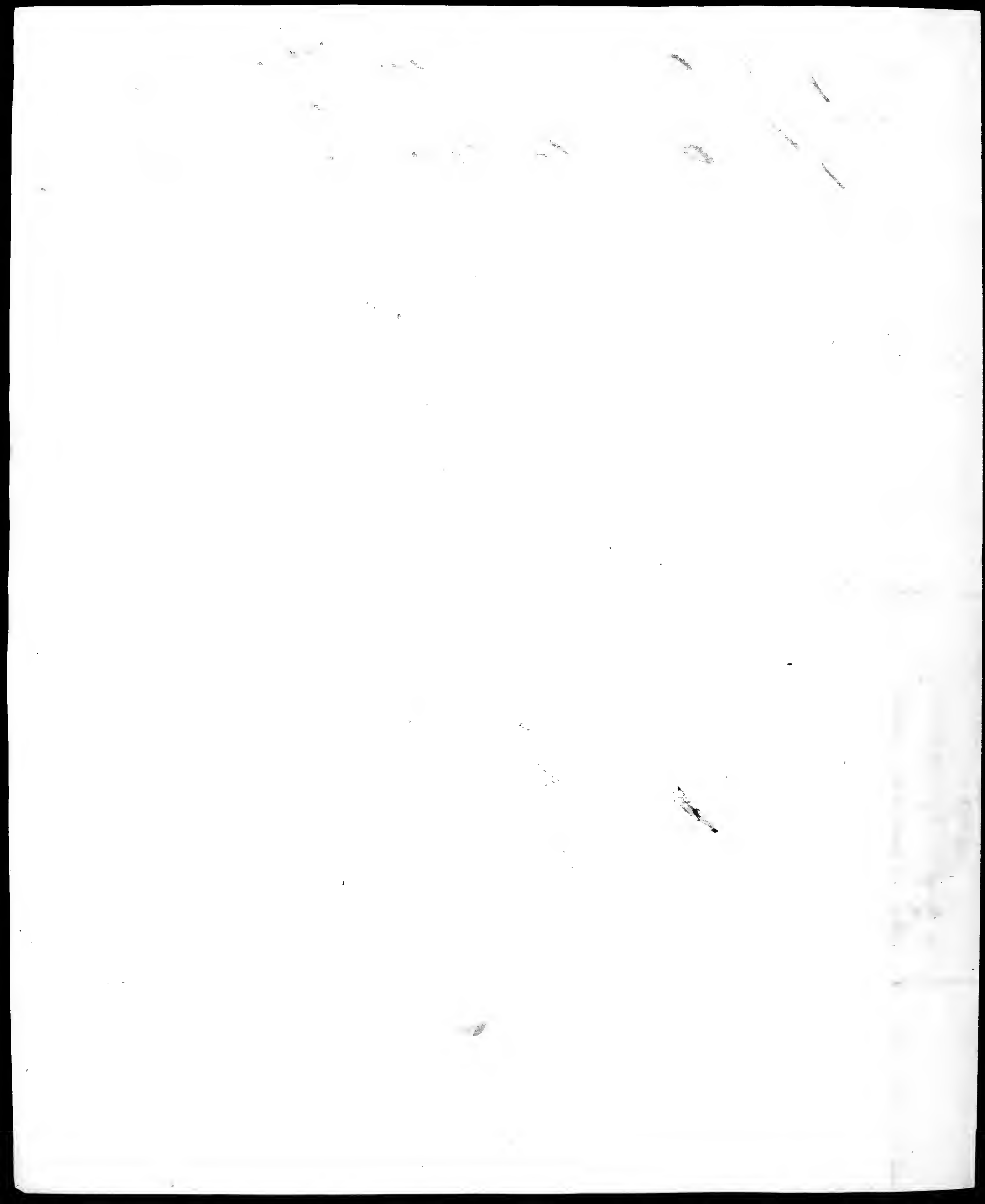
August 14. 1841

W. D. King

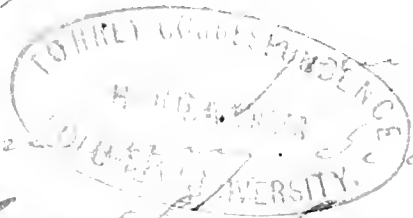
To Dr. John B. Torrey

New York





Dear Sir,



of Carolina duly recd. It found  
me very sick, indeed, have been almost at  
death's door the past winter with diarrhoea  
now of long standing.  
Had before you applied to me through  
a friend about the plant to which you refer.  
all that I can now say is that it was collected  
in the vicinity of Millersville before the  
year 1824 & 24. And I have no doubt I sup-  
posed it to be a new species of *Thesium*  
of Linnæus or closely allied to it. This  
much I know specimens were forward-  
ed to Mr. Elcock which he read. But they  
are not to be found in any of the  
herbaria you have had the use of his ex-  
tra herbarium. Between the publica-  
tion of his sketches & his death he recd  
from me nothing & collected.

Shortly before Mr. C's death, had Mr.  
Stull at my house a few days. I  
took care to show him my entire lot of  
dried plants. Among which he said  
were many requiring investigation.  
They were all shipped to him in Boston  
Charleston & London.  
In 1824 I went to the north in the company  
my health & put up a few of the  
interesting plants as a means of introdu-  
cing some to some one of our northern  
botanists.



I called on Mr. Collins & gave him the packet.  
This is the manner by which he got the plant & really  
all I remember: for I do not recollect but our plant  
in the lot given to Mr. Collins.

I send you a few plants & regret that the  
two most interesting to me are imperfect spec-  
imens. When on Cherokee County in 1845. I collected  
specimens of No. 1. & Silphium which I think is  
no. 1. By accident the packets of seeds & the  
flowers were lost. I tried the paper specimen  
to get more seeds flowering but failed. I wonder  
Mr. Lyon did not ~~discover~~ see it as it grows  
near the road he must have travelled. I  
hope I send enough of it to enable you to decide  
whether it is described or not.

2 Parnassia - 3 Monarda hoods. Mr.  
Darby has requested me to send him several  
