

# THE LINNEAN SOCIETY OF LONDON

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## THE LINNEAN

### Newsletter and Proceedings of the Linnean Society of London

Edited by B. G. Gardiner

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## Editorial

This issue is the final part of the third volume of *The Linnean*. Over the past four years we have published some 12 parts. From the correspondence received, there is little doubt that you have welcomed this publication. You are now writing to point out the odd error that occurs from time to time in our various articles as well as expanding on some of the historical descriptions. With all this information flowing in we urgently require an indexer for *The Linnean*. Would one of our more public spirited members care to volunteer?

## SOCIETY NEWS

### Important Notices

#### *Broadcasting—Bicentenary Brief*

Next year will be an ideal opportunity to let the public know something about The Society. Fellows who will be broadcasting on local or national networks, or anyone who is quizzed about us when the stamp issue appears, might find the notes below useful background.

The Linnean Society, the oldest extant biological Learned Society was founded by seven gentlemen in 1788. The Society's proper title is The Linnean Society of London to differentiate it from several other similarly named Societies, notably those of Sweden, New South Wales and France. The Swedish Linnaeus Society (sic), with which we have close links, is more orientated to history than scientific study.

Initially the Society shared the house of the founder President, James, later Sir James, Edward Smith. It moved in due course via premises in Panton Square, Gerrard Street, Soho Square and Old Burlington House, where the Royal Academy of Arts now resides, to its present purpose-built Rooms fronting on to Piccadilly, one hundred and fourteen years ago.

Although Sir Joseph Banks was never a Fellow he was the father figure behind its foundation. He was the first Honorary Member, a category of especially important people reserved nowadays only for members of Royalty, see *The List* page nine.

The Aims have remained as originally worded: '... the cultivation of the science of Natural History in all its forms...'. With the proliferation of knowledge in the early 19th century sections broke off to engage in narrower, more specialized subjects; hence the inception of many other societies starting with the Zoological Society of London, 1822, and the Botanical Society of the British Isles in 1836. The bicentenary period is being used to hold joint scientific meetings with twenty-one such organizations to examine areas of common interest, see *The Linnean* 3(2): 5–7. It is noteworthy that the Society is one of comparatively few which study both plants and animals, this being reflected by the requirement for Botanical and Zoological Secretaries and the alternating specialization of the Presidents.

The Society has always had an international flavour, having an establishment of fifty Foreign Members, eminent biologists who are generally regarded as leaders in their fields of knowledge. Currently they are drawn from 21 countries. There are some 1650 Fellows, roughly a third of whom reside outside the United Kingdom. The majority overseas are in North America, the United States being especially well represented. Young biologists are encouraged to join the Society as Student Associates (up to age 21) while the younger graduates and those beginning their careers may apply for Associateship (age 21–29).

The Society's journals, the first of which was published as *Transactions* in 1791, are now carried by most scientific libraries. They continue to provide data for biologists the world over. Darwin's paper, popularly known as the Origin of the Species, originally read in the Society's previous Rooms in part of what is now one of the galleries of the Royal Academy, was published in *Zoo. J. Lin. Soc.* in August 1858.

The Society's portraits are frequently loaned to outside bodies, that of Menzies, for example having been in Vancouver, British Columbia, for much of 1986. Six of our pictures enhanced 'The Glory of the Garden' Exhibition arranged by Sotheby's in conjunction with the Royal Horticultural Society in January 1987.

The Library and Collections of Linnaeus, initially bought by Smith in 1784 from Madam Linnaeus, have been owned by the Society since 1828 and are still in every day use; the Herbarium, especially, providing source material for the world's botanists. Whilst the Rooms are not generally 'open to the public' all genuine researchers are most welcome to use the Library and to work on the collections. (Prior warning must be given.)

The Society actively encourages the young by running a series of lectures for the local sixth form pupils, and practical workshops for their teachers. Dr David Smith, Eton College, recently ran two most successful all day seminars in the Home Counties, the second attracting an audience of over 200 pupils and their teachers.

Details of all meetings and symposia are published as far ahead as possible in this Newsletter and in the Meetings Card for the current session. Please also refer to the list in *The Linnean* 3(2): 6-7 and advertise these if appropriate.

Additional information may be obtained from *The History of The Linnean Society* recently revised by Professor W. T. Stearn and currently being published by Academic Press.

Please do not hesitate to ask for further details.

### *The List*

Fellows, certainly those conversant with recent United Kingdom legislation, will realize that the Society is registered under the (U.K.) Data Protection Act and that the information set out in *The List* is privileged. *The List* is not passed to any outside organization for the purpose of publicity or advertising, nor do we in general divulge the names and other details it contains, even if requested. We try to be protective but not obstructive and our policy is to forward particular requests to the Fellow or Fellows concerned when we believe them to be in the Fellow's interest, in the interests of the Society or within its Aims.

Notwithstanding the above, however, the traditional details at present given in *The List* make its value to the Fellowship strictly limited. Council has therefore decided that the inclusion of a simple, codified list of specializations and interests, as well as telephone, electronic mail and post code numbers, would demonstrate the wealth of expertise held by the Fellowship and enable all members to correspond with much greater ease on subjects of mutual interest. Naturally, no information would be included without the express wish of the person concerned. Nevertheless, the more details that are provided the greater will be the enhancement to the Society as a whole. Since we will need to know if information may be included, we ask your forbearance in completing a questionnaire again, some details of which you may already have provided. We would be most grateful if you could check your current details, complete the questionnaire and return it—now—whilst the subject is fresh. All being well we will then be able to make the next, 1988, *List* a bumper bicentenary issue. The

closing date is 1 February 1988, but since the computer can be loaded as details are received the sooner your completed form reaches us the easier it will be to balance our work.

*Lapland Journey 1988: in the Footsteps of Linnaeus, 25 July to 8 August 1988—up-date by  
Dr John Packham*

The response to my preliminary notices has been encouraging, and we have a variety of participants, mainly botanical but also including a zoologist and an art historian. We are hoping to have a well balanced group and would be glad of participants whose main interests are in birds, insects or geology. It would be particularly useful to have a water-colour artist to supplement the many photographers.

The final details of the excursion have now been decided following a reconnaissance of the route by Dr Roland Moberg, secretary of the Swedish Linnaeus Society and myself in late July and early August. Full details of the excursion will shortly be sent direct to all those who have expressed an interest or booked a place. If you have not written before but are now interested please let me know. The estimated cost Uppsala–Uppsala given in August 1986 was approximately £650 (1986 prices) to which has to be added the costs of a return group air fare from London to Stockholm International. It is thought that 1988 prices will be within 10% of this estimate.

There is a possibility that part of the costs of one or two younger members of the Society may be met by sponsorship. Any members whose age at 1 June 1988 will be less than 27 years are invited to register their interest now.

All enquiries should be directed to me at Woodland Research Group, School of Applied Sciences, The Polytechnic, Wolverhampton WV1 1LY.

*Bicentenary Swedish Holiday—note by Miss Elizabeth Young*

In order to benefit from the best concessionary fares the holiday will begin one day later than previously announced and will now be from Thursday 30 June to Wednesday 13 July 1988. We fly by Scandinavian Airlines and leave Heathrow at 11.00 to arrive at Arlanda Airport at 14.30.

Booking forms are available from me at the address below and to where all correspondence concerning the holiday should be sent. The estimated cost of £950 (at 1987 prices) is based on the full complement of 24 people joining the holiday. If the number drops substantially, the charge *per capita* inevitably increases. Therefore, early indication of an intention to travel will facilitate an exact quotation with 1988 prices as soon as they are available.

Naturally the holiday is open to Fellows who may wish to join in from countries other than the United Kingdom, particularly those living in Scandinavia. Fellows wishing to make their own arrangements to join the party at Uppsala on 30 June must of course book in as above—and indicate clearly that they do not intend to fly from and to England.

19 Elm Park Lane  
London  
SW3 6DD

## The Bicentenary

Although you have not so far been kept aware of all its ideas, the Bicentenary Committee has been meeting regularly under the Chairmanship of Dr David Cutler for the last three years. Some of its proposals have not yet come to fruition and others, especially for the later stages of the scientific programme are still being finalized.

In the case of the overall programme, once the dates are confirmed it will be sent to major scientific bodies and institutions, like named Societies, important contacts and people with whom the Society has or has had business. Appropriate representatives will be invited to attend either selected scientific meetings, or the summer evening party as paying guests. Fellows are asked to write in making proposals for the invitation list, stating clearly the grounds on which the invitation is urged.

Set out below is a summary of projects and activities in progress. Some have already received good publicity and others will be new to you. Where appropriate, references are given to avoid undue repetition.

### *The Scientific Programme*

This has been masterminded by Dr Doris Kermack as Chairman of the Programmes Committee. The list of meetings was published in *The Linnean* 3(2): 5–7. The most up to date detail will continue to appear on the back cover and in the Meetings section of the most recent issue. Please book early to avoid disappointment—we have already had to refuse entry to some meetings to several Fellows who applied too late.

### *The Kimberley, Australia, 200 Project*

This was previously described in *The Linnean* 1(4): 2, 1(5): 2 and 2(3): 2. The team has been chosen and the operational document produced. The project will be officially launched by His Royal Highness The Duke of Kent at the Royal Geographical Society in January. The scientific party, consisting of 28 biologists and geomorphologists will start to fly out on 13 March next year. They will work with Australian counterparts respectively, remaining in the field until 10 September.

### *Social Programme*

This has been planned to include and entertain important guests, scientific and informal social contacts and friends, and by spreading activities over the year we hope members of the Society from both at home and abroad will be able to take part in at least one of the functions. Details of how and when to apply will be given in the December issue.

**ROYAL RECEPTION.** It is very much hoped that our Patron, Her Majesty The Queen, will honour the Society by attending a Reception in the Rooms. The date has yet to be confirmed but Thursday 17 March has been proposed. Due to constraints of space it will be necessary to restrict the numbers who will be able to attend. Anyone who would like to be considered should now apply in writing, and state, if it is hoped to bring a guest, who this will be.

**BICENTENARY ANNIVERSARY MEETING—TUESDAY 24 MAY.** This will follow the usual Anniversary Meeting pattern but with a modified agenda. It will be

followed by a dinner which may be attended by any Fellow of the Society. To honour the occasion the Society has invited four eminent Swedish scientists as its guests for this day.

**SUMMER EVENING PARTY—THURSDAY 23 JUNE.** This will replace the usual *Conversazione*. Professor Bell, The Director of the Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew is most generously allowing the Society to use the facilities of the Gardens at Kew, including the Temperate House. There will be a number of official guests for which a reception and buffet supper will be arranged. However, so that the largest number can enjoy the occasion, the cost of the tickets, which will only cover the running and administrative costs, will be kept as low as possible. Picnics may be brought although the buffet will be available for those who would prefer it. We hope that Fellows from overseas who would like to visit England at this time will take advantage of this event.

**CELEBRATION WITH THE ANGLO-SWEDISH SOCIETY.** This will probably be in the form of a formal dinner. His Majesty The King of Sweden has been invited to attend our celebrations and we hope he may be able to be present.

**INFORMAL EVENINGS.** These will be arranged to follow the Biological Council Lecture and the meeting on Buffon although the latter is not especially scheduled as a bicentenary event. Fellows will greatly assist if they always give at least a week's warning of their intention to attend.

### *Publications*

The bicentenary has been used as a focal date for the production of a series of items which are documentary and relevant to the Society and its antecedents. Apart from the Proceedings of meetings these have been coordinated by the Library Committee under Mr G. Lucas.

