

Robt

Knip College Frederick Md.
11 April 1842.

My dear Dr. Gray,

As I have an opportunity at present

I write to acknowledge receipt of your very obliging
letter of the 12th March: I send this by a young
man who has been here for some time as gardener
to a gentleman in the neighborhood, but who does
not find the climate & circumstances favorable
for the exercise of his talents, & who goes in search
of employment in the U. S. the land of promise.
Perhaps I am taking a liberty with you but you
may have heard, or some of your friends may have
heard of ~~you~~ a person who has had a careful training under
the best masters in Scotland, & more particularly under
Robert Gordon of Glasgow under Mr. Murray - He is a
countryman of mine, & as I often took him with me
on my botanical trips can safely recommend him for
zeal & assiduity in the cause of Flora -

I am very much obliged by the notice & specimens of your
new books, & by your promise to send some memoirs
twice a part - I have read one of yours in German &
on foreign Herbaria with much pleasure. - one only.
The 2 parts of the 2^d Vol. Flora A. S. I have sent for from
Little & Brown of Boston seeing that I was getting something
at the time. I expect it every day now - I rec^d the sheets & I thank.
The new Elementary work shall be thankfully rec^d. - In fact
it is required. & I never c^d understand why text books
were so scarce with you - I am always astonished at your
Countrymen for basing & editing so many foreign books when it
is almost as easy to write them. It is unworthy of the nation.
I hope now to hear no more of translations of obscure works.
at least - I sh^d always prefer an American
text book if it be original because the examples are
of the country - I w^d suggest the insertion of tabular
abstracts of as many subjects as possible I c^d not teach without
them - M. A. De Fusien gave us tables of every part of ^{Structure} ^{& Function} of the body
& I wish you w^d give us them abundantly in your text
books & systems - It is the only way for teachers - An analysis
of the genera in every order ought always to be given in your
so for the university -



Robb, James. 1842. "Robb, James Apr. 14, 1842." *Asa Gray correspondence*

View This Item Online: <https://www.biodiversitylibrary.org/item/224681>

Permalink: <https://www.biodiversitylibrary.org/partpdf/252575>

Holding Institution

Harvard University Botany Libraries

Sponsored by

Arcadia 19th Century Collections Digitization/Harvard Library

Copyright & Reuse

Copyright Status: Public domain. The Library considers that this work is no longer under copyright protection

License: <https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-nc-sa/4.0/>

This document was created from content at the **Biodiversity Heritage Library**, the world's largest open access digital library for biodiversity literature and archives. Visit BHL at <https://www.biodiversitylibrary.org>.