

characters of the latter and must I suppose remain a section of it.

*Hectorea* Dc. is evidently a Chrysopis have you seen it?

I limit the tribe of Asteroideae to those two series, Heterochroomeae and Homochroomeae and to the subtribe Baccharinae with the authors of these and entire at the base (except a very few sp. of *Olearia* and *Clinisia*) and the style branches of the ♀ flower tipped with an appendage (except in Baccharinae and a few other cases where the ♀ fl. are sterile), and I transfer all other Asteroideae of Dc. to a large tribe of Meloidae (to include Gnaphalieae) with the authors sagittate at the base with pointed or trifid auricles (except in a very few sp. of *Olearia* and *Thlaspias*) and the style branching often without appendages, or only a mere papillon edge beyond the stigmatic lines and I divide these Meloidae into the following subtribes with few exceptions to the following characters.

to Tarchonanthineae. Capitula dicia. H. & filiformis / *Tarchonanthus* Willd. *Hymenopholis* Griseb. *Lynchnodendron* Dc. *Brachyloca* Cass. *Tarchonanthus* Linn.)

Blepharinae. Capitula heterogamia H. & filiformis, few st. bracts. r. r. as herbae. except. epaleaceum. H. sp. f. *coronata* subalata.

Filagineae. Capitula heterogamia H. & filiformis few st. bracts. r. r. few r. r. H. & palea receptacle subtenuis v. involute. (*Cylindrocline*, *Blepharopoma*, *Abromius*, *Way*, *Ptilocarpha* (*Bacilla*), *Micropus* (*Sphaerion*), *Diaspera* (*Calymmaandra*, *Ritaganopsis*),

25, WILTON PLACE.  
S.W.

Dec 26/70

My dear Gray

Since I wrote last I have received your kind reply with many thanks. - I have not yet examined *Bolanaea* having left it with a few other apparently exceptional plants till I get the *Aleuathaea* and *Senecionidae* into my head. I have been so immersed in Asteroideae that I have not had time to go back upon it very often. I had left behind & now proceed summarily to report progress hoping to suggest some remarks on your part. These Asteroideae are quite bewildering. There are no definite lead words after names into *Olearia* etc on the one hand, into *Eriigeron* on the other and this again into *Couya* and all other genera or nearly all of the Heterochroomeae series are in the same plight or are monotypic and it is nearly as bad with the Homochroomeae series; every character breaks down in one species or another - and it would do no good to unite all into one genus for then there would be the same difficulty about subgenera and sections. I have been obliged to draw arbitrary lines. I have kept up the Australasian *Olearia*

The present L. American Chitotrichium and  
*Digitotrichium* the *Peltaria* Ceratostachys and  
Melanodendron and some a little further than  
you have in reuniting small genera with others  
I have retained *Pericocque* with its Madagascar  
aspect though with some hesitation - Diplopappus  
appears to me to be quite untenable and the  
sterility of the rayflowers in Galatella is not  
I think of sufficient constancy or importance to  
make a generic character. I hesitated much  
about *Notostachys* which Weddell includes in  
Aster without doubt. It differs from most  
others in the P.D. ribbed achenes but this  
occurs also in such of your Calceolarium as belong  
to *Calceolarium* D.C. and then Aster marginatus  
K.B.K. (a true *Notostachys* but not I think the same  
as the more southern s. ascendens with which  
Weddell unites it) resembles too closely A. Parkii  
with the single (1-5) ribbed achenes to be generically  
removed from it. I should have liked in order  
better to separate Aster from Ericson. I have  
set up the S. African Felicia with their  
triangular pappus but then the Agathos  
show every gradation from Felicia to Agathos  
Natalensis which is scarcely to be distinguished even  
as a variety from some forms of Aster alpinus  
I have adopted pretty nearly your undisturbed  
views of Ericson and Conyza. As to *Mitadina*  
so nearly allied to Ericson (Scutellaria) and Conyza  
I think it may well be distinguished by the

