

25. WILTON PLACE.

S.W.

Sept 26/65

My dear Gray

Yours of the 12th has this moment reached me and reminds me how remiss I had been in not writing to you after the loss of our patron & friend Sir W. Hooper - I had understood that some of the Doctors had written to you and I have no doubt that you have long ere this had full details. I had just left town having seen Sir William in full vigour of body & of and mind on the 5th Sept and on the Tuesday 8th I understood he was all day on his legs - visiting the Battersea Park and after his return home making his usual tour of the gardens. Early Wednesday morning he was seized with an affection of the throat then prevalent at Reus accompanied by great prostration and died on the Saturday afternoon - Owing to no post on Sunday

I only heard of it on Tuesday and came
to town on the Wednesday ^{and the funeral on the following} finding Joseph
Hooker prostrate with a violent attack
of acute rheumatism with fever caught
in a draft in his father's room - he had
attempted to rise to go to his father at his
last moments and fainter with pain - and
on the Thursday the day of the funeral all
he could do was to struggle to the window
to see it go off and after that began great
pain again, he was confined to his bed
for a fortnight and a week later was
able to move to his friend's I Campbell
at Wotting Hill and last week went down
to Dayton - he is improving but it will
be some time before he is himself again
When Sir William went down ill none of
the family except Joseph were at New
Lady Hooker came up from Lynmouth the
next day and went through it all reason-
ably well - Mr Hooker came up the
day of the funeral - Oliver was in Dauphine
but returned as soon as he heard of it
I went back to the country after the
funeral - but came to town last week
in time to see I Hooker before he left
for Dayton and am going again for a

short time but next week have to be
settled in town

The Directorship has been officially
offered to I Hooker - so that I hope that
in the course of next month all will
go on again

In the mean time as Gen. St. are
priorities to the end of the year and
it will be sometime before I
Hooker will be able to revive the
Melostomaceum (which only requires
a week's work) we publish what so
far as is done making a part of
about 300 pages - I am very busy
finishing up the index before I go this
afternoon so must close this - Although
assured from the first that Dr. Hooker's
illness was not dangerous - but yet
for some time I could not but be very
uneasy lest it should bring on disease
of the heart and it was most distressing
to see him suffer so much - Fortunately
he seems now to be quite convalescent

Yours very sincerely

George Bentham



Bentham, George. 1865. "Bentham, George Sept. 26, 1865." *George Bentham letters to Asa Gray*

View This Item Online: <https://www.biodiversitylibrary.org/item/226393>

Permalink: <https://www.biodiversitylibrary.org/partpdf/261151>

Holding Institution

Harvard University Botany Libraries

Sponsored by

Arcadia 19th Century Collections Digitization/Harvard Library

Copyright & Reuse

Copyright Status: Public domain. The Library considers that this work is no longer under copyright protection

License: <https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-nc-sa/4.0/>

This document was created from content at the **Biodiversity Heritage Library**, the world's largest open access digital library for biodiversity literature and archives. Visit BHL at <https://www.biodiversitylibrary.org>.