

not seen a scientific soul for a very
long time. Hooker seems to be
absorbed in all sorts of routine work
, and I fancy that you suffer
largely in the same way. —

Believe me my dear Gray
Yrs ever sincerely

Ch. Darwin

I say some of kind remarks
to Mr. Gray. I know that the likes
of him are boasting, — it

refuses them so much. Now
the tally with my wife in back:
= ~~game~~ ^{game} ~~game~~ ^{game} Thus: she, for
instance, has won only 2490 ^{games}, whilst
I have won, humph, humph,

2795

games. —

Jan 28. 76

DOWN,
BECKENHAM, KENT.
RAILWAY STATION
ORPINGTON S.E.R.

My dear Gray

I have to thank you
for a whole pile of things, but beyond
every thing else for the reviews in the
Nation & Journal of Science. I do
not think it would be possible to have
given a fuller & clearer account of
all my work. Although my own
book is of course well-known to
me, I found your articles quite
instructive, and as you may well
believe very pleasant to my vanity.

I was much interested
by your little essay on the di-
versified means of the dispersal
of seeds. Do you know Hildebrand's

"Verbreitung, mittel"? It is a capital
essay; and he gives a great many
analogous cases, but none more
striking than yours. Lastly many
thanks for your letter with the
fact about Maurandia: what
would I not have given for them
when I was preparing the new Edit;
but it is now too late, for I do not
suppose I shall ever again touch the
book. After much doubt I have
resolved to act in this way with
all my books for the future;
that is to correct them once

and never touch them again, so as
to use the small quantity of work
left in me for new matter. By the
way there was an article in the
last Gardiner's Chronicle well
worth reading on vine tendrils.
I am now getting ready a book
on the advantages of crossing,
which will be a sort of complement
to my orchid book, as this was
devoted to the means of crossing.
I have given you a long tirade
about myself, but I have
nothing else to say as I have



Darwin, Charles. 1876. "Darwin, Charles Jan. 28, 1876." *Charles Darwin letters to Asa Gray*

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