

Thursday, Oct. 11-
[1849?]

Dear Dr. Torrey,

How good &
kind you are to have
taken so much pains
for me!-

I was admiring
most especially the ex-
quisite look of those
sackel pears before your
letter came, & if there
were an agricultural

show about here just now,
I should be tempted
to send in specimens
of all kinds, quite sure
of gaining the first
prize. —

I shall begin to think
however you & Jane have
either designs on our
temperance, or rather
great confidence in our
virtues, what with
liquors & brandied fruit!

At any rate Mrs. Gray
gets a famous reputation
for a great many nice
things, when she is no
peacock but only a jay
after all. —

I hope you mean to
come on & make us another
visit before long. — And tell
Derby with my love, that
I count on him for Good. —
I suppose farming is
through then. —

The jars all came in
most admirable order,
they were packed so
beautifully - And thank
you very much for all
your kind directions, I
shall keep them by me -

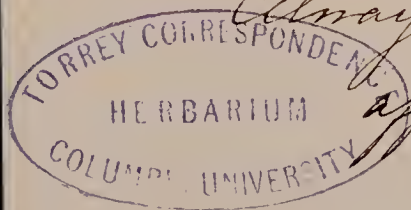
With much love to
all,

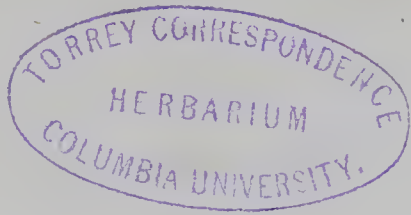
Believe me your very

affectionate

Jane P. Gray -

Dr. Torrey -





Pontrilas House Oct. 4th. 1850

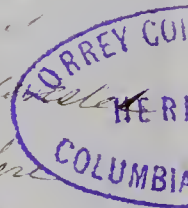
Dear Dr. Torrey,

Dr. Gray being hard at work with Mr. Bentham, has commissioned me to write for him to you, & ask you where the specimens can be that you notified Mr. Bentham you had sent to Sir Wm. Hooker. They have not yet arrived, & they wish to know how they were sent - & to trace if possible the cause of the delay.

We arrived here last Tuesday evening, & are quietly established for the present in this rural & quaint old house. There is something quite imposing for an American, in living in a house built 300 years ago! - Mr. & Mrs. Bentham are charming people, & receive us most kindly - And Dr. Gray & Mr. Bentham are already deep in Exploring Expeditions to the Alps.

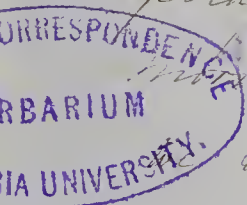
We had a delightful tour in the continent, though we were obliged, to our great disappointment, to give up the Italian Lakes & the Alps for want of time - I do not know when Dr. Gray last wrote to you, but I think not since we left Munich, so I may be safe from repetition if I say anything about our visit to Holland - Martinus was very kind to us in Munich - came all the way from Leiden, where he was staying with his family, to see us - and we only regretted that we had not more time there - For there is so very much to see in the galleries, & churches, &c.

we came down the Rhine, stopping at Cologne to see the magnificent Cathedral, to Düsseldorf & Bonn & so to Amsterdam - Dr. Gray had letters to Prof. Meignel, & his very agreeable surprise found Robert Brown with him - We passed a very agreeable evening at Prof. Meignel's with him & some of the other professors were - and the next morning they visited together the Botanic garden - There is a very fine gallery of paintings at Amsterdam containing many works of the Dutch masters, and I was exceedingly interested in them - From Amsterdam we went to Leyden where we saw Prof. de Frise - Thunberg was not at home, but Dr. Schultes his assistant was very attentive - We visited there the Museum, which is especially valuable in skeletons & birds - Then we went to the museum of Dr. Sibbold - He does not live at Leyden, where he only makes occasional visits, but on the Rhine - The museum is a most interesting collection of Japanese things of every sort, from temples & idols to cooking utensils, & the wonder & pleasure is somewhat increased on looking at them from the idea that the poor man's head would have been taken off if he had been discovered in carrying away from the country one of the gold pieces of money, to say nothing of the ship load of other things of every sort & description - We made an excursion to the Hague to see the gallery of paintings there - And Sunday Ev. took a stroll in the old Botanic garden of Leyden, adorned with busts of Linnaeus, Plinius, &c. & boasting a tree mentioned by Linnaeus - The one that Boerhaave planted is unhappily blown down - We visited the ancient room in the Academy, hung with the portraits of all



