

Glasgow. Sept. 10 1839.

My dear Friend. I regretted on your
return from the Continent & I heartily
wish I could have known how soon you
would have been in London & it would
have gone hand in hand with me but I could
have seen you. I reached Chester on
Sunday of last week. Left it on
Wednesday, spent Thursday in Liverpool
with Mr. Parker & reached home on
Friday. I find William much better
but still very poorly & he must at least
shut the window in a warm climate. I
have been making all manner of enqui-
ries. Jemison & Trimmer & Keble
are recommended, & the latter places as
the most likely to procure practice in
his profession. But I have just now
a letter from Lady Hooker's Brother, Mr.
Gunny Town tells that he goes to
an opening in Texas. A Mr. Dowling,
in the West Indies referred him (G.T.) to
Mr. Windsor of No. 8 Craig's Court Chancery

Croft, who informed him that a number of
gent.^l had purchased some 20 or 30,000 acres
of land in Texas for the purpose of cultiva-
ting cotton & silk. They are looking out Colon-
ies, being under a bond to settle a certain
quantity of white-slaves in every square
league. They advertise from \$1000. to
\$10000. They would give, at first, "about"
£100 a year, to increase as the population
increases. - but they require that you
go to take some land at the rate of 100
to £1 per acre. - Mr. W. assured him that
little to the land was good, the soil being
granted to Mr. Woodward Consul General
of Texas at New York. - Would it be
too much, my dear friend, to ask of you
if you can give me any information
by enquiring or otherwise, about this
company & especially if you can learn
what the country itself is in a steady
& improving state. I do not know in
what part of Texas the purchased land
is situated; but I believe the climate
is unexceptionable: - the Society - I
suppose dead or none. Dr. Pratt (who
I am delighted to hear from you is well)
would probably assist you & through

your American friends can could
get better information than Gurney
knows can probably do. I shall
therefore tell G. F. that I am making
enquiry through the best channels &
should you hear what is favorable
I would be glad if you would ask Mr.
Wisdom if he wd. keep the situation open
& I would make up my mind one way
or the other so as to write Colver by
return of post something definite.

The great advantage is that there is
an affair in it, through not very
discreet, & which is better for William
employment for him. And as he
referred to pamphlets or recent ac-
counts of the country I shall be glad
I could get any box excellent letters to
New Orleans which he would have
at an air way - & the sooner he got the
better as our weather is becoming mild
& cold. Of course his wife would go with
him: she is really a very nice person.
They are now staying with us. Dr.
Pratt is here & we are just now con-
sidering at Compromise. - not to mention

we sent up Beechey, thank you for
 what you bought me from Germany.
 I am glad Holby's were attracted to you
 I should be sure of sending if not
 actually sealed. I should have liked to
 mention. The seals were fitted out in
 the Meekway & from the shore they will
 get into open sea & not land at Portsmouth

Corner of Conduit Street St.



Dr. Asa Gray

care of Messrs. Wiley & Putnam

35, Paternoster Row

London



unless driven there by stress of weather. - I think there
 must be Americans in London, who can give cor-
 rect information about Texas. I very soon may
 give you so much trouble. I know Pratt will
 aid in making enquiries. Leroy Hooker & my son
 John & William & Mr. Abbott desire kind regards. Be-
 lieve me truly & affectionately yours
 I should like to know how soon the ^{anyone would} ~~anyone~~ would go
 to Texas & whether he would go for ^{the purpose of living there?} ~~the purpose of living there?~~



Hooker, William Jackson. 1839. "Hooker, William J. Sept. 29, 1839." *William Jackson Hooker letters to Asa Gray*

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