

I am thinking of attending the
Belfast meeting next month but
that will not keep me long from
my work

Yours ever sincerely
George Bentham

25, WILTON PLACE.
S.W.

July 29/74

My dear Gray

Received yours of the 16th - I shall
feel much obliged by any generic
observations on Boraginaceae and on any
other gamopetalous order I hope to go on
readily till I get this 2^d part of vol. 2 in
the printer's hand

I have just had an opportunity of
myself also examining a living specimen
of *Apocynum*. This semicupule ovary
occurs in a few genera of *Apocynaceae*
and as far as I have gone in one
genus of *Asclepiadeae* (*Othreandra*)

Trachelospermum was Desmarès
name for Lindley's *Rhynchospermum*
virginoides, as distinguished from
A. Delandollii - I mentioned the
matter in conversation to Masters and

he blundered it into the Gardner's Chionia
without advert to the A. jamaicensis not
being Dr's Rhyssoglossum

I have now done Oxyglossa ^{and Leucocera} and
got far a head in Isobrycon ^{verme}
(with pendulous pollenman) Decime
is generally so exact that it is a pleasure
to work after him but he sticks too
much to the Corona and makes unnatural
groups. The corona is remarkably constant
in species but in many genera varies
very much from species to species
Isobrycon and its allies are very
unnaturally grouped - and I cannot
make them much better. Isobrycon
itself is the best most but it must
include two African species (besides the
ubiquitously introduced I. curvicauda)
Isobrycon has nothing whatever so far
as I can see to distinguish it from
Gomphocarpus. I keep up Gomphocarpus

Schizoglossum (including Lagermannia
and Isobrycon) and Xyris
but there are several species in each
much more like corresponding species in
the two other than the other species of
its own genus. The corona in Gomphocarpus
shows wonderful diversities in different
species but indicates no natural groups.
Decime is I think quite right in uniting
Philibertia with the American
Carostemma but I think there are
quite characters enough to separate
them from the Old world leafless
tree Carostemma for which I retain
the name uniting the American ones
under Philibertia - the typical Philibertia
is nearer the Old world Opuletea than
to Carostemma. I have nothing to
change in Eulenia or Podostigma. The
Indian Raphistemma is very closely allied
to the former.



Bentham, George. 1874. "Bentham, George July 29, 1874." *George Bentham letters to Asa Gray*

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