

Monse Verde Jan 19th 1861

My Dear Dr

(Yesterday came yours of the 28th ult I was almost in despair. Every thing seemed lagging. My brother is in arrears. Two numbers of the Courier stopped below (we got them last night) Now however I am a little posted up (You will see by my last letter that I try to give you as good as you send in politics. You say "we are in the midst of Treason and Secession". Secession I admit - Treason no. S. Carolina is not waging war on the U. S. nor giving aid & encouragement to her enemies. She asks only to be let alone. Mr Lincoln is beginning early to show his colors. He had better beware. Let him not imagine himself omnipotent. He must consult the Senate before he attempts to coerce S. Car. Should he make this trial will he find in the north volunteers enough to whip S. Car.? All he ~~would~~^{will} enlist will be mad fanatics whose highest ambition is to steal a nigger. You "wish S. C. was in the middle of the Gulf Stream". Allow me to wish that your Beechers, Sumners & hoo genus orums were in Bedlam the proper place for them. If you don't like this political sparring just remember that you began it.

I have run over your resume of the distribution & it would appear that including all the ? & ?? & Harveys set (given?) the value of the whole is about \$1300 - not a very profitable business after deducting expenses. There remain however some 15-20 sets of ferns not

included in the account & the mosses Lichens
& Fungi — If I ever get any thing for them.
Your letter partly explains the small number
of some of the fern sets. I suppose when I can
send to Cuba I shall get a full explanation

I was so much vexed at what I thought
an unreasonable delay in giving me at least
a brief explanation of this matter that I had
almost come to the determination not to send
home any more. They are scattered too — some
at Bradford — some in Cuba — some at Memphis
& some here. I don't very much whether I can
make out "God's new numbers". I can't say now
when I shall get them all together.

You believe Sullivan is at work on the mosses
I suppose so. At least he managed to write me
to that effect at the same time acknowledging his amiss-
ness. They say "confession is good for the soul" Sullivan's
confession is good for nothing in my opinion. Whenever
his reports are published I hope you will secure me several
copies. I want to give some to my friends here.
He thinks me a "capital fellow". Sorry I can't return
the compliment. You call him a good fellow. His
goodness so far as I can see is scattered about in
spots few & far between & small as that. I have
never hit upon one yet.

27. ~~Last~~ Nouvelle Sophie Last night came
your two packages of Cense knives books &
pamphlets. Many thanks. I shall be likely
to know something on the origination of sp.
or at least the opinions on that subject by the
time I read all that is written in it.

I wrote lately a long letter to Baird
giving him too a blowing up for promising
to send me certain things & failing to comply

or at least giving me no clue to find the
things sent. I enclose a line to him which
you can read if you will. Please forward it
Baird promised me some remarks on such
ferns as are insufficient in number. But
I find nothing from him except the ^{first} sketch
of the Enumeration. If he dilly-dallies after
this fashion he needn't write at all for
I shall be on my way home before his
list of desiderata starts.

I wrote to Baird something in this manner
to show him how I have been victimized for two
years. First my letters during the first six
months were lost (my own neglect). Then my
brother sent me a box of clothing — lost. Then
I asked you for "Weddell-Aur!" "you'll have to
wait till you come home to study that." Next
Baird sent me a box of bottles & months elapsed
before I found them. He neglected to advise me
when ^{they} were sent. About a year ago I asked
you for money & gave you directions how to send
you for money & gave you directions how to send
You saw fit not to follow them & I was bank-
rupt for a good while. Then you were going
to send me some books presently — I have just
now got them. But not the "4 great Fishmains"
(never mind this). Again in remitting me money
Mr L. left ~~his~~ the signature to his endorsement
in the ink stand & I had to work on borrowed
money, which did it hot & quite as well as
I could have desired. Again Prof Baird
(10th Oct) promises to send in a few days a
double barreled gun & some fine shot. This
is all I know about it. There!! if that
is not a sufficient list of grievances for
two years I'd like to know what is

I lay out the "stolen saddle" in its proper
chronological order. But no matter

I shall set out tomorrow for M. V
where Mr L. is going to cut down a
large piece of wood. It is the best chance
that I now see of doing any thing in botany

It is so dry here that the ground is covered
with leaves just as with you in November
& many trees are as naked as yours now
are

Yours ever

Charles Wright

P.S. I see Lpis has left *Dorstenia tuberosa*
He had better not left *Phoradendron*
epiviscum It looks a little absurd

I can hardly persuade myself that
Cicca scandens is identical with either
of the other var. If Lpis went to see them
growing as I have - all three - I guess
he would change his opinion



Wright, Charles. 1861. "Wright, Charles Jan. 19, 1861." *Charles Wright correspondence with Asa Gray*

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