

both appear to have the ~~depression~~ ^{depression} ~~each~~ ^{each}
forming a distinct pyrene as in Panax, and
the habit is quite Crataegous.

I think I must reduce your *Mytilandra*
nitens (which is in Australia) to *Charles*
the apparently chambered anthers are only
so in outward appearance as you say in
your description and there is a trace of
the transverse construction in *M. Begoni*
folia - the disk varies in the different
species of *Charles* (of which we have 2 besides
Begoniifolia and *Nitens*)

We have all I think been mistaken about
Myloxorge Cav. I think his *C. racemosa* if
not identical with your *C. coffeoides* at any
rate is close to it and with *Cupia densiflora*
DC. *Erpifolium Gardneri* Thunb. and your *S.*
Harveyi forms a little group that must go
into *Randia* as I proposed for *C. densiflora* in
H. Hook. Thwaites' Ceylon plant is perhaps
specifically identical with *C. densiflora* - *C.*
racemosa Cav. and *S. Harveyi* differ slightly
but perhaps constantly and may be maintained
as species. - *Myloxorge* however as understood
by W. & Arn. by Thwaites and by myself for
S. Webera *S. rambacina* (which is in Australia)
and other *Davallia*-like plants with terminal
cones may be kept as a genus but cannot
retain *Stavangeria* name. I propose to take
up the older one of *Webera* (which originally
applied to *S. Webera* and which is not wanted
even by the most multiplying of modern nomenclologists

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25, WILTON PLACE,
S.W.

March 8/66

My dear Gray

I send you the two additional
copies you asked for of Part II of *Genera*
with the last part of *Linnean Journal*
in consequence of your last letter to Hooker
I think we shall venture in the next day
sent from New, to put in a few extra
copies which we will only charge you
when you have disposed of them.

I now write chiefly to ask you if
you have anything to say about Australian
Compositae. I am about to commence printing
the third vol. of my *Flora Australiensis*.
It has been very hard work. *Eucalyptus*
alone took me full three months six
good hours a day uninterruptedly
and all illustrations required so much
sorting to get at their inside that they
delayed me much - Since that I have
got on quicker. I have finished down to
Compositae excepting *Rubiacinae* in the

midst of which I am now - and shall have
only about 900 species altogether for the volume
which I have promised should be an extra
which I shall have to include
the whole of Compositae provided they
do not exceed 2000 or 3000 species. The great
question I want your opinion about - if
you have entered into it - as to the difference
between Eurybia and Aster - and I trust
you will not mind my applying to you
when after all thought I find generally I
have to follow you yet I like always to
judge for myself. F. Mueller in his last
fragmenta acknowledges the identity of
Eurybia and Olearia in which I believe he
is right. Olearia being the oldest name, but
also says there is no difference between
them and Aster and therefore renames all
the Eurybias as Asters, and for fear of
losing the "R. Muell." if that should not be
adopted also publishes them all as Olearias.
I always thought them had been a
constant difference in the bracts and
flattened achenes - How does that stand?
Have you any other suggestions to make about
Australian Compositae - I hope very much to
be able to consolidate some of the monotypic or

almost monotypic Gnaphaloid genera.

I have nearly 100 Australian Umbelliferae and
15 Araliaceae - Beermann has made a mess
of them - he looks much more at the outside
than the inside of flowers - and yet I cannot
conceive the principle of putting Aralia in
Umbelliferae and Crithmum and Hydrocotyle
in Raderaceae. In his new part of Flora Vitensis
he enters at length into the reasons he had already
given for considering Hydrocotyle as Raderaceous
with the special character of valvate petals and
the only species in his flora is *P. Ariaticum* with
very imbricate petals - the fact is he took his
character from *P. vulgare* without looking at any
other. There are two groups in Hydrocotyle
Euhydrocotyle with valvate petals and Centella
to which *P. Ariaticum* belongs with imbricate petals.
The annuals which Beermann proposes to remove
to Diastelia! have nearly all valvate petals.
The fact is Hydrocotyle is a very good genus but
with scarcely any character but the stipules, and
must remain in Umbelliferae.

I am glad you followed Hook. & DeCandolle in
putting the Guineas into Aralia - leaving the
name of Paep Lin. for his *D. fruticosa* and
other forming *Miquel's Notheranay*.

Beermann's distinction between *Rader*
Australicum & *Rader* proper is all lost except
the pinnate foliage which cannot be a
generic distinction - the genus *rumicoides* embryo
is the same in both, and there is no difference in the ovary.

I agree however with Beermann in transferring
Arctostaphylos and *Borfieldia* to *Aralium* as



Bentham, George. 1866. "Bentham, George Mar. 8, 1866 [fragment]." *George Bentham letters to Asa Gray*

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