

Came home by first train.

Now I might put the gist of this letter in a P.S. as the ladies are charged with doing sometimes but I won't. In short I may want to stay a day or two over the time (25th) I fixed for my return to Cambridge seeing that my visit has been little of a holiday till yesterday. Maybe if tomorrow and the following day are pleasant they will give me botanizing enough—otherwise I may stay a day or two longer as the Dr. thought I could do as well as not.

Some of us have had visits from JTB's tormentors. Otherwise we are as usual except my sister (junior) one of the victims of Satan after the manner of the Patriarch. In her general health however she is much improved.

Kind regards to all,

Yours sincerely

Charles Wright

The land (lance) of Jordan that
floweth with milk & honey
Wethersfield Conn
July 21st 1870

Dear Mrs Gray,

Not to trouble the doctor with my gossip I take the liberty of writing to you who mayhap will say I might as well bother him as yourself. In this case you can turn it over to him as it is all in the family.

I hoped and intended to do some botanizing and of a certain kind I have and more than I bargained for. It pertains however to a very small number of species represented by a superabundance of individuals—as *Triticum repens*, *Panicum sanguinale*, *capillare*, *Chenopodium album*, *Amaranthus retroflexus*, *Bidens frondosa* &c. &c.

I found my brother sadly in the

weeds and volunteered my aid;
at first in small, homeopathic doses,
if you please, gradually increased till
I became accustomed to it especially
in the palm of the hand which look and
feel as if belonging to some tiller of
the soil.

Barefooted - sometimes bareheaded -
with but two garments between
before or with the sun in the
morning or till nearly dark at
night utilizing the hours of coolness
I pegged away at the "vile weeds"
resting during the heat of the day or
when I had done so much as would
shame the man who would call me idle.

But my health & my hunger have
been vigorous.

Our bees supply us amply with
their sweets. The hedge bordering the
weed patch - our battle-ground - had
abundance & still has some raspberries

which "inter labores" we could
gather and a plenty were collected
for the table at other times - all
hands making a pot of it. I was
too late for strawberries and cherries
but now we are beginning to have
ripe apples enough for our own
use & some to sell.

Yesterday I went to New Haven where
last night at 6 1/2 we had a most
agreeable meeting numbering seventeen
of our classmates. As proof that I
enjoyed it I will only say that it
lasted till 1 o'clock this morning.
No common every day affair keeps
me awake till the "wee sma' hours
against the twal". I subscribe to
the Bens doggerel "Early to bed &c".

This morning was rainy. I had no
umbrella; so made no call on Eaton
or Brewer nor visited, as I meant to
do, a cousin who lives there: but



Wright, Charles. 1870. "Wright, Charles July 21, 1870." *Charles Wright correspondence with Asa Gray*

View This Item Online: <https://www.biodiversitylibrary.org/item/257972>

Permalink: <https://www.biodiversitylibrary.org/partpdf/277082>

Holding Institution

Harvard University Botany Libraries

Sponsored by

Andrew W. Mellon Foundation

Copyright & Reuse

Copyright Status: Public domain. The BHL considers that this work is no longer under copyright protection.

This document was created from content at the **Biodiversity Heritage Library**, the world's largest open access digital library for biodiversity literature and archives. Visit BHL at <https://www.biodiversitylibrary.org>.