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39p9 x 13p2.5 picas

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26 picas x 19p2

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12p3 x 39p11.5

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have recently been rediscovered and are proving *[add space]* invaluable in ~~in~~ *to* current restoration efforts.

Behr's solid scientific credentials and self-assuredness might also have inspired, or at least bolstered, the decision of members of the fledgling Academy to publish new species independent of established authority. This was quite an audacious move, given that the Academy at this time had a library of less than 100 books and no access to authenticated comparative material, a decision that accordingly generated considerable resistance from scientists in the eastern United States and Europe. One area where Behr and his frontier colleagues parted ways, however, was in the use of Latin: "It met with no encouragement from the Academy, partly because the members generally were not as good *[add space]* Latinists as Dr. Behr and partly because it was felt that plain English was *[add space]* better, or certainly good enough."

*[Begin new paragraph.]* Shortly after the University of California was established in 1868, Behr became a professor at the affiliated College of Pharmacy in San Francisco, teaching botany as the basis for much of the available pharmacopoeia. Among his students was Mary Katharine Curran Layne, best remembered by her later married name of Katharine Brandegee. As recalled by a classmate:

"We were all much interested in *Materia Medica*. Our professor was a very busy man and could not always give the time he wished to give to the subject: Therefore Mrs. Curran with a number of us who were members of the Academy of Sciences decided to go out with the Pharmaceutical Class—Dr. Herman Behr our instructor—and study the flora and plant life of the bay region, *[add comma]* usually Marin, Contra Costa, *[add comma]* and San Mateo Counties.

Whatever was collected of value or of special interest was taken or given to the Academy of Sciences. Mrs. Curran was a very close student and observer—so—also was Dr. Behr and his deep interest in the Academy—and the flora and plant life of California had a charm for the entire class."

It was with Behr's backing that Curran joined the Academy, serving as curator of botany for many years until handing the reins over ~~the~~ *to* Alice Eastwood.

Given this background information, one can readily understand how delighted I was to stumble across a selection of letters written from Behr to George Engelmann in the archives of the Missouri Botanical Garden. Engelmann, one of the established authorities in American botany for his age, was located in St. Louis, the Gateway to the West, which allowed him to serve as a key point-person for much of the botanical exploration that was occurring beyond the Mississippi River. Engelmann had an especially rich correspondence with fellow expatriate Germans, such as Behr, who appear to have been more likely than their American-born colleagues to share details beyond the purely professional (e.g., letters from Behr or Bolander, ~~vs.~~ *versus* those from T.S. Brandegee or Vasey). Of course, such letters were handwritten in German, which makes them somewhat of a challenge to read by the average monolingual Anglo-American. We are therefore indebted to Edgar Deniscon, who laboriously translated and transcribed the letter written to Engelmann from German into typed English, stumbling over some botanical names and other scientific jargon.

The letters written by Behr to Engelmann prove to be a treasure-trove beyond the purely botanical. In addition to additional description of the ~~now~~ *now*-eradicated vegetation of San Francisco, the let-

ters provide insight into the horticultural use of native plants, tribulations of the early Academy, developments in scientific theory, and Behr's opinion of the city's diverse ethnicity. Most of the plants discussed are in Engelmann's groups of special interest: e.g., conifers, oaks, cacti, parasitic plants, Cucurbitaceae, and wetland plants. The correspondence published here is not quite comprehensive, in that I chose not to copy mundane passages that seemed to have limited contemporary value. I have also taken the liberty of altering some of Deniscon's translations where a different terminology or idiom seemed called for *[add space]* (e.g., "grueling labor" vs. "killing industry"). I left the German salutation for each letter intact to show the transition from the formal "Herr College" (as noted by Deniscon, "Herr College was then and is still today the only proper greeting—both verbally ~~an~~ *and* in writing—between two medical doctors in Germany"), to "Leiber Freund"—Dear Friend.

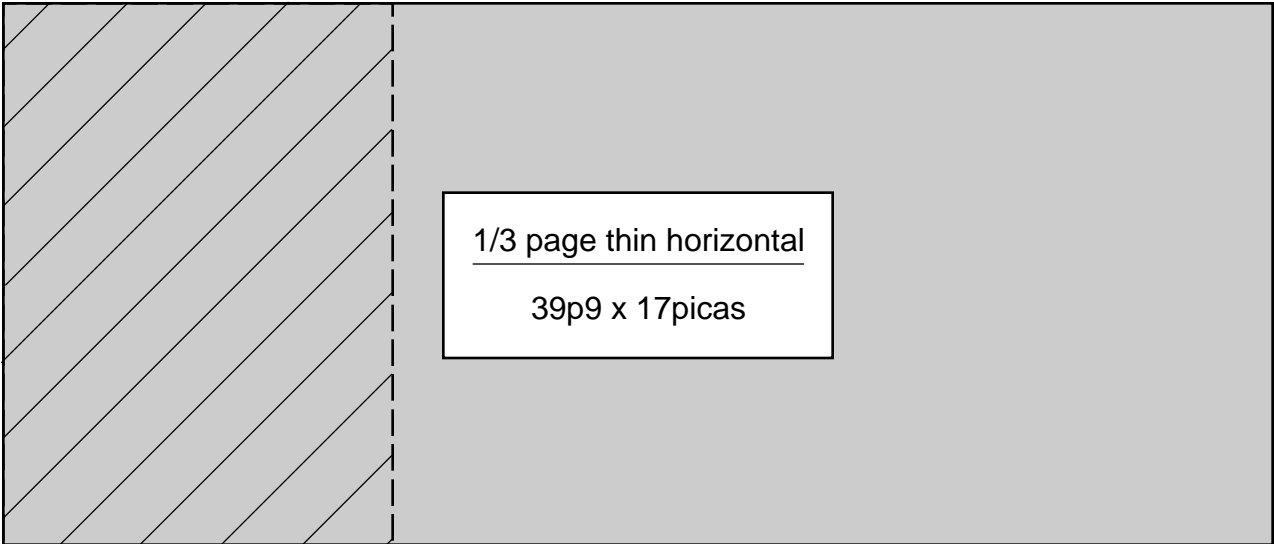
[I'd recommend moving the letter dates farther over to the right; maybe allow one space between college and beginning of each letter, and use a comma or colon after "College?"]

