

San Marcos Apr. 10th/50

My Dear Dr.

It is a rainy day & I occupy a portion of it in observations on your last two communication, containing the letter from Washington

Immediately on the receipt of your letter informing me of shipment of paper on the Bark R. Walsh I wrote to Wm. Hendley & Co Galveston to look out for it & forward to Port Yucata "care of Fulton & Henaley" to whom I wrote at the same time asking them to look out for it then I received answer from the latter that they would receive it & give me immediate notice Fifty days since shipment have now elapsed and no intelligence of paper received I am afraid your neglect to send to a consequence will cause a fatal delay I gave you sufficient notice early in the winter of the necessity of making ^{timely} arrangements for next summer's operations and of the embarrassing delays attending commercial transactions here Suppose my letter to Hendley miscarried or suppose he neglects to attend to my requests or suppose the receivers of the trading of the Bark will not give themselves the trouble to hunt among their store for the article directed to me—you see the consequences. It would certainly have been but little trouble to find ⁱⁿ a Galveston paper a commission house or by enquiry of the owners of the Bark

Again it seems I am dependent upon myself for my hauling Knowing this I wrote to a friend in San Antonio to enquire for me whether I could hire hauling and received in answer that a carretero would haul 500-600 pounds at \$11 per ^{chwt} but I can not make any contract until I receive the means of making an honorable one My hands are tied so far as making any definite arrangements ^{for hauling} is concerned until I receive remittance of money I gave you my views of sending proceeds of sale of specimens It is now too late to write on the matter—if the money is not on the way it need not be sent I exceedingly regret that I did not go north as I intended though in that case I should not have made the very considerable

collection of Mosses &c. which I have secured the past winter I shall go to Austin in a few days and will try to sell drafts on you & on Washington though I have no belly that I will succeed. There are few men that understand how a gathering of weeds & grasses can convert them into money and unless a man has negroes or land his exertions to raise money are looked upon with suspicion.

Again suppose I sell drafts and in the mean time you contrive means to send me the money you must honor them or I shall get the character of a villain and I will not be here to vindicate myself.

I am very glad to receive the letters from Prof. Henry & the Secy of War I have no doubt they will be very useful ^{also the one from Burnside}.

Leas Naides came to hand & I was not at all vexed to receive a thing so useful through the P.C. and I was preparing a pretty considerable scold but your apology for the good Prof. A. came in time to pacify me. You will not wonder at the low value I set upon it when I tell you it contains but one solitary description.

Sullivan writes that he is in communication with me. Perhaps he means that I am in communication with him - for nothing from him has ever reached me.

You are too late with the Gloria - should have sent it with the other things. You seem to forget that a considerable delay is required to send a request to Cambridge and receive an answer.

You need not be particular to send a "full set" for me if it should interfere, at all, with the sale of sets. My plan must be to effect as large a sale as possible to enable me to continue my exploration.

I have a few more shells for Agassiz which I will send with the mosses &c. in May probably. It seems difficult to get books on conchology. Would it be too great a favor to ask the Prof to write to me and enclose percent & hatches of such things as I have sent him for a copy of engravings if any should be made with the names annexed.

Apr 26 Let the above go for what it is worth. Since writing it I have been to Austin where I made some efforts to sell

drafts and though I did not succeed I am not without hopes of doing so. I have no intelligence of the arrival of my paper and can do nothing till it arrives - can make no contract for hauling nor any definite arrangements for my next summer's business. It is time all the preparations should be completed. I will hold myself in readiness so far as I can do so to start when any opportunity occurs. The Government train will probably start between the 1st & 10th prox.

It will hardly be possible for me to be ready to go with it. My remaining chance will be to go with some California Company and a "slim chance" I consider it. But I will continue looking about me while any hope remains.

I ~~hope~~ you will give heed to my suggestions respecting shipments & containers in a previous letter. It is a cause of great anxiety to me to be looking one day after day for things sent to me and all the while to be in uncertainty when they ever I will receive them. Day after day I have remained here hoping that next mail would bring me some letters, when I was anxious to be away attending to other business. I left home two weeks ago reluctantly and in great anxiety and now on my return find nothing to relieve that anxiety.

But I won't trouble you any more. I am in fine health. Remember me to Mrs. G.

I ever

Yours most sincerely

Chas. Wright



10

Asa Gray
Cambridge
Mass





Wright, Charles. 1850. "Wright, Charles Apr. 10, 1850." *Charles Wright correspondence with Asa Gray*

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

Permalink: <https://www.biodiversitylibrary.org/partpdf/276881>

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>.