

my lecture, and then have all
the rest of the day for my
hobbies. — Yours, ~~my~~ best
friend.

Asking that you are well.
I send you this instead of giving
it again in print.

I think of going, immedi-
ately, to Washington, to meet
Dr. Hough, and to lay our
plans before Congress, if we
conveniently can. — Have you
a word of advice?

Yours truly

Geo. B. Emerson

3. Park Street Sq., 1.30.74 —

Dr. Gray, My Dear Sir, The
following is what I said, be-
fore the meeting in the hall
of the Society of Natural Histori-
ans, but which I have already
~~at~~ as you remind me, given
substantially, in print. I agree
with you that the reprinting it
is of doubtful propriety. —

"⁶⁶ Now what kind of a man
Von Martins was, Mr. Emerson told
how he himself, bringing a letter
of introduction from Dr. Gray, had
been received by him. He was
immediately admitted, and found
Von Martins in his herbarium,
moving his rich collection of plants,
which had cost him many years
of labor in Brazil. When they
descended into the study, Von Mar-
tin took his hand and said, You
come from my good friend Dr. Gray.
When I came home, I desired
above all things, to give

myself to the description of these
Italians. But I found that I
had, for a large portion of
the year, to give a lecture every
day to a class in Botany, and
that the science had made won-
derful progress during my absence;
what could I do? I looked about
for some work which would
show me what had been done.
I looked first, naturally, among
the Germans, but found nothing
to my purpose. Next, into France
with the same fortune; then
into England and Scotland, all in
vain. Then I happened to take
up Dr Gray's ~~book~~ *Structural*
and *Systematic Botany*, and, in
that I found all that had been
done up to the present time,
completely and philosophically
arranged. By studying Dr Gray,
for one hour in the morning,
I could prepare myself, with
satisfactorily, to give my



Emerson, George B. 1874. "Emerson, George B. Jan. 30, 1874." *Asa Gray correspondence*

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