

Toscana July 27th 1863

My Dear Dr.

Don Jori has made & repeated to me a statement which I received with some incredulity namely that the plants found here in the low lands of the coast are again met with on the summit of the mountains to the south. I find some confirmation of his remarks. For example In the low saline woods near the sea occurs in abundance *Sarcocolla erythroxylodes* which I remember to have seen elsewhere only on rocky ledges at the top of the mountain. The same may be said of a sp. of *Drypetes*? which I have sent as *D. mucronata* if I am not mistaken. I put it with a? for though I have found it with fr. of all sizes and at all seasons I have not yet seen a fl. — One or two sp. of *Drythoxyllum* also grow in the saline woods with great luxuriance. I find two sp. of *Myginda*. A ~~*Sapranum*~~^{*Sapranum*} with small leaves somewhat like *Myrica* but short. Yesterday I found the fr. of a *Euphorbia* a great bush armed with compound spines — The fl. are those of ~~*Euphorbia*~~^{*Phyllanthus*} though the whole plant looks quite unlike that genus? I got a dose of Manchined in my eyes & today they are a little bunged up. I have now had a touch in the same style of *Humulus* & *Hippomane* & have no desire to repeat the operation. They ain't good eye medicines. On *Hippomane* I find a sp. of *Arceuthobium* — *A. Manicella* W. A curious looking bush is met with here — all the branches are drooping thus . It has exactly the leaves of *Amorpha lineata* but it is *Celastraceae*. I did not bring with me the new Gen. Pl. so can not study it out from the fresh fl. (seeds ecarunculate)

* Not *Phyllanthus* — dioecious with bifid rudimentary style in ♂ 5-androus.
5-glandular 5 sepals, a petalous sep. imbricate

31. A word more on the subject with which I began. You have doubtless found among the plants a rutaceous bush without fl. or fr. collecting few spec. for its singular leaves - a pair of obovate-rounderish leaflets at the end of a broad foliaceous midrib or petiole. Those specimens were found on the very topmost point of Monte Libano. I have not met with it since, till now - and on the very edge of the mangrove swamps. Now I have plenty of fl. & I think it is a Tigania which I shall take the liberty of naming T. obversa. I find also other evidences of the reasonableness of friend Planch's assertions. Yesterday I got another dose in the eye from a Saprum. I suffered very much for half the night. This morning my eyes feel very big & clumsy. The other day I found a nice little Cuscuta of which I shall send you a bit just to keep you in heart with promise of plenty more. It is quite distinct from any thing in Gris.

Aug 10. A few days ago I found a large bud with 8 fl. Cal. 5-lobed, imbricate no trace of cor. nor stam. Ovary with 4 erect ovules. Today I find the 8 fl. exactly those of Dipholis - cor. double row of appendages stam. - Anth. exserted - ovary (apparently) perfect - everything, finally, springing with little obovate-rounderish coriaceous leaves. Hard to make decent specimens of it. Do you know any thing like it? Aug 6: I judge the 8 fl. mentioned above were ovaries from which the fl. had fallen though they looked like buds & the plant must be Dipholis horrida. I have got my paper & now can work on a larger scale. Yesterday I saw sp. of a palm new to my coll. & found some other novelties.

Sauvaille will sail for Europe about the 20th inst visiting N. York & perhaps some other cities of the

North. I shall offer him introductory letters for Dr. Torrey & yourself.

Aug 12th. Just got yours of 7th ult. Why did you direct it to Camille in Habana? Well, is it must I must do battle for Rivero & it is for that an unpleasant. A better man than Gundlach could offer me with & he understood Spanish. When there fore it came to his knowledge that Rivero did give in Habana gold for a nominally guarantied armours deposits in N.Y. he solicited for my the same favor. I don't know the motives of Dr. but I can suppose that being (as he is) very rich & liberal-minded (a characteristic more observable here than in Yankeeedom) he chose to exercise his generosity in this way. He may have been disposed to give a poor scientific rumbler a lift indirectly under cover or pretext of a business transaction. My directions were plain & if by following them I had suffered loss this loss would have been mine & not yours. Suppose you had put in the Boardwalk House \$100.00 in green backs. I would at any rate have got for them in Habana \$60.00 - 70.00 more or less. I would have preferred to lose a few dollars to remaining six months without money. Allow me to say that in this matter you have shown an excess of distrust in my judgment in that of Gundlach and a superfluity of caution generally, which so far as I am concerned I feel sensibly.

"I do not know - that the zoological packages were directed to me" - They were not unless they were so on the bill of lading. There was They were distinctly marked Smithsonian Institution

a printed ticket from the South. I just applied
to each unless it was detached. During the
passage & if Westermann didn't see it it is not
my fault. No! I am wrong in that but they were plainly
addressed to Smith. 20th. Washington by me
I didn't expect you would throw yourself
into a fever or into a passion to gratify
Richard James Gay. He asked me if I could
give him a copy of Pl. Mor. Cub. I was willing
to gratify him & to perfect as much as in me
lies the flora of Cuba just the same question
to you. I supposed it would not be very dif-
ficult to send such a package to Matanzas
You have before sent enough. Sanvalle &
Dr. Morales being the only scientific cultivators
of our science known to me. The latter studies
pretty thoroughly & makes copious notes though
I am not aware that he publishes anything. He
paid a good deal of attention to the subject in
the Manillas whence he was banished for his
liberalism. He is moreover an abolitionist of
the first water - no mean recommendation
in your eyes I suppose - nor in mine neither.
His specimens are like Parry's & unlike them
- they are scrappy & not nice.

Your letter came here a week ago but was mislaid.
Along with it came one from Baton with a certificate
for \$100.00 deposited with Simcan, Sherman & Co. So
now by sending it endorsed to Habana I shall
have money.

When Gumbach comes I shall learn from him
how I can write to Germany & I will then be able
to communicate direct with Gumbach.

I have been here nearly four weeks & as I wrote to Samwale I have been successful beyond my most sanguine expectations

The printed tickets of which I wrote above were received by me fr. Baird after the arrival of the Zoological Coll. but these were well directed by me "Smithsonian Institution Washington City" & if I remember well you did on some occasion give me the credit of writing a good & plain direction. At any rate I did my best & thought it unnecessary to write to Westermann as he had before done the same business for us not imagining that he would ^{send} you packages marked as above described.

I have written you a tolerably long letter this time so won't bother you with anything more than to subscribe myself as ever

Yours truly

Charles Wright

P.S. Regards to Mrs G. & hope your vacation & excursion in N.Y. will recruit you both
C.W.

I read some time ago of the taking or surrender of Port Hindon. Lately I read a detailed account of the N.Y. riots. God grant a speedy end to the war. If afterwards the people of the south can be persuaded to love you (Restoration of the Union) no one will more sincerely rejoice than I.

100 Colaba Cruise

Mus,

Dr. Cea Gray
Cambridge





Wright, Charles. 1863. "Wright, Charles July 27, 1863." *Charles Wright correspondence with Asa Gray*

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