



Glengoriffe, Co. Cork.

Trin. Coll. Dublin. Jun 2.
1852

Dear Mr. Gray

The above picture will do for one of the children's scrap books, and fills so much of the sheet - thereby saving me trouble - & thus answers a double purpose! What an ungracious opening for a letter of thanks - as this is meant to be - being in acknowledgment of the parcel of Rev. D. Albro, which came to hand yesterday. First, thanks number one - for the beautiful bag, so thin that it will lie flat in the top of my trunk when empty - and so capacious, that it will take a good stuffing when I go to the country to pass a night or two at a friend's house. I hope to have many good uses for it, before it is worn out - and I think it may last nevertheless as long as I can "carry a bag" myself - and so bear your diligent fingers in pleasant remembrance to the end of the chapter - (not forgetting the hemming my table cloth, the pin-cushion for college table &c &c - cum multis aliis, too numerous to mention.) The books shall be perused & commented on in order - I take Uncle Tom's first - & began this evening - but I only give myself an hour

of day at this season for such matters - that is while the evening
kettle is coming to a boil, the tea being "masked" & afternoon drink -
so, much Tom may take me several evenings. What a way to read
an exciting story such as this, promises to be, by its first chapters - but
can't help it - otherwise work would not get on. As it is I am sadly
behind hand, & idled day by day with one thing or other. I had already
seen 2 reviews (favourable & unfavourable) of the *Walden & Teller* - which
I shall read with the more pleasure as I know something of the author -
that is, as I know he was with W. B. - whom I seem to know by
having met his sister at your house. - The stuffed birds are much
too good for Joe & Ruby, and I have advised their being kept over till
Johnny comes from school (in a fortnight or so) - as he will appreciate the
more fully - being natural-historically disposed. - Thank Gray very
much for *Planta Wrightiana* of which I shall make excellent
use, in naming my collection - but tell him from me, at the same
time that I prophesy it will never reach a 2^d part in my time! Oh!
Oh! You know he works fiercely, at all orders, as far as *Compo-
sita* and *Therid* invariably sticks in the - I won't say mud -

but in the stony heaven of that region - and never gets farther -
witness *Flora*, *Lindheim*, *Tender* &c &c & *Wright*. -
Clear the decks for action - flourish of trumpets - New parts
of *Flora Bor. Amer.* to complete 2^d Vol, published under the
auspices of Smith'ssonian Inst. - the first part having been
too expensive to authors - Early part of work & stock bought
up by Inst. &c &c - Would not that be jolly? - I believe
all the world of Botanists would rejoice in it. -

1st Part of *H. Bor. & J. Landica* is published but I have not yet got
my copy. - I came home from Kilkenny last Friday - ex-
actly a pleasant visit, and an easy way to earn £50 which
was the fee for 10 lectures - You would think this a poor sum
in Boston, but in poor Dacry, like our lips and bring out
our honeyed words therefor. I made some agreeable
acquaintances - Country looking lovely, full of bluebells &
orchids - cowslips going off - Hawthorn & Laburnum coming
on. I spent 3 days at a fine old Country House in a park
of 1200 acres, full of fine timber &c - very agreeable. I was, and
for Gray & you, as it is one of the finest old places in that
part of the Country, I fear it is the remains of a very extensive
old abbey - I am old castle in the Park. At Kilkenny is a
curious old Cathedral, with a round tower, to the top of which
I clomb by ladders, & plucked a *Saxifraga* from the roof. There was
a considerable fauna & flora on the flat round roof, which was
no bigger than an ordinary round table. A splendid view of the
country round about. Kilkenny is full of queer old monuments
I was a great place in former times but is a poor country town
now. I believe I told you of the Castle in another letter.

Mrs. J. is away in Cork, superintending Mr. D. H. (at whose house
we called and saw stuffed birds). She is attached with *Gerardia* - the
account today, better. Poor Miss. Jennell that you may remember
I have met there also is, I guess, gradually fading away - not
visibly attached of late - but every little cold makes it
impress & leave her less able to bear the new one. They say
that half of her lungs are gone. She knows it & is resigned. -
Joe of Glassey, this bird has returned from Pau - I have not
seen them yet, but hear good reports - I mean to go to Glassey
early in July to catch strawberries & cream - I see them &c. -
I intend to go to London in August - return Sept. - & give another

country course of £50 in October if we live & do well & so home to winter work. This is my present vacation plan for this summer - how different from what I planned a few months ago it is useless to think. Who can say whether even this plan will be carried out or not? - Well - well. -

Yesterday the submarine electric telegraph was successfully laid down between Holyhead & Howth and a message sent across the channel, and now unless it breaks a Urein is effected between England & Ireland of which Dan O'Connell little dreamed. I suppose in a few days a message will pass from Dublin to Paris in half an hour! Will they ever "pay out" a line under the Atlantic? I should not say this impossible - but perhaps it would be easier to go round by Behring's Straights, across Siberia. Wouldn't it be a good plan, in sending out future arctic searching expeditions to give them a long electric line (a sort of filum ariadneum) which they could lay down as they went along & so send back constant intelligence of their whereabouts? - The idea is worth something! -

I heard from Joe Hooker yesterday - all well at New. - No news there. - Nor have I much more news to tell. Yesterday - thunder, lightning & plenty of rain please those who have gardens. Before the rain it was so cold from a North east wind that I had a fire. So changeable are we - I have not yet given up evening fires, but had dispensed with day fires. - Goodbye - Dear love to Ara & Blanche -
for Yours affly W.H.

I have been writing hither, & am awake.

June 2/52



Harvey, William H. 1852. "Harvey, William Henry Jun. 2, 1852 [to Jane Loring Gray]." *William Henry Harvey letters* –.

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