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Weyt-Chester, Pa June 21. 1856.

My dear Friend, Your favor of the 18th was received this day. I am glad to learn that the Portrait is safe, & will be forthcoming in due time. I was loth to trouble you about it, again; but was apprehensive it might have miscarried. This must be my excuse.

I happen now to correct a foolish blunder, in my last, of which I am heartily ashamed. I wrote from a decaying memory, and inadvertently named Alechemilla vulgaris, as the plant I found near Norfolk Va in 1832. It was the A. arvensis, Scop. or Aphanes arvensis, L. which I meant; and of which it is said, in the Flora of N. America, that you had "seen no American specimens, except those in the herbarium of Clayton".

I found it in great quantities, back of Norfolk, on the 15th of May, 1832; no doubt introduced, and completely naturalized. I inclose a sprig or two, of those then collected. I had long intended to mention the circumstance to you; but still forgot it. It is a matter of no consequence. But it is proper, & necessary, that I should correct my mistake, & prevent you from announcing an error, on my authority.

I am very glad the Manual embraces a portion of the South. I wish it contained all in so comprehensive & satisfactory a form.

Mr. J. L. James told me, recently, that he did not know the new Edition of the Manual was to include Southern plants, or he would have contributed a few new Southern recesses (if I did not misapprehend him). If it is not too late, perhaps he might yet furnish them. You could soon ascertain.

I received, with your letter, a copy of a paper containing an interesting account of a Meeting in Cambridge, on a subject which now agitates the whole Country.

In return, I send you a little pamphlet which contains my views, as published 36 years ago - (with merely a few additional notes) - on the topic which is at the bottom of the agitation referred to.

I was a member of the Congress which permitted Slavery to go into Missouri; and I thought, then, I could perceive the mischiefs which would result from the measure. That prescientiment is but too fearfully verified: and the sin of the fathers is more swiftly visited upon the children than I had anticipated.

Possibly - if you can waste that much time in looking over the pamphlet - it may afford a few minutes of amusement.

With best respects to Mrs. Gray,

Prof. A. Gray, } very truly yours,
Cambridge } Wm. Darlington



Darlington, William. 1856. "Darlington, William June 21, 1856." *William Darlington letters to Asa Gray*

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