

Habana May 14th 1863.

My Dear Dr

Got yours of 24th ult ^{day before} yesterday. I wrote you on my arrival here. you doubtless have the letter now. I shall dispatch the things as proposed. They are now in the shipping house & only now making making out the bills of lading &c which I shall do today & then off for the country as soon as possible. I have been delayed more than I expected. On my arrival the parcels from Hermina had not come - it was almost necessary that I should see Gundlach - he couldn't come ^{here} - so I ran out to Hermina for a few days - a pleasant visit - & returned day before yesterday.

And now if I am a little critical you have made it necessary. You treat of "Gundlach" excellent contrivance" as if you thought he had formed a mare's nest. When G. learned that a small sum of money might be sent me without discount he knew what he was about. I have not seen Riverend but I talked with one of the firm & thus know that Riverend did pay here in gold dollar for dollar a sum in U.S. currency deposited to his credit in the Brandreth House. Your hesitancy I admit is quite natural. I could not well understand it & it is probable that R. could not do a similar business on a large scale. He remits gold to the north & pays heavy freight - insurance perhaps & commissions also heavy. So perhaps to accommodate a friend in part - in part to avoid such expenses he was willing to accommodate me also.

Why he does not adopt the word in any outline
of exchange I know not. So if you thought of
myself read minnie's believing we had discovered
a brand new plan of effecting exchanges without
the necessity of paying a p.c. while we were following
the old plan by a roundabout way you will
not only come what your opinion of us. As it is, prob-
ably you have lost the best plan of sending me money
that has occurred in some time.

A word more on *Auristephora*. I am done. It is
not the sp. n. that I object to (though I don't admire
that much) it is the gen. n. a false one by your own
confession. You have admitted *Verbesina alata* showing
that *Cris* ^{acknowledges} does not ^{admit} *Hamulium*. I say "you
have admitted" for I remember well that you wrote
me of suppressing a n. sp. of *Cris*. (Kadsura I think
it was) found on some Loganiaceae plant if I might
remember. So you have taken the responsibility of
altering *Cris* determinations in one instance. ^{Then} why
couldn't you have put it for consistency's sake *Verbe-
sina alata* & *Verbesina Wrightii* or *Ham. alatum* &
Ham. Wrightii? I have read somewhere for of names
under certain circumstances (in *Verbena*) taking
precedence of later published names if I am not
much mistaken. I might add too that I am
not of that school who when they take a fancy
to split up an old genus into a dozen ^{new ones} appropriate
to themselves all the spec. as well as generic names.
Sometimes it is done no doubt on purpose to "see
their name in print" like old Buckner wanting to
commit assault & battery to get his name on the
criminal docket. I acknowledge I took a real fancy
to my little plant (as you will probably conclude from the

number of specimens I collected for the name) I gave it - it
was so appreciable to regret that it was not retained.
You ask why I do not send direct to Gen. Tell
now I knew not his address. And how can I
pay the postage? Having yourself all possible facilities
for doing anything & everything you can't appreciate
my situation in having so few. My friends do seem
for me that I can't in conscience ask them to do
more. But that I had a little of your faith in
the speedy return of peace or could see in the future
a small part of the prosperity to which you doubt-
less look forward.

The bit of plant - "*Shorea* or near it" which I sent
do not accord with any gen. in *Cris*. The embryo of
half-grown fr. is exactly that of *Celtis* but the fl.
are quite distinct. I have suggested for it if it
prove a n. gen. "*Caryosma*" - the fruit is though
having a strong walnutty smell.

I am sorry to learn the death of one of my
best patrons - a loss to the science to many friends
& to the country - "Al conchano" glad to hear of
Dr. Torrey's amendment.

In my last I showed on the arrival of ^{other} plants
distributed without waiting for the two or three little
pouches in cart on Cuba. You now say "till July"
till you will be hard at work in College. Of course
this must take precedence. You will probably have
add moments during which you will be able to
glance at them & form an opinion of their number
their richness in novelties & also to separate the
different fam. of crypts. & detach them to the
several students of those families &c. I had pretty
well arranged them but in the packing up I had to

break somewhat the arrangement. However you will find more of them in families more or less — but very few stragglers.

My shells go on to Smiths Inst. I have already suggested to Baird to sell if any body nowadays is able to buy.

Kind regards to Mr. G. — My health continues good though I have a touch of rheumatism in the right shoulder. If I have any thing to add after settling my business a P.S. will serve.

Yours truly
Charles Wright

P.S. I have seen "le Riverend" and it results as I have stated above. It was a temporary arrangement & now will be of no avail. Perhaps the late reception of my letter ^{by you} would equally have made it unavailing. The opportunity is passed & can't be recalled. — I have marked some parcels consigning as before to B Westermann. They will go by the steamer of the 19th inst. They need only a little fastening which I shall do tomorrow with a strong cord. I shall still be detained a couple of days or more in the city waiting to know when horses can be sent me to the last railway station in order to continue my journey to Concordia the estate of the mother of Sauvalle. He asks me if you replied to my query whether he could have a set of the Cuban plants & the price. I say, no! In Matanzas I met a young naturalist "Richard James Gay" I told him I would ask ~~him~~ ^{you} if you could send him a copy of Pl. Cub. Nr. You never told me if it is published for sale for Dr. Dubouche or how. C. W.



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