plants among which I think No. 2 & 3 are  
mentioned.

No. 4. I judge is not a native of Cherokee.

No. 5. is a perfect stranger & grows 12 to 14  
miles below this place. I hope the seeds  
I send, will reach you. I have to put  
them in a separate packet.

I wish you were here now to see one asclepias  
as given in flower. Many are in blossom  
I have not the fruit of A. Cinnam. It is not yet  
in flower. You will remember that A. Parviflora  
is the only Southern species not common.  
I do hope you will let nothing hinder you

from finding it at 1000 ft. near 1200 ft. and  
others are of a different variety. I believe  
you have never heard any that about the  
~~Thymicum~~ I found in this country.  
I was not satisfied that it was described by  
Mr. Elliott or myself. I did not, in fact,  
give it a patient investigation.

I found some *Thymicum* on Ches. Riv. the habitat  
of the *Thymicum*. It grows in great  
abundance just below the Geo. H. Road  
Bridge over the river. (Brighton or Etc.)  
I had the promise of seeds & plants  
but they have not been sent me  
my long ill health has prevented me  
from doing any thing of late for you.  
I have not in 3 years experienced a day  
of healthy feeling.

I beg you to communicate to Mr. Darby  
my recollections of your "Darbya".

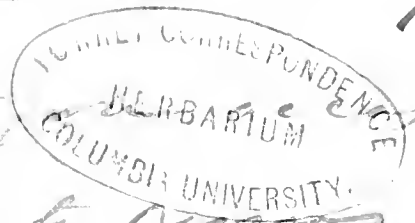
Do let me hear from you  
sincerely,  
Very truly yours,

Columbus, Ga.

May 25. 1857

W. J. Darby

P.S. The packets sent you start  
from here to-morrow & are di-  
rected to the Care of Wiley & Putnam



10

Journey

Price to

Ch. H. H. H. H. H.

CO

Dr. John

Dr. G.

June 27, 1877.

A few weeks since I wrote you a hasty letter & sent by a friend a few specimens, & those the most important were mutilated. I hope you have not the two packages to be left with W. & Putnam. I am desirous to know if you can by those seeds & especially recognize the probable genus. I have a few young seedling plants growing & two from the roots sent to me & transplanted. I fear I shall get no flowers from either. Worms eat the leaves almost as fast as they come out. The Pin I have flowered in March.

