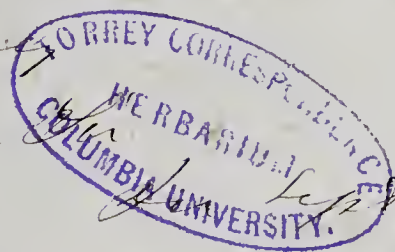


Rec<sup>d</sup>. Jan 8/63

San Francisco Cal,  
Dec 15<sup>th</sup> 1862

Dr. John Torrey

Dear Sir



Sept. last

I visited the original locality  
of your Darlingtonia and secured  
seeds, fully ripe. I am unaware  
that this truly rare plant has  
ever been cultivated. I have taken  
pains to send seeds to a number  
of botanists in the hope that  
some one may raise it, and  
enclose a few to you.

The locality is about  
30 miles south of Mt Shasta, in  
the valley of the Upper Sacramento,  
on a hill side with northern  
exposure, where a small stream  
of clear pure & cold water comes  
down the side of the mountain  
making a narrow swamp, but  
three or four rods wide. The  
alt. is 2500 feet - some snow falls  
in winter, but the plant has an

unclimbed seen for several  
months in December. The leaves  
were generally, in the robust plants  
about 2 ft high, the scapes 30 to  
36 inches. The plant has been found  
in two or three other localities, but  
I have not seen it elsewhere although  
I have travelled over 9000 miles in this  
state. This will give you some idea  
of its rarity.

I have been employed  
on the Geological Survey of this  
state during the last two  
years, and have made as complete  
collections as limited opportunities  
would allow, but hope, hope that  
I have the material to throw  
much light on the history of  
this part of the Coast. I have been  
nearly 19 months in the field, the  
most of the time, in the Coast  
Ranges, and all my collections  
are from that locality. I have  
done absolutely nothing towards a  
determination of the species,

both because of want of time &  
the absence of data on this coast to  
do the work accurately. Many  
families I will not attempt,  
of course. So far as it goes, I  
think I have the best lot of material  
ever collected here, although the  
actual number of species is  
much smaller than that collected  
by several others - especially Dr  
Bigelow. Some of them must be  
new, but I am much more anxious  
to defer publishing until it can  
be done well than to further  
embarrass botany by the introduction  
of a new batch of synonyms -

I shall probably bring a  
suite of specimens East next winter  
for examination -

I cannot but think that  
very many Californian species  
will prove mere varieties. There  
appears to be a greater tendency for  
plants to sport in local varieties  
here than anywhere else I have ever



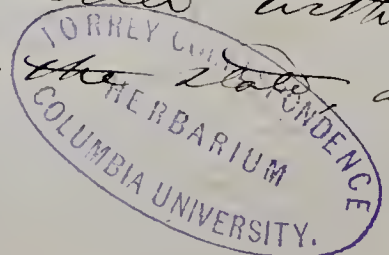
seem - The peculiarities of  
climate are so truly remarkable,  
that this must necessarily be  
no - *Q. Purcus, Nevadaensis*, one of our  
best known & best marked oaks - in  
the valley is a fine tree, rivalling in beauty  
the *Q. Pedunculata* of English parks,  
but by slender acorns, often near 2  
inches long - A mountain variety, in  
Trinity County has nearly globular  
acorns, with the smallest cups -  
while on the mountains of Shasta Co.,  
another variety, a mere shrubby  
bush, putting abundantly when cut  
2 feet high, and which either a  
traveler would not be likely to see,  
limited observations, making three  
species of them -

How can I manage to get  
as many well determined specimens  
from this coast, from the Smithsonian  
or otherwise for our State collection? -

I look under a great  
disadvantage in collecting, in  
not being acquainted better with  
the authentic flora of the State as  
known in the East.

Believe me Sir,

Yours truly  
H. W. Brewer

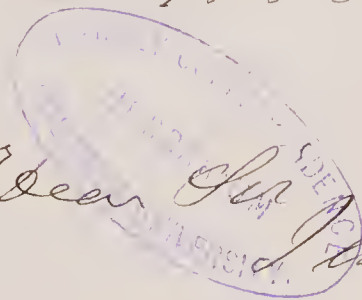


✓

San Francisco Cal.

Rec<sup>d</sup> Jan 9 1864 Dec. 14<sup>th</sup> 1863

Dr. John Torrey Dear Sir



Enclose

Some seeds of the  
Darlingtonia Californica Torr

last month I found  
a locality where the  
plant is very abundant.

