

West-Chester, Penn^a. March 13. 1849

My dear R., I received your kind favor of the 8th yesterday; and congratulate myself as well as you, on your acquisition of such an accomplished Ammannensis. I must be permitted to say, that it is vastly more pleasant to read Mrs. G.'s beautiful chiography, than to decypher some of your own hasty hieroglyphics; though I am always happy to have a chance to do that. Please make my grateful acknowledgments to Mrs. G. for the honor she has done me, in thus responding in your name. I shall hope to be often remembered in that way, during the little remnant of my days.

I wrote to you the other day; but my letter, unfortunately, must have been a day too late. In that, I gave my reasons for not troubling you with my voluminous manuscripts: But as you now intimate, that you may, possibly, be able to glance at them, shortly - I propose to take them to Philad^a this week, & forward them by the Express. If you have patience, as well as the time, I wish you to keep them as long as you feel inclined to look at them: and make such marginal (or left page) notes, in pencil, as occur to you during the reading. I have

one, here, to consult with - I have to be
aided by my own judgment; - which is
not always safe to be trusted, when a
compiler becomes enthusiastic, or led away
by any sort of one-idea partiality for
his subject.

I wish to say, by way of explanation
of the interpolations of the sheets, that the
manuscripts were handed to me by in-
=staments; & I had to derange my pre-
=vious labors, to get the latter instalments
into their proper position.

I wish you also to bear in mind, that
I prepared the Marshall papers before I
rec^d. the others; & they not being voluminous,
I transcribed several Articles - such as
Lists of Plants - & even some Letters - (for the
purpose of making a book of some tolerable
size) - which I now propose to expunge
before it goes to Press. I shall leave that,
however, to the last - & be governed by my
feelings, at the time. But I hope you
will aid my judgment & taste, by your
pencil notes: and especially to correct
all errors of fact which you may deper-
-ify they are not too numerous to mention,
as they say in Auction Advertisements.

You will see that I have put in the paper
a few specimens of Cardamine rotundifolia.
They were rather old, when I got them; but
they will serve to show the form of the Plant,
after flowering. They will also, I presume, serve
as vitroffes - either for, or against, the opinion
I have been trying to sustain, for the last 30 years.

Whenever you get tired of looking at the
two Volumes, ^{now} sent, - please tie them up
so that they may come safely to the care
of Carey & Hart, Philad^a. If there should
be subscriptions enough, in time, I presume
Lindsay & Blakiston would like to put the
work to Press, this spring. But of course
they will wait for enough to cover the costs,
before they undertake it.

I shall await your judgment on the
papers, with much curiosity; & some little
fidgeting, so far as my own notes are concern-
-ed. But I am quite prepared to submit
to your criticisms; and shall be disposed
to expunge whatever portions of the work
you shall say had better be omitted.

In that suitable frame of mind,
I remain, Dear Sir,

Prof. A. Gray,
Cambridge.

Your obliged Friend,
W. Barlington

P.S. I fear I cannot have the pleasure of accepting
your letter's kind invitation, to visit you, this season.



Darlington, William. 1849. "Darlington, William Mar. 13, 1849." *William Darlington letters to Asa Gray*

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