When you wrote me last you were engaged on the *Cycladiadae*. In looking for *A. Cineraria* by your request with a view to send you the seed I have in the pine woods Spagnosa branches found a splendid *Cycladias* which I have not before seen. If it be not *Lanceifolia* it is a new species & if Nuttall is correct in saying the *A. lanceifolia* is smooth on both sides of the leaf, then this is not the *L.* for the under side of the leaf is tomentose.

My plant is 4 to 6 feet high & on a trifoliate plant some of the leaves are ~~9~~ inches long. I have a description of I am drying some plants which shall be sent to you as soon as they are ready to pack up -

I have also in the same situation discovered a new species (to me) of *Sabbatia*. It is not described by Elliott. It is 3 to 4 feet high. It is not in full flower, but I am drying a specimen for you.

I have also perhaps found a new species of *Houstonia* - all of which shall in a few days be sent to N. York, with some other plants for the purpose of illustrating their families.

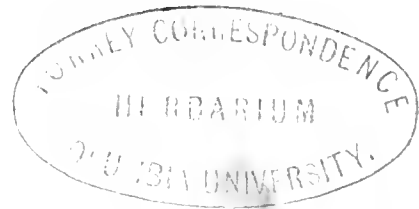
You perhaps do not know that I have for the benefit of Miss & Mrs B's health removed 3 miles from Columbus on the West side of the river. It is here where I have collected the above plants. I am too full to do much in the way of botanizing.

I hope you will not be obliged to send  
your Asclepiades to the printer before  
you receive my next packet.

Yours &c

Wm. D. Ryce

P.S. Since your last letter to me I have  
seen Bishop Elliott the son of my old friend  
the Botanist. He told me you never had  
his father's herbarium in possession and had  
supposed that party only had been for-  
warded to you. I have no doubt the Sa-  
talaria you have dedicated to Mr. Darby  
is in the herbarium. I know specimens  
were sent to him by me & recd. as I al-  
ways sent him the best, perhaps both  
male & female specimens may be in  
the herbarium. I hope you will  
through Dr. Backman or directly  
to Miss Elliott cause a search to  
be made.