**PROCEEDINGS OF BICENTENARY MEETINGS.** The intention is to ensure that a proper record is kept although it will not be possible to publish every meeting in full. Issues of the journals have been earmarked for most of the papers but when specially requested by the cooperating Society some will be carried in their own publications. As at 1 June 1987 the plan is as follows:

#### *Biological Journal*

Man-Directed Evolution of Crop Plants.  
Dynamic Responses to the Environment.  
Nature, Natural History and Ecology.  
Changing Attitudes to Nature Conservation.  
The Impact of New Methods on the Old  
Patterns of Taxonomy.

#### *Botanical Journal*

Horizons in Lichenology.  
Bryology: Modern research and the ways  
forward.  
Novel approaches to the Systematics of fungi.  
European Floristic Studies.  
Heathers in Heathland.

#### *Zoological Journal*

The management of fertility in domestic, feral  
and zoo populations.

	An inordinate fondness for beetles. The World's Burden of Parasites. British Mammalian fauna, past present and future.
<i>Society Volume</i>	Evolution, ecology and environmental stress.
<i>Geological Society Journal</i>	Biota and Palaeoatmospheres.
<i>Royal Society Proceedings</i>	Evolution and Extinction.
<i>The Linnean</i>	The Social and Intellectual Climate in 18th Century England.

## HISTORY

*The History of the Linnean Society.* Originally written by Gage, this has been revised and brought up to date by Professor William Stearn. It is being published by Academic Press.

*James Edward Smith—a biography.* This has been written by Mrs Margot Walker and will be published in pamphlet form.

*James Edward Smith and his herbarium.* This complementary work to the biography has been written by Professor Stearn and will be published in the *Biological Journal*.

OTHERS. Subjects under discussion include the catalogue of the Society's portraits, completed by Mrs Walker; Renealmus' *Specimen historiae plantarum*, 1611, a very rare book owned by the Society, as a possible facsimile; the transcription of Wallace's journals, currently being completed by Mr M. Pearson and Miss A-M. Brennan and an extract of Professor Stearn's *History* as a guide to the portraits on display in the Rooms.

*Stamp Issue*

The Linnean set will be the first special issue for 1988. Details of the stamps themselves remain confidential until the official launch which will occur in The Library at 12.00 on 25 November 1987. In view of the shortness of time between then and when the issue will appear, probably in mid January, anyone wanting full details of the arrangements for the possible first day franking from Burlington House should write to us soon enclosing a stamped self addressed envelope. Applications will not be acknowledged but details will be sent when available. The Post Office official first day cover and the standard pamphlets and postcard sets should be applied for in writing to The Philatelic Bureau, 20 Brandon St, Edinburgh EH3 5TT.

*The Media*

Professor Jack Hawkes has been the Society's coordinator for all aspects.

TELEVISION AND RADIO. Some progress is being made in discussions and we hope to be able to report a satisfactory outcome soon.

LOCAL RADIO. Knowing that there are several Fellows who habitually broadcast, both on local radio and on the BBC, and who are often asked to comment on natural history subjects, we will rely on their judgement if it seems appropriate to 'plug' the Society. The stamp issue may itself well give rise to some questions

and, in anticipation, we have prepared a short brief to provide some background, see p. 1. Should you wish us to expand on this please write, or telephone if notice is short.

**MAGAZINES.** All being well we hope to be given coverage by the Sunday Telegraph, Illustrated London News and Country Life. We cannot guarantee to give warning of dates of issue through these pages but we will use the Stop Press if possible and will post information in the Rooms.

#### *Visits to Sweden*

John Packham's scientific journey is now planned and proceeding as a binational event. See *The Linnean* 2(3): 2–3, 3(2): 2 and this issue p. 3.

The holiday trip to Uppsala, Stockholm and Gotland arranged by Miss Elizabeth Young was announced in 3(1): 4, with details in 3(2): 2–3 and this issue p. 3. The dates have been changed by one day: they are confirmed as Thursday 30 June to Wednesday 13 July.

#### *Sixth Forms*

A prize for four bright pupils is being planned in the form of expenses paid participation by a pair of students in a University-led field trip abroad and by two students in a Field Studies Council course in the United Kingdom. Details and application forms will be distributed to the London Schools in the annual, August, mailing. They are available in the Office for Fellows who are in contact with sixth form pupils outside the London area who are, of course, equally eligible.

#### *Poster Exhibit*

A six or eight panel portable poster is being prepared for use in the Rooms and elsewhere to publicize the Society and to call attention to its bicentenary. It will be ready in October. Since it will be necessary to plan an itinerary for its most effective use, Fellows are asked to report if they have suggestions as to where it could be put on show and what, if any, are the limiting dates. A contact name and address will be needed if this is other than that of the addressor.

#### *Recruiting*

This has not been put to you as bicentenary activity. However, could we suggest each Fellow might make his contribution to the bicentenary by recruiting one more Fellow? We have all the papers in Burlington House. All we need are the addresses to which to send them.

## **Notes**

#### *Wanted—an Indexer*

Like the biology we study, *The Linnean* continues to evolve and we now need to index its contents. There are 461 pages waiting to be listed and we expect future copy to average 144 pages a year—see Editorial.



*Meiofauna Specialist Group*

At a meeting in the Institute for Marine Environmental Research (Plymouth) on the 15th and 16th December 1986, a new Specialist Group of the Linnean Society was formally inaugurated. Meiofauna are minute metazoan organisms which live in large numbers in sands and muds of aquatic ecosystems. Being so small they also require special techniques for their collection, examination and preservation. Being inconspicuous, the zoological fraternity took some time to pay the meiofauna any consistent attention and the literature remains for the most part in a rather fragmented state. But research into the group so far has been rewarded with the discovery of many new taxa including whole phyla and a realization of their important contribution to a fuller understanding of ecology and evolution.

This is the first specifically zoological specialist group to be formed. Twenty meiofauna specialists from nine organizations attended the Plymouth meeting. The primary aim of the group is to co-ordinate the U.K. research effort on the taxonomy and ecology of this relatively poorly known but zoologically important group of animals. At present, what little research that is being done is rather dispersed. In view of the current financial squeeze, it seemed an opportune moment to draw some of these disparate threads together. As a first step in raising the profile of meiofauna, the meeting decided that we should organize a short symposium, with the modest provisional title 'The Importance of Meiofauna'. The venue and time to be decided, but perhaps Burlington House sometime early next year. A list of prospective speakers and titles was drawn up at the Plymouth meeting.

Having sown the seeds, the next stage would be to seek national or international funding for collaborative research programmes.

In consultation with the series editors, it has been agreed that another useful role for the Meiofauna Specialist Group would be to co-ordinate the preparation of *Synopses of the British Fauna* for those animal groups found in the meiofauna. Of the two most prominent marine taxa, the nematodes, are already well in hand but the harpacticoid copepods remain to be done. However, a group of four copepod specialists drew up a schedule at the meeting, with an estimated completion date for the first volume of Easter 1988.

Other meiofauna groups waiting to be given the *Synopsis* treatment include gastrotrichs, kinorhynchs and gnathostomulids. However, some of the minor taxa, in some cases consisting of only a few aberrant miniature forms of macrofauna taxa, probably do not warrant a volume of their own. So it was proposed that there should be a special volume in the series devoted to these forms, which might also include a pictorial key to all the known meiofauna groups.

Other possible group activities could include field-trips and workshops, with one of the aims being the checking and testing of keys and species descriptions contained in the *Synopsis* volumes.

Others interested in joining the Meiofauna Specialist Group at this early stage should write to the group secretary: Dr H. M. Platt, Zoology Department, British Museum (Natural History), Cromwell Road, London SW7 5BD.

HOWARD M. PLATT

*Palynology Specialist Group*

The Secretary, Dr S. Blackmore, reports that he has had a good response to his request for names and addresses. He has also had so many offers of talks that he is planning a further informal meeting early in 1988—this is in addition to the meeting already planned for 28 October (p. 17). Anyone who is not already enrolled and who wishes to know more about the Group or its activities should write to him at The Department of Botany, British Museum (Natural History), Cromwell Road, London SW7 5BD.

*Picture quiz*

Who, and approximately when? Solution by October to the Editor. A small prize in the form of an old print will be awarded.

The solution to the previous quiz was Sir Robert Schomburgh—there was no correct answer! The joint winners of the March quiz were two of our Foreign members, Ernst Mayr who got the place, time and most of those present and Stephen Jay Gould who correctly surmised that the occasion was the reception by the AMNH of Lady Smith Woodward's table-cloth (see also p. 24).

*Venus fly-trap—a request for assistance*

On 23 and 24 September 1768, the London-based naturalist John Ellis sent copies of a hand-coloured print of *Dionaea muscipula* (Venus fly-trap) to various friends and botanical correspondents including Carl Linnaeus.

I am preparing a facsimile edition of Ellis's publication on this plant—it is hoped to publish this next year during the Society's bicentenary as the Ellis manuscripts are in the archives. Thus I am anxious to trace one of these prints. None is contained in the Linnean archives, nor is there a copy among Ellis's manuscripts, and I have been unable so far to trace a copy in the obvious places. If anyone knows of the existence of a copy of this print—it will be a single leaf *not* bound with John Ellis's *Directions for bringing over seeds and plants, from the East-Indies . . .* (London 1770)—I would be pleased to hear about it.

(The facsimile will be published by Boethius Press, Kilkenny, Ireland, in association with the Linnean Society; further details will be published in a future issue of *The Linnean*.)

DR CHARLES NELSON  
National Botanic Gardens,  
Glasnevin,  
Dublin 9  
Eire

*From the Archives*

Casan, January 15th 1813

Dear Sir

It is with great grief that I see weeks, months, and even years pass over without receiving a single line from you, and without knowing whether you are in good health. Sometimes I am inclined to think you have totally forgotten me, but this gloomy thought soon vanished when I call to remembrance all your kindness. At other times, (and that is more probable,) I suppose that your letters are lost in their journey hither: perhaps mine meet with the same fate, and you make the same reproaches. If you forget me you will only make me unhappy, and I flatter myself that is far from your desires; but if I were to forget my dear benefactors, I would be the most ungrateful creature upon earth.

I have so much to tell you that I am at a loss where to begin. In the first place Miss Pouschkine was married last year to the Prince Gagarine (the Senator) who says that he and his father knew you a long while ago, and that you have even lodged for a short time in their house. A week after the wedding, the Princess went into the country and as she had only a small caleche, so she could not take me along with her. This was the first time we parted, and it cost me an abundance of tears. In the month of July we heard that the french had invaded

the frontiers and so we retired to one of Madame Pouschkine's villages adjoining to the town of Paeroff, about a hundred versts\* from Moscow, where we awaited future events. As soon as Smolensko was taken we hurried onto Nigui—Novgorod; where we staid two months, including three weeks which we spent in a village near that place. On our road we passed by several little towns which had a very miserable appearance, but in general the prospects were delightful, especially in the government of Nigui—Novgorod. While we were there, we heard that Moscow was taken or rather entered by the french, because it was abandoned to them, after the inhabitants had made their escape to different parts of the country. It is said that this was the only means to save the russian army from destruction. On the first of September and morning of the second, there was such a crowd at the gates that it was impossible for every body to pass. A gentleman who left the city the day before the french entered, said that he met a *telega* loaded with goods and drawn by two men; three little children were tied to the top, an old woman hung behind, having no place in it and two young women walked by the side with bundles on their backs. In this manner they drudged on to the nearest village. The enemy spread devastation wherever he passed: Moscow was almost entirely burnt to the ground, our house is one of the few which luckily escaped the flames, but the furniture is partly spoilt, partly carried away. The cruelties which were committed by the french soldiers are almost incredible. One of our servants was murdered by them because he was reluctant to part with a favorite snuff-box. He was buried in the yard, but when all was quiet his wife conveyed him to a more suitable place. The french lived at Moscow about three weeks. They killed each other when drunk and a great number were murdered by the russians who remained there; so that the wells were full of dead bodies, and there were a great number lying in the streets. All are now burnt: fifty-six thousand bodies were burnt near Moscow only, it makes one shudder at the thought. Fortune seems at present to have turned her back to Bonaparte.

