

Philadelphia, April 5th 1872

Prof. Asa Gray, Cambridge

My dear Gray,

I received, yesterday, a letter, stamped Cambridge, The direction of which in a writing quite familiar and very dear to me I opened ^{it} with haste and, what was my disappointment! it was not from my distinguished friend. Be not so parsimonious of your epistolary greetings; I have not received any letters from you since an age, and I am uneasy about you and your good lady's health.

As for me, I have been most miserable, since 6 or 8 months; my poor son has been suffering from that horrible disease called rhumatic gout and is not well yet. His wife has been sick all the while, and his mother in law, who resided with us, has died of old age and consumption.

Mental anxiety, sleepless nights and want of exercise, so ^{etc} useless to me, have prostrated me completely since six weeks. I have lost my strength, my appetite, my sleep and ^{I am now} ~~made~~ a broken old man, although only 74 years; I can scarcely walk nor write. Dr Torrey has been here, several days. I have not been able to write to him and let him

The plants have not arrived yet

Know that I was sick in bed and would be
very glad to see him.

However, I can say that we are all doing
much better and begin to take rides and smoke
prounades.

My best regards to your lady and to James' family
and compliments to Mr. Ch. Wright. Now let me know
what I owe on the Oregon plants? Hall told me
that they would be 8 cents a specimen.

Draw on me for the amount, or wait a few
days, when I can write a decent bank check.

Your very cordially

E. Durand

1337 Spruce Street, Phila

These Oregon plants, others that I am expecting &
above 700 that form my new herbarium are
destined to the botanical gallery of the Garden of
Plants of my poor Paris - very fortunately, my former
herbarium has not suffered from the Prussian
bombs, during the siege.

Adieu!



Durand, Elias. 1872. "Durand, Elias M. Apr. 9, 1872." *Elias Durand letters to Asa Gray*

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