

As soon as I hear that you have returned to Cambridge, I will put up a regular parcel for Prof. Jussieu, & forward it to Dr. Gray - in the hope he can put it in the way to reach M. de Jussieu without much trouble or risk. My vanity will be so excited, that I shall put up all the autographs, & Lithographs, in my possession; though I much fear I shall not be able to procure an original <sup>Letter</sup> of Dr. Muhlenberg.

I despatch this hurried note, in the mean time, to let you know that I have received your esteemed letter, - and that I am, with the greatest respect,  
your obliged & grateful friend,

Wm Darlington  
Mrs. Jane L. Gray,

Kew, near London.

P.S. As it is uncertain whereabout you may be, when this arrives, I shall direct it to the care of Brown, Ripley & Co. Liverpool.

West-Chester, Penn<sup>a</sup>, July 11. 1851.

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My dear Mrs. Gray, Yesterday I had the gratification of receiving your most agreeable favor of June 27. dated at Kew, - a place which, in my imagination, must come as near to Paradise as it is possible for any terrestrial spot to do, since our great Grandmother committed her fatal mistake. In such a place, I can readily understand why you should postpone the irksome task of answering the epistolary crudities despatched to you from a Pennsylvania Village; and I could even find an excuse for total neglect of them, in your situation. You will judge, then, how highly I must value the flattering attention you have paid to my poor missives. I am profoundly grateful for your charming letters; & most happy to learn the welfare of yourself and Dr. Gray.

I presume the year that you have just passed, abroad, will ever be regarded as one of the most interesting of your life; and the events of it will constitute a rich magazine, in the stone-house of memory. If I were not too old to undertake such journeys, I should be tempted to rejoice at the prospect of your speedy return, that I might make a pilgrimage to Cambridge, and listen for a week to your captivating recitals. It grieves me to think, that I must depart this life without the happiness of a prior interview with such noble souls as Sir W. J. Hooker & Mr. Booth. Next to seeing them, would be the pleasure of hearing you tell all about them; and you must not be too much surprised if you should see an old fellow of seventy come all the way to Cambridge, some day, for that purpose. In the mean time, let me beg of you to make to those excellent friends my most affectionate remembrance.

I am much obliged by your & the Dr.'s kindness, in obtaining the information about "Gram". I learnt the same, soon after I wrote, from Dr. J. D. Hooker's notes on India; - though, in one place, he speaks of Eromium Linn., as being also called Gram. The information you give, is only another evidence of the habitual accuracy of Dr. Gray's acquirements. I shall soon learn to set down all his sayings, as established facts. I feel highly honored by the Doctor's promise to find a place for one of my homely autographs, in Prof. Jussieu's collection. I shall take pleasure, also, in furnishing one of Dr. Baldwin's Letters for that gentleman. As Dr. Big's letters are written on thick paper, I suppose it would be rather bulky to send with this note: But if Dr. Gray can conveniently send a small parcel to Paris, where he gets home, I will send one of Baldwin's Letters, & a lithographic likeness of my lost friend, - with a copy of his printed correspondence.



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*William Darlington letters to Asa Gray*

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