

Pray let me have your opinion
on the above points

I am now at Apogee

Yours very sincerely
George Beetham

25, WILTON PLACE.
S.W.

April 3 / 74

My dear Gray

I have now done the
Jasmines including *Oleaceae* for you
O. but there are two or three
points I should like to have your
opinion upon

I have four tribes

1 *Jasminaceae* *Jasminum* *Menodora* and

Wydianthus

2 *Syringae*. *Schrebera* *Forrythia* and *Lycium*

3 *Trapenae* *Fraxinus* and *Poulaenii*

4 *Oleaceae*

in *corolla untricate*

Forestiera *Philipea* *Broussonetia* and *Chenopodium*

in *petals lobes*

Lonicera (including *Freycinetia* and *Benardiana*)
and *Asclepias* and *Protea*

*** Corolla indeclinata valvata
Olea ligustrum and Myoporum

The true Olea are constantly valvate
and therefore O. manthei must I think
be kept up for O. americana O. fragrans
O. aquifolium O. marginata O. sandwicensis
and two New Caledonian species

Chionanthus must be limited I think
to C. virginica C. retusa from China
and I believe an unpublished species
from China

For Munadora and Forestiera I
adopt your views

Linociera is the great difficulty
L. ligustrum, L. latifolia and L. malabarica
(Olea linocieroides Wright) have a woody
endocarp and fleshy albumen.

L. compacta Mr. L. glomerata Pohl and L.
mandiocarpa Eidl. as well as all the
Old world species of which the fruit is
known except L. malabarica have a
coriaceous endocarp, no albumen and
fleshy cotyledons

Yet I cannot well make two genera
first because L. latifolia and L. compacta

for instance are so much alike as to be
difficult to distinguish in flower -
indeed Grisebachi Cuban L. compacta is
L. latifolia although we have also the
true L. compacta from Cuba

2nd there are at least a dozen species
of which the fruit is unknown

Hebeanthus Griseb appears to me to be
a true Linociera - we have no fruit

I am not quite certain of the
affiliation of Chionanthus virginica
the lobes are so narrow and so easily
open - but I see no sign of the turning
in of the margins as in Linociera. And
the Chinese C. retusa which has the
lobes like those of C. virginica has them
certainly imbricate as in Torreya
Oreanthus etc

Pegonia goes into Urtica
Sarcodermis into Olea
Vicia into Ligustrum

Salvadoraceae are certainly very
close upon Jasminaceae and might
be made a fifth tribe but we think
it best to keep it up as a small Order



Bentham, George. 1874. "Bentham, George Apr. 3, 1874." *George Bentham letters to Asa Gray*

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