We intended to stay at Nigui, in expectation of better times, but the Senate was ordered to open at Casan and of course we were obliged to go thither. This journey was very disagreeable, it was in the midst of winter, and of such a winter! The poor little postilions were almost frozen and we suffered a great deal although in the carriage, which did not shelter us from the snow. I had wrapped myself up in an old capote, head and all, except a little opening which I left to let in the air, so that I was just like a heap of snow. There are no such comfortable inns here as in our country, the *isbas* afford very bad lodgings, especially in the winter, they are then full of pigs and poultry. I am very glad that our travels are at an end, at least for several months. This city is very well built, it is partly inhabited by Tartars. We have a very comfortable house. When you write to me, direct your letters to Mr Sabloukoff at Petersburg, because I cannot tell where we shall be. I am now reading *Esprit de l'histoire* by Ferrand. I have forgotten a good deal of English, but I speak it better at present than I did last winter. My books were left at Moscow, I shall be very sorry if they are burnt, but it was utterly impossible to save them, because we had not place enough even for things of greater necessity, and we were in a terrible hurry. Pray present my respects to Mrs Bentham and kiss the children a thousand times for me. Shall I live to see you all! I am afraid to be unworthy of

\*a verst = 3500'.

such happiness. Mrs Pouschkine sends you her love, she says that you have forgotten us. Adieu believe me.

your obliged servant  
ELIZABETH GORDAN

The above letter was written from Russia to General S. Bentham in London a short time after Napoleon's retreat from Moscow.

Samuel Bentham had previously been in the service of Catherine the Great (see the *Linnean* 2(1): 7) and Elizabeth Gordan had lived with him and his family in St. Petersburg.

### *Deadlines*

The closing dates for material for *The Linnean* are 20 November for the March 1988 issue and 30 April for the August issue.

### *Bryophyte Correspondence*

In *The Linnean* 3(1): 12 we published a letter from Mr Field about newly discovered taxa which we trust has generated a direct exchange of correspondence on this subject. Whilst we wish to stimulate correspondence — on whatever subject—we do not want to poach on material which might be more appropriate to the Journals. Technical matters are clearly the preserve of the scientific journals and so we will pass such letters to the appropriate Journal editor.

### *Cost of living*

Picking up the editor on his note in *The Linnean* 3(2): 7 we were informed by Mr Theo O'Grady, General Secretary from 1951 to 1966 and Executive Secretary from 1966 to 1979, that for years the Society had paid for the electric light in the public telephone booth by the western main gate. Clearly nobody had thought of this cost to the Society when it took over the Burlington House Post Office for its own use in 1905.

### *Room Closure*

The Rooms will be closed over the festive season from 23 December 1987 to 3 January 1988.

### *Things aren't always what they seem to be*

On page nine of the first *Linnean* Margot Walker wrote about the Admissions of Lady Fellows mentioning the "large oil painting (49in. × 74in. sight size)" hanging above our upper staircase. For those of you who were elected after May 1984 or who may not have seen it she was referring to the work by James Sant R.A. which was commissioned in 1905 by the then Treasurer, Frank Crisp, and which had to be repainted to present Mrs Crisp in a more auspicious situation. Whether Mrs Walker's article was the reason for a recent visit to the Rooms we are unlikely ever to know, but two ladies came in and asked if they could look at "the picture of the ladies being admitted".

Not that it is often the case (as those of you who know us will testify), we were slightly dumb-founded when one of the ladies asked on leaving, "It's smaller than the illustration we have seen—have you cut it in half?"

## Membership

*We welcome the following who were elected on  
19 March 1987*

Ahmed H. Alawy  
Henri M. André, M.S., D.S.  
Wirt Atmar, B.S., M.S., Sc.D.  
Kenneth L. Crowell, B.S.  
E. Wade Davis, A.B., M.Sc., Ph.D.  
John Alan Elix, B.Sc., Ph.D., D.Sc.  
Clive P. Farrell  
Peter J. Field, B.A.  
William Andrew Foster, M.A., Ph.D.  
Rev. Peter James Freed, B.A.  
Mark Dennis Griffiths  
Prof. Jeffrey Barry Harborne, B.Sc., Ph.D., D.Sc.

### *Fellows*

William D. Hawthorne, B.A., D.Phil.  
Robert R. Haynes, B.S., M.S., Ph.D.  
Peter John James, B.Sc., M.Phil.  
Sharda Khandelwal, F.B.S., B.Sc., Ph.D., D.Sc.  
Paul David Lewis, M.A.  
Stuart Charles Maslin  
James Henry John Penny, B.Sc., Ph.D.  
John Edwin Rotherham  
Daryl Jay Swartz, B.A., M.A., Ph.D.  
David William Hookey Townsend, N.D.H.  
André Mauricio Vieira de Carvalho

Ian Richard Colson, B.Sc.

### *Associates*

Mary Elizabeth Mochrie, B.Sc.

*21 May 1987*

### *Foreign Members*

Prof. Harlan P. Banks	U.S.A.
Prof. Dr René Hubert Cobben	The Netherlands
Dr Gareth Jon Nelson	U.S.A.
Prof. Dr Josef Poelt	Austria
Prof. Richards Evans Schultes (from Fellow)	U.S.A.
Academician Leonid P. Tatarinov	U.S.S.R.

### *Fellows*

Hermia Newman Clokie, B.A., B.Lih.  
Richard Crook, B.Sc.  
Salah Mohamed Ibrahim El Naggar, B.Sc., M.Sc.  
George Davison Fussey, B.Sc., M.I.Biol (from Associate)  
Peter Heywood, B.Sc., Ph.D., M.A.  
Jane M. Hughes, B.Sc., U.W.A., Ph.D.

Patrick Jason McGlynn  
James McCallum Manderson  
Derek Raymond Moore, M.B.O.U.  
Robert James Nash, Ph.D.  
Colin Russel Norton, B.Sc., Ph.D., M.Sc.  
David John Stanbury, B.Sc., A.R.C.S., F.Z.A.  
Robin Andrew John Taylor, B.Sc., Ph.D.

Ashley David Martin Cook

### *Associates*

Michael Mauder, Dip. Hort.

### *Members of Council*

The following were elected to serve on Council on 21 May 1987:

*Laurence M. Cook, B.Sc., D.Phil.*, is a graduate of University College London and Oxford University and currently Reader in the newly-formed Department

of Environmental Biology at Manchester University. He is interested in the factors which generate and maintain genetic diversity in populations, and species diversity in faunas, working with moths, butterflies, snails, lizards and computers at different times. He is a zoological member of the Kimberley, Australia, 200 biological sub-committee and will be one of the participants in the project.

*Patricia Diane Fry, B.Sc.*, is a senior lecturer at the Luton College of Higher Education. She graduated in Zoology in 1968, having been an external student of London University. Her research interests are in marine biology, particularly the biology of sponges and the investigation of populations of North Sea invertebrates. She has co-operated in the latter with the MAFF Fisheries Laboratory, Lowestoft, since the death of her husband, Bill Fry, who initiated the project. She represents the Fisheries Laboratory on the Benthos Ecology Working Group of the International Council for the Exploration of the Sea.

*Philip Stephen Rainbow, M.A., Ph.D.*, graduated from Cambridge University and is a lecturer at Queen Mary College, University of London. His early interest in the biology of barnacles has now been extended to amphipod and decapod crustaceans, and he is also interested in tropical littoral ecology. His present research aims to interpret the significance of trace metal concentrations in crustaceans in terms of accumulation strategies and detoxification processes. He is an active member of the Executive Committee of the Field Studies Council.

*Mark Richard David Seaward, B.Sc., M.Sc., Ph.D., D.Sc.*, is Reader in Environmental Botany and Chairman of the Postgraduate School of Environmental Science at Bradford University. His biological interests are many and varied, but his main research area is lichenology, the study of which has taken him to many parts of the world. He was President of the British Lichen Society in 1982–83, and has directed its mapping scheme since 1963. He is a Fellow of the Institute of Biology, and was awarded the Polish Ordre d'Or in 1985. A great believer in the value of local natural history societies, he has held the Presidencies of the Lincolnshire Naturalists' Union and the Yorkshire Naturalists' Union, and has edited *The Naturalist* since 1975.

*Charles Howard Stirton, M.Sc.*, graduated from the University of Natal (Pietermaritzburg) in botany. He worked for the Botanical Research Institute, Pretoria from 1974 to March 1982 during which time he spent two years, 1978–1980, as the South African Liaison Botanist at the Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew. Since April 1982 he has been resident at Kew as the BA Krukoff Botanist for Legume research. Research topics on which he has worked include weed taxonomy, economic botany, pollination biology and legume classification. Editor of *Plant Invaders: beautiful but dangerous*, he is currently editing *Advances in Legume Systematics*, Part 3 and co-editing with J. Zarucchi *Advances in Legume Biology*. His current research interests concern monographic revisions of the New World sophoroid legumes and the African psoraleoid legumes. He is a keen gardener, deltiologist and philatelist.

#### *Membership of Committees*

Overleaf is the list approved by Council for 1987–88.

*Bicentenary*

Dr D. F. Cutler (Chairman)  
 Prof. E. A. Bell  
 Dr V. F. Eastop  
 Prof. J. G. Hawkes  
 Prof. D. L. Hawksworth  
 Mr G. Ll. Lucas  
 Dr F. H. Perring  
 Mr J. Massey Stewart  
 Dr N. K. B. Robson  
 Mr M. J. S. Sands  
 Miss M. E. Young

ex officio: The Officers

*Collections Curatorial*

Dr K. A. Joysey (Chairman)  
 Mr P. K. C. Austwick  
 Dr R. K. Brummitt  
 Dr P. S. Davis  
 Dr C. E. Jarvis  
 Mrs S. Morris

ex officio: The Officers,  
 The Librarian,  
 The Curators

*Editorial*

The Editorial Secretary (Chairman)  
 Prof. R. J. Berry *Biol. J.*  
 Mr J. F. M. Cannon  
 Dr S. L. Jury *Bot. J.*  
 Prof. B. G. Gardiner *The Linnean*  
 Dr D. M. Kermack *Synopses* Series  
 Dr H. M. Platt *Zool. J.*  
 Dr D. Rollinson  
 Mr R. I. Vane-Wright

ex officio: The Officers,  
 Ed. *Kew Bulletin* (Mr M. J. E. Coode),  
 Ed. *J. Zool.* (Dr M. Edwards)  
 Review Ed. (Dr M. J. Crawley)  
 by invitation: Rep. of Society's Publisher  
 Dr R. S. K. Barnes, Joint Editor  
*Synopses* (EBSA)

*Finance*

Treasurer (Chairman)  
 The Rt Hon. The Earl of Cranbrook  
 Mr F. R. Goodenough  
 Dr C. B. Goodhart  
 ex officio: President, Secretaries,  
 Chairman of the Library Committee

*Flora Europaea Trust Fund*

Botanical Secretary (Chairman)  
 Mr A. O. Chater  
 Prof. D. M. Moore  
 Dr S. M. Walters  
 ex officio: President, Treasurer

*Grants*

President (Chairman)  
 Dr R. A. D. Cameron  
 Dr J. S. Churchfield  
 Prof. J. G. Hawkes  
 ex officio: Treasurer, Secretaries

*Library*

Mr G. Ll. Lucas (Chairman)  
 \*Mr R. E. R. Banks  
 Prof. P. M. Daniel  
 \*Mr R. G. C. Desmond  
 \*Miss S. M. D. Fitzgerald  
 \*Mrs S. Gove  
 \*Mr R. D. Kirkman  
 \*Miss J. Sheppard  
 Mr D. P. Taylor-Pescod  
 Dr P. F. Yeo  
 ex officio: The Officers  
 \* Not Fellows

*Medals and Awards*

President (Chairman)  
 Vice Presidents  
 { Botanical } member of Council who attended  
 { Zoological } Separate Meetings of Council  
 Treasurer, Secretaries

*Natural History*

Senior Secretary (Chairman)  
 Prof. R. J. Berry  
 Dr R. A. D. Cameron  
 Prof. W. D. Chaloner  
 Mr E. F. Greenwood  
 Dr D. A. Goode  
 Dr F. H. Perring

*Programmes*

Zoological Secretary } Chairmen  
 Botanical Secretary }  
 Dr J. H. Crothers  
 Dr K. A. Joysey  
 Mrs V. M. Purchon (Sixth Form Lectures)  
 Dr C. Sturton  
 Dr P. Rainbow  
 Dr D. Rollinson  
 To attend when so desired: Group organisers (as  
 listed on the Meetings Card)  
 ex officio: President, Treasurer



*Nominations for the Session 1988–89 and for the 1988 Awards*

Council will meet on 7 January 1988 to consider nominations for Officers, members of Council and Foreign Members who will be balloted for at the Bicentenary Anniversary Meeting on 24 May 1988. It will also select the award winners for 1988, including for the first time the winner of the Jill Smythies Award.

