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## Letter from A[sa] Gray to John Muir, 1872 Jan 4.

Asa Gray

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glacier-ice, but in opicy vill perfume. BOTANIC GARDEN, CAMBRIDGE, MASS. Mat Pine Sues January 4 187 2 how those you sent My Dear Min in a letter emely 18 Die. has been han her have a some hand for vivid behinden 4 or 5- days, Tright Aglacia life in its I last themes is reported Comes the price - glinions in Sillimans Innel puckage by Express, Mond Torrey was here I have taken out the Mentiful Jorneya sud) a muth ago - lively, polked thro, a wil terness hit gring fulle. Sray of propert Orllan mucouemata. - & some Library are in first set consition. with peartiest wis his for but Jane not gorfather the Mentra. in the warm min for fear of ansking the Onivulas. 12t they I su, were so wirally put up that they must 00563

The plants got how med le un qui andi = tion, I am sick with a fait cold on triangs of home into the cold when it will be kept the without repeated freez ing the awing which But how they we, It was much thought to-mum my assistant Mat a splendid plant Nayon to prepay the prickage, \_ from much fider ym an, and I can't preany record I way, while I shad-Out your meet must der nir yner wiek, let me know, Our estallishment forts all If seems to me how Anah ful to us besides. and now just astonishing In I dan say in of were with your and games, or at hasta had my travelling ligo on I should have nu spicies, Mat gone with you Considering the king may have the puties = all justing me here faction of emboling had, I under how

Botanic Garden, Cambridge, Mass., January 4, 1872.

My dear Muir:

Your letter of the 18th Dec. has been here 4 or 5 days. To-night comes the nice glorious package by express. I have taken out the plentiful Torreya seeds, poked through a wilderness of superb Pilea mucroermata and some Liliales all in firstrate condition, but dare not go farther in the warm room for fear of awaking the Primulas. Yet they, I see, were so admirably put up that they must needs be in good condition.

I am sick with a bad cold on lungs and threat, and dare not go now into the cold, where it will be kept till tomorrow my assistant overhauls them.

What a splendid <u>plant-finder</u> you are, and I envy, while I shudder over your walk. It seems to me here and now just astonishing. Yet I dare say if I were with you and had my travelling legs on I should have gone with you.

Considering the very cold weather we have had, I wonder how the plants got here without repeated freezing and thawing, which makes the mischief. But here they are, all right.

It was well thought of in you to prepay the package. How much? I can't see any record. But your next must let me know. Our establishment foots all such bills, and is very thankful to us besides.

Pray find a new genus, or at least a new species, that I may have satisfaction of embalming your name, not in glacier-ice, but in spicy wild perfume.

What Pine seeds were those you sent in a letter-envelope not long ago? Have been here 2 or 3 weeks.

Your vivid delineation of Glacier-life in its last throos, is reproduced in Silliman's Journal for January.

Good Torrey was here a month ago -- lively, but growing feeble.

A. Gray

With heartiest wishes for the New Year.