

And, May 4 - Goes, May 3^d 1860.

Dear Sir,

I received not till a few days ago the parcel with Cuba ferns, You had the kindness to destine for me. The vessel made a long voyage, as it seems, after Your information, it would sail the first week of February. I am very glad of this precious acquisition and ~~have~~ recommend myself for any like collection to Your kind remembrance. The *Hymenophyllaceae* were few, but interesting and I thank You heartily for the liberality, where with You have favoured me. I shall soon be able to give you the names of them, although I am sorry, the collector has given them the same numbers of his former collection, because the species are not altogether the same. The two collections therefore must be kept distinct, i. e. by adding 1857-58 to the one, and 1859 to the other, lest there might be confusion. Who shall give us the name of the other ferns?

By awaiting daily the arrival of Mr van Ommeren's Brig *Minerva* I have for long adjourned to thank You for the specimens of Mr Wilkes expedition. I received them not till the end of March, my friend

D. Montagne having awaited a parcel from Prof. de Notaris for despatching them together. The specimens are quite sufficient for determining and I feel happy in acknowledging most of the species, established as new by your able countryman. My heaviest discordance with him, as with all other Pteridographers, is in the nomenclature of quasi-known species, such as *Hymenophyllum bifidum*, *Milium*, *Trichomanes radicans*, muscoides, *rigidum* etc. names, that are applied indistinctly to the most dissimilar types. My illustrations of Javanese *Hymenophyllaceae*, to be published by our Academy of sciences, and actually in the way of printing, will show the character, in this tribe, however subtle, to be essential. The specimens will be carefully returned together with a parcel of Lichens, destined for Mr. Tuckerman, though, after your meaning they could be spared without damage of the collection, I confess my strong desire to retain them, for not missing the occasion hereafter to compare them with new materials I expect from various Botanists. I should be happy, if a choice collection of species from various countries (Columbia, Cape of Good Hope, Java, Ceylon etc.) could be taken in exchange.

The return of our friend Prof. de Vriess is expected till the end of October. Some doubt of his mission being very useful for botanical knowledge, and indeed his occupations, as charged by the government to control the state of coffee plantations and the causes of their diminishing produces in the last years, are too many and too important for ~~leaving~~ leaving him much leisure for other business. Nevertheless I am sure he will do, what he can do and at any rate what he brings home, will be choice and complete, from his observations, taken in loco natali. The assistance of other Botanists, we hoped for is but very little at this moment. Zollinger died a year ago after much illness and disappointment in his enterprise. Junghuhn, who sailed in 1855 with much promises of collecting and completing especially our cryptogamical collections, has done nothing till now and seems ever to forget his Dutch friends.

I am, dear Sir, with feelings of true regard and sincere esteem

Very truly Yours

D. R. B. vanden Bosch



Bosch, R. B. van den. 1859. "Bosch, R. B. van den May 3, 1859." *Asa Gray correspondence* 1-2.

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