

Prior in connection and should have
liked to have had the advantage of seeing
more of them. I met them for a few
minutes on the platform at Taunton
and hoped to have travelled with them
as far as Bristol but the compartments
into which they got was full and I was
obliged to take another and had no time
even to take leave of them. - They then
left when I returned to town.

Yours very sincerely
George Bentham

25, WILTON PLACE.
S.W.

London
Oct 1/78

My dear Gray

I have to thank you for your
Lecture on forest distribution which I am
much pleased with. It is a very lucid
exposition of the theory you have so well
worked out of the origin and history of
North American forest vegetation. We
want much a similar clue to the
distribution of tropical trees but unfortunately
have very much fewer data to go upon
than is the case with the northern ancient
and modern trees.

Much obliged for your flattering
article on my Australian Flora - it has
not been noticed as far as I know in any

European journal - I forgot to insert in
the Preface as I intended that the total
number of species described is 8168 in
1400 genera. Mueller thinks he has
about 500 species already to add. I wish
I could have fulfilled my original plan
of a supplement and review of the
Geographical distribution etc but I have
just passed my 78th birthday and am
obliged to devote what little time I may
still have before me to *Genera Plantarum*.

I have not quite done yet with *Euphorbiae*
which have proved a tougher job than I
thought - I make 6 tribes *Euphorbieae*
Stenolobieae *Burserae* *Hyphantariae* *Galeaceae*
and *Crotonaeae* - *Hyphantariae* with the

outer stamens when isomerous opposite
the sepals and cells of the ovary 2-ovulate.
Crotonaeae with the outer stamens when
isomerous alternate with the sepals and
cells of the ovary 1-ovulate - the *Galeaceae*
a few genera only with the stamens of
Hyphantariae and the ovary of *Crotonaeae*
Isotidesma *Stylosa* etc included in
Hyphantariae.

Can you let me have female
flowers (not yet grown into fruits) of
Simmondsia - I do not understand how
the genus can have been put into
Burserae but our specimens are either
males in flower or females in fruit.

I had great pleasure in meeting
Mr & Mrs James the other day at D



Bentham, George. 1878. "Bentham, George Oct. 1, 1878." *George Bentham letters to Asa Gray*

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