

It is better of us our loss of the legibility of our
penmanship — however having generally considered
myself among the best in deciphering hieroglyphics
yours gave me but little trouble D W

Dr J. H. Gray
Harvard University
Cambridge
Mass



Town Bluff Liberty County
March 14th 1845

Dr Sir

Yours of 21st June came to hand last Aug.
and it may not be inappropriate to offer an apology
for so long delay on my part in giving you
intelligence of the fact and informing you what
course I mean to pursue relating the propositions
set forth in yours and what assistance I
can give you towards the completion of the
work you have in hand According to my
ability I am ready to contribute my aid
towards the advancement of any scientific
undertaking

When your letter arrived I was absent on a
journey to the Colorado which though made
for purposes of business was improved to
the utmost in the collection of plants which
are not found in this section or which I had
not before seen

Shortly after my return I suffered a violent
attack of sickness from which it was a long
time in recovering indeed it left me in so
weak a state that I lost the better part
of the summer and all the fall during which
I was confined almost the whole time to the
house

Since winter set in I have been engaged
in studying the Cryptogamias and have made
a small collection from a very limited
section of country and devoted to the examina-
tion of them such time as I could spare from
my ordinary occupations and shall continue
to improve every opportunity for the enlarge-
ment of my collection which may occur
to me

Myself and a friend Dr. Geo. A. Tatch have fallen upon the following plan. He is acquainted with a gentleman in New Orleans named Blanchard a native if not of your city of its vicinity.

We have concluded to consign them to his ~~and~~ care and forward them to him an opportunity of doing which will soon offer. He will of course transmit to you the consignments and bill of lading and in all probability they will arrive safely in Boston by the end of April or beginning of May.

meantime I will continue to make such additions to my collection as an opportunity shall offer of securing.

Are the Genera *Tesquia* & *Hypnum* united? According to ^{gen. description} ~~Botanists~~ I have not seen a *Hypnum* in this country while the species of *Tesquia* are numerous at least I can make nothing else of them. Having just made a beginning in the study of the mosses I experience considerable embarrassment in ascertaining the genera to say nothing of the species. The *Hepatica* are quite numerous and I have encountered the same difficulty with them as with the mosses or more.

But if fortune smiles you shall have the whole budget by the first favorable opportunity.

Do you know any one who would furnish me with a clear and comprehensive work on entomology & receive in return a collection of insects? But I pray understand me that the insects ^{are} collected I can not go about the work mechanically but must know a little somewhat of the subject as I go along I am entirely unacquainted with

the merits of any entomological system and have but a slight knowledge of the subject so you can judge what kind of assistance I would require.

Please give me your opinion or that of some one on whose judgment you rely of a treatise on Hesperology as I might be induced to meddle with that subject could I get some assistance.

Did you know that we have a *Diospyros* differing from the one so common in the U.S. It is low and attaining a height of more than 10-15 feet. It grows on the margin of Crinity Bay perhaps elsewhere.

We have collected a few lichens and still fewer fungi to the former have paid but little attention almost none at all to the latter.

We shall thus is Dr. Vratel and myself turn our attention these subjects in time to come. I don't want however to be responsible for his exertions as he has considerable professional business to attend to.

It would give me pleasure to hear from you often but I hardly know what instructions to give you relative to the direction of your letters. I knew the liability of miscarriage attending letters in passing from the States to this Republic. I therefore have often had my letters directed to Natchitoches. But before your answer to this could reach that place I expect to go to Colorado and shall be at a great distance from the place of deposit.

I believe I will not request you to write but should you do so direct to Columbus Colorado County and if they crop the saline that Seyle & Chazy die of shipwrecked letters they will probably find out my whereabouts. Yours Charles Wright
Prof. & Geog.



Wright, Charles. 1845. "Wright, Charles Mar. 18, 1845." *Charles Wright correspondence with Asa Gray*

View This Item Online: <https://www.biodiversitylibrary.org/item/257972>

Permalink: <https://www.biodiversitylibrary.org/partpdf/276850>

Holding Institution

Harvard University Botany Libraries

Sponsored by

Andrew W. Mellon Foundation

Copyright & Reuse

Copyright Status: Public domain. The BHL considers that this work is no longer under copyright protection.

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>.