

West-Chapter, Pa. Sept. 24. 1849.

My dear Sir, I hasten to reply to your note of the 17th inst. - to say, that you need give yourself no concern about the copies of Neliz. Walder, which were sent to you, to put in a Bookstore. I supposed there were probably two or three copies yet on hand; and hence I requested you (if such were the fact), to present one in my name to Miss Batchelder. The others I wish you to present to any friend you may meet, who may be likely to take any interest in that kind of reading. I want no account of those which may have been disposed of. All I ask, is, that you will dispose of the remaining ones, to please yourself.

My idea in offering one to Miss B. was, that it might serve "by way of Anchor," preparatory to the heavy octavo of Boston & Marshall's Correspondence! I have received from that Lady an elegant, kind & flattering letter, acknowledging your attention in presenting the volume.

I expect in a few days to be able to forward, to Miss B. & yourself, the Bartram & Marshall Memorial; as the printing has been finished these two weeks; and I suppose the work is in the Printer's hands.

Notwithstanding all my pruning, the book is much larger than I expected - and larger than ^{it} should be, if I had it to do over again. But that cannot now be helped; and I must beg you to ascribe the mistake to my weakness, in admiring, to excess, all old Correspondence of eminent persons.

I am glad the Pruning American came to you in good condition. I am apprehensive I shall not be so successful with the desired species of Crataegus; but if I should meet with any, you shall have them.

The C. cordata is kept so trimmed, that it does not often produce fruit, in the hedges; and the others are becoming rather scarce in this immediate vicinity. Pyrus Cornmaria, also, is getting scarce, - though formerly quite frequent.

It is very possible - & I may say probable - that I have mistaken the Crataegus punctata, in my Flora; but if I can get specimens of the plant I intended, I will send you some - both of Leaves & Fruit. I expect Dr. Alexander to see me, this week; and I will look out for Crataegus, in our excursions.

Please remember me affectionately to Mrs Gray. I hope her health will continue to improve.

I can hardly hope to visit Cambridge again; but I assure you, if any thing could rouse me to an extra effort, it would be to make the personal acquaintance of two such charming and interesting Lady friends, as Mrs G. and Miss Batchelder. In much haste, my dear friend, yours sincerely,

Prof. A. Gray,
Cambridge

W. Darlington



Darlington, William. 1849. "Darlington, William Sept. 24, 1849." *William Darlington letters to Asa Gray*

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