

fragrans which Rojer expressly says is
introduced into the Mascarene island though
now so abundant there - we have authentic
specimens of the plant originally described by
Nealest from Paris gardens quite identical
with Rojer's from the island

I am afraid I cannot keep up *Dactyloctenium*
as distinct from *Urtica* - the typical species
of the two are indeed very different in habit
as well as in character but every distinctive
character breaks down in one species or
another - among the few species there
are four or five very different forms of
fruit. Any observations from L. Watson will be
most thankfully received

I keep up *Notocordium* (divided by Baker between
Urtica and *Althaea*) though certainly it is very near *Althaea*
Besides the American species it includes one from
China (*Notocordium nerinaefolium* Benth) which Rept
cannot have seen or he never would have
referred it to the *Althaea* Chinese or *Thunbergia*
It appears to have a very limited range in North China
Yunnan very rare
George Oakes

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April 7/62

My dear Gray

I see by your note on
my paper on Gramineae that you are
startled at and I suppose do not quite
approve of some of my combinations I
should be much obliged if you or any of
your botanical friends would communicate
to me any criticisms which may occur
to you as soon as convenient in order
that I may consider them when I come
to revise my MS for press. This
summer I have had some useful
observations from Handel of Potten

and from Poinsier and I may have to
modify my views in some respects
At least for instance I may have to put
Polypozon back into ~~Chyrostes~~ and
perhaps change the position of Trachae
- but for a practical work like the
Genera Plantarum I try to get tangible
characters as well as natural groups which
do not always go together

We have not yet begun printing
Hooker has been doing a good deal of
work as well as myself but I have
been rather thrown back by a
troublesome cough - of which I hope
now to have got rid - and I believe

take me longer than I expected - I cannot
concur in Baker's tribe - With regard
to your American genera I can go much
more readily with Watson - I should
have been almost tempted to keep up
Hirtella as distinct from Brodiaea but
have retained it as a section - it certainly
includes most if not all the Chilean
^{modern} species placed by Baker in Milla
Leucocoryne is confined to very few
species only differing from the S. African
Pulbaghia in the root but L. Hayi of
Baker goes where Jay had put it into
Tristagma with Pleumotia ~~Stelippi~~
(Stephanostirion Baker) Watson is quite right
in restricting Milla to Lavanille's species
Baker's Milla is a sad mishap - his Milla
Borbonica is the common Nothoscordum



Bentham, George. 1882. "Bentham, George Apr. 7, 1882." *George Bentham letters to Asa Gray*

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