



John Muir Correspondence (PDFs)

1878-02-05

Letter from Asa Gray to John Muir, 1878 Feb 5.

Asa Gray

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HERBARIUM OF HARVARD UNIVERSITY,
BOTANIC GARDEN, CAMBRIDGE, MASS.

Feb. 5.

1878

My Dear Mr. Muir.

I meant to have acknowledged your kind letter of 13th ult. - took it with me to Washington, to write about - but found no time.

Had long talk with Miss Kennedy, about the glorious time after I was appointed. What a pity we did not go on with you.

I am going to send your letter to-day to Stokes.

When we talk about which is species and which variety, we don't venture to suppose we can tell which came from the other, or first

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Diverged from some
common stock

The species is much older
than your first one
and came from - Lord
knows where, originally -
All we can say is
that the Jeffrey's
form is better adapted
to one extreme than to
the other.

All your notes are
most interesting.

Ad flexilis is P. albi-
caulis. That is clear
enough. You should

have found P. us-
aristata - which - without
any - is P. Balfouriana

Ad New 2

Sir J.D. Hooker
Royal Gardens
Kew
near London

Ever yours

As Gray

Herbarium of Harvard University,
Cambridge, Mass.,
Feb. 5, 1878.

My dear Mr. Muir:

I meant to have acknowledged your kind letter of 13th ult.--took it with me to Washington to write there, but found no time. Had long talk with Miss [Sallie] Kennedy, about the glorious time after we separated. What a pity we did not go on with you!

I am going to send your letter to-day to [Sir Joseph] Hooker. When we talk about which is species and which variety, we don't venture to suppose we can tell which came from the other, or first divided from some common stock. The species is much older than your hot lava, and came from -- Lord knows where, originally. All we can say is that the supposed form is better adapted to one extreme than to the other.

All your notes are most interesting. Old flexilis is *P. albicaulis*, that is clear enough. You should have found *Pinus aristata*, which, without awn, is *P. Balfouriana*. Address of Sir J. D. Hooker, Royal Gardens, Kew near London.

Ever yours,

Asa Gray