

25, WILTON PLACE.  
London S.W.

Oct 20/72

My Dear Gray

Since I wrote on Friday

I have examined your *Shortadolphus*  
and cannot make up my mind to  
keep it up as a genus distinct from  
*Lygodermis* In *Scorzonera* and  
others of the group to which *Lygodermis*  
belongs there are frequently 5 or 10 of  
the setae of the pappus longer and  
thicker than the others and in one  
species of *Lygodermis* (the spiculent  
one) I find some of the setae thicker than  
others and often 2 united together some  
way up - similar unions of pappus  
setae have been observed in various  
tribes and have several times made

use of to found genera which to my  
mind have proved always purely  
artificial and only serving to separate  
single species from natural genera  
- except perhaps in the case of  
*Stichelina* although there the character  
is somewhat variable. *Choctadelphus*  
is also so very much like *dygodennus*  
in all other respects that it would  
require more than a slight papery  
difference to reconcile me to its  
admission. *Leucampyx* came but  
just in time to insert it in the  
*Conspectus Generum* which is in  
type.

Yours ever sincerely  
George Beatham

Of *Oryzopsis* we had a very good  
specimen given by Nuttall to Dr Willson.





Bentham, George. 1872. "Bentham, George Oct. 28, 1872." *George Bentham letters to Asa Gray*

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