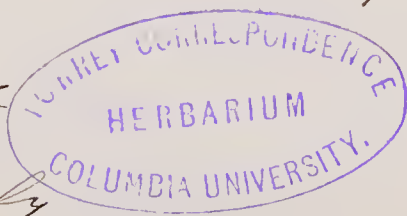
It is on the north  
side of the Siskiyou Mts.  
in the extreme northern  
part of California and  
southern part of  
Oregon. It grows by  
small streams of running  
water, on a soil derived

from decomposed  
serpentine or other  
Magnesian rocks. All  
the leaves contain  
dead insects, they are  
probably essential to  
its healthy growth.

I have communicated  
some facts in regard to  
the plant, <sup>to Dr Gray</sup> and have  
supplied him with  
seeds. I hope this  
interesting plant may  
be cultivated.

Yours truly

Wm H Brewer

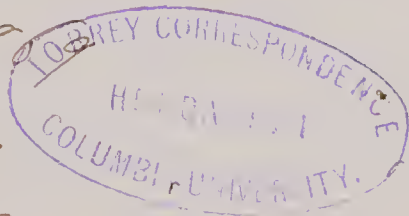


Rec<sup>d</sup>. May 21

✓

Cambridge, Mass.

May 19<sup>th</sup> 1897



My Dear Dr. Torrey

I am again grinding  
at the mill of Californian  
Botany - Am in doubt relative  
to Pedicularis edulis Nutt. - T. & G.  
Fl. I. 560; Bot. Mex. Bound. p. 68. -

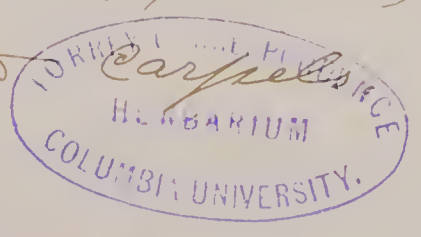
There is no specimen in Dr  
Gray's Herbarium except an  
unrecognized one, supposed to  
be that <sup>species</sup> in my lot, collected by  
Dr. Cooper at San Diego - - But  
in this, the stamens are inserted  
on the base of the corolla, as in  
Echeveria (Cotyledon of Linn &  
Benth & Hook. Gen. Plantarum) and  
furthermore, the petals are  
slightly united at the base -  
These would unite the



species with the genus  
(Cotyledon or Echeveria) if I have  
the right thing. Will you  
be so kind as to examine  
flower of a greenhouse specimen  
or of a Mex. Bound. Specimen  
and see how it is - The plant  
has "scape particularly branched"  
like Echeveria. all the other Cal.  
peduncles are erect - in  
short, it seems to me a very  
poor pedunc and a good  
Echeveria in every thing except  
that it lacks the scales  
at the base of the

Yours Truly

Wm. A. Brewer



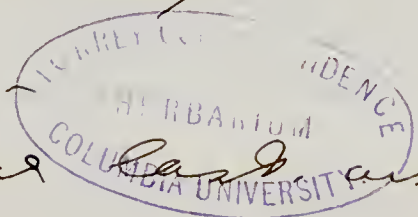
Brewer -  
abt. Echeveria, Sedum  
etc. and



✓

Carobridy, Mass.  
June 15<sup>th</sup> 1869

My Dear Dr Tracy -

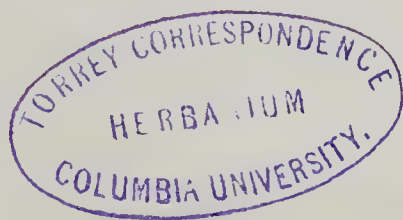
I got your  card with  
the flower of Lesqueris edulis -  
am much obliged - and  
am sorry to vex you with  
such inquiries -

Was the genus Megarrhiza  
Megarrhiza ever published?  
and if so where? - Is your  
Megarrhiza negana, the  
same as Lycos neganus T. & G.  
(as I surely infer) and has  
the former name been used  
elsewhere than in Bot. P. R. H.  
Expt. Vol 6, part 3 - p. 74. That is  
the only place I see it used, &  
~~that is not by me~~ & I  
find specimens in the Gray Herb.

