

What would you and as a relief I resolved to
collect California ferns for those who could
not gather them themselves. So you I owe
the ambition to make a complete collection
of American ferns for the Santa Barbara Socy.
of Natural History. I have about eighty
species (nine) of Sandwich Island ferns sent
me by a friend as an exchange for algae. Would
you like them? Would they be of any service
to you? You are welcome to them.

After my return from San Francisco to which
city I contemplate a visit this week, I will
write you again.

Prof. Eaton has brought me
two prominently among the learned by his reference

to me. He has been to me. I do not know
what he says. I think he is right. Mrs. Ritchie
and Prof. Eaton will probably make a
visit to me to see to it up

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Edward Ste. Bonine
Dec. 9. 1877

Dear Sir

I kindly
know you
had correspond
firstly. In my
the much after
at the college
much of modern
and during
I could not but
my correspondence
my undivided
to domestic affairs
I worked
with all my might

By her generous spirit in entertaining me
with her fine collection of ferns. Both growing
and dried. who gave me a new love of
them. One day, during a visit to Philadel-
phia, while on a walk of pleasure. I came
across her greenhouse, entered it and asked
to look at the ferns. Three or four hundred
growing varieties. native and foreign. After show-
ing me those I was thence to look at her
dried specimens. Before I left the city she
prepared me a collection from her dried speci-
mens and a package of living plants. Her
kindness to me an entire stranger quite over-

until a bad cold and
rheumatism obliged me
to stop and now I
have leisure once more.

Your kind letters and
fine parcels of ferns are
all received. Many thanks
for what you have done
for me. I am glad
you reserved a fund
of the fern that was
new to you. Mrs. Hannah
Ritchie gave it to me
four years ago. Her
husband has quite an ex-
tensive greenhouse in Phila-
delphia. I think in the
neighborhood of 3rd and
Ammicom Sts. She it was



Cooper, Sarah Paxson. 1877. "Cooper, Sarah P. Dec. 9, 1877 [to G. E. Davenport]." *Asa Gray correspondence*

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