

In sorting out
plants into the
great divisions, it
is now quite a com-
fort to me, not to
be troubled with the
Monochlamydeae.
Two European Uni-
versity-Professors
sent me lately a
Polycarpaea each as
a Gomphrena. This is
very pardonable, but
shows, that a system
cannot be in all
respects natural, which
keeps Caryophyllae
near the commence-
ment of Dicotyledonae
and Smaragd. near their
end.

25/8/83

The, "Cenane", dear
J. Gray, is to serve
multifarious pur-
poses; here as an
index to the Australian
portion of my Mu-
seum, as a frame-
work of a new flora
&c. &c. Allow me also
to remark, what I
have done already in
a former letter, that
since nearly 20 years
I have no longer
kept the Monochla-
mydeae (or as now
unnecessarily called
Incompletae) together,

that I implacated
Bentham & Hooker,
when they comman-
ced the genera^l to
do away with
that unnatural
portion of the *Tuberosa*
system, changed by
Lk. from *Spectabae*
to *Monophlamydae*,
to which pleading
the answer was,
that Lk.'s system
must be adhered
to in its entirety,
because it was every
where in use! Accord-
ing to that, also

Linné's system
should have never
been abandoned.
The *Monophlamydae*
may still drag on
till the end of the
century, but will
not likely be main-
tained far into the
next secular epoch!
I need not mention
to or leading a na-
turalist as you said,
to what extremity
B. & H. are driven,
by being obliged
to place actually
the *Lobelia* there
into the *Monophlamydae*.

Pardon me, when I re-
mark, that from the
very commencement
of my working the nat.
system, ²⁵ more than 40
years ago, that the wor-
ding Polypetalae and
Monopetalae are Mic-
romeres, as in the great
majority of cases their
flowers are oligopetalous.
The terms Choripetalae
and Sympetalae are ^{published}
with me in 1866, long
before Eichler, who how-
ever was not aware of
this fact. In his 'guide'
writes also Linné.
It writes Linné.
I have nearly all L.'s works
but not the three, 'Reise',
so that I do not know
how L. spelled his name
in his native tongue

25 Aug 1883

I see however in
my library, that
Schreber's edition of
the *Materia medica*^{in Latin}
(1773) says Caroli
Linne *mat. med.*
He was a disciple
of L., this ought to be an
authority. In Germany
I never saw L.'s name
otherwise written; in
deed not only Hrookhaus
writes it so in the
Encyclopaedie, but also
Chambers in the English
Encyclopaedia. It seemed
to me best to adhere to
one mode of spelling
the names of Botanists
thus I kept to C. Ellis
Book or

on similarity of
names
retained.

It is with deep sor-
row, that I hear of
Mr Bentham's fail-
ing health, after
some repose he is
likely to become in-
vigorated again, un-
less some form of
organic disease set
in. We shall miss
that great man all
very much, after he
glided away; my
wish to meet him
any in life will
not likely be realized.
The role of the
seed of Shrub in
Gammus and Ma-
chona will interest
you much, as it de-
pends on a bacterium

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fermentive prin-
ciple, and super-
seeded so much more
rationally ^{and controllably} the use
of other inflammatory
secretions, even the
antiquated hemorrh-
rhoeal. Some of the
Australian Olearias
are almost herbaceous,
for instance *O. ciliata*,
at best the woody
stem could as little
be generic as in Senecio
& ~~numerous~~ ^{other}
^{Australian and Extra-Australian} composite genera, so
far as I venture to
judge. Let me hope
that you are now quite
well again and, with
ease and happiness
continue your glorious
researches. Respectfully your
and warmest

25 Aug 1883

I admit, that a difficulty exists about the term Calyptrae, especially so long as we have not yet settled the value of Lodion-lae or in Gracilae, unless we adopt implicitly the views of Hattel. But to call the floral lobes of Archide, Smaragdidae or aspalae and petals, is utterly incongruous to calyx-lobes and petals in Rosaceae, Myrtaceae &c

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not all ovids are
represented in
Australia; but I
do think, that
I have for the first
time given to Ela-
tineae, Plumbeagi-
nae, Flavoginiae
and some others
their exact system-
atic position. The
Curvembryonatae
are all inseparable

Habit does not debar
Cucurbitaceae to be
brought near Com-
positae, both gamma-
pitaeus. The grand
climber, Senecio
scandens, covers
many a wall or
boomer here. Another
cyclo horrida is
an almost leafless
but spring ^{without} ~~leafless~~. The
flowers of some the
cotyledons are smaller
than larger than those
of many Composites
(Cynara scolymus L.)
~~The contrast given~~
~~by me to~~ ~~certain~~ cannot
be applied to all
other countries, as



Mueller, Ferdinand von. 1883. "Mueller, Ferdinand von Aug. 25, 1883."
Ferdinand von Mueller letters to Asa Gray

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