

see why they should not follow the
fate of the others - there is every gradation
from no false development at all to the
complete one - and that in the greater
number of the natural groups of
Astragalus - the true *fragrans* etc
have rarely ever any dissepiment

I hope you have not many
new ones - you will absorb
the few remaining unoccupied
names

I suppose you have heard of
the promising trip on which
the for. Hooker, T. Thomson and
Harvey have started for Switzerland

Lindley & his daughter are
coming down here next week
for a fortnightly country air

Mr Bentham's arm is getting
well though more slowly than
I hoped - He will have yet to
keep it for weeks in a sling

I expect to have to go & work
shortly on *Eriogonum* but do not
touch them again till I receive the
numbers. My MS was ready & I do not
like to revise it till it comes near printing
Ever yours
George Bentham

Pontreilas Augt 5 1852

I will send more stamps another time
these are what I happen to have about me &
chiefly in stamped envelopes.

My dear Gray

If your specimen of *Ach. perthensis*
same as my *F. latifolia*, the
whole must be reduced to *F.*
americana - The leaves in my
specimen are very much broader
and rounder and all the points
are emarginate like the two herewith
sent. - It is however not impossible
that all may be mere varieties of
F. americana

Your *Watttheria* (*W. bonora* 904)
certainly appears distinct from *W. americana*
All my specimens of that plant (which
are very numerous from Asia Africa
and America) have all the very villous
calyxes etc. and only vary in the form
of the leaves the more or less dense and
repid or pedunculate inflorescence lengths
of teeth of calyx length of free part of
filaments more or less pubescence of
petals - none have any approach to
the cinereo-tomentose indumentum of
Wright's plant.
I have however positively Wright's



Bentham, George. 1852. "Bentham, George Aug. 5, [1852]." *George Bentham letters to Asa Gray*

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