

From Bony Kent

July 23rd

I received several days ago two large
by dear Gray. I had read of your letter; for we
had been in fearful distress & I had attended to nothing;
but now I had the rare cause of second rash &
some throat besides mischief in the lungs; & as if the way
into enough & a most serious attack of erysipelas with
typical symptoms. I despaired of his life; but this evening
he has recovered one monthful & I think
will live. He has lived on Put-wine & 3/4 of an ounce
of wine. This evening to our astonishment he asked
for his stamps were safe & I told him of the rest of you,
& the P.O. see it tomorrow. He answered "I should awfully
like to see it now"; so with difficulty he opened his eyes &
glanced at it & with a sigh of satisfaction said "all right!" -
(children are our greatest happiness, but often & often a little
greater misery. A man of science might to him know, perhaps
not a wife; for then there would be nothing in this world
in another question) walk away like a Trojan - I hope in
a few days to get 3 Brains in order & then I will pick
up all your other letters (& read by & by your last) & return

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I will write to
you with the
first of the
no more - C. D.

the man was
like to hear
that the
last of Oct. I

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P.S. Last night after writing the above, I had to get bundle of
notes. Little did I think what I had to read. What *Amur*
Arctostaphylos! You have distanced me in my own hobby-horse!
I have not had for weeks such a glow of pleasure as you
~~the~~ *Arctostaphylos* gave me. — Plot. hyperborea is indeed a most
curious case & especially interesting. How like to *Bee* & *Phys.*
Does it live in arctic regions then much more to science?
It would be very good to ascertain whether there is any
occasional copying, or removal of pollen in this species.
How curious about the nectary. See my note p. 324 about
Aceras. *Aceras*, I am afraid, leads, also, most closely into a new
O. hirsuta. How again being so connected! How excellent
you have worked *Gn. spectabilis*. I don't say I may be
altogether wrong, & fertilization may always be of small insects
badly crawling in: I will you could get some 2 galls to
watch on warm day for 2 or 3 hours a fine plant of some
Cypripedium. What diversity in *Ploten* there — You mention seen
to me much too good to be sunk in any view of *G. Parki*;
to visit to actual. — But I am so very sorry I did
not return you M.S. earlier: I shall be so glad if I
thus cause you inconvenience: but in truth it was physically
impossible for me before last night to read a letter to
anything. Farewell to good Friend
C. Darwin



Darwin, Charles. 1862. "Darwin, Charles July 23, 1862." *Charles Darwin letters to Asa Gray*

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