(by)  
large leaves and cibarial pappus but then it  
must include the L. American Microgyne and  
the ciliolate Ericson or Conyza amorphopappa  
and pericarpia Boiss., a new Himalayan species and  
the Brachyactis Levl. (Ericson or Conyza attains  
to which you properly refer you into *Augerina*)  
but *Tetranolopium* must as you desire it  
be a sect. of *Mitadina* must I think be retained  
as a distinct genus close to Conyza. I have  
followed you as to smaller genera except that  
I think *Dichotophorus* must go into *Bottomea*  
in the epapposa septocoma is identical with  
*Rhytidopappus* Boiss. In the homochromous  
series I perfectly agree with you in the  
restoration of a number of small genera to  
Diplopappus except that I think that *Chrysanthemum*  
needs belongs rather to *Chrysopsis* and I  
think that *Ericameria* must be kept as  
much nearer to *Diuiogys* than to *Diplopappus*,  
(or rather *Haplopappus*) unless the two be  
united which would be going too far. *L. hypoleuca*  
(which I think must include *Digloria*)  
would indeed be a very natural group were  
it not for the L. cornuta Labl. L. scoparia Less.  
and L. diversifolia Schrad. which have so different  
a habit and the latter sometimes ev. 2 ligular  
two or three and the shrubby (*Haplopappus* hypo-  
leuca) two bracts (perigaea K.B.K and  
another) with the habit of *Digitotrichium* but  
referred by Loh. Brij. to *Diuiogys* have the

*Mesopsis* and *Rilago*).

*Spathulariaceae*

*Helichrysum* } Not yet fully worked out  
*Augianthus* }  
*Attispermum* }

*Trilete Receptaculum epaleaceum*. H. &  
Liquatae v. O. Highrami apie rotundata  
Brachthelmeae Recept. paleaceum Coctea  
Muleorum.

The Muleae contain *Codonocarpus haleum* Tenuf.  
(*Prenanthes* Sch. Bip.) Guila (to include *Schizop-*  
*hyne* DC. *muelleri* Sch. Bip. et al. *Bojeria* DC. (in  
epidendry *Regollettia laevigata* Baker)  
*Fructea* Dcsp. (*Mivalverea* Cogn.) *Tacsonia* Cass.  
(which reduced from DC) *Typhonia* Cass. / *Nan-*  
*themia* DC. and more *Regollettia* formerly  
*Sch. Bip.*, *Coryphopappus*) *Chrysopappus* Lh.  
Bip. *Verloca* Webb *Regollettia* Cass. (reduced  
to *R. senegalensis* *R. mucronata* and perhaps  
*R. oxyodontata*) *Niccia* Cass. (including *Scutellaria*)  
*Palearia* Gocotra (including *Stratonicea* Polon)  
*Trachocarca* *peruviana* *ricula* *Matthiola* Dcsp.  
(*Bong.*) *Portentaria* gen. nov. *Astrotryp.*  
*Amblyocarpum* and *Caryopteris*.

The Brachthelmeae besides the usual  
genera include *Rhaetievium* and  
*Stuiopappus* of which I have the Chinese  
species and another from trop. Afr.,  
*Bykhorostekius* Stevns and *Grisea*  
must I think be removed to *Authemnaceae*  
*Hochstetteria* to *Mutisieae* next *Dicoma*

Now I should very much like to have  
your opinion as to these charges, and  
especially as to the bringing of the French back  
into the same general tribe with the  
Mackinaw and Huron.

It is a sad thing to see matters only  
getting worse and worse in France  
and the end must be dreadful whether  
the French succeed or succeed the two  
nations are now so thoroughly exasperated  
against each other. Means had a letter  
the other day from Decaine dated the  
9<sup>th</sup> Dec when they had just heard of  
the recapture of Orleans by the Germans  
but breathing the most determined spirit  
the Toulous had set the example and the  
Jardin had followed it in exchanging the  
pen for the sabre not submitting sheepishly  
to the "regime de cheval" in full confidence  
that the tide would turn that they  
should expel the enemy and bitterly  
retaliate upon them. No one dreamt  
of peace and goodwill. What a terrible  
comment on the declamations and prophecies  
of the Peace Society.

Ever yours sincerely

George Bentham



Bentham, George. 1870. "Bentham, George Dec. 26, 1870." *George Bentham letters to Asa Gray*

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