Labelled Acycos negans, but  
more ~~labeled~~ labeled ~~Ac. negans~~  
Megasthiza negans. I suppose  
of course, that these are  
synonyms, but wish to be  
sure - I cannot find that  
Naudin has examined it  
at all, but I see Bent & Hal,  
Jan. Plant. p. 835, throw it  
with Echinochloa. I don't  
think that I ever gathered  
it. - Have you any idea  
what Kellogg's Marah  
muricatus (Proc. Cal. Acad.  
I p. 38) is? - In I infer that  
it is the same Megasthiza  
Californica, do you know  
anything about it? I have never  
seen such fruit as he describes.  
I am hoping to  
to go out with Whiting on  
a little trip in the  
Rocky Mountains, & shall

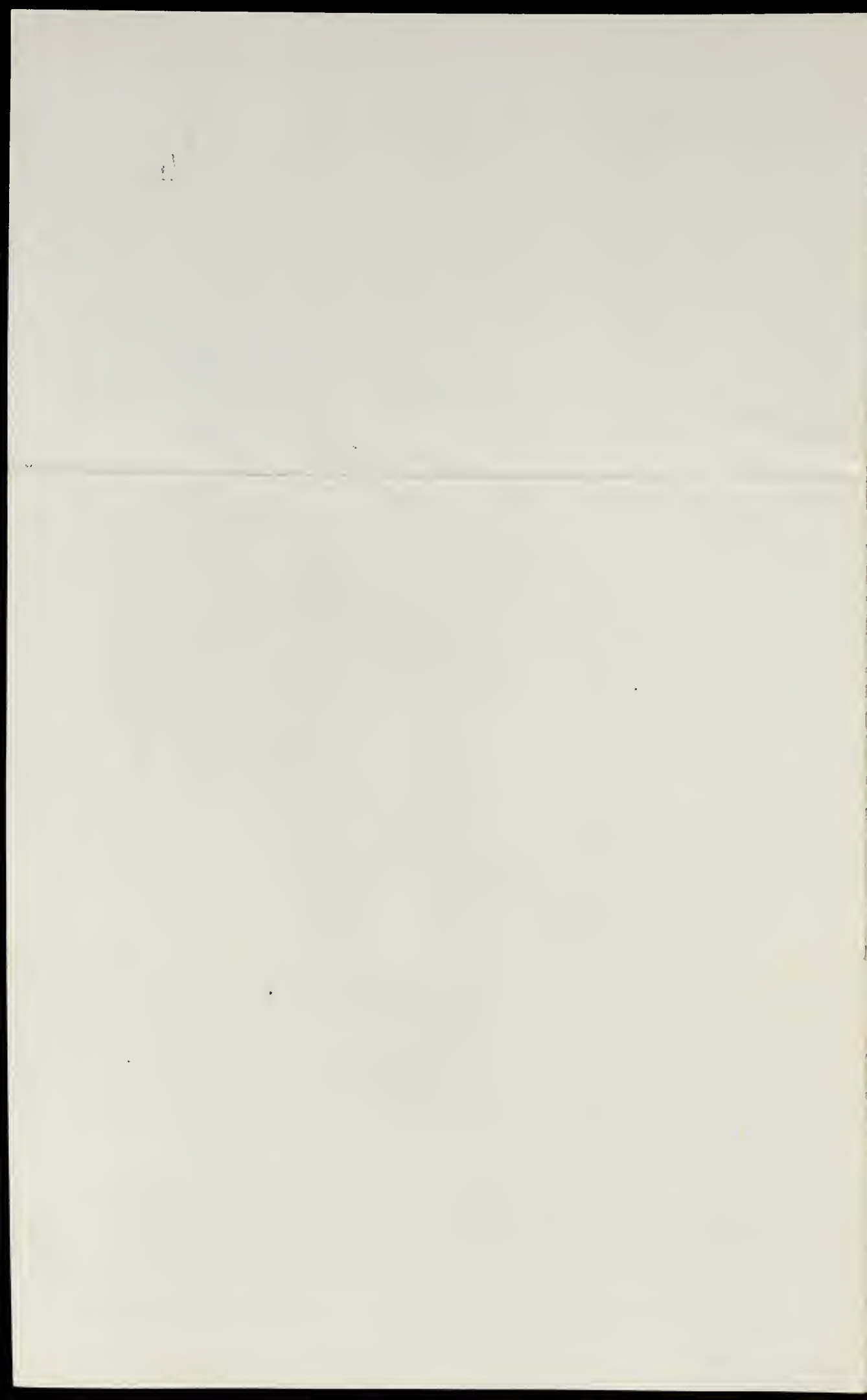
about the 4<sup>th</sup> of July - as  
he gave two months or so.