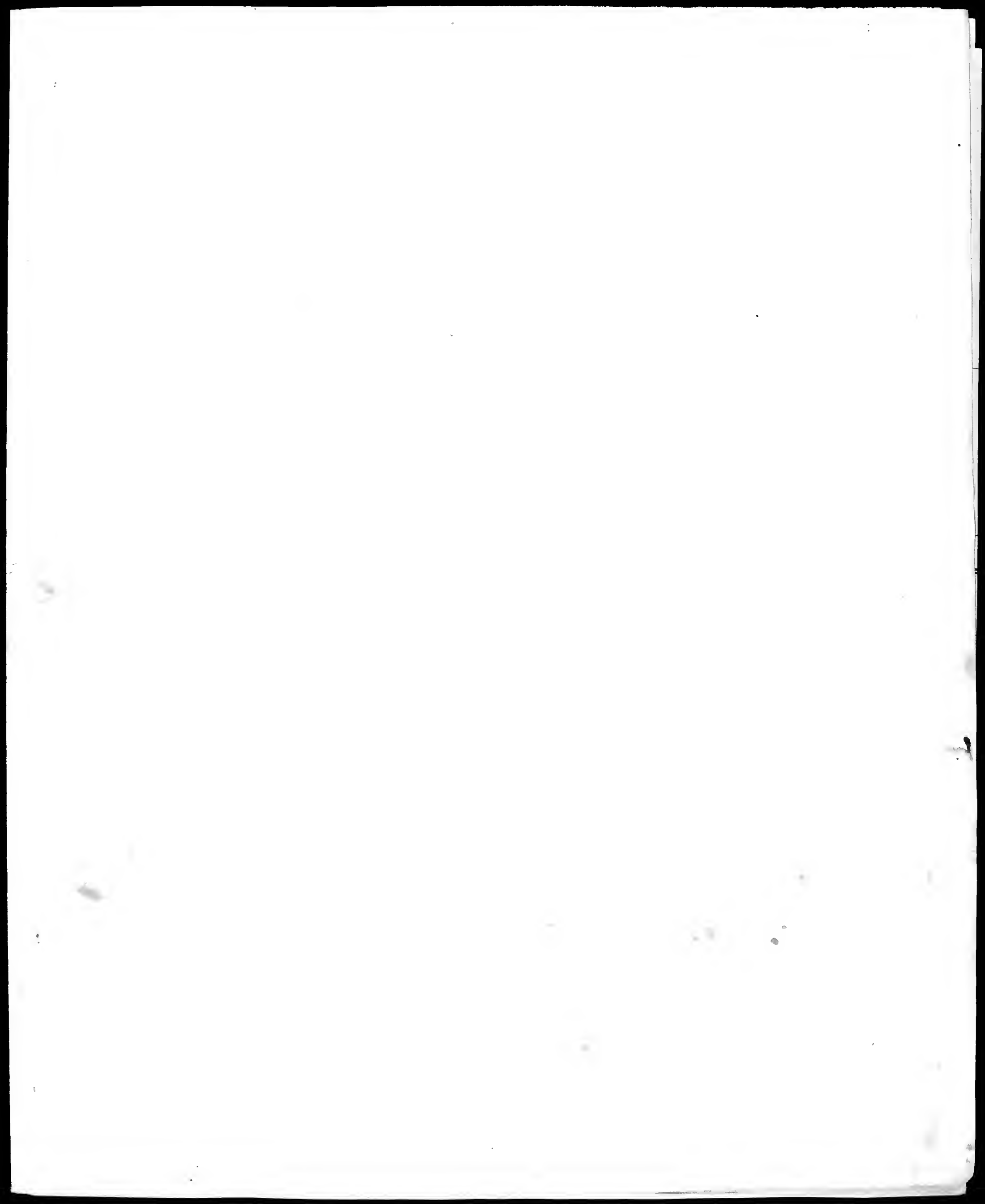


Chas. D. 189. 22

Mr John J. Jacey

Princeton

New Jersey



Dr John Young

New York

They have an erect & have a coriaceous appearance & may possibly be biennial. I will endeavour to get perfect specimens, yet I am certain if the Rad. have an green through the winter. It grows in Cas County Ga. near where the Coosa water River breaks through the mountains -

The Melilotus was found close to the North Georgia Springs & it to be brought there, just above where it was the great highway through the Cherokee nation & by a celebrated spring called "Rock Spring" where waggons stopped for the night going & coming.

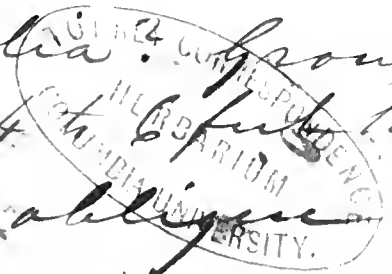
I have never seen Aristochia bipho in flower hence I know nothing about its fruit. But since I have seen the latter now, it appears to me you do violence to nature's order to place it with Serpentinaria. I have cultivated the Serpentinaria & the woolly leaved species now sent you again No. 3. In the first packet I ever sent you had cultivated specimens - In this the berries are of the shape & form of grape seeds, save the flattening at the point of the grape seeds. I have several budding plants & several sprouts from an old root which will give me flowers in March if not killed by frost. Do you want any plants? you may likely decide my asclepias to be *Sauvignonioides*. Its root is, as like that of *Scleria* if it can be. See Nuttally's description I forgot to mention that the *Cerbera* (I) Di. now called *Cercaria* took place in any other species.

Dr. Roemer.

2  
your ~~of the~~ ~~idea~~ written partly this  
14 & 20 July may duly rec'd. I can assure you no-  
thing would afford me more pleasure than to  
have you with me here collecting our plants.  
as well as studying their habits. I promise that  
if ever I again go to the north I will make  
it a point to hunt you up where you  
may. It would give me more pleasure to spend  
a few days with you & Dr. Gray than with  
any other persons living.

You no doubt judge correctly of the hybrid & be-  
benay. They were all collected within a small  
~~place~~ place growing intermixed.

