

Beware by mistake on the wrong page  
London Dec 1/61

My dear Gray

Yours of the 20<sup>th</sup> Dec came  
to hand about a fortnight since but  
I have been very busy. I now send  
you below the list of Wright's *Chloro-  
petalon* - the *Compositae* & *Rubiaceae*  
had been named by yourself and I sent  
you a few alterations & I cannot find  
the list of the rest - The *Flora Henryana*  
is now all printed except the few last  
pages of the index and will be out next  
week. I have desired a doz copies to be  
sent for you to Treubner. May give  
them as you think best not forgetting  
yourself. I hope you will like it it forms  
a vol of about ~~500~~ 550 pages and I  
have done it with all the care I could  
having examined every species as to  
generic as well as specific characters.  
On the introduction I have bestowed great  
pains embodying Harvey's additions and  
stitching yours and other criticisms and  
rewriting many parts. I hope now soon  
to be authorized to begin the *Australian  
Flora*.

Of the *Amarantaceae* fragments  
you sent from L. Californian 100 does  
appear to me quite like a small side

branch of *A. nasica* which is one of the  
tall large-leaved species as you see by the  
plate. If or Wright's 502 in part may be a  
palmate variety of *A. uncinata* but  
I should not have thought it from a  
comparison with the ~~generic~~ *generic* species  
of the latter from a much more scabrous  
covering. The very stiff erect lower  
part of the perianth in the latter with  
the comparatively small spreading tips give  
it a very peculiar appearance.

I am more and more against voting a  
genus a good one merely because it has  
a few good characters, but to judge of its  
value really one must take a view of  
all the allied ones. Where a large group  
is natural and well defined I do not  
like chopping off a few species here and  
there on account of some remarkable  
exceptional character, for it is this  
which carried to excess has produced  
the present lamentable chaos in our  
botanical system. I have lately been  
working up *Bignoneae* *Violaceae* *Tiliaceae*  
and a few small Orders for our *Genera*.  
I find your *Dicledocarpus* is *Plumieria* *melanocarpa*  
which had been put into a wrong  
Order - I adopt your *Agatea* and  
*Prodradion*. I have had a great deal of  
trouble with *Bignoneae*. I cannot go so far

as Harvey who brings in even Homalium  
which are so near to Paviflorae but as  
we upon the whole maintain two  
great groups of Malumiflorae and  
Calyciflorae (though not taking hypogynous  
and perigynous as strict characters) I am  
disposed to maintain two Orders  
Bipacae including Placouthis and  
Sanguis with the stamens and  
petals hypogynous or slightly perigynous  
and Samydaceae with those including  
Homalium with the petals when  
present alternating with the calycine  
segments and sepaled axis Papilion  
and the stamens always perigynous  
Bacora including ~~Rubia~~ and ~~Scada~~  
goes to form one tribe of Samydaceae  
Cassipourea a 2<sup>d</sup> Homalium a 3<sup>d</sup> and  
perhaps Turnera a 4<sup>th</sup> - In Bipacae  
Placouthis Clor and most of his Lactia  
with ~~Acacia~~ form one tribe Oucoba  
<sup>(including Lantana)</sup> Magna, Corystroche and Dendrostyle  
another Bacea proper would  
include Cochlospermum and as an  
exceptional genus Amoroucia both of  
which have the perianth stamens  
and pedicel of Bacea and the reticulate endocarp  
Amoroucia has nearly the seeds of Bacea  
and Cochlospermum parvula placentation

Sanguis form a fourth tribe -  
We have then in Bipacae two exceptional  
genera with the ovary nearly or locally  
Placouthis and Amoroucia - Greenebach  
in his Flora and in the *Flauleisungen*  
just published has proposed many good  
things and cleared up many errors and  
sympoms but he has not the happy  
openness which Linnaeus & DeCandolle had to remedy  
his putting Prochea (Prouin) with Bacora  
with our genus under the name of *Wiley*  
is to me quite a mess. Prochea (*Heliotia*  
Scam.) must I think go into *Pellaea* or  
at least suggested, and has neither the habit  
nor the character of Bacora and Prochea  
is an older and better known name  
than Wiley - the former being *Scam.* the  
latter *Scam. pil.* - Then again Greenebach  
makes a Samydaceous genus *Carina*  
of *Samyda nicaeensis*, a processa Boiss. - They  
are certainly not Samydas - nor yet  
Samydaceae, but only differ from *Lactia*  
in their fewer stamens - not regularly 10  
nor yet uniseriate as in Samydaceae but  
varying from 10 to 12 or even 15 or 16 in  
both species - one of which is *lactia*  
cassipouroides and I keep them both in *Lactia*  
*Aphroa* is Buceaceae not Capparidaceae  
as Clor would have it. On the other hand  
besides *Cochlospermum* (*Dialdoxeris*) which  
goes next to *Heliotia* *Echinocoryx* *Blumea* near  
go in to *Heliotia* differing but slightly from *Heliotia*

