

Recd Jan 13

Wm. Chester, Jr. Jan. 8. 1842. (11)

My dear Sir, My Son proposes to return to Albany, by way of New York, on Monday morning; and I avail myself of the opportunity to drop you a line, - though I have but little to say. I sent to you, the other day, a copy of a brief discourse on the appropriation of the Smithson Bequest, which I suppose you have received; and I now enclose to you a copy of a Poem, composed, I read before our Cabinet Audience, by one of the young men of this Village. It may serve to amuse you for a few moments, in one of your intervals of labor - if you have any such intervals. - I duly received your note, with my parcel of Artes & Slides - & also the Sheet of the work on Agriculture, &c. for which you will please accept my thanks. I am very glad to learn that you ^{have} got through that difficult genus, Helianthus, with something like satisfaction; for I think it has been in great confusion. I shall be gratified to receive a sheet now and then, when you go to press - so that I may see how you are getting along.

I still indulge the hope that your Bookseller will be able certainly to get Lindley's General for me, before Spring, - as I shall be very anxious to go to work at our Herbarium again, as soon as the weather permits. It seems strange, when ships are crossing the Atlantic every week, that it should require so long a time to procure so eminent a work from Europe. My task of arranging our Herbarium is farther from being completed than it was a year ago; for I have this winter received more than a thousand new additions to it, from Mr. Durand. They were part of Rafinesque's & L. Collins's collection; & many of them very interesting - from Egypt, Palestine, &c.

I have made a beginning at selecting, among
the Reliquia Baldwiniana; and find it will
be no trifling undertaking. I think I will
transcribe all his correspondence with Abraham:
Long - I soon of his other letters - so as to have
all together; I then will submit them
to you to strike out such as you think
might be omitted - if you should have
leisure, I feel disposed to take that much
trouble. I do not know that any of the
Booksellers will be willing to publish the
collection; but I will get the letters all
together, I see what they look like. If
our American Publishers do not choose to risk
the publication, the Manuscript can be kept
to some future day - I will at least secure
as a little memorial of my friend's labors in
the cause. The Booksellers are much more ready
to publish some trashy novel from abroad,
than to risk any thing on such a work as this.
However, I will endeavor to get it ready - I then
be governed by circumstances.

In haste, yours very sincerely
Wm. Barlington

L. A. Gray, }
N. York }

N.B. I shall always be glad to hear from you,
when you can spare that much time - I especially
to learn your progress with the Flora.

Dr. A. A. Gray

New York



Darlington, William. 1842. "Darlington, William Jan. 8, 1842." *William Darlington letters to Asa Gray*

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