[not??]  
I admire your exposition to multiple flowering,  
the great fault of Michaux, Pursh & Rafineske.  
State could ~~not~~ just set you down when  
I collected the Silphium No. 1. I show you a  
spot of 4 or 5 acres with thousands upon thousands  
of plants in what might be called a pond for  
6 months in the year, every plant having several  
radical leaves like those sent you, you would  
I think say it must be different from any  
species found in middle or lower Georgia.  
Our Silphium grows generally in poor sand-  
hilly or very dry situations. The few straggling  
I saw in other localities were in branches,  
when I collected the specimens, and had  
about to hunt for varieties of Rad. heavy.  
Some were wider & more round at the  
apex than others, but all really *C. oedocarpus*  
& were at ~~as~~ you see. I gathered but a  
few which included all the variety I  
could discover, & when I was putting up the  
herb. for you I deemed it well up to send  
but two.



No. 1. - ~~This~~ *Asclepias laurifolia* grows in sphagnum bogs. Perennial, 4 to 6 feet high, or some plants the leaves are oblique almost palmiform. you have specimens of the largest as well as smallest plants. In No. 1. you have every leaf on the stalk. I remember that there are generally 6 pairs of opposite leaves on the stalks, say from the first flower down. Flowers in June & July. - I send along, the buds, vessel & roots, say parts of roots: for I do not know to what depth they penetrate in the mud. They appear tuberosous. you have one young root entire - with all the parts of the plant before you, you can determine whether it is described or not.

No. 2. In this you have, I trust, a new species of *Sabbatia*, it grows in the same locality of No. 1. Perennial 3 to 4 feet & sometimes 5 feet high, the whole plant glaucous, stem round & hollow, the leaves narrow, lanceolate & sub-cornate & the flowers in corymbs & snow white, one of the most beautiful herbaceous plants in our woods. Flowers from June to August.

*S. macrophylla*  
 Root  
 Compound  
 9 feet



5 I suggest to name it (if new) *S. glauca*.

N. B. In this you have an undescribed  
aristolochia. It is certainly different  
from *H. Serpentina*. I sent you cul-  
tivated specimens in 1836. You now  
have them from nature. Its range  
I know is from Kthung head to this  
place. - It is subject to a peculiar  
caterpillar that never attacks *H.*  
*Serpentina* or any other plant.

*H. Houstonia longifolia*

5. *Houstonia*? The flowers like

*dephyllis*

*H. Rotundifolia*. Willows & by the

water. Perennial, growing

6. in poor dry soils. June to August

6. Is this *Phlox glaberrima*? of Elli-

ott? at a distance one would sup-

pose it *P. maculata*, but it is

not when examined, the hairs near

the stem ciliate & in a plant of

nature given to the hairs are con-

nected by a membrane, - not so

however in the ~~other~~ plants - decurrent

line of hairs at right angles with

the <sup>pair of</sup> leaves above. Grows in the

hemlock - flowers June to August

~~these you will be much interested in~~

and very abundant.

No 7. This Phlox is what I always thought to be *aristata*. *P. Pilosa* flowers in March & April. Mr Nuttall is wrong in supposing *P. Aristata* a variety of *P. Pilosa*. The latter branches from the root & not the stem. By the way when at Athens for many years since Dr Ward Prof. of Botany then pointed out to <sup>me</sup> a phlox which he called *Pilosa*. I determined it at once to be a different species. It was not then described & I called Mr. Beck's attention to it who was then in Athens & satisfied him that it was not the plant known as the true *Pilosa*. I begged Dr. Ward to send specimens to the north.

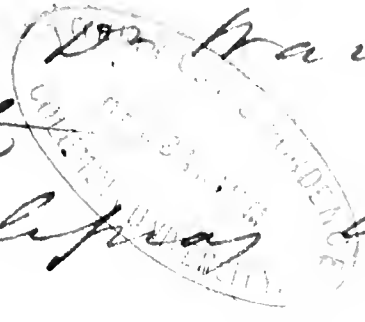
The Professor's name

No 8. Ripe seeds of *Azclepias plaxicaulis*.

No 9. Seed vessels of *A. Obtusifolia*. It not unfrequently has 3 verticillate leaves at the joints of your seed.

