

to understand your geology
of p 447, 448: but you
would probably not care
to hear my difficulties &
therefore I will not
trouble you with them.
I was so grieved to get a
letter from Dana at Florence,
giving me a very poor (though
improved) account of his health.
Believe me, my dear friend
Yours very sincerely
C. Darwin

What an admirable memoir
as to the distribution of Australian
plants - the of Hooker!

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From Bromley Kent
Jan 7th

My dear friend

I have just finished your Japan
memoir & I must thank
you for the extreme interest
with which I have read it.

It seems to me a most curious
case of distribution & how very
well you argue & put the
case for analogy on the
high probability of single
centres of creation. That
great man Agassiz, when
he comes to me seems to
me as great in taking
a wrong view as he is great

in Shering & Clipping. One of
the points which has struck
me as most remarkable &
unexplainable in your memoir
is the number of mountains
(or nearly 10) given amongst
the representative forms of Japan
& N. America. And how
very singular the preponderance
of identical & representative
species in Eastern compared
with Western America. —
I have no good map showing
how wide the moderately low
country is on the west side
of the Rocky Mountains: nor of

course do I know whether the
share of the low western
territory has been estimated;
but it has occurred to me
looking at such maps as I
have, that the Eastern area
must be larger than western
which would account for the
certain small extent for
preponderance on Eastern side
of the representative species.
Is there any truth in this
supposition? Your memoir
sets me wondering &
reflecting. — I confess I
am not altogether



Darwin, Charles. 1860. "Darwin, Charles Jan. 7, 1860." *Charles Darwin letters to Asa Gray*

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