

U.S. Ship Vincennes  
Simon's Bay 23<sup>d</sup> Oct<sup>r</sup> 1853

Dear Doctor

I write by Mr Ames one of my old messmates of the ~~Vincennes~~ John Hancock whom if he should call on you as he partly promises to do please entertain in your best manner for my sake

I am transferred to the Vincennes and <sup>am</sup> in no good humor about it and shall not trouble you with a tedious epistle I have been hard at work nearly every day rambling over the Mts and valleys - studying by night sometimes till ~~till~~ the beginning of the new day puzzling over queer things till I was tired and going to bed no wiser than before Some common things and with very distinct characteristics I have been obliged to throw aside undetermined even generically while I make few and feeble efforts for specific names

I told you I was in ill humor I was satisfied with my old mess and with the great liberty <sup>I enjoyed</sup> on board the Steamer Here I was put into a dirty room (it has not been cleared yet) amid ships with the racket of Ball in front of it - without curtains or writing desk and no boy yet to wait on me and my boots haven't been blacked for a week If things dont mend soon I'll make a fuss about it  
The Hancock & J. Cooper went to sea day before yester

day - we follow in a week more or less - next Friday  
[28th] says *Coma* - The next place we bring up at will  
be Australia - may-be - as we say down south - then on  
to China - and when we will commence <sup>work</sup> - given sake  
If we stop at Australia it will be midsummer and every  
thing will be dried up - some say however we will go  
on direct to China without stopping - why we go  
that roundabout way to China, if we go I know not,  
perhaps to have better winds. The Hancock I am told  
goes direct to Batavia

I found a very small *Cotyledonia* with purple flower  
growing as usual on wet soil I send you some spec-  
imens but you must say nothing about it but let  
me know if it is desirable so far as you know

Yours truly  
Charles Wright

Dr Alex Gray  
Cambridge Mass

To Mrs Ames

Dr. Asa Gray  
Cambridge  
Mass



Wright, Charles. 1853. "Wright, Charles Oct. 23, 1853." *Charles Wright correspondence with Asa Gray*

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