

Los Remedios Dec 20th 1863

My Dear Dr

If you should think I had forgotten your
two or three not be strange. I haven't answered yours
of Sept 18th - the last I have from you - received Oct 4
But you won't miss a little lacuna in my correspon-
dence. When your letter came I hadn't matter for a
reply & ever since I have been so situated that it was
inconvenient to write besides that I had nothing of
importance to write about

As the subjects of that letter are rather to-
get-cold - I'll not allude to them but tell you briefly what I've
been doing the last two or three months. The latter part
of Oct. I crossed the mountains to the north coast. I came
to Sagua (vega) till Nov 15 - collecting still more novelties.
Went to Sagua (vega) - climbed Guayaibon twice always
finding something that appeared new made an excu-
sion in Cajalbana (pine ridge crossing the island) got
a brand new almost arborescent *Euphorbia* followed
down the north side near the coast through La Palma,
Nombredios, Bajos, Mantua, every where collecting
now & then something nice & new. Stopped some days
in that pondy pine region when I was last year
nearly at the same date. The lagunas as well as the
pine flats gave me a goodly number of new things
as well as additional & sometimes better specimens
than I found last year. I regret exceedingly that I can
not give this district a thorough summer examination.
From Asiento Viejo (the lagunas) I followed the same route
to the Jaula the terminus of my travels last year. I
wanted to go to the cape but finding no guide I was
content to go to a point on the south coast four leagues
"afuera" - terribly rocky path - near Cape Corrientes. At the
Jaula picked up some poor specimens of a *Sciadophyllura*

the leaves of which are full of pellucid lines & dots exactly
after the style of *Cassidia*. And I may remark that a
part of the specimens of this excursion will be scanty
poor & scrappy - winter plants - passed. - the best I could
well do. There will generally be enough to describe by
& for you besides. I meet too so many things that
I can not determine by what books I have (*Griseb.*) *Stu-*
laceae *Myrtaceae*, *Melastomaceae* &c for example & then
on these long excursions I hesitate long before collecting
a bulky plant which has a familiar look & common
by or open to the my conscience with one or two or a
few specimens. For example - here are four or five *Psychotria*
Seib. *Maprounia*, not one of which I can determine to my own
satisfaction, and I meet with one which I can de-
termine. There are some common *Labiata* (weeds) *Salvia* *Apoc-*
ynis &c that I can't make out. And the same may be said
of many other families or genera. This place is just at the
western end of the pine region and where the peninsular
swamp & wood begin. Nearly all this peninsula is only
passable on foot being one continuous *Seborcal* - region
where the rough limestone (coralline) comes to the surface
in rugged sharp projections (acute de fern = dog's tooth)
We've had a murther for several days & I am now almost
shivering with cold - perhaps you are quite. Tomorrow
- probably - I shall set out for *Acicento* *Tijer* when I
left some dry plants & which I want to give another
little examination. I go then to *La Grifa* near the
southern coast - pine woods all the way - Thence I
propose to return to *Guane* & from there through the
hill country ^{about} which I traversed last year or the begin-
ning of this. It is the only route which is likely to greet
me much. I am anxious to get back to Retiro to know
what is going on at home. It is somewhat more than a
month since I have seen a paper containing any news
I met a gentleman who told me that Grant had gained

a victory over Bragg. Arrived at Retiro I think of
drying up every thing as soon as possible take them
to Habana. Despatch them to N. York & then continue on
to Cuba. In the spring or summer I mean to come home
war or no war. You had better not write me any more
unless you do so immediately on the receipt of this & have
something of interest to communicate. I am well

Regards to Mrs G.

Yours sincerely

Charles Wright



Dr. Allen Gray
Cambridge Mass

and
July 21.



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Wright, Charles. 1863. "Wright, Charles Dec. 20, 1863." *Charles Wright correspondence with Asa Gray*

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