

#### Collection overview

The great botanist and early supporter of evolutionary theory, Asa Gray, toured the Florida Panhandle during the spring of 1875, making "a pious pilgrimage to the secluded native haunts of that rarest of trees, the *Torreya taxifolia*." His journey took him along the Apalachicola River in search of *Torreya*, a native yew prized by horticulturists.

This slender manuscript account was prepared by Gray for publication in the *American Agriculturist* (vol. 43). In a light and graceful way, his "pilgrimage" describes the difficulties of travel in the deep south during the post-Civil War years and his exploits while botanizing. The text is edited in Gray's hand and varies slightly from the published version.

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# Background on Asa Gray

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# Scope of collection

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## Administrative information

#### Access

The collection is open for research.

#### Provenance

Provenance unrecorded.

## **Processing Information**

Processed by I. Eliot Wentworth, Dec. 2015.

## Language:

English

## Copyright and Use (More information )

*Cite as*: Asa Gray, "A pilgrimage to Torreya" (MS 419 bd). Special Collections and University Archives, University of Massachusetts Amherst Libraries.

## Search terms

## **Subjects**

- Botanists
- Florida--Description and travel--19th century
- Yew

## Link to similar SCUA collections

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