Council encourages the Fellowship to make recommendations for all the above. Please see *The List* pp. 2–4 and *The Linnean* 3(2): 4. The closing date for nominations is 4 January 1988. See also under Membership p. 16.

*Annual Contributions for 1987/88*

If these have not been remitted they should be sent without delay. The rates remain unchanged: Fellows £35, £30 or £25, Associates £20, £15, £12.50 according to the number of Journals taken, and Students Associates £2.50.

Fellows with access to U.S. Dollars should note that their Annual Contribution may be paid in dollars as we hold a U.S. dollar account here in London—but United States dollars only, please.

## Meetings

**1 October 1987** at 10.00. ***The Ecology of Fish Fry***. This is a Freshwater Specialist Group meeting involving international speakers, arranged jointly with the British Ecological Society, see the white enclosure with this issue. Further details may be obtained from the secretary of the Group, Dr K. T. O'Grady, Medmenham Laboratory, Henley Road, Medmenham, P.O. Box 16, Marlow, Buckinghamshire SL7 2HD.

**15 October 1987** at 10.25. ***The Management of Fertility in Domestic, Feral and Zoo Populations of Mammals***. Bicentenary meeting with the Zoological Society of London.

*Agenda for Society business*

1. Admission of Fellows.
2. Minutes of the Anniversary Meeting held on 21 May 1987.
3. Ballot for the election of Fellows, Associates and Student Associates.

*Programme*

- 09.30–10.25 Reception and Coffee.  
 10.25 Welcome by Prof. W. G. Chaloner, P.L.S.  
 10.30–10.45 *The Regulation of Mammalian fertility*. Prof. J. P. Hearn, A.F.R.C. Central Office, London & Institute of Zoology, Z.S.L.

*Zoo Populations*

- 10.45–11.15 *Fertility assessment: new methods and implications for endangered species*. Dr J. K. Hodges, Institute of Zoology, Z.S.L.  
 11.15–11.45 *Rhythms of reproduction, metabolism and coat growth in deer. A model for all non-domesticated seasonal ungulates?* Dr A. Loudon, Institute of Zoology, Z.S.L.  
 11.45–12.15 *Population management for conservation: the size and structure of zoo-populations*. Dr G. Mace, Institute of Zoology, Z.S.L.

- 12.15–12.45 Discussion.  
 12.45–14.00 Lunch.  
 13.45 Linnean Society business (see above).

#### *Domestic Populations*

- 14.00–14.30 *Ovarian programming of gamete progression and maturation in the female genital tract.* Dr R. H. F. Hunter, University of Edinburgh.  
 14.30–15.00 *Hormonal regulation of fertility in domestic farm species.* Dr G. R. Foxcroft, University of Nottingham.  
 15.00–15.30 *Manipulation of fertility in domestic species.* Dr E. J. C. Polge F.R.S., A.R.S., Cambridge.  
 15.30–16.00 Tea.  
 16.00–16.30 *Seasonal cycles in testicular activity and moulting in Mouflon, Soay and Domesticated breeds of sheep.* Dr G. A. Lincoln, M.R.C., Edinburgh.

#### *Feral Populations*

- 16.30–17.00 *The reproductive success of female coypus in a feral population: variation in relation to age, fat reserves and the availability of mates.* Dr L. M. Gosling, M.A.F.F., Norwich.  
 17.00–17.30 *The changing life of feral cats (Felis catus, Linn.)—home and abroad.* Mr R. Tabor FLS, Writtle, Essex.  
 17.30–18.00 *Factors that affect fertility in a feral population of sheep.* Prof. P. A. Jewell, University of Cambridge.  
 18.00–18.15 Concluding remarks.  
 19.00 Dinner.

**28 October 1987. Palynology Specialist Group Meeting.** This will be an all day meeting at Burlington House. Professor J. R. Rowley, Stockholm University, has been invited as a special guest to talk about his recent investigations concerning the pollen on *Cercidiphyllum*. There will be a number of other presentations on fossil and recent pollen grains and spores. The full programme will be circulated to members of the Group but see p. 9.

**13 November 1987 at 10.00 Novel Approaches to the Systematics and Identification of Fungi.** Bicentenary joint meeting with the British Mycological Society.

#### *Agenda for Society business*

1. Admission of Fellows.
2. Minutes of the Scientific Meeting held on 15 October 1987.

#### *Programme*

- 09.30–10.00 Registration.  
 10.00 Welcome by Professor W. G. Chaloner, President of the Linnean Society.  
 10.05–10.40 *Impact of nucleic acid comparisons on systematic mycology.* Dr C. P. Kurtzman (US Department of Agriculture, Peoria, Illinois, U.S.A.).  
 10.40–11.15 *Use of continuous flow microfluorometry for DNA determinations in Penicillium.* Dr P. D. Bridge (CAB International Mycological Institute, Kew) and Prof L. Hudson (St George's Hospital Medical School, London).  
 11.15–11.45 Coffee.  
 11.45–12.20 *DNA hybridisation and its potential for fungal classification.* Dr H. Croft (University of Birmingham).  
 12.20–12.55 *Techniques for the staining of fungal nuclei and appendages.* Dr E. Punithalingam (CAB International Mycological Institute, Kew).  
 12.55–13.15 General discussion, chaired by Professor Chaloner.  
 13.15–14.30 Lunch.  
 14.15–14.30 Linnean Society business.  
 Afternoon session chaired by Dr B. C. Sutton (CAB International Mycological Institute).  
 14.30–15.05 *Serological potential for fungal identification.* Dr L. Polonelli and Dr G. Morace (Universita Cattolica del Sacro Cuore, Rome).  
 15.05–15.40 *Polyols and chemotaxonomy of the fungi.* Dr D. Rast (University of Zurich).  
 15.40–16.10 Tea.  
 16.10–16.45 *Alicean taxonomy: small characters made big.* Dr R. T. Moore (University of Ulster).  
 16.45–17.20 *High-performance liquid chromatography multichannel photo-diode array detection applications in fungal taxonomy.* Dr J. C. Frisvad (Technical University of Denmark).  
 17.20–17.40 General discussion and summing up, chaired by Dr B. C. Sutton.  
 18.00–20.30 Buffet Supper.

**26 November 1987** at 18.15. ***The Case of the Vanishing Squirrel.*** General interest lecture. This is a Bicentenary joint meeting with the London Natural History Society which has been holding meetings regularly in our Rooms for very many years. Miss Jessica Holm has studied, written and broadcast about her work on red squirrels which she is currently conducting on the Isle of Wight. After the lecture wine and sandwiches will be served in the Library. Anyone wishing to attend must complete and return the yellow booking form inserted with this issue. Spare copies are available at Burlington House.

**17 December 1987** at 10.25. ***Biota and Palaeoatmospheres.*** This joint meeting with The Geological Society and The Palaeontological Association is being held in the Rooms of the Geological Association. The Society business will be conducted in The Linnean Society Meeting Room.

#### *Agenda*

1. Admission of Fellows.
2. Minutes of the Scientific Meeting held on 13 November 1987.

#### *Programme*

- 09.45–10.25 Reception and Coffee.  
 10.25 Welcome by Prof. W. G. Chaloner P.L.S.  
 10.30–11.15 *The outgassing history of the Earth's Atmosphere.* Prof. G. Turner, University of Sheffield.  
 11.15–12.00 *Oxygen in the Precambrian Atmosphere.* Prof. H. D. Holland, Harvard University.  
 12.00–12.45 *The Great Transition—Momentous Events Between 2.3 and 1.8 Billion Years Ago.* Dr R. M. Garrels, University of South Florida.  
 12.45–14.00 Lunch.  
 13.45 Society business (see above).  
 14.00–14.45 *An overview of possible changes affecting the hydrosphere, biosphere and atmosphere during the Phanerozoic.* Dr J. D. Hudson, University of Leicester.  
 14.45–15.30 *Phototrophy, Diazotrophy and Palaeoatmospheres: Biological Catalysts and the H.C.N.O. and S. Cycles.* Prof. J. A. Raven and Dr J. I. Sprent, University of Dundee.  
 15.30–16.00 Tea.  
 16.00–16.45 *Evidence from charcoal of the occurrence of forest fire, Devonian Recent.* Prof. W. G. Chaloner, Royal Holloway and Bedford New College.  
 16.45–17.30 *Carbon flows in the biosphere, present and future.* Prof. D. Hall, King's College (KQC).  
 17.30–17.45 Dr P. Moore, King's College (KQC) London—Invited discussant (with emphasis on plant aspects).  
 17.45–18.00 Discussion and concluding remarks.  
 19.00 Buffet Supper.

**14 January 1988** at 10.25. ***An inordinate fondness for beetles. Problems arising from the profusion of insects.*** Bicentenary joint meeting with the Royal Entomological Society.

#### *Agenda for Society business*

1. Admission of Fellows.
2. Minutes of the Scientific Meeting held on 17 December 1987.
3. Ballot for the election of Fellows, Associates and Student Associates.
4. First reading of Certificates of Recommendation for the election of Foreign Members and Fellows *honoris causa*.

**25 February 1988** at 10.10. ***Natural products as Pharmacological Probes and in New Pharmaceuticals.*** Bicentenary joint meeting with the Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain.

#### *Agenda for Society Business*

1. Admission of Fellows.
2. Minutes of the Scientific Meeting held on 14 January 1988.

3. Announcement of Council's nominations for Medals and Awards for 1988.
4. Second reading of Certificates of Recommendation for the election of Foreign Members and Fellows *honoris causa*.
5. Election of Auditors for the Treasurer's Accounts for the year ended 31 December 1987.

## Other meetings

### 1987

#### September

- 6–11 *Collagen. 28th Harden Conference*. Wye College. Biochemical Society, 7 Warwick Court, London WC1R 5DP.
- 13–18 *Regulation of Plant Gene Expression. 29th Harden Conference*. Wye College, as above.
- 23–25 *The Ecology of Insect Introductions*. Reading University. Details from: Dr P. Whalley, Department of Entomology, BM(NH), London SW7 5BD.
- 26 *Natural History at Liverpool and the Australian Connection*. Meeting of the Society for History of Natural History, concerned with botanical collections of Sir J. E. Smith and zoological collections of 13th Earl of Derby. Details from: Mr E. F. Greenwood, The Liverpool Museum, William Brown Street, Liverpool L3 8EN.

