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West Chester, May 8. 1852.

My dear Friend, I went to the
Brandywine, this morning, to
get Fraxinus pubescens for
you. I found it with the flowers
not fully evolved; but I con-
cluded it was safest to get
it while I could. Perhaps
it may answer your purpose,
for the present. When the
leaves are fully grown, I will
try to send them; - I trust, if
I can procure it. It is rather
rare within my knowledge.
I have put in some of the
F. Americana, L. which I found
growing with the pubescens,
& rather more forward.
Our friend Joshua Hoopes went
in another direction to get F.
sambucifolia, Lam. but found
no flowers. I send the

branches, to let you see the
buds. If I should yet meet
with flowers, you shall
have them. I think it usually
flowers in April, - and it
is possible they may be past.
I will take care to have
leaves & fruit, when full
grown, if you wish them.
Both pubescens, & sambucifolia,
are becoming scarce, in
this vicinity. But, with the
aid of my friend Hooper,
I trust we can supply you.

I expect Mr. J. I. James
to see me this evening; and I
propose to get Mr. J. to take the
box to the City on Monday morning,
to go by the Express. I think
the specimens will go safer in
the box, than in a package
by mail. Probably I can

send leaves & fruit by mail.

I will return Prof. de Vries's
Letters in the box - with many
thanks for the privilege of
perusing them. I was pleased
to see that he remembered your
pet, Squallie, which you must
have made him acquainted
with - & which my daughter
& I recollect very distinctly.

I shall endeavor to procure
specimens of Polygala Lurida
for the Professor; & also the
Aristolochia Serpentina. The
Polygala was formerly quite
abundant here; but is now,
unhappily, becoming rare, by
the march of Agriculture. The
timber is cleared off; - & the
plant has cleared off with
it. Excuse this hasty scrawl,
Yours truly,

Prof. A. Gray
Cambridge.

W. Darlington



Darlington, William. 1852. "Darlington, William May 8, 1852." *William Darlington letters to Asa Gray*

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