

Feb. 23^o

55

From Bromley Kent

+

My dear Gray

Many thanks for your note of Jan 27^o. The
enclosures were forwarded. The marriage
and her friend a Treasurer; for besides
seeing a kind, a young man at Edinburgh
with experiment in a ^{mutual} fertility of some of the
varieties. - Pray thank, when you see, Dr.
Ludden about follicles (from whom I have
since received a pamphlet): This was very
good remark about attachment opposite of
to eye or fabrics; & these are my two
parts since I have seen attachment. -
Thanks, also, about highness & lameness of
Oak-tree: Harker was pleased (to show I
noticed your remark) about the "unusually"
of Plants. - When I send my Linnaean paper

hope you will see about L. Lewisii. —
If you have time to read you will be
interested in ^{part of} Gell's Book on Man: but I
fear the best part, about physical
period, may be too geological for anyone
except a regular geologist. He quotes you
at end with gusto. By the way he
told me the day has pleased some
but been of hearing the 17 and 18
your pamphlet. The "Panthron" also speaks
of it as the ablest contribution to the
literature of the subject. It delights me
when I see your work appreciated.
The Gell's came here this day week, &
I shall grow at his expense continue:
I feel sure that he will do much

fully to understanding of species & variation &
selection; & yet, ^{and} writing at length on
subject, is afraid to say so; & ^{he} will not
serve as guide to anyone. The fellow
may well say, if not a man I am not
it will not speak at his mind, how
can we who are ignorant, & from even
a grasp on subject. — Gell was pleased, then
I told him ^{that} the you thought the language
might be used as excellent illustration of
variation of species; you will see that he
has admiration chapter on this —
I received a letter while ago the correspondence
between Living & Field: I cannot tell you how it
has interested us all: it is so real; &
it is so curious to see two able & honest
men differing so thoroughly. Of course I will
do off with the Englishman; but I have so

will understand your horror of Disunion.
It is very natural. The sun sh^d. I find
becoming split up like Germany; but to us
it does not seem quite so horrible.
I think both correspondents understand the
very general belief entertained for many
years in England, that your Government
delighted in making us eat dirt, &
that we had eat dirt about Boundary
Line, Right of Search, Vancouver Is^d &c.
I believe that this has greatly checked
all sympathy with you; & made the
whole country fire up, when, as was
thought, you had passed our swelling
power in the Trent affair. - after
furnishing the above correspondence; I
read Cairns' excellent Lecture, which shows
10 well how your quarrel arose from Slavery.

May 55
It will be for a time with liberty (5)
for north; but I will never help, though
I tried, all the time thinking how we
16th be bullied & forced into a war for
you, when you were triumphant. But I
do, most truly thank the God of the
the South, with its accursed Slavery,
16th triumph, & spread the evil. I think
if I had power, I'd thank God I
have not, I would let ^{you} conquer ^{the} border
states, & the West of Mississippi & then
free you to absorb the Cotton States.

For
"Do you not wish to begin to doubt whether you
can compare & hold them? I have
implied a long tirade on you. -
The Times is getting more delatatory, -
but that is too weak a word, - then
even. My good wife writes to give it
to me. I tell her that is a pitiful
business, to stick up a woman in
spite to "To give up the 'Bloody Old Times'
as Abbott and to call it, will be to
give up much drink & air. -

Yours very truly
C. Darwin



Darwin, Charles. 1863. "Darwin, Charles Feb. 23, 1863." *Charles Darwin letters to Asa Gray*

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

Permalink: <https://www.biodiversitylibrary.org/partpdf/254365>

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>.