#### November

- 4 *Animal Health in the Tropics*. Burlington House Tropical Agriculture Association, Mr L. J. Foster TAA(UK), Maydene, Old Litten Lane, Froxfield, Petersfield, Hants GU32 1BG.
- 5 *The Leeuwenhoek Lecture*. Professor D. A. Hopwood. Royal Society, 6 Carlton House Terrace, London SW1Y 5AG.
- 14 *The Use of Computers in the Classification and Mapping of Fungi*. British Mycological Society Autumn Taxonomy Meeting. Jodrell Laboratory, Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew, Surrey.

#### December

- 3 *Forty Years of Development Aid*. Mr L. J. C. Evans. Fifth Ralph Melville Memorial Lecture. Burlington House. Tropical Agriculture Association.
- 14–15 *Hazards of Biotechnology: real or imaginary*. Biological Council Symposium at the Middlesex Hospital. Detail from: Prof. P. N. Campbell, Department of Biochemistry, Middlesex Hospital Medical School, London W1P 6DB.
- 17–19 *Meeting to Celebrate 100th Anniversary of birth of N. I. Vavilov*. Wernigerode, G.D.R. Details from: Prof. Dr D. Mettin, Akademie der Wissenschaften der D.D.R.

### 1988

#### January

- 8–12 *Centenary of the Italian Botanical Society*. Florence. Details from: Società Botanica Italiana, Via La Pira, 4–50121 Firenze.

## February

- 17–18 *The Epidemiology and Ecology of Infectious Disease Agents*. Discussion Meeting. Royal Society, 6 Carlton House Terrace, London SW1Y 5AG.

## March

- 9–10 *Sex Determination in mouse and man*. Discussion Meeting. Royal Society, 6 Carlton House Terrace, London SW1Y 5AG.
- 23–25 *Evolution, Systematics and Fossil History of the Hamamelidae*. Reading University. Systematics Association. Details from: Dr P. R. Crane, Field Museum, Chicago and Dr S. Blackmore, BM(NH), Cromwell Road, London SW7 5BD.

## April

- 5–9 *The Chromophyte Algae: Problems and Perspectives*. Plymouth, England. Systematics Association and Phycological Society. Details from Dr B. S. C. Leadbeater, University of Birmingham, PO Box 363, Birmingham B15 2TT.
- 6–8 *Electrophoretic Studies on Agricultural Pests*. Rothamsted Experimental Station. Details from: Prof. M. F. Claridge, University College, Cardiff.
- 13–15 *Application of the Scanning Electron Microscope in Taxonomy and Functional Morphology*. Nottingham University. Details from: Dr D. A. Griffiths MAFF, Slough Laboratory, Berkshire SL3 7HJ.

## May

- 25–26 *New Vistas in Measurement of Photosynthesis*. Discussion Meeting, Royal Society, 6 Carlton House Terrace, London SW1Y 5AG.
- 25–27 *The Development of Systematic Botany in Australasia*. Melbourne, Australia. Symposium being held by ASBS in the Bicentennial year. Details from: Dr P. S. Short, Bloomsbury Conference Services, PO Box 2368, Richmond South, 3121, Victoria, Australia.

## June

- 2–3 *Forests, Weather and Climate*. Discussion Meeting. Royal Society, 6 Carlton House Terrace, London SW1Y 5AG.

## July

- 18–23 *The Second International Succulent Plant Congress—Aloe 88*. Harare, Zimbabwe. Details from: Mr M. J. Kimberley F.L.S. The Convenor of Aloe 88, PO Box 8514, Causeway, Harare, Zimbabwe.
- 25–29 *Fifth International Symposium on Fossil Cnidaria including Archaeocyatha and Spangiomorphs*. Brisbane, Australia. Details from: Conference Secretariat, Uniquet University of Queensland, St. Lucia, Old, 4067, Australia.
- 25–30 *Third International Solanaceae Symposium*. Bogotá, Colombia. Details from: Prof. J. G. Hawkes F.L.S. Dept. of Geological Sciences, University of Birmingham, PO Box 363, Birmingham B15 2TT.
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## Correspondence

30.4.87

Dear Editor,

I was delighted with the sentiments expressed in Mr David Star-Glass's letter published in the *Linnean* 3(2); he echoes concerns and desires I have about the Society, and which I sought to describe in my first Presidential Address (published in the *Biological Journal* 79, 327–352, 1983). I asked "Is there a major role for the Linnean Society in modern biology?", and answered pessimistically "On past record, the Society has taken an ever-declining rôle as new societies have been formed and new disciplines developed" (p. 346). I then went on to identify our two invisible assets (inherited prestige and a concern for a wide segment of biology) and three physical ones (the Society's Rooms in Burlington House, its 'permanent presence' there, and its Library), and gave my views as to how these should be used. Notwithstanding, my stated conclusion was that, "In some ways the Linnean has survived as a living fossil, occupying a niche but in a state of what has come to be known as evolutionary stasis." In short, I argued that the Society needs to adapt for long-time survival.

It will be of no surprise that the conclusion that he and I have reached was also shared by other people. Council has twice in recent years (1966–67 and 1982–83) set up committee to review the "Aims and Objects" of the Society. The core of their deliberations was expressed in a Minute of Council when it received the second of these reports: "The Committee has been concerned to ask what benefit Fellows gained from the Society. The *kudos* of being a Fellow had decreased and would continue to do so unless steps were taken to provide tangible benefits... The rôle of the Society in its third century was more likely to be as an institutional core to biology, linking government science, specialized societies (many of which had directly or indirectly broken away from the Society in the past), and natural history societies."

Many of the detailed recommendations of these two review committees have been implemented: *The Linnean* is perhaps the most obvious outcome; other developments have been the move into our Rooms of the administrations of the two biggest general biology societies in the United Kingdom (the British Ecological Society and the Society for Experimental Biology) and the original planning for the Bicentenary. But there is still much to be done. Personally, I would like to see the Council being much more positive in seeking to reoccupy the 'central ground' of biology. For example, it would be good to enter into symbiosis with BES and SEB (and other societies) rather than regarding them as mere commensals; I suspect there is potential for using our Rooms more for *academic* purposes, rather than mere administrative utensils (which, by definition, expand to fill the space available); we still pursue a very conservative publishing policy; we remain a London-based Society, however much lip-service we give to regional meetings; indeed, our whole pattern of meetings needs critical re-examination (the Royal Society has abandoned its routine weekly meetings); and so on.

It would be unfair to imply that nothing is being done; I know from personal experience the devoted work and conscientiousness of both the Officers and Servants of the Society. But the Society needs competent radicals now, perhaps

more than at any time in its past; what is required are men and women with a respect for tradition, but an ability to take action in spite of it. I believe that the cold winds blowing through science funding at the moment should help the Linnean, because there is an increasing recognition that small independent groups are becoming a luxury, and that biologists must accept that they are first and foremost biologists, and only secondarily mycologists, palaeontologists, geneticists, ecologists, taxonomists or herpetologists—or even botanists or zoologists.

I shall be interested in other responses to David Star-Glass's letter. I hope it will lead to action.

Yours sincerely,

R. J. BERRY  
President 1982–85

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Hirsel Law,  
Coldstream,  
Berwickshire,  
Scotland.

18.1.87

Dear Professor Gardiner,

I certainly enjoy the articles in the '*Linnean*' on the Society's Treasures. There are many and from time to time some have been shown at *Conversazioni* and like functions but there has never been the staff or time to catalogue or separately record them.

I thought Dr Barrow's article in the latest issue on the Inch Tea Library wonderful. I well remember the volumes arriving and the difficulty in finding sufficient space to keep them altogether. The Library was so crowded in those days. The extensive basement area of today was then the living quarters of the Society's Housekeeper and the Burlington House Gatekeeper.

It is good to know that this article will make this unique collection known to many more people.

In the matter of Darwin's vasculum described on pp. 25–26 of the same issue, the full story is not quite the "object lesson in procrastination" described. When the vasculum was first loaned to the British Association its HQ were also in Burlington House, in fact, in the rooms above the Society's Council Room above the archway (and now the Gatekeeper's flat). At that time the B.A. were the custodians (or the like) of Down House and at one time its Secretary (Mr Howarth then I think) lived there. However, in later years the B.A. wished to relinquish the responsibility for Down House and were pleased when the Royal College of Surgeons took it over and it was because of the changed circumstances that the Society decided to request the return of the vasculum.

Yours sincerely,

TH. O'GRADY

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17.2.87

Fletching Lodge,  
Fletching,  
East Sussex TN22 3SS.

Dear Sir,

On a recent visit to the Society I happened to mention to Dr Barrow that I had known Jim Insch for a short while just after the Second War. She suggested that I might like to record any memories I had of him; hence this letter.

While working in England in 1946–1948 my wife and I stayed occasionally with a relative of hers in Boscombe, outside Bournemouth. It was here that we came to know Jim Insch and his wife, Alice (also related to my wife) who were living nearby in Beechwood Avenue at the time.

The Inschs had two daughters, Sheila (born c. 1911, 12) and Eleanor (a little younger). Sheila married a Dr Hammish Whitelaw but they are both now long deceased. They had a son, but, we think, he too has died. Eleanor married someone in a legal firm in London and had three daughters, who could still be alive, but we know nothing of this family's present whereabouts or circumstances. If they could be traced they would be the only relatives to our knowledge able to provide any information, assuming that there are no relatives of the Insch's still living in Scotland. I am only sorry that what I have been able to contribute is so very meagre.

I have no recollection, unfortunately, of ever seeing the renowned Tea Library while visiting Beechwood Avenue, but well remember the valuable collection of ivories gathered during their years in India. Jim Insch was a fine, modest and unassuming Scottish gentleman, and it's comforting to reflect that the library that obviously meant so much to him has found such a fitting home.

Yours sincerely,

F. R. HALL

15.1.87

'Jasione,'  
Downderry,  
Torpoint,  
Cornwall.

Dear Brian,

The obituary of C. C. Hentschel in the last *Linnean* while recording his official appointments, etc., did not really pay tribute to his genial personal qualities which benefited many of us. I am writing to ask if you could see that some appreciation of his help and encouragement in earlier times to his younger colleagues could be included in the *Linnean* record.

Many young zoologists of my generation, and I imagine many others later, owe their early start to his interest and kindness. We started as part-time demonstrators in his department\*, in the days when postgraduate grants were a rarity, and many of us had our first experience of examining as his assistants. He

\*Editors note: My very first job was as a part-time demonstrator in Biology at Chelsea—for CCH.



was secretary of the Board of Studies in Zoology, University of London, for over twenty years (to D. M. S. Watson's Chairman), before becoming chairman himself, and he chaired every board of examiners in zoology at one time or another for thirty years. In consequence he always knew someone who could be contacted to help his 'youngsters'; many people got their first introduction to senior biologists, to other departments, and to societies through his kindness. He maintained his interest in his people long after they had left Chelsea; many of us will remember the parties he deliberately set up to bring people together.

He was a genial, hospitable colleague, who set a standard of friendliness and helpfulness few of us managed to live up to. I reckon myself one of his 'younger colleagues', and I'm now in my seventies, so you will see why I think it likely that these aspects of his life will go unremarked, as they have in all the obituaries.

