

July 14'

Down Bromley Kent

My dear Greg

J^d 18th. has returned to enclosed
 some; but we ^{have} had a miserable time
 of it. [the Postage & Stamp collect^r]
 says. Our Boy has had a return of
 Scarlet fever, with all sorts of mischief,
 Kidney, glands of neck &c & it has
 run fever. But he is now made up
 for night & I will try & forget the
 misery of this wayward & untidy &
 hit-or-miss science. — With respect to
 Pogonia, it would be a very great advantage,
 if insects open to another for selection:
 you say nothing about the postscript: for
 Vanilla I 18th. expect the vicid matter

would be found under like of another. Insects
ought to be watched at work. In Australia
seen open the inflorescence of *Goodeniaceae*
for ~~follow~~ — *Platanthera fringedata*
is a pretty case. There is no end
to the adaptations. Ought not then
cases to make us very cautious
when we ~~know~~ ^{think} about the use
of all parts? — I fully believe that
the structure of all irregular
flowers is governed in relation
to insects: Insects as to Lord
of the floral (to quote the witty
Attorney) word. — How will you have
worked the American *Rehids*!

I am heartily glad of the time that
you have given Lecture on over.
Harker is very anxious about Mr. Harker
& has started on health-tour to
Switzerland. I don't know of the
sudden death of poor Dr. Paul. Brown,
just as he finished translating my
Rehid-book. There is, indeed, a
scurvy irregularity. — Don Juan Harker
seemed very anxious. —
A few days ago I made an
observation which ^{has} surprised me more
that it ought to do — it will
have to be repeated several times,
but I have scarcely a doubt of its
accuracy. — I stated in my *Pinkula*

paper this to long-156 form of *Linum*
grandiflorum was always sterile with
one pollen; & I have lately been
putting the ~~two~~ pollen of the two
form on the division of the
stigma of the same
flower; & it strikes me as being
wonderful, that the stigma division =
= similar to pollen; & is penetrated &
the ^{the best of the one & not of the other}
; nor are the tubes exerted.
the other ^{the} (which is the same thing)
the stigma of the one form acts on &
is acted of (for the papilla become ciliated)
pollen, which produces into the least effect
on the stigma of the other form. Taking
sexual power as the criterion of influence
the two forms a long be said to be generically
distinct. — Farewell to dear friend
C. Darwin



Darwin, Charles. 1862. "Darwin, Charles July 14, 1862." *Charles Darwin letters to Asa Gray*

View This Item Online: <https://www.biodiversitylibrary.org/item/225921>

Permalink: <https://www.biodiversitylibrary.org/partpdf/254353>

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

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>.