

You ask after D. Fisher. He was quite well when I left home & just gone to Xmas with his friends in the North. At the Library all as usual, letter A not yet done. Our Provost of T.C.D. is dead & we are still in doubt who will be appointed. It is in the gift of the Crown and they may put who they please over us. We are hoping for Dr. Lloyd but fear that would be too good news to be true.

Johnny Lodhunter is to go to school (away from home) next month - a great event in the Quay annals, if it take place! But till he is fairly gone I shall have my doubts. He is quite old enough, & too old to remain longer at his present school. He has mounted a watch & chain on the head of it, and I suppose will be calling out for coat tails before long. The school is at a place called Mt. Melich, in the centre of Ireland, among the bogs - but white violets grow along the hedges round it as I ascertained when a boy. I was not at school there, but on a visit. -

Thank you for your attention to Ned Barrington -  
He is, as you say, very shy & he is also in poor health  
(low & nervous). Pity - for he is both clever & agreeable when  
out of his shell - but like your hickory nuts he requires  
not only cracking but skilful picking afterwards. -

I send you in a parcel to Mr. Delf, with orders not to forward specially, but only as other things were going two copies of the new Ed. of G. Griffith's poems. I am sorry they are very badly printed - but we can't help it - no other being to be had. I have written your name in one of them & [REDACTED]

Good Night - & Good bye - & God speed you "this  
last day of 1851 - now having scarce more than an hour  
to run out. With much love, even after friend  
All here send kind regards & good wishes. - U. L. C.

Plafsey - December 31. 1851.

Dear Mrs. Gray I am now, by the arrival this morning of your letter of 16<sup>th</sup>, two letters in arrears, and cannot close this year better than by writing to you - I will not say clearing off the debt, because that is impossible - but with I recd to the last letter I wrote you from this same room the night before starting for Joe's wedding - The year 1857 now dying out will not be forgotten at least by me - but there is no use at present in needlessly dwelling on the events which mark it. I must rather reply to your letters & tell you what we are doing hereaway. First, let me say I am glad you

hereaway. First, let me say I am glad you liked the collar, & pleased to get the order for the Ardee School. I have by the same post an order from New York for 19 Collars, besides cuffs (hand-cuffs) & other matters - quite a wholerale affair. I shall order yours forthwith. Don't remit just yet, for I may want to get some Yankee things & it is convenient to have money in your hand to draw against. If there were any easy way of sending them I should be glad to have one of the little sun-about lamps, which you use - to serve for carrying from one room to another when I want a light. But unless some one were coming over here, it would not be worth the carriage -

I am sure you enjoy the Miss Torrey's company. I met  
Miss Margaret at Washington - She is certainly a very  
lively girl. Ask her does she remember any accident  
happening to a round table, & a window seat!

I am not going to say what happened - oh no! - If Mr. Carey be with you tell him that the "Sabice Bear" of which he sent me a specimen, and bid me send him a name, appears to be Canavalia gladiata, DC. I am at least sure of the genus, & the specific name is too apt, to be wrong. (Now I have used a sentence of double meaning so, one way or other I must be right). -

Our Christmas has been a dull one. I had intended coming to Plassey for it - but our cousin, the wife of D. Harvey of Dublin died the Sunday before Xmas, and I remained to the funeral - dining quietly at the Quay - & only came here after all was over. The poor Doctor is much & she fell for in his loneliness - after 30 years companion ship. They had had but one child who died at 6 years old, about 10 years ago, for whom poor Mrs. H. never ceased to grieve, and whose death preyed much on her health. She had long been ill - though her last illness was very rapid & death sudden.

At Plassey as are very quiet - no company - & Joe's absence makes the small household even smaller. I had not been outside the doors save to Church on Sunday, since I came, till today that I walked into the garden & then down by the river bank. The weather is not cold, nor wet, but it is not bright, & cosy things looks dreary. A few flowers remain in the garden, chiefly Anemones, and Periwinkles, with the ragged remains of Chrysanthemums. The Winter heaths are budding & will soon be gay - I could find no snow drop yet. In the fields, I met here & there a daisy - & found several mosses in fruit by the river. These I gathered for the sake of doing something! not that they were of much interest. -

You know more about Dawson Turner than I do - all I know is that there has been a "disgraceful marriage" & family quarrel - which Joe Hooker alluded to in a letter, as a thing so notorious that I must know it, but I had heard nothing more & nothing since - so I suppose I shall not know till I go over next summer. Have you heard that Sir Jo Bentinck at Kew is dead, & that Sir W. Hooker is to have his house - on the green-banking into the Garden. It is one of the houses near the D. of Cambridge. They are to build Herb. rooms behind it & a new Museum fronting the Green. The Queen has approved, so I hope there may be no going back again, as there was before. D. Hooker is still uncertain about his salary, but working hard at the Flora. -

I hope Gray will have got his copy of my Nes. Bor. Amer. from Henry by this time. I have 9 plates of 2<sup>nd</sup> part done, very laborious ones, many of them. On one I figure a new genus, for which I want a name. Will you have it, or shall I call it Mudgea? It is too pretty for such a fate. I propose "Graynelia" or "Le=graynia" as anagrams of "Jane L. Gray" if you choose - I thought "Loringia" would be cheating your brother Charles of his rights. - If you won't have it I shall call it after some one of the gentlemen or ladies thanked for assistance in the preface. There is plenty of time to send me an answer before it goes to press. The plant is known to Gray probably as Dolosseria Americana - but it cannot remain in Dolosseria because the fruit is very different - & indeed it is a strongly characterised "good genus", as things go. - So, what shall I do? -



Harvey, William H. 1851. "Harvey, William Henry Dec. 31 , 1851 [to Jane Loring Gray]." *William Henry Harvey letters* -.

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