

cluster with its rejected pollen
from a distinct flower can
to the work of fertilization.

I was well at work on my
new Book, then in beginning
of March, Murray acquired
new edit. of Origin, & I
have been correcting & adding
matter of some importance
ever since. It almost
broke my heart to give up
so much time, but I have
been comforted & finding
that it will likewise
serve for a new German
edition, which is wanted,

96

April. 16th

Down.
Stowley.
Kent, S. E.

My dear Gray

I have been a scandalously
ungrateful, & idle dog for not
having thanked you very long
ago for the second article
on climbing plants, which
pleased me greatly. But, as
I have before said, now that
I work a little, I seldom
feel inclined to write to
anyone, but this morning
the spirit has moved me to
do so, though I have little
to say, & My dear Annamaria

is poorly with influenza, which
has likewise knocked me up
for a week. - Hosker paid
us a visit of a day about
a fortnight ago & I was
delighted to see him looking
well & in good spirits: he
hopes before long not to be
so terribly overworked & is
going soon to write a paper
on the St. Helena Flora from
Burchell's collections. I have
lately had a letter from Fritz
Müller in S. Brazil, full
of curious assertions. One
case, which he is going to
publish in Germany, ^{is} of a *Reithraeus*

plant with very long tubular
corolla & with stigma in the
middle: when an insect or
any body touches the filament
of the stamens, then suddenly
a violent bend & eject the
pollen, which had been previously
shed & collected into a
ball between the anthers,
against the intruding object.
But the curious point is
that the same movement
closes the tube of the corolla,
so that the insect cannot
then get into the flower; but
is about 8 hours the
tube open & then an insect

All this has ~~made~~ me regret (2)
extremely that the American
edition was stereotyped; for
the book is now considerably
improved from what it was
in the 2^d. edition, which is
the one reprinted in
America. — I suppose nothing
can be done: the corrections
are far too numerous &
minute for attention in
stereotyping. I fear the
sale has stopped; & even
if it had not ^{stopped} ~~quit~~,
it would, I fear, be
useless to ask Publishers,

May 96

1. Either the same or any
other, to bring out an
enlarged edition. - I
will send you a copy
whenever it is published, for
the chance of your liking
to have one. -

I will just ask the
same chance, whether you
have any new facts on
the direct influence of
pollen on the fruit
boom of the mother -
- plant; for this subject
has come to interest

the greatly: also rather (3
you know of any cases
of but with blended
character produced a junction
of its skin & graft: I have
been reading a paper by
Carpenter on the subject.

I hope all the Fenians
now in your country,
will not be the cause
of more trouble & hatred
between our two
countries. It seems
blowing over at present; as

May 96

I hope an gun Tom ble
about gun President &
at Smith. - I declare
I can hardly get notice
the grant, magnificent
fact the storey is
at end in gun
country. Farewell
my good & kind
present —
Yours most sincerely
C. Darwin
I walk daily now between
2 & 3 hours! & walk
3 or 4 miles daily!! yet never

mind discomfort!

as case

never



Darwin, Charles. 1866. "Darwin, Charles Apr. 16, 1866." *Charles Darwin letters to Asa Gray*

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