

Kentchurch near Hereford

July 22 1840

19

My dear Sir

The day before I left town to spend some months in the country I had the pleasure of receiving a most acceptable parcel of plants from you together with your kind letter of Apr 10 and a copy of Elliott's Flora for which I beg you to accept my most sincere thanks. I feel at the same time the full force of your hint at my neglect in acknowledging two other letters I duly received from you, but somehow or other I have always so much more writing on my hands than I get through and so many letters that require an immediate answer that I am too apt to put off writing to my friends whose letters are by far the most acceptable to receive. - I am delighted to see you getting on with your most valuable Flora and have many thanks to give for the proof sheets. Since you were here I have, apropos of Schomburgk's plants, gone through many Leguminous genera and as you will have seen by Hooker's journal proposed a rough arrangement of Corallipiniaceae & Menispermaceae. I have been induced to alter in some measure my opinion about Corallia, and consider it as forming with Dalea Petalostemon Amorpha and some others a subtribe of dots connecting them in some measure with

Hedysarea but less so than I once thought - I was wrong also in referring Coris to Sophoreae for the peculiar activation of the corolla I now find to be the most important character of Casalpinieae - I have not my books about me here but I fear I have blundered about Drummond's specimens (without fruit) of your *Mimora strigillata* & referred them erroneously to some other genus.

As soon as I return to town (in October) I shall work up Wallich's Leguminosae - & with reference to them as well as to the first part of my Leguminosarum Genera et Species I should feel particularly obliged if you had specimens of *Raphtosis* I possess only the commoner species then collected by Drummond & from you, the *R. simpliciflora* I am also very anxious for *Thermopsis montana*, *Sophora affinis* & *sericea*.

I Booth has kindly exchanged copies with me of the first part of your Fl. V. Amer. so that now his copy is all thin paper and mine all thick paper.

You will have seen ere this the new part of the Linnean Transactions in which I figure a rather interesting plant as connected with a purely N. American genus - I mean the *Helianthopora nutans*. I had not my separate copies ere I left London otherwise I should have sent you one, which I shall do when I return to town.

I had a letter a few days ago from Tomaini of Pavia who is promoted to the place of President of the Magistracy

of Piacenza he says you promised to write to him from America.

* Do you wish to take the remainder of Hartweg's Mexican plants? The numbers now go down to above 500 but are all connected with the N. American flora than the first were. He is now in Guatemala. - Will you let me know what sheets you & Torrey have of my "Planta Hartwegianae" that I may send you the remainder for somehow I have omitted yours in the memorandum I had kept of the copies I give and yet I feel confident I gave you both of you the first sheets.

I trust that if there is any botanical or other commission I can execute for you or Dr Torrey you will not fail to apply to me. I only regret I have so little I can give in exchange for your valuable contributions to my herbarium.

With many thanks for your kind remembrance of Mr Bentham who hopes you will gratify us with another visit believe me

Ever yours sincerely

George Bentham
Riptosis (no 25?) is waiting in my N. V.

Bentham in *impetiflora*

Joel
Gray
Professor at the Detroit University
New York



Photostat (no 572) is wanted in my lab.



Bentham, George. 1840. "Bentham, George July 22, 1840." *George Bentham letters to Asa Gray*

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