

and we are now rejoicing in the
"transference" of his Chief Commission
We do not know yet who succeeds Mr
Agston but believe it will be one who
has shown himself a warm approver
of Kew

Yours very sincerely
George Bentham

25, WILTON PLACE.
S.W.

May 10/73

My dear Gray

I have been for some time
engaged in the *Thimorea* for the *Flora*
Brasiliensis which I have pretty well
got through up to *Thimicola* and I find
I have such an accumulation of notes
and corrections to my *Cynopod* now
twenty years old that I am disposed to
give a general revision in the style
of my *Lucia* paper and for fear of
forgetting some of your species could
you get me a list made out of all
your *Muscicapa* - *Regan* its species
with references to where they are
published? You would do me a
service. I have reduced several
of my species of *Thimorea* itself and yet
I have now 275 of what I believe to

be good species - Now that more plants
are known the distinction between
Chabaria and *Chamaea* quite breaks
down and I have a different sequence
of series - *M. fragrans* and *M. borealis*
for instance cannot be separated into
distinct sections the valves are not always
articulate in the one nor always undivided
in the other and *M. malacophylla* is
sometimes articulate sometimes inarticulate
the character is sometimes a general
but not an absolute one - All my
South American *Chamaea* except
S. leptocarpa (which is *S. hamata* H. B. K.)
prove to be true *Chamaea* - *S. brachycarpa*
becomes *M. invida* Mart and includes
what we have as *M. diplostrecha* of
Wright's Cuban Plants - By the bye is
that name published - the only copy
we have of of Pauvalle's list is in
loose sheets and imperfect the sheet
in which are the *Chamaea* is wanting
Where can the book or paper be

procured? If you could procure it for
us I should feel very much obliged

Grisbach's *St. Indian* and Cuban
Chamaea are very badly - or rather
very carelessly done. In his desire to
snatch up my staminal characters he says
that Joeguin is wrong in specifying
numerous stamens in *Chamaea tomentosa*.
Several specimens so named of Grisbach
himself have more than 50 stamens
and the only decaandrous one so named by
him is a true *Chamaea* from the Cuban collection
cultivated in Well-Louis Garden. His *Chamaea*
Chamaea is nothing but a *Chamaea*
Chamaea *portoricensis* in which the
margin of the pod has been torn
away evidently from the thin side
and there are several other faulty conclusions
which are to be regretted as they take
much from the high value I had originally
been disposed to attach to his labour.

As soon as I can get them *Chamaea*
off my hands I hope to get to Gen. H. again
Hooker has just returned from a trip
to America with renewed vigour



Bentham, George. 1873. "Bentham, George Dec. 10, 1873." *George Bentham letters to Asa Gray*

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

Permalink: <https://www.biodiversitylibrary.org/partpdf/261189>

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>.