

Gray 73

Sept. 16th

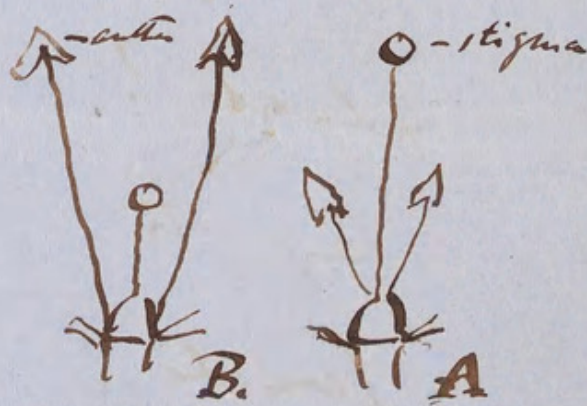
Dear Bowly Clerk

(4)

My dear Gray

In the which of your father's affairs, since
may be forgotten, or if not forgotten you may
have no inclination to write. But if so
inclined I sh. be very glad to have a
little information on any cases of
homophily, like that of Primula, & to
be allowed to quote you. - To make

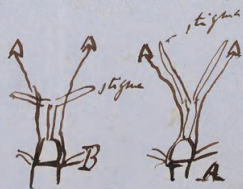
even the you may
understand what I want
to know; I give this
beautiful diagram of the
two forms of Primula.



I think I have made out their
good a meaning clearly. The pollen of
A is fitted for stigma of B & conversely.
The individuals are divided into two
sets or bodies, like the males & females

of *Quadruped*; but both in *Primula*
 are hermaphrodite; but I will not
 enter on details, as I will soon send
 a paper to *Lin. Soc.* - I should
 be extremely glad to know of
 other analogous cases. Are the
 two from one source or same
 plant? Stigma is a different color;
 as to one form is strictly
 female, stamens being aborted;
 other females, however, I find to
 be the most productive of seed.

Some of the species of *Linum*
 offer the case: I am
 rather too late to experiment
 fairly; but I am almost sure the pollen



of *A* is absolutely sterile on stigma of *A*; but
 good for stigma of *B*: whereas pollen of
B is good for its own stigma *B* & for
 stigma of *A*. - This subject interests me
 much, so do help me if you can; for I
 have some very faint hopes that I it
 may throw some light on Hybridization;
 I have some seeds of *Primulas* raised
 in very many numbers from stigmas
 fertilized by what I call a homo-
 = morphous union; i.e. of pollen from
 plant of same form. -

If you have looked at *Spicantes* let
 me hear: but if you *Spicantes* are
 like *S. speciosa* figured by Bauer;
 they are of different form, *S. autumnalis*;
 which by the way at Jaquey I had
 the good luck to see. Bees

72-73
Just now: I have almost finished my
long Berlin paper, & then I must
go back to my true work on

Cork & Hens, fossils & rabbits.

Elsewhere, what much better

fun observing in these writings.

By the way I have just been

amusing myself in looking at

Richard in aid of my Professor

work. How curious it is to me &

they caught & how beautiful are the

descriptions compared with Brissac.

But I must not run on

about my hobby horses. Farewell

My dear friend

Yours very sincerely

Charles Darwin



Darwin, Charles. 1861. "Darwin, Charles Sept. 16, 1861." *Charles Darwin letters to Asa Gray*

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