

25 Wilton Place
London SW
April 11/02

My dear Gray

Many thanks for your
communication which I found on
Saturday when I came in from New
just in time to send off the receipt
to Mr. Vivian by that post - next
day was Sunday and yesterday
bank holiday so that it is only
today that I could send the
copy of Gen. Pitt to Wesley for
the Smithsonian Institution as
you directed

Thanks for your and Mr Gray's
kind enquiries. I have got rid of
my cough but not of my years
which gradually weaken me - I
cannot say that I have nearly
worked up the dilemma though I see
my way pretty well through them
but the work of detail is very long
for to say the truth I cannot trust
to Baker for any minutiae which
require close examination - I believe
he never took a flower or unexa-
minated lens - but his labours
do save me a great deal of trouble

As to Filices we have certainly
no intention of extending the work so

as to include them - they have been too
much specialised - and indeed Stereologists
have now quite done away with all
our notions of genera which they
regard as quite secondary to species.

Hooker has been working steadily
at the apocarpous Orders and we
have so far advanced that I am
thinking in a few days of taking to the
revision of Orchidea so as to begin
printing - for it will take at least
eight months to print the part

Yours very sincerely
George Bentham



Bentham, George. 1882. "Bentham, George Apr. 11, 1882." *George Bentham letters to Asa Gray*

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