

Dow,  
Beckenham, Kent.

June 25<sup>th</sup> 74

My dear Gray

I said in my last note that I was at work on *Pinguicula*. Well it proves an excellent digester of fibrin; albumin, meat, &c. It has also interested me to find that if a row of these be placed near the margin, the edge of the leaf in the course of 2 or 3 hours turns over, so as to bring the secreting and absorbing glands into contact with the upper as well as the lower

surface of the flies. But the point which - But it is rather too early in the year  
has interested me most is that the leaves I suppose for seeds. Now does *Pinguicula*  
certainly absorb nutritions matter from the ground anywhere near you? & if so  
little leaves & seeds which are blown out would you look to a certain number  
them. Hence the plant is certainly not of leaves, tell me whether you find  
only insectivorous, but <sup>(+ Nutr.)</sup> graminivorous any seeds, or leaves of other plants ad-  
& graminivorous! I have had a lot of time to them. This would be valuable  
leaves sent me from N. Wales; & it is now. It will amuse me much to make  
extremely rare to find a single leaf a good case about the omnivorous  
without more than one captured insect. habits of this plant  
each.  
They had also more than one leaf,  
on an average of some other plant  
adhering to them; and two seed-capsules



Darwin, Charles. 1874. "Darwin, Charles June 25, 1874." *Charles Darwin letters to Asa Gray*

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