

Dr. Gray

Please direct in future

L. M. Morales & Co

Habana

Dear Dr.

L.

Perhaps I ought to have
to your last of Dec 23 to clear
but as you wrote to say on the subject I suppose he explained
the matter. As it is possible however that he did not I will do
so in few words. The boy was never in "Habana" as you say
(tho' I doubt if I did). Gay shipped it as you say about
Sept. As he did not notify me of the shipment and as
your letter was lost I knew nothing of what had been
done. So when you told me of the plan of the ^{Bostonians} ~~establish~~
a line of steamers from the "hub of the universe" to Habana
for rather when I was reminded of the fact by seeing
in the papers the arrival of one announced) I advised
Gay to ship by the steamer.

Mr. Sanvallie is going over his piles of trash collected
by Blain, Gmelin & others. I say trash, because a large
portion have no flowers nor fr. Yet there are now & then
good things. For example Gmelin found somewhere
Bunchosia Swartziana Lgr. and then all other things which
I have not yet met with. We find also some errors in the
numbers. *Thouinia pulverulenta* No. 2284 and *Anemone manicina*
No 2284 (mss lgr.) *Sarcophyllum Havanense* ²¹⁰² & *Sida lancearia*
No 2049. *Pisonia mernieris* No 2729 & *Zora* (mss lgr.). *Pisonia*
~~discolor~~ No 2135 & *Brythroxylum* (mss lgr.)

In sight of Don Jose's house is a small savanna on
the very top of the mountains and as one would suppose
as dry as a powder-house. There I found Blechnum ~~septentrionale~~
rich (Rich) the only locality I remember to have
seen or noted till a day or two ago. And would you believe
it a "tumbladera" in a laguna is covered with it. These
tumbladeras are only floating islands of dead vegetable
matter supporting a dense growth of living plants

Balestina Jan 26th

Dear Dr.

L.

Perhaps I ought to have written you sooner in answer to your last of Dec 23 to clear up your doubts about the boy. but as you wrote to say on the subject I suppose he explained the matter. As it is possible however that he did not I will do so in few words. The boy was never in "Habana" as you say (tho' I doubt if I did). Bay shipped it as you say about Sept. As he did not notify me of the shipment and as your letter was lost I knew nothing of what had been done. So when you told me of the plan of the ^{Bostonians} ~~in~~ establishing a line of steamers from the "hub of the universe" to Havana (or rather when I was reminded of the fact by seeing in the papers the arrival of one announced) I advised Bay to ship by the steamer.

Mrs. Sanvallie is going over his piles of trash collected by Blair, Gundlach & others. I say trash, because a large portion have no flowers or fr. Yet there are now & then good things. For example Gundlach found somewhere *Bunchosia Swartziana* Lpr. and then all other things which I have not yet met with. We find also some errors in the numbers. *Thouinia pulverulenta* No. 2284 and *Anemis maritima* No 2284 (miss lpr.) *Sarcophyllum Havanense* ²¹⁰² & *Sida* ^{Lpr.} No 2049. *Pisonia mernii* No 2729 & *Zora* (miss lpr.). *Pisonia discolor* No 2135 & *Cyathostylum* (miss lpr.)

In sight of Don Jose's house is a small savanna on the very top of the mountains and as one would suppose as dry as a powder-house. There I found *Blechnum scirratum*. Nich (Rich) the only locality I remember to have seen or noted till a day or two ago. And would you believe it a "tembladera" in a laguna is covered with it. These tembladeras are only floating islands of dead vegetable matter supporting a dense growth of living plants

Cephaelanthus, *Jussiaea*, *Ephedra*, *Hymenaea*, &c. *Oenandra regalis* grows there too and an *Aspidium* near La Lerra is not a var. of it. The "tembladeras" sink with my weight as I walk or better wade over them & I have often to shift my position and wait for the sunken part to rise.

We have just had a light shower of rain about 1 P.M. the first in two or three months. In other parts good rains have fallen and we have the promise of more by the looks of the clouds. I wonder if Grisebach got the money from Reynosa to print his Catalogus. If he didn't he never will. Reynosa has ~~the~~ well earned reputation for spending other people's money. ~~long ago he got rid of his own~~ Grisebach hasn't been taken in. His grand discovery for crystallizing all the juice of the cane has turned out moonshine. He got considerable sums of money here from liberal men to enable him to go to France to have his machinery made and the principle of his grand discovery is to separate the saccharine matter from the aqueous by cold. Now in this country is he to make freering mixtures to pack hundreds of hogsheads of cane juice.

Well if Grisebach got the money I shall be glad for his sake & my own as the two most deeply interested in the matter perhaps

I shall be very glad to get the new part of Eng. Plant if only for the Leguminosae & Myrtaceae I hope to find Monnieria left to the Melastomaceae when it belongs

Yours truly

Chas Wright



Wright, Charles. 1866. "Wright, Charles Jan. 25, 1866." *Charles Wright correspondence with Asa Gray*

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