the old professor for many, many years. And passed a
very pleasant day with Prof. De Meuse's family. He returned
with Mr. Kroon from Utrecht & Amsterdam soon after
we were there. He saw in the day the old church
where Ruic, Trossard, & so many distinguished men
are buried, & went in to find the monuments. They
were all exceedingly simple, & quite without high sounding
epitaphs. He left London for Rotterdam early Monday
morning, & on Tuesday took the steamer for London, which
reached after about 24 hours passage over a most tranquil,
pleasant sea. In London we were glad to meet my
Aunt Mrs. Sewell with all the family, on their way to Paris.
And most agreeably too, Mr. Harvey was there. Dr. Gray
saw Dr. Booth several times. He has been sick again. And
Sir Wm. Hooker has been very dangerously ill. He is now
recovering, though ~~quite~~ ^{slowly} fast. But is still at the sea shore
where he has been for some weeks past. He had only a
hurried visit of a few days in London. Dr. Gray was eager
to get down here & fall to work. He was faint I think
very much in strength. Though now we must see how
he bears labour after so long a vacation. As for me
I am wonderfully better than when I left Rome, though
not quite so well this last week or two. I took a heavy
cold in Munich, for we suffered much with the cold
weather there. But I can walk 3 or 4 miles now with
great comfort.

about the exiguity
Dr. Gray says Mr. Bentham has written to Mr. Smith, at
New, but owing to Sir Wm's absence, has heard nothing as yet.



About 11.30 tonight, he begs you to write to him that - he
wishes to have some funds for him - and hopes
Dr. Short will be induced to assist him - and asks you to
manage the correspondence with him - He will try & write
himself before long to you -

The parcel from Mr. Grayton you will please send
to Putnam, with directions to forward it to Del. for Dr.
Gray -

As for the *Juncea Calif.* & *Vil. pumila*, Mr. Bentham
fell to comparing them at once - And they are not at all
the same thing, - ^{though the leaves resemble much, the flowers are quite different} - Dr. Gray says you gave Mr. B. a great
fright for nothing - He was quite startled. -

Dr. Gray says he has not written you since Antwerp;
so that I should have commenced with a sketch of
our charming tour through Switzerland - It is too late
now, to tell Eliza - I will save that for an answer to
her letter which I hope may be coming soon -

You will see we did not get back in time for
the Association - Mr. Howell was there, he told us -

Your letter contained many nice accounts of Sunday
things - But some letters are generally too full of home
news to contain much of what is going on in general -

With very aff. love to Mrs. & the girls & Herbert,
I remain, sincerely, aff. ly,



Dr. Gray begs you to send ^{in mail} as soon as you receive this, the ^{the} ~~the~~
proofs of the fact of Sprague's drawings for Fremont - He wishes to show Mr.
B. the new species. - And please send Wright's mosses &c. to Sullivant, the
fungi to Putnam to forward to Mr. Curtis, & the lichens to Cambridge for Suckerm-
man who will be at home or soon after this letter gets there. -

June 2. 1847
J. A. Gray



Corvitas House

Oct. 14th 52

Dear Dr. Gray,

Dr. Gray wishes me to enclose in my letter to you, a short note telling you that he heard, through a note from Mr. Wm. Hooker rec'd on Saturday, that he had received a package from you (which doubtless contains the *Crotonae*) & that it should very soon be so placed as to be forwarded to Mr. Benthams - Mr. Wm. wrote from Yarmouth, but expects to return to Kew in a few days, being much improved in health.

Dr. Gray & Mr. Benthams are being

hard at work - But it is a slow
business -

Mr. Gray says there is another
volume of Knuth out since his
death - you will see it in the
Dr. Knuth's papers.

With aff. love to your family
circle,

I am very truly yours,

James L. Gray.



Dr. Am. Med.



Princeton.

New Jersey.