No 10. *Pudbeckia Purpurea* & *Zofieldia Purpurea*. I found the former in an arid situation & knew it would dry prettily. It may be acceptable to a foreign Correspondent. Mr Nuttall I think removed this from the genus *P.*

No 11. Phlox from the rich bottoms of the Chattohoocoochee river, rather a purgent, the leaves a deep shining green. It may be *Nitida*? June to August.



12. An Eriocaulon which I have not seen  
about Millidgeville. The scape as you see  
too weak to erect, it is prostrate. August

13. *Linum virginianum* for the purpose  
of comparing with a subsequent species  
or variety. To compare with No. 18.

14. a grass collected for you last year.  
Mantum because misplaced, hence its bad con-  
dition - in mid-summer collected.

~~15. This is what I take to be a species of *Andropogon*  
*Andropogon* *Andropogon* of Baldwin  
& *Andropogon* of Nuttall~~

15. A variety? of *Ellis*? I think I sent  
you specimens in 1836, but not so per-  
fect. In some plants the leaves are spat-  
ulate, or oblong. - July.

16. a Composite close to *Brickellia* &  
*Eupatorium*. Very not grown about  
Millidgeville. The plant fetid but  
indeed handsome by the long two par-  
ted white & bluish purple colour of the  
florets of the disk. Radical leaves  
not seen. July & August.

17. This *Helianthus* seems to connect *H.*  
*laetinosperma*. Like *H.* the rays long  
& pendulous, the seed winged & the two  
lobes almost prostrate because attached  
to the wings. The rays in earlier flowers  
much longer than those of the specimens.  
Sent you. June to August

*Helianthus*  
(Apteris)  
radically

the leaves generally but not uniformly  
opposite, several being from the same node.  
the leaves often much narrower than in  
the specimens. Common in poor dry soil.  
The leaves have the aspect of Rusbeckia.  
Helianthus astreus? of Elliker?

18. In the same bog in which I found the  
Acleris & Sabaltes No. 1 & 2. I found  
this *Linum*. It seems to be preserved  
& much larger in the stems than L. V. P  
much more paniculate. The flowers are  
 $\frac{1}{4}$  to  $\frac{2}{3}$  less than L. Virginianum & the cap-  
sule, more distinctly so called. Is it a  
variety of L. V. I send you plants  
with the roots, fruit &c. These plants  
which have not been trodden down or  
snipped by cattle grow more than 3  
feet high & much branched.  
It is the habit of L. V. to grow in dry  
soils rich or poor, but more abundant  
in poor soils in this country.

19. The fruit of *Ananthus* <sup>stultus</sup> & A. *Commissary*  
of Baldwin. you have therefore had  
good flower specimens from me. They  
fallicles are from the 3<sup>rd</sup> or 4<sup>th</sup> crop of  
flowers, - cut a break off the stem &  
soon they will put out with flowers.  
It is like the palm tree abuse it ever  
so much it will flourish, but in its  
natural soil, rich, black, stiff soil.

9 But in light sandy soil as in my garden  
in Columbia it will flourish but for a  
few years. The tubers are very large & com-  
monly perennial of life. They will re-  
main a year in the ground, when badly  
injured, before sprouting.

It may be well to observe that the Petals  
are not uniformly connivent, when the  
flower is fully expanded, it is exactly  
of the shape of a bowl, but pluck  
off a stem & in a few minutes they close  
as you see in the dry specimens.

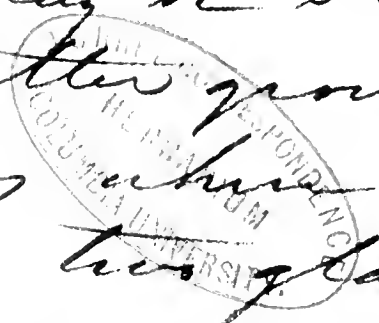
Can they be the same species found by Dr  
Waldwin at St Marys Georgia. He says it  
grows in the piney woods. Now this will  
not live long in the pine-woods here.

The leaves grow very much after it is out  
of flower, they become generally  $\frac{1}{3}$  larger,  
this is true I believe of several species. I  
observed it distinctly in No. 1. of the  
present year. The leaves on the second & third  
crops of stems are always smaller than  
those of the first. Its regular time of  
flowering is May & June. The older the  
root the more flower stems it puts up. The  
first time a budding flower it has but one  
stem, but in a few years it will produce  
a dozen & have tubers enough all com-  
menced to fill a peck measure.



