



John Muir Correspondence (PDFs)

---

1873-04-09

Letter from A[sa] Gray to John Muir, 1873 Apr 9.

Asa Gray

Follow this and additional works at: <https://scholarlycommons.pacific.edu/muir-correspondence>

---

**Recommended Citation**

Gray, Asa, "Letter from A[sa] Gray to John Muir, 1873 Apr 9." (1873). *John Muir Correspondence (PDFs)*. 1522.

<https://scholarlycommons.pacific.edu/muir-correspondence/1522>

This Article is brought to you for free and open access by Scholarly Commons. It has been accepted for inclusion in John Muir Correspondence (PDFs) by an authorized administrator of Scholarly Commons. For more information, please contact [mgibney@pacific.edu](mailto:mgibney@pacific.edu).

My dear Mr. Min

BOTANIC GARDEN, CAMBRIDGE, MASS.

April 9. 1873

Thanks for your letter of  
Feb. 22-26, which arrived  
yesterday. But I have  
already nearly finished my  
report on your precious specimens.  
As you did not number them  
I have to locate them, by putting  
the names on your slips that  
enclosed them, - sometimes too  
returning the specimen, or a part  
of it. So that you will identify  
them, I think.

I grieve that I can't go to  
California again this summer -  
Time & means are wanting. So I  
must stay at home, & work on Calif.  
Botany instead.

If you will keep looking on  
the high Sierras, you will find  
many new things, no doubt.  
One such, at least, is in your  
present collection in letter - the  
we ~~under~~ - ~~tail~~ Presia --

And the rare 2<sup>d</sup> sp. of Lewisia  
is as good as new news - and is  
so wholly to California.

I wonder if you get notes  
of Whitneya dealbata, as  
soon as the snow has gone  
from them, you could not  
get them alive to me - to  
grow. It grows near  
Sentinel Dome - I believe.  
I gathered it on Naramna point,  
above the Maipasa gneiss.

Spring is unusually tardy  
here. To-day it is as chilly  
as San Francisco  
in July.

You will grieve with  
us over the death of dear  
and old Torrey. Gone to  
his rest in a good old age -  
but we miss him sorely.

Lewisia Minic. is the  
first fruit - "the day of  
small things";

But a new alpine  
genus - that I may  
make a  
Minivia glacialis!

Ever yours

A. Gray

Botanic Garden, Cambridge, Mass.  
April 9, 1873.

My dear Mr. Muir:

Thanks for your letter of Feb. 22 - 26 which arrived yesterday. And I have already nearly finished my report on your precious specimens. As you did not number them I have to locate them by putting the names on your slips that enclosed them, sometimes, too, returning the specimen, or a part of it. So that you will identify them, I think.

I grieve that I can't go to California again this summer. Time and means are wanting, so I must stay at home and work on Calif. Botany instead. If you will keep botanizing in the high Sierras you will find curious and new things, no doubt. One such, at least, is in your present collection in letter - the wee mouse-tail Ivesia. And the rare sp. of Lewisia is as good as new, and is so wholly to California.

I wonder if you get roots of Whitneya dealbata as soon as the snow has gone from them, you could not get them alive to me - to grow? It grows near Sentinel Dome, I believe. I gathered it on Wawona point above the Mariposa grove.

Spring is unusually tardy here. To-day it is as chilly as -- as San Francisco in July!

You will grieve with us over the death of dear good old Torrey. Gone to his rest in a good old age, but we miss him sadly. Ivesia Muirii is the first fruit "the day of small things." Get a new alpine genus - that I may make a Muiria glacialis!

Ever yours,

A. Gray.