

Church Stretton
Sept 7 /84

My dear Gray

I have to thank you for various
pamphlets and extracts from journals
which are very gratifying as showing that
you keep to work although I see no signs
at present of what we all wait so much
from you - a complete North American
Flora ~~which is all we want so much from~~
~~you~~ Amongst other your note of the
20th May - received in August - with
Dr Carson's paper on Myriophyllum requiring
special mention. We are lamentably deficient
in specimens of that genus and when I
described the Brazilian one for the *Flora*
Flora I did not feel at all confident in my
identification but Mr Waasburg has
been collecting materials for some time
and has been investigating the different
species and varieties with great care.
I therefore referred the pamphlet to him
and he tells me that he had already
seen it and had written to Dr Carson on
the subject repeating from his conclusions

and certainly am not in a position to
question Mr. Hasbrouck's conclusion that
"the plant described by Pereira and since
his death named by Klotzsch *Myopylon*.
Pereira is in my opinion quite distinct
from *M. peruvianum* Lima R. The latter is
a somewhat polymorphous plant with an
extensive range."

We left town in the middle of July
and spent a month in the Channel Islands
which I had never seen and which we much
enjoyed. I continued however whilst there
the correction of the proof of my *Flora*
Australiensis, and returned to town for a
fortnight in August to finish up a few
genera still wanting for the 2^d vol. I have
now just corrected the last sheet about
and sent the index to the printer but suppose
it will still be a few weeks before it is
actually out when I will take care to
send you an early copy.

Rippon told me the other day that
you had concluded it was a mistake adding
Botany only as the last part of the *Leveque*
Society's Journal. The fact is that botanical
matter for the Journal accumulates so
much that we are obliged now and then
to publish it without Zoology. Our Zoological

papers are chiefly such as require illustrations
more suited for the *Lt. Transactions* of
which we shall publish two parts this
next winter. Zoologists send their purely
systematic matter to their own Society.
A part of the Journal is now just out with
both Zoology and Botany.

We are now visiting friends in
Shropshire Radnorshire &c and shall
return to town at the end of the month.
My first business will be to finish
up my portion of the 2^d part of *Peru* *Leveque*
for which Hooker has done a good deal
and we hope to print this winter. I
had wished to have completed a double part
before printing so as to finish a volume
with one index but I fear that will be
too long and that we shall be tempted to
issue a part as soon as we come to the
of *Myopylon*. I shall have at the same
time to do *Myopylon* for *Flora Australiensis*
which will be almost as long and expensive.

With kindest remembrance to Mr
Gray believe me
Ever your most sincerely
George DeCathart



Bentham, George. 1864. "Bentham, George Sept. 7, 1864." *George Bentham letters to Asa Gray*

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