

Private

Adelaide, South Austr.

My dear Watson

Dec. 20 1890

This is to carry Christmas greetings to you from the Antipodes, as they often call it here. Everything is reversed as you well know, and we are still bewildered. Our stay in Egypt was short, but we had a glimpse of Palms with dates, and of fazes with no end of dirt. But when we reached Ceylon, Paradise was reached. I cannot find words to express my delight with the vegetation exhibited in the Gardens at Peradeniya and Hakgala. I have numerous photographs of the places, about 160 large ones, and they will show you everything of most interest. The rice-fields, Cocoa-estates tea-plantations, cinchona-forests and coffee-fields exceeded in number and variety what I had expected to see. The tropical fruits were in perfection, except the Durian which had gone by, about a week. But I saw the smell. Lantana is the dominant weed except in the Gardens, where Mimosa pudica is a perfect nuisance. Lantana is being crowded out by a



Goodale, George L. 1890. "Goodale, George L. Dec. 20, 1890 [to S. Watson]."
Asa Gray correspondence

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