With best wishes,  
sincerely yours,

DAVID ETHERINGTON

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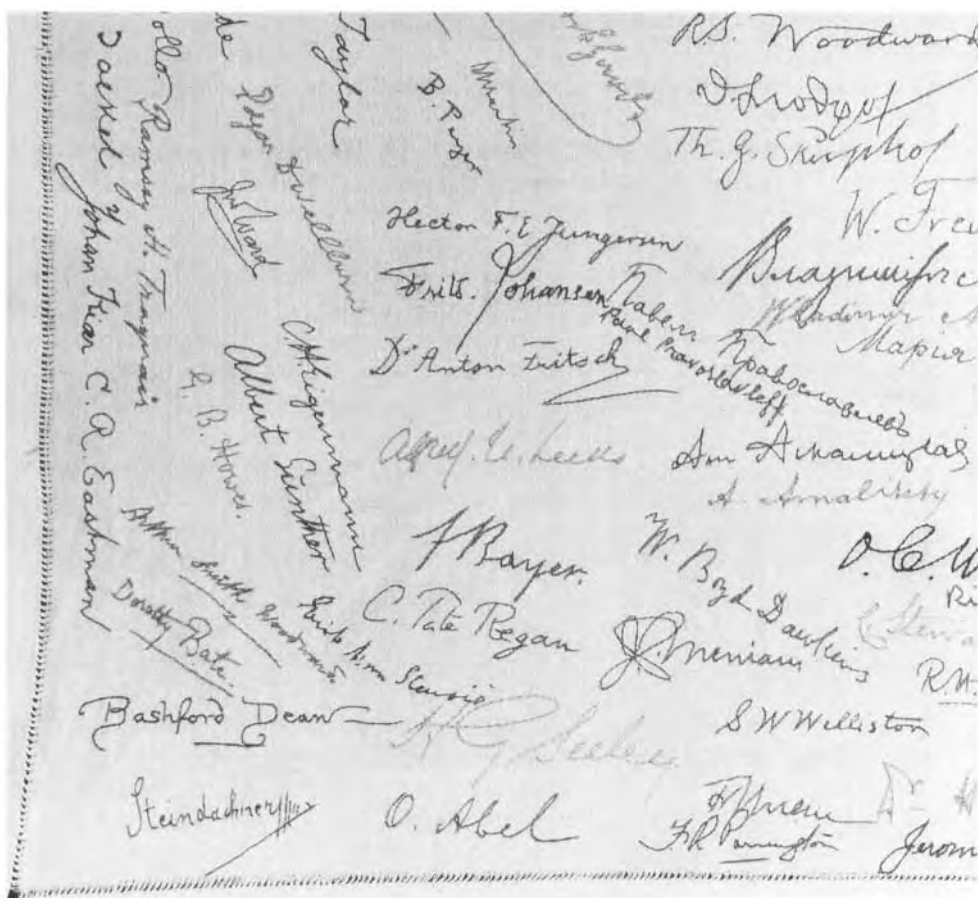
## Lady Smith Woodward's tablecloth

Sir Arthur Smith Woodward (1864–1944) joined the British Museum (Natural History) in 1882 (see *The Linnean* 2(1): 1, 11–14) and retired in 1924 after 42 years service. For thirty of those years he and his wife spent their vacations travelling extensively throughout Europe and America, visiting museums and universities in order to examine the various fossil collections contained therein. In so doing they built up an enormous circle of acquaintances, indeed, it may be said that A.S.W. knew personally almost all those connected with the subjects in which he was interested, and he had an inexhaustible fund of anecdotes concerning them.

Over the years many of these acquaintances, as well as other visitors from home and abroad, who came to visit the Department of Geology at the British Museum would be liberally entertained by the Woodward's, first at their house in South Kensington and after Arthur's retirement at their beautiful home in Haywards Heath (not far from Piltdown!).

Soon after their marriage (1894) Mrs A.S.W. had the novel idea that instead of a visitors book all her distinguished visitors should sign her tablecloth (in pencil) and that she would later embroider the signatures in silk. This custom was kept up until Sir Arthur died in 1944 and Lady Woodward left Haywards Heath. Thus the tablecloth covers a 50-year period from the 1890s to the 1940s and contains some 350 signatures.

Every biologist would make his own list of notables, but here are a few: Othenio Abel, Robert Broom, Teilhard de Chardin, Raymond Dart, Louis Dollo, W. K. Gregory, E. S. Goodrich, Otto Jaekel, L. S. B. Leakey, O. C. Marsh, H. F. Osborn, C. Tate Regan, A. S. Romer, G. G. Simpson, Erik



A corner of the tablecloth which includes the signature of Arthur Smith Woodward.

Stensiö, Marie Stopes, D'Arcy Thompson, D. M. S. Watson.

The tablecloth was first exhibited at the 1947 International Geological Congress; Lady Smith Woodward was an honoured guest—and several people such as van Koeningswald, signed it then.

In 1951 Lady Woodward made approaches to the then Keeper of Geology at the BM(NH), Dr W. N. Edwards, concerning a permanent home for the tablecloth. Edwards told her that he did not think the British Museum (Natural History) had anywhere suitable to put it; whereupon Lady Woodward gave the tablecloth to George Gaylord Simpson, who took it back to the American Museum of Natural History, New York. Our picture quiz (*The Linnean* 3(1): 6) featured the tablecloth being formally received by the Director and staff at the AMNH, autumn 1951, where it was subsequently housed in the Department of Vertebrate Paleontology.

In September 1977 the Department of Vertebrate Paleontology, under the Chairmanship of Dr Bobb Schaeffer (half face, extreme right of picture, *The Linnean* 3(1): 6) decided to return the tablecloth to what they considered, its rightful home. They accordingly presented it to the Department of Palaeontology (formerly Geology), BM(NH)—the Department of which A.S.W. had for 22 years been Keeper.

The cloth was subsequently cleaned and curated in the Victoria & Albert Museum (it was shown at the Linnean Conversazione, 1980) and has recently been framed and mounted courtesy of Mrs Margaret Hodgson as a memorial to her father (A.S.W.).

It hangs outside the Keeper of Palaeontology's Office on the fourth floor of the BM(NH). A card index of identified signatures is kept nearby.



The unveiling of the tablecloth. L. to R., Dr Bobb Schaeffer, Dr Robin Cocks (Keeper), Mrs Margaret Hodgson.

On May 23rd 1987, in a small ceremony organized by Colin Patterson, Mrs Hodgson officially unveiled the tablecloth. Guests included Dr Bobb Schaeffer, Brian Gardiner and two of Lady Smith Woodward's grandchildren.

B.G.G.

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## **Translation and Annotation of a little known Encomium to Carl Linné**

In the course of research at the library of the Linnean Society in London, I examined a document catalogued as "Anonymous eulogy on Linnaeus' merits in natural history in Latin 'Diva Historia Naturalis' is herself introduced calling on Linnaeus to rule over the realm of nature. Apparently written about 1745. 4

pages". It appeared from subsequent studies that no translation of this document had ever been made.

Here I provide a transcription, English translation and annotation of this encomium. The probable date of its writing was determined from internal evidence and this evidence is provided. The possible meanings of various mythical references are discussed in the context of 18th Century Science. This study provides the modern reader with insights into the importance of Linnaeus to his late contemporaries and the level of dithyrambic praise they accorded him.

### *Latin Transcription*

Forte, frondosa sub umbra consederat Diva Historia Naturalis. Circumfluunt Nymphae, diei officia narrare aventes. Contra illa, garrulos referentium sonos, surda excipit aure; sed multa pectore volutans, haec<sup>1</sup> tandem, post longa silentia, effundit, choro stupente, verba.

Usque<sup>2</sup> adeo ego, inter Scientiarum et<sup>3</sup> Populorum Magistates projecta et septimi quasi ordinis latebo Dea? Videtisne Puellulae<sup>1</sup>, quam pernici incremento, omnium Genii Literarum suam maturant fortunam, animos hominum incendiando, Magnatum favorem ambiendo, et fatorum, si fieri potest, cursum accelerando? Magni adproperant dies, (futura enim cano) quum astrorum fornix, toto fere Hemisphaerio<sup>1</sup> protenditur australi. Fames et inopiae<sup>1</sup> horror ex dumetis, Oeconomica pellitur Cerere. Pretioso vellere, teneram mortalitatem ambit Arachne. Truncus et metalla in officiosas mutantur machinas, creatrice quodam Spiritu viventes. In sculptoria tabula, ad vitam animamque<sup>2</sup> prominet effigies. Inaudita Ruyschius arte statuaria, subterraneam continuat Aegyptum<sup>1</sup>. Viatorum faces, quasi Prosperpinam quaerent<sup>1</sup>, per totem Telluris Geographiam flagrant. Romana super fragmenta Vesuvii ira, innoxium evomuit rogi. Multus<sup>8</sup> hodie Faustus, totam Mathesin, brevi Typographia Analyseos transfundit. Immensus Wolffius<sup>9</sup>, aeterno<sup>1</sup> nexu, velut materia interlabente, veritatum intervalla implet et repetitionis Lunulis, infinita possibilitum spatia coercescit. Argentum potabile e testa Cantonensi sorbetor, vel per fistulam Batavica volatilis exhalatur. Chymia, sua arcana hermetice sigillat. Igneo corpora nitent rore et crepitantem sudant Phosphorum. Lagenae Musschenbroeckia<sup>4</sup> parvulum excutit Jovem. Tempus instabit, quo nulla Venus sine artificiosa Variolarum cicatrice placebit. Sanitatem vastantia Morborum agmina, Hippocraticas patiuntur velitationes. Ingenioso Marte, provinciae<sup>1</sup> pars occupatur, vastatur deseritur. Scientiarum Academiae<sup>1</sup>, velut fatorum furoribus inaccessa tuentur Castella, oribus Literarii fines.

Hic ego, Cocli Terraeque<sup>1,2</sup> filia, inter tot peregrinas langueo felicitater. Illa tamen ego, quae<sup>1</sup> ex immenso Copiae<sup>1</sup> Cornu opulentiam effundo, pompam, satietatem. E Bombycum sepulchris Magnatum restauro luxum. Simplicem texturam arborea aspergo purpura. Delicias arborum in avidos depluit copiosa Pomona sinus. Neptunia patifacio marmorata, et perlucida bacca, ipsam decipio Venerem. Opaca Silvarum silentia alata harmonia, aurium illecebris, persono. Omnem glebam aristis vel flore vestio. Fercula sub uno Tropico vel altero nata, in sumptuosam congero mensam. Saxea montium viscera, animoso perfodio vulnere et subterranea hominis desideria protraho.

In affluentiae<sup>1</sup> hujus amplexu mortales obdormiunt. Saepius<sup>1</sup> tamen hunc (meministis enim Filiae<sup>1</sup>) soporem excussi, dum timidae<sup>1</sup> rogastis, generisne humani interitum meditarer? Quoties Agricola, iste vexatae<sup>1</sup> patientiae<sup>1</sup> Vir, levi fasciculo vel inutili calathio tulit Autumnum? Vermium phalanges in laeta<sup>1</sup> eduxi pascua et Castorum risi planctus. In Canadensi Tityrus umbra, ab exili hoste tutus non recumbit. Per satellitum cohortes, Regia corpora rodentes invadunt Acari. Nec giganteae<sup>1</sup> mihi placent semper calamitates, nam Xexea in punctuli campo adorna castra. Intra pictos pomorum orbes, inutilem pulverem suscitant Curiulionum rostra. Ingeniosa pernicie verbero. Vestitam Superbiam subtili timearum grege percribo. Epulas foeda aspergo fera, quam ne Apicius quidem abigeret. Spatiantia vestigia mirae<sup>1</sup> virtutis fallo veneno, vel Cobra nunciante, avertio. Inimicis, meam exprimo gloriam, Torpedine, ceu Equuleo adnota.

