

To Mr. Bentham Bale July 23 178

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it is not so much), breakfasted, took a mule and went up the Col de Balme !, back again, walking most of the way—slept at Martigny till one o'clock in the morning, took diligence, by the falls of the Salenche to St. Maurice and Villeneuve at 7 o'clock on the

11th Day. A little too late for the morning-boat; kept till afternoon—when went on in steamboat to Geneva. —

Your note of introduction (and my own merits) secured me a favorable reception at Madame Wolff's (I duly made your remembrances to the Misses) I have grown quite thick with them, and we made one or two after-dinner excursions together, my mornings being all occupied. I left ~~them~~ on Saturday morning for Lausanne and Friburg, where I heard the big organ on Sunday, came on in the night to Berne and yesterday to this place ~~over~~ the Jura. I wished here to see Prof. Meisner, but found out this morning, some hours after the steamboat had left that he was absent on a journey, I was a great fool for not finding that out last night, in which case I should now have been below Strasburg, —and this evening at Mannheim. As it is I cant wait here till Thursday morning for the next boat, and shall leave this evening for Schaffhausen and Tubingen, and thence push on the best way I can for Dresden and Leipzig. I do not lose a moment of time. Do not be surprised if I drop in upon you about the 4th or 5th of September, I would like to sail for home the latter part of that month. In early winter we will hope to give you an entire volume of Flora, and see what you can do with her. I have blocked out, in my mind, scientific labor enough for several years to come, and several works, some of which will be good in a publisher's acceptance of the term:—others, I dare say, not. As Murray's fame is derived from Byron; so shall you be immortalized and known to all posterity as the publisher of the celebrated Dr. Gray !!!

We have not much time to lose and on my arrival at London I shall be wonderfully busy. I hope you will have picked up a great quantity of books for me by that time. My future credit and comfort will very much depend on my bringing home an immense quantity of books for my money.) Speaking of money, if you wish any more before I see you write me direct to Berlin (I fear I shall have left Leipzig too soon). I have some books to order from Paris, but I wait for a letter to apprise me that a microscope I ordered is finished before I give you the orders. Perhaps there will be time after I get to London. —By the way did you send the copy of the Botanical Appx. of Flinder's voyage to the agent of my friend Webb, as I begged you? If you have not pray do at once, as my credit is at stake. Bentham wrote me on the 4th July, just as he

was on the point of starting for the Pyrenees. He says he has sent down to you some parcels of plants &c.—very precious things, directed either to me or Dr. Torrey. I think you had best keep them until I arrive.—So you have moved into larger quarters. But why did you not give me your new number? Till you do this I must continue to address you at 67.

When I was in England I could scarcely hold up my head as a Yankee should—what with our border wars, and domestic quarrels. But now I feel greatly relieved. The recent "Birmingham affair" and several other things,—fortunately(?) give me "wherewith to answer them that are of the contrary part." Let them shut their mouths now! You know my address at Berlin, or you may address poste restante if you will,—I think I shall be there to about the 25 August. I shall stop a few days at Hamburg. I think I may say that I shall not go ^{up} to Moscow. You will perhaps be receiving some letters for me, which now you know my movements you will act according to discretion either in forwarding to me, or retaining.

I have bought scarcely any books since I left Paris, I have had some good ones given me.

Excuse this hurried epistle, I have precious little time, and I find I am growing more and more slovenly every day—Adieu—

Most truly Yours

A. Gray



Gray, Asa. 1839. "Gray, Asa July 23, [1839] [to Putnam] [transcript fragment]."
Asa and Jane Gray travel correspondence

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