- 8020. *Cyperium Simplex*
- " 21. *Lindernia*. Collected in midsummer
- " 22. *Collinsonia Auriculata*. (Sept 11)
- 23. Grass. collected early in October
- 24. *Labellia glandulosa*. (Fall)
- 25. *Labellia* - of the species of which I

am not certain. It ~~with~~ <sup>with</sup> the above are the two latest flowering species as have they flower from the last of summer to frost. The former grows exclusively in wet situations & may be said truly to be aquatic. The latter grows on the border of branches where the soil is moist. It has also two glands near the base of the peduncle, the glands rather longer & more <sup>than the former</sup> acute. These plants which grow in rather dry situations ~~produce~~ make to eye some verticillate & proser in "pauper species" I send specimens of well grown & badly grown plants. See attention to one of the plants with its ungrown radical leaves.



- Do this. *L. Puberula*? [Red ...]
- 26. *Eryngium Ovalifolium*.
- 27. I don't know - has 10 stamens & very other ...  
 own seem, a better ~~with~~ <sup>without</sup> ...  
 grows in a dry situation. Collected in September.

28. *Centaurella paniculata*. (Summer)  
29. *Tripterygia capitata*. Sept. ~~to Oct~~  
to November.

I would have forwarded this parcel  
sooner, but for waiting for its fruit.  
In the mean time I have made a  
few additions to the packet, but  
do not know whether they are of any  
particular interest. The grass No. 23  
I never saw before. It appeared when  
collected, was much more scarious than  
you now see. I have never given the  
grasses any study of course know but  
few of them.  
Could I have known which of our com-  
mon plants would have been desirable  
I might have added many more to the  
packet.  
I send the *Cynoglossum ovalifolium*, because  
I have found it difficult to obtain per-  
fect specimens that is, with radical  
leaves - Having sent you generally good  
specimens, I deemed it ~~safe~~ most pro-  
per, to confine my remarks to their  
habits - I am in the country & have been nearly  
too unwell to study out the plants not  
familiar to me. I would not bring the few  
authentic I hope from town.



If however the *Asclepias* does not turn out to be a new species, I feel confident that the splendid *Salbatia* will send you a good supply of specimens for yourself & friends. I send you besides mature buds for your own use, & I request you to send Mr. Hooker a few.

I send you also a paper of buds of *Scilla peruviana* which grows on the stiff rich flats of the Chattahoochee from Columbus 20 miles below, and then farther south to Cahoon Bay. It certainly has a remarkable range from the Rocky Mountains to nearly 32 degrees.

I beg you not to forget my old Correspondent Mr. Short of Tennessee. Buds of whatever will be new to him that you can spare.

I have a protégé in Botany in Texas at Saint Antonio. I begged him when he left to correspond with you. His name is Hellog (or something). Have you heard from him? Do let me know when you expect to have the 4th number of your journal finished & published.

<sup>10</sup> Swicer then returned my 3 men bag to Wiley  
& Putnam & had them bound.

I have scribbled more than you  
will have patience to read & I  
therefore think it time to subscribe

Myself yours very sincerely

30 October 1847.

W. D. Key

Mr John Torrey

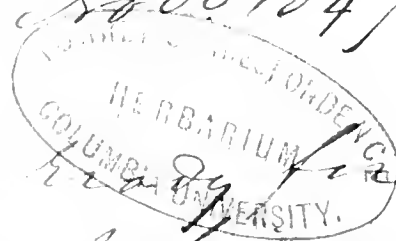
New York



Dr. J. C.