Nunc eja! Nymphae<sup>1</sup> effulgere cupio, haec<sup>1</sup> enim crepuscula mihi diutius non placent. Coloratam succingo togam et ad arma conclamo. Cum contemptu et ignorantia mihi bella erunt. Sed Dictatorem nominare juvat, in cujus fortissimas liceat curas, devolvere castrenses horrores. Qui confusam Varietatis militum turbam, immutabili distribuatur ordine. Qui monstret quid Regnum sit, quid Classis, Ordo, Genus et Species. Qui acute discernat Civem, Socium Peregrinum aut hostem irrepentem. Ille nutantem Imperii molem audaci eriget sacerto. Sic mihi tantem istis fas erit gratis frui, quibus tamdiu praefui<sup>1</sup>. Vos, quae totus patet orbis, talem investigate Virum, et ocyus mihi sistite. Cereris curru sublimes ite, et ventos meaque<sup>2</sup> anteverte vota.

Tres erant intimae<sup>1</sup> admissionis Foeminae<sup>1,4</sup>, quae<sup>1</sup> trepida mente rotas involabant, et per alta mundum ejusque<sup>2</sup> mille et mille manipulos hominum illustrabant. Mox Flora et Fauna ad suas properant Indias, ubi longa sibi finxerunt Candidatorum<sup>5</sup> agmina. Haec<sup>1</sup> vero poma natabant. Nudam viderunt inertiam tantum Naturae<sup>1</sup> luxum, sudante proculcantem pede et misere in tanta meridie errantem. Quapropter indignantes inde cursum flectunt et Lithologia monente per Europaea<sup>1</sup> tendunt arva. Quaeque<sup>1,2</sup> heic Dea scio tumuit Heroe, sed qui triplici caleret Numine, inventus est nemo.

Quasi ergo exhausto itinere, ad saecula<sup>1</sup> ventura, tam latum transmittunt inogenium; ecce! Flora cumulata sibi in brevi ara sacrificia, grate dum excipit, auctorem muneris sacro subito tacta oraculo suspicit et simul

cum Lithologia Faunaque futurum Imperii Ministrum tacite veneratur; quem sine astrorum themate, sine palmae<sup>1</sup> aut faciei radeis<sup>7</sup> dignoscebant; sed quem prodidit arcana oculorum acies et vis indolis nativa. Hunc tamen sub Polari Stella natum, in Regione et loco, tam grandibus ausis, ut putatur, vix apto, quis sibi finxisset?

Depresso igitur curru, designatum Historiae<sup>1</sup> Naturalis Statorem placido Deae<sup>1</sup> salutant officio et ad illustria vocant fata. Ille nec rusticano aufugit pudore, nec temere laterum offert robur, sed verecunde et ambigit et confidet et paret. Permittit se sacro huic amori, et quantum plumbi huic insit moli, experiundum abibit.

Praesentit<sup>1</sup> interim felicitatis suae<sup>1</sup> incrementa Historia Naturalis. Stat Regia Domus porphyrio nixa fundamine, multoque<sup>2</sup> marmore sublimia surgunt tecta. Thronus marcasitis et Concharum turbine operosa artis solertia conflatur. Sparsa circum jacent Herbaria, Tritonum fornices., leves Serpentum pelles, thecae<sup>1</sup> insectorum exuviis refertae<sup>1</sup>. Chrysalides tuto libertatis desiderio pendent. Volucrum pennata cadavera adhuc aera inhabitant. Multae<sup>1</sup> in gradibus stant urnae<sup>1</sup> quae<sup>1</sup> ex patenti alveo plantarum fasciculos fundunt. Totus extra Palatium Campus, omni luminum mensura spatiosior, hortus est. vegetanti Populo exuberans, cui intermistae<sup>1</sup> volant avium turmae<sup>1</sup>, vagat gradientium vel reptantium plebs. In aquis, aut nitidus utraque<sup>2</sup> carpit elementa Cygnus, aut genus salit omne natantum. Nulla inter tam discordes fratres Cadmea odia; tanta est reverentia loci.

Ocyus huc omnes convolant nurus, guum eximius ingreditur hospes; quo insolium juxta Deam evocato, illa venturos sine mora annos, Delphica hac nuntiat Oratione.

Ego Historia Naturalis, Magna Rerum Mater, Te Carole Linnae<sup>1</sup>, in Societatem Imperii mei advoco, et trium Naturae<sup>1</sup> Regnorum Dictatorem Perpetuum salvere plurimum jubeo. Velut ad Rem Romanam tuendam ab oratores Duces rapuere Patres, Te ex angusto Florae<sup>1</sup> agello ad potentissimos hos Orbes regendos transfero. Macte hoc animo esto Generose Pulle! Hic Labor! Haec<sup>1</sup> gloria! Primum Solonia audacia Systema Naturae<sup>1</sup>, seu Legem condidit, qui de tuo nomine Codex Linnaeanus<sup>1</sup>, vocabitur. Iste pro Censoria erit Tabula, extra quam nefas sit, civem vagare. Florae<sup>1</sup> palatium XXIV Columnis, plus quam Corinthiacis, circumdas, quibus CCCLXV affigis votivas mihi tabulas, quae<sup>1</sup>. magis quam Lycurgi scripta valent aera<sup>1</sup>. Gravi experimento deficientis<sup>8</sup> Naturae<sup>1</sup> munera et fere nihil ultra audentis, inter aeternas<sup>1</sup> Poli nives recolligis. Tuo afflatu Batavae<sup>1</sup> juvenescunt aestates<sup>1</sup>. Utrasque Indias in Septentrionem infers, ibique<sup>2</sup> artificiosum fingis Zodiacum, unde triplici nostra majestate per orbem radias. Nilus in tuas messes exuberat et Jordanus suas tibi secat arundines. Annis curvata Taprobana sacris scripta literis Volumina tibi pandit. Saeculorum<sup>1</sup> umbris mixtus torpet Alexander: in fabulis est Bacchus; tu Gangetica superas littora, in illustrioris famae<sup>1</sup> theatro constitutus: eo major, quo longius excurris, quo utilius superas et quo certius ad immortalitatem ascendis. Tuo nomine duce, Europaeam invehunt sapientiam Missisipi Senex et Oronoko, suis licet stupentibus undis. Regalia conclavia insueta reples pompa, et inter sumptuosas dignitates meas inferis blanditias. Cives Patriae<sup>1</sup> servas, sanitatem ingeniosa simplicitate tuendo. Veterum revocas numina et Dianam in tuo vestibulo Salientem rides. Jam ludenti manu Pythonis lurida dividis scuta. Prisci mundi horrores et recentioris monstra, ac mutatam Avenam, aut fugas, aut domas.

Tanta veritatem et gloriae<sup>1</sup> unda ex angustissimo tibi manat floris fonte, ubi novo calculo utiliores numeras radios, et viridi toga venustam doces Floram honestis appellare nominibus stupendam hospitum catervam. Nunc et Tu vaga Entomologia auratas frange Chrysalides, quo enim ordine tenellulae<sup>1</sup> ruunt tumae<sup>1</sup>, vehementer spectare gestio. Versicolor Ornithologia, aetheris<sup>1</sup> incolas, volantes istas Irides, per Classes et Species emitte. Cataphracta Tu Testaceologia distinctis Legiones Clypeis ornas, aut nitidis, aut hispidis, aut argilla vel pyrite larvatis. Tristior tu Lithologia, accepto ex meo Prometheo igne, confusum hactenus Plutonem, quantum licet, irradiat.

Tot ad celsum honoris Pantheon ducunt aditus. Ego Linnaeo<sup>1</sup> huic meo, novam aperio viam, quam flosculis aspergo, Papilionibus exorno et canoro volucrum strepitu resonare jubeo. Negue tamen sine invidiae<sup>1</sup> eris experimento, brevi scilicet et procul tuae<sup>1</sup> dignitati minante. Hinc unus tuam umbram Erroribus allatrabit aversus: illinc alter Anandriam palpando monstrabit, ignorantiae<sup>1</sup> pileo tectam.

Haec<sup>1</sup> fata, credite mihi, pernici annorum provolant ordine. Longa hactenus mora, rapido satiatur progressu. In hoc Phoenice formando tot consumsit Saecula<sup>1</sup> Titan: tantum laboris tu illi, tantum votorum tu mihi constas. Si vero quaeritis<sup>1</sup>, Linnaeosne<sup>1</sup> in surgentibus temporum spatiis discernam? Tanta sidera magno fatorum tardoque<sup>2</sup> enituntur nixu.

His ergo artibus Fili! nitidam Tibi formas aeternitatem<sup>1</sup>, quam religio plausu mea celebrant regna. Quot hortorum subis portas, quot Musaeorum<sup>1</sup> calcas limina, tot Triumphales transis arcus, quibus Tua nomina meis immixta titulis stabunt. Superant haec<sup>1</sup> monumenta ignem, undam, aetatem<sup>1</sup>. Supernunt Alaricum, Othomannum, Barbariem. Durant guousque<sup>2</sup> Colibri minima volat avium, quamdiu aurea natat squama Cyprinus Chinensis: dum Medea quacunque<sup>2</sup> laceratus revivit Polypus: donec Palma Persicis laeta<sup>1</sup> aestuat<sup>1</sup> Solibus, aut Nana Sic Valle Betula, tristes dolet nives et noctes.

### Transcription Notes

1. à in manuscript was taken as the diphthong *ae*.
2. 3 in manuscript was taken as the diphthong *ue* (i.e. *que*).
3. et in manuscript was taken as *et*.
4. *Foeminae* in manuscript was taken as *ferminae*.
5. *Candidatorum* in manuscript was taken as *Canditatorum*.

6. *radeis* in manuscript was taken as *radiis*.

7. *deficientis* in manuscript was taken as *deficientibus*.

8. *Multus* in manuscript could be read *Stultus* but *Multus* fits the context and was preserved in this transcription.

9. *Wolffius* in manuscript could be read *Wolsfius* but *Wolffius* fits the mathematical reference. See notes to literal translation.

### *Literal English Translation*

Beneath the shade of a leafy tree the goddess Natural History chanced to sit down. About her flock the nymphs eager to relate their duties of the day. She on the other hand listens to the noisy prattle of the ones reporting with a deaf ear. But as she turns many things over in her heart, she finally, after a long silence, pours forth these words to the amazement of her company.

To such an extent shall I a goddess, who has been abandoned in disdain between the powers of science and of people, remain hidden, occupying, as it were, the seventh rank? Do you see, dear girls, by what swift progression the guiding spirits in every field of literature hasten the development of their own fortune by kindling the minds of men, by soliciting for great personal favour and, if it is possible, by speeding up the course of fate? Great days are approaching (for I sing of future things) when the arch of the stars is extended to nearly the entire southern hemisphere. Hunger and the nightmare of famine are driven out of thorny fields by domesticated crops.<sup>1</sup> Arachne<sup>2</sup>, the spinner, clothes delicate humanity in valuable fleece. Timber and ore are transformed into serviceable machines, alive through the creative spirit. The image on the sculptured panel is extended to life and even to the soul. Through unheard of skill in sculpting, Ruyschius<sup>3</sup> continues the tradition of subterranean Egypt. The torches of wayfarers, as if they were seeking Proserpina<sup>4</sup>, throughout the whole geography of the earth are ablaze. Over the ruins of Rome, the wrath of Vesuvius spewed forth harmless destruction. Today diligent Faust<sup>5</sup> has poured all knowledge of Mathematics into a small printed book of analysis<sup>6</sup>. The great Wolff<sup>7</sup> through perpetual intertwining, as though slipping in matter, fills the gaps of truth and through the repetitions of geometric figures, he calculates the infinite distances of possibilities. Liquid silver is swallowed from a chinese jug or is breathed out in its volatile state through a Batavian<sup>8</sup> pipe. Chemistry keeps its secrets hermetically sealed. Bodies glisten with fiery moisture and sweat crackling phosphorus. The Leyden jar of Musschenbroek<sup>9</sup> casts out tiny electric sparks. A time will come when no love will please without the skilful incision of pustulence. The armies of disease that lay waste to health endure Hippocratic attacks. The ingenious war god overruns part of the province, lays it waste and abandons it. The Academies of Science, as though strongholds which are inaccessible to the rages of fate, protect the boundaries of the learned world.