- 105 H. K. *Morua mostana*  
 200 — *coriacea*  
 202 — *Embelia ribes*  
 203 — *Panarea ovata*  
 204 — (x Loochoo) *Merrillia capetellata* Woll. (ill. *neriifolia* Lab. Zucc.)  
 205 — *Andria pauciflora*  
 206 — — *crispata*  
 207 } — — *punctata*  
 208 } — — *pruinulosefolia*  
 200 — — *pruinulosefolia*  
 311 — *Pterospermum Wightianum*  
 312 — *Roripedium racemoides*  
 313 — *Desmodium Morrenianum*  
 64 — — *crenata*  
 315 — *Itypus odoratissimum*  
 316 — — *suberifolia*  
 321 — *Alseodendron catharticum*  
 324 — *Melodorum macleodii*  
 322 } — {label wrapped one is *M. monogynum* (Lect.)  
 323 } — {Chang) the other *M. paniculatum*  
 325 — *Alepis sinensis*  
 326 — *Vinea rosea*  
 327 — *Protophthalmus divergens*  
 195 Bonin *Parsonia spiralis*?  
 320 H. K. *Agaveema levis*  
 191 Bonin is the Bonin plant referred by Zuccarini  
 to this *Malouetia Ariatica*, but has much  
 broader leaves than the Japanese and  
 Chinese specimens of *Alseodendron*  
*parmanoides* Lindl. (!) *Malouetia Ariatica* Lab.  
 & Zucc. *Parochetus Thunbergii* A. Jacq. (!)  
 330 H. K. *Portia Cantonensis*  
 329 — *Edyanthura rosea*  
 207 } — — *microantha* A. D. von Lohf. folia.  
 331 } The label 331 had got misplaced, with the  
 specimen of *Topocarpus Wightianus*

- 332 H. K. — *Topocarpus Wightianus* H. & A.  
 (*Chitocodon illegitimus* (Chau.)  
 333 — *Holostemma pictum*  
 334 — *Andropogon curassavicus*  
 335 — *Lythraea hispidula*  
 336 — *Stephanotis (Pavonia) chinensis*  
 491 — *Charadenia exot. laetevirens* H. & A.  
 337 — *Gymnema affinis*  
 338 — *Peperomia Championii*  
 339 — *Dischidia chinensis*  
 609 — *Gelsemium elegans*  
 266 — *Mitrasacme nudicaulis*  
 270 — *Buddleia asiatica*  
 267 — *Psychotria paniculata*  
 268 } — — *angustiflora*  
 269 }  
 340 — *Epacrum tetragonum* R. & B. (Bellum  
 H. & A.)  
 416 — *Exetia longiflora*  
 417 — *Bothriocarpus tenellum*  
 346 — *Evolvulus albidus*  
 406 — *Cuscuta japonica* Choisy  
 347 — *Platanus negundo*  
 (Bonin + Loochoo) — *decussatula*  
 349 H. K. — *sanctum*  
 409 — — *wrightii* H. & A. I may have  
 overlooked some sp. but I cannot identify  
 this with any of Dr. D. D.  
 340 — *Platanus persea*  
 350 — *Maris nigra*  
 351 — *Platanus grandiflora*  
 352 — *Herpestis thymifolia*  
 355 — *Thamnos Torreyia diffusa*  
 353 H. K. *Dopatrium pinnatum*  
 354 — *Torenia rubra*  
 356 — *Pandellia oblonga*  
 359 — *pedunculata*

- 360 H.K. *Thyranthus hypoxioides*  
 350 - *Persea veraiaefolia* (*P. verbenacifolia*)  
 361 - *Coprosia delaisii*  
 362 - *Microcarpaea nancora*  
 364 - *Rhinanthus andrea*  
 360 - *Utricularia diantha*  
 367 - — *coerulea*  
 365 - — *bipida*  
 366 - — *racemosa*  
 — — *orbiculata*  
 342 - *Echinanthus bracteatus* Wall. (*Achimenes* (Lam.)  
 343 - *Chirita chinensis* Lead?

I am now very busy distributing  
 prices of Ecuador Plants (in which I include  
 half a hundred very fine specimens of flowers)  
 a large and fine set including a good  
 many of Humboldt's and Weddell's  
 and many new ones they will be  
 ready early next month.

You have heard of Harvey, approaching  
 marriage. I am told it promises well  
 and certainly he has had time to know  
 his bride well.

With kindest regards to Mr. Gray  
 whom I hope you will ere long bring  
 over to visit England again.

Ever your sincerely  
 George Nathaniel

William Victoria Street shortly - I send  
 to me at Reu.

Wright's Monopetalae

(112 Lookers = *Odecalandia* f. *H. deflora* var. *parviflora*  
*H. deflora* H. & A. Bot. Beech. red. ob. *O. paniculata* (Dorrie  
 videtur)

191 H.K. = *Hydrium uliginosum*

192 } = *Wahlenbergia argentea*

193 H.K. = *Scavola lobelia*

194 H.K. = *Periclinium chinense* Champ.

170 Lookers = *V. bracteatus* n. n. *V. bracteatus*  
 sp. of *Andrea* cum *P. chinense* re. *Andrea*

H.K. = *Echinanthus guineensis*

197 = *Rhododendron Championi*

195 — *Arabis indica*

196 } — *argemone*

203 } — *Lysimachia alpestris*

341 — *Alcea vineensis*

201 }



Bentham, George. 1861. "Bentham, George Feb. 1, 1861." *George Bentham letters to Asa Gray*

**View This Item Online:** <https://www.biodiversitylibrary.org/item/226393>

**Permalink:** <https://www.biodiversitylibrary.org/partpdf/261141>

**Holding Institution**

Harvard University Botany Libraries

**Sponsored by**

Arcadia 19th Century Collections Digitization/Harvard Library

**Copyright & Reuse**

Copyright Status: Public domain. The Library considers that this work is no longer under copyright protection

License: <https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-nc-sa/4.0/>

This document was created from content at the **Biodiversity Heritage Library**, the world's largest open access digital library for biodiversity literature and archives. Visit BHL at <https://www.biodiversitylibrary.org>.