

Ed. Oct 16th Mail in. Received your  
two papers on Cavendish & Black Throat  
also little on Smiths Inst. for which  
accept thanks Please look out for  
Forreys papers and save them for me - else  
I fear I will not get them. He has not writ-  
ten me a line since I left the U.S. nor sent  
me a paper of any description

Wrote it be of use for you or one to write  
to Ringgold about those books or try to get  
a copy of the Bill of Lading of the MS Palmer  
to aid in tracing it to its present retreat  
I have to all intents lost the use of the books  
for the voyage but if they can be recovered  
it will not be a total loss

Oct 18th I botanized <sup>today</sup> on the little island Alcatraz  
Everything any I got a *Lupinus*, *Nosarkia*, oak,  
*Harlemia*, *Cephalopappus*, *Daccharis*, *Mimulus* two  
ferns. Some lichens a moss and a *Fingus* or two  
on Alga. &c. &c. A *Phytinia*? and some others  
that I cant now recall to mind.

San Francisco  
Oct 13th 1853-

My Dear Dr

I write at a venture hoping  
you may be safely returned by the time  
this note reaches you - I wrote to you  
from Hakodadi or from Petropaulski  
or both - I made but a small col-  
lection at the latter place We had a  
slow passage toward the Straits A  
land party was left there under the com-  
mand of Lieut Cook the Astronomer  
consisting of Mr. Kern, artist, Mr. Stimp-  
son and myself a small mainm quard  
& seamen - in all about a dozen of us  
Here we spent a month and I made  
I hope a pretty thorough but very local  
collection of about 350 sp (the lower orders  
calculated by the rule of guesswork) We  
had a rather long passage hither  
when I found your hurried letter on  
the eve of your departure for Europe

And now about that revelation package  
of books. The N.B. Palmer was in  
Hong Kong on our arrival or during  
our stay and I made all inquiries for  
my property that the extreme indigene-  
ness of my information allowed. If  
you had given me one external  
mark by which it might be re-  
cognized and claimed I could have  
gone forward confidently in my  
search. As it was I could only say  
"It has had time enough to reach here"  
and "it has probably been shipped" and  
"it was probably directed to me though  
possibly for securing better attention  
to the Commander" or "it may have  
been consigned to a Mercantile house  
here" but I did not know to which  
if any &c. &c. Thus you can but see  
that it may have been near by and I  
unable to recognize it. I have pre-

(P.S. (it went yesterday Oct 17)

paid a letter which I shall send by  
first ship to E.P. Desilver Naval  
Storekeeper Hong Kong giving him  
the little information I possess —  
the name of the ship which carried  
it and the contents of the package —  
and have asked him to look out for it  
and take care of it for me if found.  
Allow me to suggest that if you  
will communicate to him any other  
information as the direction dimen-  
sions or any external mark it may  
facilitate the recovery of the package.  
I hope if not found I shan't have to  
pay all the freights!! Rather poor  
comfort for the loss of a couple hundred  
pounds in regards to Mrs G. & other  
friends.

Yours truly  
Charles Wright



Wright, Charles. 1855. "Wright, Charles Oct. 15, 1855." *Charles Wright correspondence with Asa Gray*

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