11 July 1859

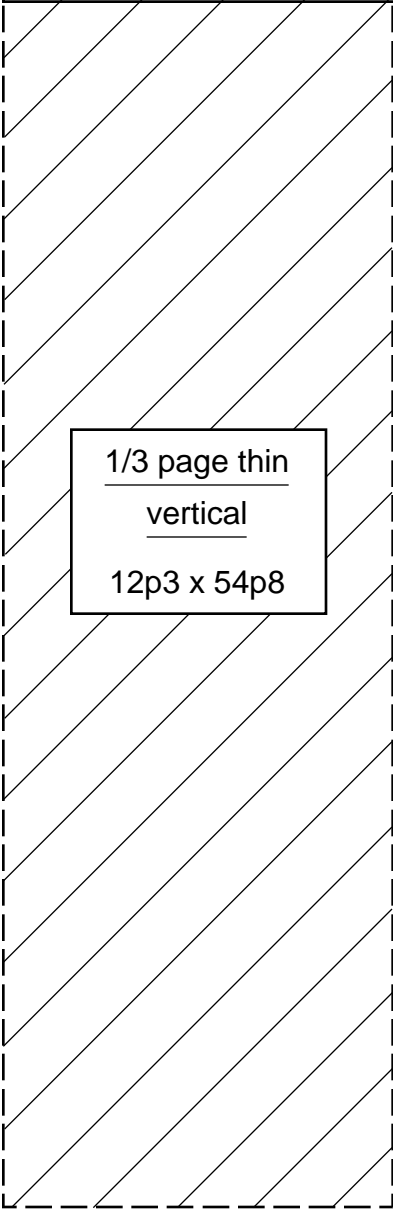
Mein lieber Herr College

"I read with great pleasure through the lines brought by Enno Sander, but fear however not to be able to fulfill your expectations completely. I do not have the time to collect, and lack the paraphernalia to prepare the collected material. I shall however talk to A. Kellogg about exchange of herbaria. Otherwise I refer you to Sander's letter, to whom I have given several ideas about dissertations to be presented, and it ~~hall~~ *depend* ~~all~~ *de-* ~~pend~~ *ends* on your kind council, for which theme I shall decide.

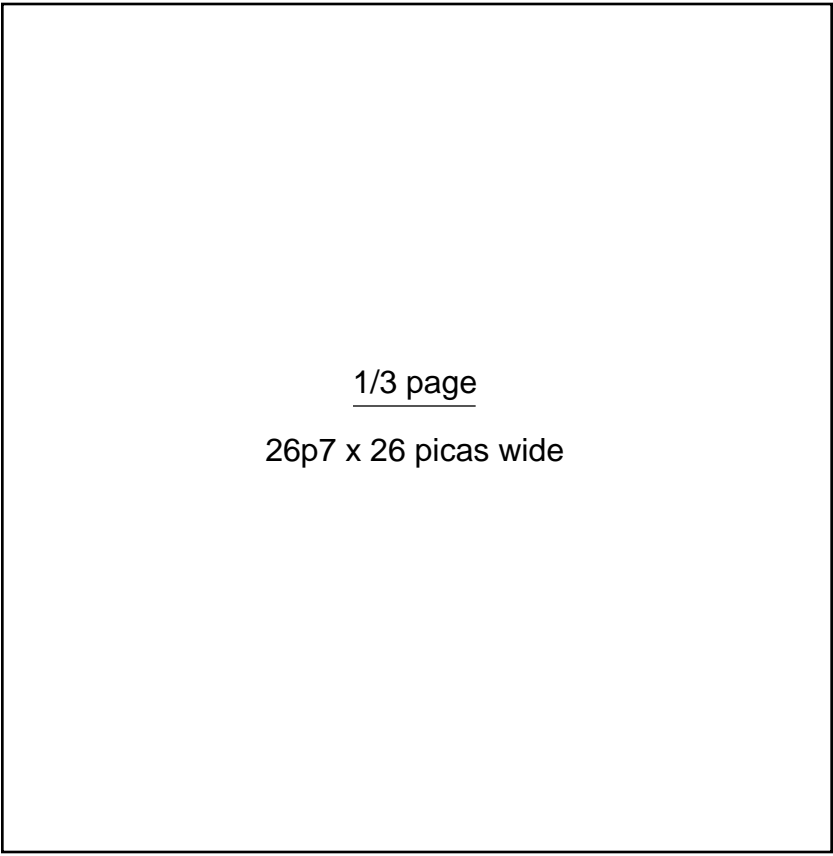
"In the meantime I hope to get into permanent contact with a man



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1/3 page thin  
vertical  
12p3 x 54p8



1/3 page  
26p7 x 26 picas wide

1/8 page horizontal

26 picas x 10p6

1/8 page vertical

12p3 x 24 picas

full page

39p9 x 54p8

1/2 page horizontal

39p9 x 27 picas

1/2 page vertical

26 picas x 40p6