

P.S. I am getting so old and forgetful,  
that I do not recollect whether I  
told you, that good old T. Collins's  
Great-Grand Daughter sent me a  
beautiful Salik Purse, of her own  
manufacture, - in return for the  
copy of the Bartram Correspondence  
in which her venerable Ancestor figures  
so largely. If I did, you will  
make every proper allowance  
for the garbality of gratified pride.

75  
West-Chester, Pa., Jan'y 10. 1853.

My dear Sir, This day's mail brought  
me the printed sheets from Silliman's  
Journal, directed in your hand  
writing, - viz. the notices of Botanical  
works, and Mr. Carey's curious ob-  
servations on the fruit of Carex; for which  
I am much obliged, - as I discon-  
tinued the Journal at vol. 50; and should  
not get the news, but for your kind  
attention. I regretted that Mr. Carey  
should leave the Country before  
I had an opportunity to make his  
personal acquaintance. I have found  
him a very agreeable and valuable  
Correspondent.

Knowing how you are pressed by your  
multitudinous engagements, I am  
reluctant to trouble you with my  
poor Scrawls; but I cannot help feeling  
a little curious about that third attempt  
at a Darlingtonia, which you intimated,  
some considerable time since, was on the  
anvil. My time is now growing so short,  
that I trust you will excuse a little  
impatience to see or hear something fur-  
ther on the subject. As it has never been  
announced, is there not a risk of its being  
anticipated by some European Botanist?



I believe that these are Plantae  
Fremontianae announced for  
the next Smithsonian Contribution.  
Is the Genus to appear among  
them? Any intelligence, that it is  
lawful or proper to communicate,  
on that subject in particular - or  
on Botany in general - will be  
thankfully received. Dear Mrs. Gray  
used to indulge me with letters in  
your name, when you were too busy  
to write; but I fear your engage-  
ments are contagious; & that Mrs. G.  
has become busy, too; & cannot afford  
to entertain her old friend, as former-  
ly. I think I will try if I cannot  
draw a letter from her, by sending  
a small engraving of my head,  
which the Directors of our Bank agreed  
to be made for a new emission of Notes.  
They also put Mrs. Townsend's head  
on the same notes, at the opposite end;  
I thus gave a currency to a couple  
of old Botanists and Bankers. I will  
inclose mine for Mrs. G. & Mrs. Townsend  
for you; & between you both, I  
shall hope for a letter, when  
your convenience will permit.

I have at last got to the Index  
of my new Edition of Flora  
Costica; but there is a consider-  
able quantity of Preliminary  
work yet to be printed. The  
volume will hardly be ready before  
March, next; but as soon as it  
is, you will of course get a  
copy. It has gone through the Press rather  
slowly, - but steadily enough to keep me  
about home, ever since last May. It  
is printed by my Son, in Lancaster;  
& the Proofs having to come to me  
by mail, has been attended with  
some inconvenience; but, considering  
all things, with fewer typographical  
errors than I could have expected.  
I had a desire to see our County Flora  
reduced to the Natural Method, before I left;  
and as no Publisher in Philad<sup>a</sup> would  
touch it, on any terms, I purchased a  
Font of Type, & the requisite Paper for  
a small Edition, & told my Son if he  
would do the rest, I would give him  
the work <sup>& the materials</sup> for his trouble; which he  
agreed to do; and that is the history of  
the Edition. With best respects to Mrs. G. I  
am very truly your friend,  
Prof. A. Gray, Cambridge. W. Darlington



Darlington, William. 1853. "Darlington, William Jan. 10, 1853." *William Darlington letters to Asa Gray*

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