

me heartily ashamed for England
of the Iconoclasts which
a Mr Ralph has just perpetrated.

What a sad loss the deaths of
Enslin and of Gardner! The
former had done less for science
since he had got embroiled in
politics but is most sincerely
regretted by all his friends and
poor Gardner with his activity
talents and means was doing
wonders and in high favour
in Ceylon.

I shall be in town in about
ten days when I shall send
off a small parcel I have
made up for you.

Yours very sincerely
George Bentham

Dr Harvey is coming here & you
know I presume - you will probably
also see Dr Alexander who has collected
a great deal in the south of Europe
at the Cape & he I believe already mailed

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Pontreilas House Hereford
April 29 1849

My dear Sir

Since I last wrote I have I believe
more than one communication from
you to thank you for - but more
especially for your Planta Rendiriana
which I most highly approve of you
have rendered great service by
working up the dried plants and
the interesting Compositae you have
got hold of. I only wish you had
mentioned a few more of Hartweg's
as that would have saved me some
trouble. I have been so much
occupied with the Viger Flora that
I have done very little more to
Hartweg's plants having only
got down a little way into Compositae
among them n. 1769 rather puzzling me
though I take it to be a new *Aplousappus*
In examining the style of it

1770 *Leptogia germanorum* it appears
to be to have been not quite correctly
drawn by Deping
but much more
like this - only that
I have brought the
hair rather too
far down - but
certainly quite as
much like that



of *Corethrogyne* as
of ~~any~~ *Penicillones* and on
other accounts I certainly would
put it among *Asteroides*.
Indeed though the style is the best
character hitherto found it is not
absolute and there are many ambiguous
styles between *Asteroides* & *Penicillones*
as between *Penicillones* & *Veronica*
(*Gynura Cremonophorum* *Gynura* etc.)

I am very glad to hear of your going
on with your admirable *Genera* - you
will have much to do when you come
to Compositae with all the minutiae
which Mr. Sprague represents so beautifully.
By the bye I wish you would pay
attention to the *demorphous* flowers
plants now known to be numerous

not only the very marked ones as in
Viola Helianthemum ^{*Malpighia*} *Gandochaudiae*
and so very many among *Leguminosae*
but the *staminous* & *stylose* forms
of *Linum* *Oxalis* numerous *Rubiacae*
and *Verbenaceae* a few *Labiatae* and
probably many others as this is
connected with a kind of frequency and
with a notion that in many instances
flowers are more readily fecundated
by males from other individuals
than by the *stamina* of their
own flower ^{the female organ} ^{the proportion of stamens to style in} ^{*Linum* & *Oxalis* varies also with the} ^{degree of development of the flower.}

I see you have figured "demorphous"
flowers of *Helianthemum* - in *Viola*
you allude to it but I think you will
find what you have omitted to state
that *H. p. 10* is the capsule of an
apetalous flower. In those species of
^{which} where *demorphous* flowers are produced
(*H. odorata* *canina* *polystrois* among
ours and a great many of yours) the
petaliferous flowers seldom ripen
their capsules and when they do the
falling off of the style (of *H. p.*) will
never produce the hooked beak of *H. 10*
- besides that the calyx is a little different.

Examining your work makes



Bentham, George. 1849. "Bentham, George Apr. 29, 1849." *George Bentham letters to Asa Gray*

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