

help to cultivate a taste for
natural history among the
rising generation. Your low
estimate of the younger botanists
of America, is I fear to a
great extent applicable to
those of the Old Country as well,
and the tendency is rather to
speculate on slight and super-
ficial observations than to
solid and substantial research.

Ever yours affectionately

Wm. J. Bennett

W. J. Bennett.
British Museum
Dec-10th 1866

My dear friend,

You will have re-
ceived my letter informing
you that I had sent dupli-
cate copies of the first volume
of W. Brown's Collected works
through the Smithsonian Insti-
tution, but it so happened
that a day or two after it
was written, I got yours of
the 26th of Nov. announcing
the receipt of the original
set. I was consequently
able to get back the du-

-plicates, and have only for-
-boarded me of them to the
Smithsonian Institution for
its own library. I am
greatly pleased with you
having sent the unincised
Copy to Dr. Engelmann, for
whom I should certainly
have forwarded one, if I had
not got it into my head
that he had returned to
Europe, and was now living
somewhere in Germany.

I am delighted to hear
that our good friend Dr. Parry
is still active, and trust that
he may still enjoy many
tranquil years. Pray give

him my very kindest remem-
-brances.

I gave your message to
your Museum manerake, who
I expect to say is in very
indifferent health, suffering
greatly from a complaint of
the bladder, which is a source
of constant worry and irri-
-tation and is I fear telling
upon his constitution. His
wife, now in her eightieth year,
is still wonderfully active,
and as busy as ever with her
collection of sea-weeds, from
among which she is at present
sunning herself by making
up ~~sets~~ for distribution among
our large public schools, to



Bennett, John J. 1866. "Bennett, John J. Dec. 18, 1866." *Asa Gray correspondence* 1-2.

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