Yours truly  
Wm. H. Brewer



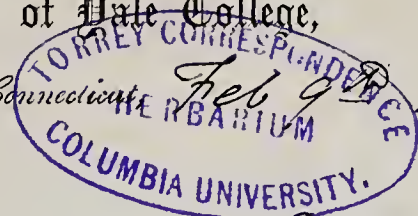
*Marah minima* Kellogg. Proceed. Cal. 21 p. 18 (of wh. I have  
a sp. from the author seems to be an *Elaberrina*





Sheffield Scientific School of Yale College,

New Haven, Connecticut



1870 ✓

My dear Dr Torrey A recent letter from Prof. Whitney says that there is strong opposition to the continuance of the geological survey in California, on the part of many legislators, coming of course from the same old source (mining speculators) - The governor & many influential men are strongly in favor of its continuance, but it now seems doubtful what the result will be. It is desirable that Prof. Whitney should have such backing by scientific men as can be concisely

gain, such as endorsement  
of his fitness for the work,  
but more especially of the  
value of the work he has  
done & is doing. He is  
anxious to have an opportunity  
to decently wrap up the  
work and publish the  
results. Prof Dana & several  
of the professors here have  
strongly endorsed him, to  
the governor, and if you can  
conscientiously add in the  
matter (as I think you  
can) I think it would be  
in the interests of science  
for you to do it - in fact,  
I don't know how we are to



Have a Botany of California  
without something being done  
there. If you would send a  
letter to Gen. H. H. ~~Haight~~ Haight,

a letter to

Hon. Edward Tompkins

Sacramento Cal., It

would aid in the good work,

By the way, did we ever

send you a copy of the Yosemite

Guide Book? - If not, let me

know, I have a few copies left &

Whitney has directed me to

send you one - <sup>If it was sent down last summer,</sup> but meanwhile, I

have an impression that

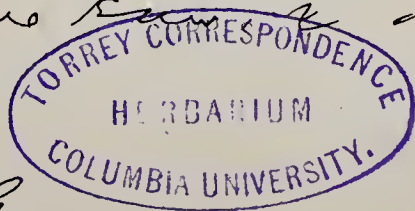
the thing was done - if not

please let me know & I will

do so now -

Yours truly

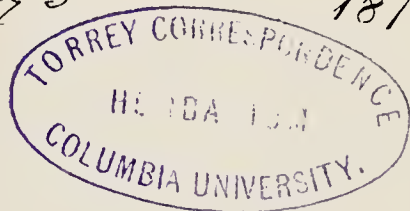
Wm. A. Brewer





Sheffield Scientific School of Yale College,

New Haven, Connecticut, May 30<sup>th</sup> 1870



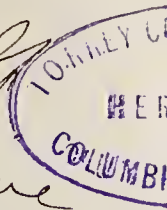
My dear Dr Torrey

Yours of last Friday is received. I am not doing much towards the Californian Botany just now, because of College duties, but expect to be at work in a few weeks more. The remainder of this year, I expect to devote a part of my time to this work and a part to my College duties - next year I purpose to devote the entire year to finishing the botany, and any and all help I can

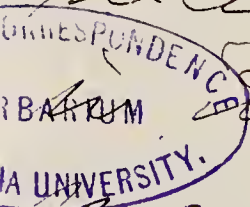


get will be most accepted.

I have talked with Watson  
about his list of plants west  
of the Mississippi - I will  
pay \$100 towards it, <sup>(estimated value \$50)</sup> to get it  
out - it is a work that I  
have long thought ought to  
be done. The Lott House Man  
formed a plan to do it, - If  
that is done, it will save  
the trouble and obviate the  
necessity of printing the  
references in our manuals,  
and other works on Western  
Botany - But I hear that  
Mr. Watson is rather inclined  
to make such a book of  
reference more extensive, a



include references to works of  
the plants east of the Missis-  
sippi. I think that would be  
not only inadvisable, but  
decidedly objectionable - In  
the first place, the vastly  
increased labor would  
necessitate a much longer time  
of preparation - but  
more than this, it would  
so enormously increase the  
size and expense of the  
prepared work, that I do not  
think that it could be got  
out - - It would probably  
increase the bulk and expense  
at least three fold, and I  
think more - If you talk with



him, try and ~~detest~~ <sup>dissuade</sup>  
him from doing that - (if you  
agree with me) but urge  
strongly the list of  
Western plants.

I may be in New York  
in a few <sup>weeks</sup> ~~years~~, and will  
bring a forevergreen Genie Book"

for you.

J. D. Whitney is east now,  
but will return to Cal.

Soon. Remember me to your  
family, and believe

Yours truly

Wm. Brewer

