

Son of Chester Rochester,  
April 8, 1868.

Dr. Asa Gray,

My dear Sir,

Your favor of the 27<sup>th</sup> ult. came duly to hand, but I have been unable to make an earlier reply.

I do not feel able to take the 4<sup>th</sup> volume at the figures named, especially as it is of no value to me, except as it serves to complete the set. The three volumes already here are worth nothing to me as scientific books, but as memorials of my lamented Father they have a value which it is impossible to estimate.

I am very anxious that the 4<sup>th</sup> volume should be disposed of for Mrs. Bootle's



benefit. Of course I should  
greatly prefer to keep the  
volumes now in my posses-  
sion, for the reason given,  
but if the retaining them  
would prevent the sale of  
the 4<sup>th</sup>, I should feel it  
my duty to give them up,  
transferring them to some  
institution or individual  
who could make practical  
use of them. In case you  
should deem it advisable  
for me thus to surrender  
them, I would suggest  
either that they be sent  
with the barices to Williams  
College, or that they be  
sold at such price as  
you might name, and  
the proceeds be sent to  
Mrs. Booth, it being under-  
stood that the College or  
the purchaser look to you  
for the remaining volume.

I am sure that in the  
event of a sale there would,  
under the circumstances, be  
nothing in the transaction  
to lead Mrs. Booth to decline  
the remittance from motives  
of delicacy.

Please advise me further  
in the matter, and pardon  
the trouble already occa-  
sioned you.

Very Respectfully,  
Charles A. Derry.



Dewey, Charles A. 1868. "Dewey, Charles A. Apr. 8, 1868." *Asa Gray correspondence*

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