

I observe which you say of Bendor's plants.  
Common plants not being equal to his forms.  
Perhaps not quite: but they are not so easily  
denied & he has taken pains in so many  
cases to add finish &c.: that as a whole I  
know no collection like it. I wish he  
would send Calms (though he were to charge  
more for them) & pay Bendor his atten-  
tion to *Bartramia* (a present some  
in alcohol) & to *Podostemoneae*, & if he  
get to the mountains let him collect *Caryoph.*

I have had a most pleasant letter from  
Brackenridge. I find he has altogether quitted  
Washington & the Garden there & has  
a Nursery in Maryland. He wishes  
to exchange living plants with us, &  
we are quite ready next Autumn. It is  
too late now.

I have just filled a new succulent Plant  
Kana 200 feet long. It is really a noble  
sight & I want more Cactuses for it. I  
must write to Engelmann & could not  
Bendor supply with such things &  
seeds also? I am quite sorry  
Mrs Gray was poorly when you last  
wrote & hope she is recovered by this  
time. Our affect. regards to her.

Ever Yours  
most faithfully

W. L. Hooker

Thurs. April 17, 1855.

My dear Dr. Gray

Almost all my evenings since  
the arrival of your last excellent  
package (for the contents of which  
I thank you heartily) have been  
devoted to the sifting out for the  
Herbarium Bendor's beautiful spe-  
cimens: & as in duty bound, I pay  
most willing & the sum £32 for  
them into Dr. Bendor's hands this  
day. More beautiful specimens  
I think I never saw: even the com-  
mon kinds are made valuable by the  
perfection of their preservation. I only  
wish he were in a country where there  
were more of novelty for such an Her-  
barium as mine: - nevertheless con-  
sidering what I had received through other  
collectors from Venezuela I am satis-  
fied so many that are new to me.  
Thompson will be well pleased with  
his set. The separate set of Ferns Mr  
Smith declines to take but Brown &  
our self will be glad enough of them, &

For the  
200 feet long  
Kana  
all from  
the  
Bendor's  
plants  
to be  
sent  
to  
the  
Garden  
at  
Kew  
in  
the  
next  
Autumn



I will keep him up to the pointmark or rather request Bennett to see to it. I expect to be with him to day. As to the little entries (L. 18) of Prior & Holton, I meant it should be so - so sorry do not require me to take it back again.

Dr. Lindley enters his remembrance, so as to collect a different vegetation from which one now sent, or if he can send species from his own locality diff. from which are in this collection, commend me to him for a subscriber. As your storkish neat-handed & clever as he is he could be induced to collect Museum objects? - for which I would gladly pay him any reasonable charges: & our At. Mail Steamers touch there. Any curious large fossils - dried or in Ammonia according to their nature - some pieces of woods (named or accompanied by specimens to determine them by) Palm-stems, Tree Ferns. But I am supposing that he returns to that country, for he is now with you. He must be a first rate Collector & will do great things & hope for Botany. He is at the top-top of the tree for preserving & packing specimens too. Indeed the Am.

was generally beat us hollow in that. Mr. & Mrs. Greene ought to be annexed by this time: but I have heard nothing more than what you have told me.

I have made my bow to the outer bush, or bow of Begonia (alias Washingtonia, alias Wellingtonia gigantea) in London: & am so struck with it that I have begged the Prince Albert & I have given tickets to the Duchess of Cam. bridge & the Prince's Mary & Co. Dr. Loomy has set me up with the wood & Lophium & Mayes has sent me a very good print (executed in California! - which would prove Douglas very if he could hear of that) of the different large Trees in the Forest. Our plants have stood the winter with us.

We have just received news from Spence. He is up as high as Doncaster in Peru & has fine collections on the way home: & then he is going on to Lima.

I am glad you entered the limits of your Flora. If you had time to give a synopsis of the Plants of all N. Am. & you would have my hearty consent: & it would be useful to your Greek Flora & an apology for its delay: & it would have a good sale.



Hooker, William Jackson. 1856. "Hooker, William J. Apr. 17, 1856." *William Jackson Hooker letters to Asa Gray*

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