

San José Jan 30 1863

My Dear Dr

Returned yesterday with a full <sup>load</sup> - encouraging  
isn't it? I wrote you fr. Palacios. The letter went to  
Havana directed to Sawalle. Meantime he came here  
& the letter was sent here. Hence ensued a delay & you  
did not get my letter so soon as I wished. No matter  
so far as paper goes. In fact I carried a little too  
much with me. I went to within twenty leagues of  
Cape San Antonio the limit of equestrian traveling  
at "la Punta de la Jaula" commences the rocky region  
termed "diente de perro" - dog's tooth on which horses  
can not travel. The country began to be dry and the la-  
gunas furnished me with most novelties. When I  
set out I designed to return by the north side or double  
the mountain range which ends at Llaneros. But ar-  
rived there vegetation was drying up, my horse was loaded  
to the road by the north side much more hilly - so I  
came directly back collecting but little on the way  
I got however a new mud *Baronia* 6" high with  
large (nearly a foot in diam.) leaves & a compact pan-  
icle of light purple flowers. On my way down at  
Lagunillas a veg. at the foot of the high fowles  
I got a number of new novelties. I should have  
said at the beginning that I have now the book &  
Baton portfolio. Guess if he was botanizing here  
he would have the two sides fastened together with  
"some string" if in no other way. Don't blame I shall  
use it much. Many thanks for the book & more  
when Pl. W. comes. I have been trying some <sup>eggs</sup> ~~scanties~~  
with eggs - can't make 'em out. A new sp. of *pinus* found  
on the coasts without leaves! Lucca.

Sawalle the owner of this estate & my hospitable host

P.S. Study up some plan to send me money - less than \$50 or have some.



by proxy—Don José Blain his brother in law — & a part of his family are here Poor man! dying by inches - consumption little more than a walking skeleton. I think it probable I shall complete my late excursion by crossing the mountain range a few leagues westward fr. here & continuing down the north side arriving again at Guanes & returning by the south side as offering a very good road. If my horses appear in pretty good spirits (they are not poor) I must go on some excursion though I don't expect to collect largely for with the advance of the dry season little herbaceous vegetation can stand it & arboreal is not so abundant as in central Cuba. I have had it in mind to return there about this time but as I traversed the route last year nearly at the same season it seems better to wait till spring fairly sets in & then there will be a different vegetation. It is likely that during the winter I can collect something along the south coast or if I stay till spring the low pinales & savanna will well be worth a visit I lost this the past year waiting for greenback. If I go to Habana during the winter I will take with me the plants thus far collected here which compose the greater part of what I now have in the island (including a package in Hermine collected there, on the journey last winter) & send them on. However as we have waited so long they had better not be sent on to Lpis till I come on. I want to name some of them myself.

Lpis says the leaflets of *Clematis* divisa are entire & reduces *C. Hawanensis* Reck to a synonym. Richard's fig. as to the teeth is correct. The leaves are a little too broad. I have seen thousands of plants - almost & the lower leaves are generally if not always furnished with teeth two on one side & three on the other - generally the upper smaller <sup>often toothless</sup> & more over <sup>the right</sup> ~~the right~~.



San Jose. Feb. 13<sup>th</sup> 1863

Dear Dr

Oh dear what can the matter be

Dear dear what can the matter be

If I only knew who ought to be shown up. wouldn't  
I apply the match and send him flying toward  
heaven where however in my opinion he little  
deserves to go. After another absence of nearly a  
month I return to find from you — nothing  
Where is Pl. Mex. Cat which you wrote 14<sup>th</sup> Feb you  
wont soon send? & then 17<sup>th</sup> Dec. that you'd send  
about new year. Turned it over to Eaton again  
while he sticks to his Herculean task "wallowing  
the rebels". If you dont run me distracted I will  
not be for lack of swinging <sup>ing</sup> me like Mahomet's  
coffin between — hope & disappointment.

Mr Saurville & family are here. He is better but  
at best is a poor feeble specimen of mortality  
(bodily). He desires to know if you could print  
out to him some work on Palms of moderate  
price — also desires a catalogue of botanical  
works that is Publisher's list which are given  
distributed gratis. He also desires information  
about Grutcher when it will be finished its  
price size &c. In this request I join. I told him  
also that I would ask you to send a set of the  
named specimens if there is one yet disposable.  
This would benefit me also.

In my last trip I didn't do a great business  
in botany. I shall go again westward in a  
few days for another month without my  
long long long long long long long long long  
long long long long long long expected work



For my return I thank the collector what specimens  
I have seen (they constitute nearly all) and at La  
Perrona & send them off.

We have N.Y. paper to the 4th inst. Every thing  
indicates that the work in cementing the Union  
goes slowly on. Equally clear indications appear  
that we'll soon have Democratic rule again. Then will  
be once more free & I can return without apprehensions  
of Fort Warren & Henry.

Kind remembrances to Mrs. G.

Yours truly

Charles Wright

Wright



Wright, Charles. 1863. "Wright, Charles Jan. 3, 1863." *Charles Wright correspondence with Asa Gray*

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