

Monte Verde June 9th 1859

Dear Dr.

A few weeks past if I remember rightly I sent you a leaf & a little bit of inflorescence over which I had passed a good deal & which I had finally left among Daphne with considerable misgiving. Yesterday I found another species & I shall not probably soon forget *Coccoloba* a fact to require any species I may in future meet with. I must acknowledge that I was rather stupid for I had worked upon some of the sp. among the *Tecoma* plants. I got an abundance of *Oreadium* tillandsias which if I remember rightly went before but a little way in the distribution. I found in divers places flowers near to me that I could not get for want of my big sample which I had the bad luck to lose the last time I went to La Porta & which I fear will not be found till it's burned over & ruined. I climbed some trees but was more successful in finding things than I didn't expect than those I was in quest of. I found a second Legum with the habit of *Galactia* or *Obione* but with the flowers very much like *Oryzopsis* except that the petals are longer. I can't fix it on any Gen. in that at least among Phasmat. when it would seem to belong. I have seen & only on a part track of the Oinal where the timber has been killed & when is now only scattering bushes and thus dreadful tall cutting *Scleria* that is so destructive to my raiment & to my hide when it can get at it. I found also a few more specimens of *Ophioglossum palmatum* of which I believe I have now about enough for distribution though some of the specimens being rather small & somewhat fruitless however with several fertile found could spare to those that have none. I shall keep a lookout for more & better ones. I got a plenty too of another (*Asplenium*) of which I wrote not long ago that I had found down of specimens but not enough near by. Since sending away my collection I obtained a plenty of *O. vulgatum* & a *Polyosma* with

four feet broad on each sterile one
June 16th. Last night I returned tired out with a five
days ride to the M. & S. A good deal of the way we were
unusually muddy. Mr. Z. is a hard rider & he kept me in the
saddle more than was pleasant. I did not collect largely
lest by my frequent stopping I should appear too selfish.
I got thru sp. of Begonias all perhaps different from the one
so common about here. I passed by some interesting things
almost at first setting out intending to get them on my return
but we struck back by a different route. I shall have to make
a special trip for them. On my travels I saw no place that
I think so good as M. & Z. letter for living or working but as
this was rather an exploring tour it is not a fair test. I
became acquainted with the planters & received kind invitation
to come & examine their neighborhood which in rotations
I shall accept at some time when the flora will give me
a respite.

On the 20th Mr. Z. starts for Cuba to sail for France about
the 20th or the first part. He has been talking about it for
some time but I do not think he would go so soon. It will
make no difference with me except losing his company
& his wife. He takes his daughter little boy & will be
aboard a year at least probably more.

I found on my return a letter from home containing the copy of a
document sent me there from Washington the 1st of April of 77
which is that on the 25th of the ten counts after four years examination
they have found her on leaving her I was overpaid to the
amount of \$177.41. I have written to Capt. R. on the subject
asking that the matter may rest till my return otherwise I
have said that I would ask you to pay to if it is likely to
give him any trouble. I suppose my expenses necessarily will
nearly if quite offset it if not turn the scale in my favor

June 17 Today I went to the Parallons to get some new things —
A Tanager but in a more active form it differs from the character
in Ord. — a Socoma & an Dryobates which I think is most
ignorant. I got again also of course of a tree with the young leaves
ad with dusty scale which you put among Hydrangeas. I believe
you were right though it certainly belongs to any of
Ord. genera. I found besides another little *Phaeothella* almost
microscopic.

June 18 This morning I got a letter of the date May 21 from
Mr. Curtis in answer to mine of 3rd 78 which he says he
recd "a few days since". Wonder what mine has been all this time.
But a greater wonder is how his ever found me. It is directed
simply "John M. Gray Home Park, Cuba, N. Indies". If I had
wished to get rid of a troublesome correspondent Professor Gray
tried to give him a worse address. Yet it has come through
while many others with apparently a perfect direction have gone
astray. I have just received the first installment of the paper
you send me. I have not needed it before. It appears
to be very nice paper — a little heavier than that I had
in myself.

I enclosed all scraps for H. of the three sp. of Begonias
collected on my late trip of the other so common here
you will get specimens by the Brig Language which I
suppose sailed day before yesterday. I sent to the Capt
an open letter to you asking him to put in it the Bill of
Lading or such other data as would enable you to
order the plants sent on from St. J. & mail it then.
It would perhaps be well too to have some one on the look-
out for the arrival of the vessel.

I have half a mind or more to fall back upon a plan
of which I have often thought to have all my letters
sent by merchant vessels. I was dissuaded from it

by persons who had failed to get letters sent thus or got them
after we left them though it was an unreasonable lapse of time.
Nearly all the letters I get are at least a month older than
lose the charm of novelty at any rate. If you could have
some one to look out for vessels to St. Jago from New York
even if your letter is a week old at the time of the sailing of
the vessel & allowing 15-20 days for the passage I would
receive the letters in about a month. I suggest it for your
consideration & if you hit upon any good plan of sending
thus be so kind as to inform my brother ~~it~~ that he too may
avail himself of it. I got another letter from home to day
addressed outside to Bressler & Giraudy & forwarded

I have nothing more I believe to add but that I
am now in excellent health. Remember me to Mrs. G.
& Cambridge friends, send the sword and ring at his &
young ever Charles Wright

in hope of getting at it. It not always as well as
and would require a little time to get that part of the letter
I need a good deal of time to consider the time now
now it is time to go to bed so I will stop here
and call at 11 o'clock and get up again at 6 o'clock
it was about three hours or there abouts when I
met Mr. F. H. May in the lobby at hotel
and we had some time to talk about the
dear old man



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