Near Columby Geo

11 Nov 1847



I have had my pack of  
you three weeks, but could not find a  
conveyance for it. A friend's heavy in 2 or  
3 days who promises to take charge of it.  
I had to wait thus long to procure speci-  
men, of the fruit of the *Asclepias*, <sup>about</sup> which  
I had written to you. The immature falli-  
cles were gotten in Sept. I thought they  
would wait for me to ripen, & sud-  
denly I collected about the 10<sup>th</sup> of Oct. some  
had however previously ripened & burst  
& the seeds scattered & some not thus ripe.  
I forgot to mention in my memorandum  
that the old fallicles <sup>is</sup> more persistent  
than in any southern species. I saw last May  
old stems with the fallicles. The capsules  
only, for when the fallicles burst, the seeds  
are scattered immediately, as in other spec-  
ies. I make this remark because I  
know if you decide it to be *Lamifolia*  
you nevertheless will be anxious to know  
its habit. - Let me remark that has been  
one of the most remarkably wet springs  
I remember ever known in this country.  
From the last of April to the 10<sup>th</sup> of Sept.  
rains were incessant. Many plants were  
in flower longer than I ever observed  
before & even longer in maturing their fruits.

Had no idea of writing you this letter  
as I thought I had written quite enough to  
tell you to read enclosed with the  
plants. But walking out this afternoon  
I observed the grass, (I think No. 23) & collected  
some seeds. Knowing your anxiety always  
to possess them in case the plant is rare  
or new. I thought I would enclose you  
some. The long & <sup>persistent</sup> regularly divergent style  
strike me as curious. Let me repeat again  
I know nothing about the grass.  
It is already putting <sup>forth</sup> shoots from the old  
roots for the next year's growth.

May not the Caterpillar a wormy something  
be a guide to us in determining of species?  
if not of genera. The Cordate woolly leaved  
and to which I sent you the winter of 1836 +  
37 was the produce of a root I collected  
in the up Country & brought home & trans-  
planted in my garden. The spring after  
when the stems & leaves were about grown,  
the leaves were attacked by a large yellow  
Caterpillar, & leaves pretty well eaten up before  
I noticed the ravage of the worm. They were  
different from any I had ever seen. Nor have  
I since the same worm until I collected the  
one or two specimens now sent you. I found  
a young one on one of the plants, the leaves  
of which you will find partly eaten.  
There were but 2 plants within a few feet of  
each other & they seemed to have looked in

have for others, yet one of these isolated ~~species~~  
plants was found by the mother fly on which  
to deposit its eggs - the first year I destroyed  
every caterpillar on the plants in my garden.  
The second year they came again & I des-  
troyed them until I had secured specimens.  
I then let them alone & after eating all the  
leaves they attacked the buds & eat  
them - Now I know this caterpillar never  
attacks *A. serpentina*

Again the *Asclepias* which I take to be the  
varieties of *Nuttall* & *A. Conium* for  
I have transplanted in my garden was  
attacked by a peculiar caterpillar with  
transverse stripes they attacked the plant  
every year until it died. I tried to exter-  
minate them by searching for & destroying  
every worm as fast as they showed on the leaves.  
Still the succeeding year they came as abun-  
dantly as ever. Now this worm I have never  
seen on any other of the *Asclepias* family.  
What is strange to me, this plant growing in  
its natural situation, is rarely molested by  
this or any other insect.

I cultivate the officinal *Senna* for family  
use. It is liable to be attacked by a peculiar  
caterpillar about the size of the Cabbage worm  
as we call it here but very different from the  
Cabbage worm. This caterpillar never attacks  
any other species of *Capsia*

The worm that we call "boll worm" which last  
year & the present has done incalculable  
destruction to the young <sup>grows</sup> bolls of Cotton  
any where touch the leaves, it leaves them for  
what is called the army worm when it chooses  
to come.

Now it is a well known fact that worms prey upon their appropriate foods & will not generally eat plants promiscuously. Now if a worm will prey exclusively on one plant & not touch its near relations, is it not a strong reason for pronouncing this a different plant & thus may they not aid us in determining doubtful species?

I give you one more circumstance. Last August year I saw a patch of Potatoes (Convolvulus Batatas) destroyed by a caterpillar never before seen ~~at least~~ It destroyed the entire leaf, leaving the stem & midrib. It was a large black worm the size of a man's finger &  $3\frac{1}{2}$  to 4 inches long. They burrowed in the ground & in digging the potatoes (which by the by did not produce one fifth of a crop, in consequence of the destruction of their leaves) thousands of them were dug up, in their chrysalis state. A potato patch close by the present year was not affected by them. I fear I tire you with remarks about worms, if so I will not allude to them again. I am sorry to tell you I have lately

been quite sick

my sincerely yours

V. W. Gray