Here I, the daughter of heaven and earth, amidst so many wanderings lie happily in a passive state. Yet I am the one who pours forth wealth, pomp and stability from the great cornucopia. I bring new luxury from the dying cocoons of silkworms. I add purple dye derived from plants to plain cloth. Generous Pomona, goddess of orchards has rained down the delicacies of fruit trees into greedy laps. I reveal the marble of Neptune and with wine that is extremely clear, I deceive Venus<sup>10</sup> herself. I make the impenetrable silences of woodlands resound with the winged harmony of birds and the allurements of the breezes. I adorn all soil with either grain or flower. I bring dishes originating in one tropic

or another onto a lavish table. With windy blow, I pierce the rocky intestines of mountains and drag out the things man covets from under the earth.

In the embrace of this prosperity, men lie sleeping. Quite often however I (you remember my daughters) have shaken this sleep from them, while you timidly inquire whether I was meditating the destruction of the human race? How often has the farmer, that man of tried patience, borne off his autumn harvest in a diminished bundle or in a paltry basket? I led the battalions of worms into broad pastures and laughed at the lamentations of the chaste. Tityrus the shepherd does not lie down under the shade of a Canadian tree safe from the slender enemy. Their cohorts of followers, the mites, attach and bite the bodies of kings. But gigantic calamities do not always please me, for I equip the military camps of a Xerxes in some tiny and obscure field. Around coloured apples, the teeth of weevils create useless dust. I quickly strike out at ingenious things. I use a keen flock of moths to eat their way through arrogant attire. I spoil fine banquets with the taste of foul meat, which not even Apicius the Epicurean would get rid of. I deceive the striding footsteps of the man renowned for courage with poison, or I use the Cobra to announce the danger and turn him away. To enemies I express my glory through a stiffness just as it would be brought upon them by the torture-horse.

Come now quickly. Dear maidens, I want my splendour to shine, for these evening dusks no longer give me pleasure. I am putting on the royal toga and sending out a call to armies. I will make war upon ignorance and disdain. But it is useful to appoint a supreme commander into whose most powerful care it may be permitted to entrust the nightmares of military life. One who will arrange the disorderly throng of soldiers of diverse experience into regular ranks. One who will reveal what the Kingdom is, what Class, Order, Genus and Species are. One who will accurately recognize citizen, ally, foreigner or stealthy enemy. He shall bolster the staggering might of the empire through daring and strength. Thus at last I will lawfully enjoy the recompense of those things for which I have so long been responsible. And you, wherever the whole world extends, search out such a man and bring him quickly before me. Go now, in the lofty chariot of Ceres and give priority to my troubles and my wishes.

The women admitted into friendship were three in number and with great excitement they urged on quickly the wheels of the chariot. Throughout the lofty atmosphere, they cast light upon the world and its countless thousands of men. Flora and Fauna are soon hurrying to their respective Indies where they set up for examination before themselves long columns of candidates. But these fruits were uncertain. They saw idleness as it was revealed trampling the great richness of nature under a sweaty foot and wandering about wretchedly in the middle of the day. Therefore in indignation they change their course from there and on the advice of Lithology, they head toward the cultivated plains of Europe. And here each goddess grew excited at the thought of recognizing a hero who might be encouraged by their triple divinity, but no one was found.

Therefore as their search was nearly exhausted they transmit such broad genius across to the generations to come. And low and behold. While flora is gratefully accepting sacrifices which are piled up on a small altar, as she is touched by a sudden divine inspiration, she looks up at the author of the devotion and along with Lithology and Fauna she at once pays silent homage to the future servant of the empire. Without the use of a Zodiac without studying

the lines of his palm or face, they recognize him. For the secret keenness of his vision and inner quality of strength revealed him. Yet who would have imagined that this was the man, who was born under the North Star, in a region and a locality which are scarcely thought to be suitable to such great endeavours?

Still the goddesses bring down their chariot and with dutiful attention they greet Natural History's attendant and summon him to his illustrious destiny. Neither does he run off in rustic embarrassment, nor does he boldly offer the strength of his oratorical skills<sup>11</sup>, but modestly he is at first in hesitation, then he gains confidence and then he is ready to comply. He yields to that sacred affection and goes off to determine the weight of this force.

In the meantime, Natural History has a presage of her growing happiness. The Royal House stands built on a foundation of purple marble and more marble allows the roofs to rise up to lofty heights. The throne is forged from marcasite<sup>12</sup> and pearls, arranged skilfully, spiral around it. Scattered about lie dried plants, the shells of snails, light skins of serpents and the thecae of insects (replete with their slough). Chrysalids hang in suspension free from their longing of freedom. The winged carcasses of birds continue to dwell in the air. On the steps are many urns which overflow from their inside with bouquets of plants. The whole field outside the palace, which is well exposed to every quantity of light, constitutes the garden. It is populated with a flourishing plant life that is frequented by flocks of birds who intermingle their presence and by a multitude of creeping and crawling creatures who wander about. In the water, either a glistening swan enjoys both elements or all kinds of fish leap about. Among creatures so distinct there is no Cadmean enmity<sup>13</sup>; such is their respect of the place.

Upon the entry of the distinguished host, all the young women quickly assemble here. To the one called to sit on the throne beside the goddess, she speaks with Delphic prophecy about the years soon to come.

I Natural History, the great mother of things summon you, Carl Linné, into an imperial alliance and I wish especially to greet you as eternal commander of the three realms of nature. Just as the fathers of Rome snatched their leaders straight from the plough to protect the republic, I have taken you from the little garden you cultivate, and I appoint you to rule over these most extensive domains. Honour this task with your intelligence and be generous, my dear child. This is your toil. This is your glory. First with the boldness of Solon<sup>14</sup>, set up a System, or law, of nature which shall be known from your name as the Linnaean Code. This will serve as a census list beyond which no citizen may lawfully transgress. Set up twenty-four columns<sup>15</sup> around the palace of Flora, greater than the Corinthian columns and to them adfix 365 votive tablets in my honour. These shall be mightier than the bronze tablets inscribed by Lycurgus<sup>16</sup>. Within the eternal snows of the Pole and by serious experiment, gather up the tributes of nature, who is waning and furthermore dares almost nothing. Under your influence Batavian summers flourish. Bring knowledge of both Indies to the northern regions and there design a skilful Zodiac by means of which you may cause our triple majesty to shine throughout the world. The Nile flows in abundance for you to harvest and for your benefit the Jordan flows through its reeds. Ceylon opens up to you its curved scrolls written over the ages about sacred literature. Alexander, passed into the generations of shadows, lies



stiff. Bacchus belongs to fable. But you go beyond the shores of the Ganges for you have been established in a theatre of more illustrious fame. It is all the greater as you travel further. Your victories are more useful and you are more certain to ensure your place in eternity. In your name as leader, Old Man Mississippi and the Oronoco convey European wisdom, although their very waves are astounded. You bring unexpected pomp to kingly council rooms and to lavish ceremonies you introduce my charms. You protect the citizens of the homeland by guarding their well being through disciplined simplicity. You invoke once more the divinities of old and you smile on the statue of leaping Diana in your court-yard. Already with a playful hand you divide up the ghastly shields of the Python. You either put to rout the fears of the old world or you develop for domestic use the portents of the more contemporary world, such as the altered hybrid of oats. Such a great wave of truth and glory flows over you from the very obscure spring where began your flowering, as you now with a new method of calculation, make better measurements. In the youthful gown of professor you teach your astonished audience to identify the beauty of Flora under her rightful names. And you, a wandering Entomology, break open the gold coloured Chrysalids, for from this order, delicate swarms fly out and I am most eager to see the sight. And you, O multi-coloured Ornithology send out by class and species the birds who inhabit and fly through the air; they are goddesses of the rainbow itself. And you, O armour-plated Testaceology, equip your legions of shell fish with distinct shields, either glistening ones or bristly ones, ones spawned on rock or ones in clay. And you, O sad Lithology, born out of Promethean fire, cast light as far as possible on the still murky underworld of Pluto.

There are so many approaches leading to the great Pantheon of honour. Yet I open a new path to Linné, a path that I strew with flowers and adorn with butterflies; one that I wish to make resound with the melodious song of birds; However you will discover envy, a discovery that will threaten your prestige from near and even from afar. In one instance an opponent will attack your fame from his own error. In another he will reveal his lack of courage through flattery, which he has hidden under the cap of ignorance.

Mark my words, this destiny is swiftly approaching with the fleeting sequel of years. Such a long waiting period is compensated by rapid progress. In creating the Phoenix, Titan spent centuries: offer as much effort to your task as the numerous prayers you grant me. Do you indeed ask whether I shall see several Linnés in the coming stretch of years? Many are the stars striving to appear in the long and painful labour of the fates.

These are your skills, my son. You are preparing for yourself a shining life of eternity which my kingdoms are celebrating with devoted praise. As many as there are garden gates through which you go and Museum thresholds which you cross, are there Triumphal arches under which you pass and on which will stand your name united with your titles. These monuments outlive fire, flood and time. They scorn the barbarity of an Alaric or that of an Ottoman. They endure as far as the smallest humming bird flies and as far as the Chinese gold-fish swims: while the wounded Polypa is restored to life by some Medean herb; as long as the happy palm tree waves under the Persian sun or Nana, in the valley of the birch tree is so saddened by the sad snows and nights.

### *Literal Translation Notes*

1. Literally, *Cerere*. The names of Latin divinities can mean nothing more than the attributes they personify. As the context requires, the names of divinities were translated by their attributes, e.g. *Ceres* as 'crops' or 'food', *Bacchus* as 'wine' and *Venus* as 'love'.
2. *Arachne* was a young Greek girl from Lydia renowned for her skilful cloth making. She angered Athene by perfectly weaving together the loves of the gods and was turned into a spider to eternally spin threads drawn from her own body (Guirand, 1968).
3. *Ruyschius*: probably a reference to Frederik Ruysch (1638–1731) Praelector of Anatomy for the Surgeons Guild of Amsterdam from 1666 until his death (see: *Dictionary of Scientific Biography*) Ruysch was well known in his time for his remarkable ability to preserve cadavers by injecting their veins and arteries with special preservatives. The resulting "life-like" corpses were publically displayed. In addition, Ruysch became Professor of Botany and supervisor of the botanical garden at the Athenaeum Illustre in 1685.
4. *Proserpina* was a Latin corruption of the Greek name Persephone, daughter of Demeter and wife of Hades (Guirand, 1968; Guirand & Pierre, 1968).
5. *Faust*: a possible reference to the Renaissance legend of Faust. Here the author is probably designating the one who has learned all knowledge.
6. *brevi typographia analyseos*: a small book of analysis. The only word for the science of making resolutions is the Greek ἀνάλυσις and the *analyseos* seems to be a transcription of the Greek genitive.
7. *Immensus Wolffius* is probably a reference to the German Philosopher and Mathematician Christian Wolff (1679–1754). In this context, *Lunulis* is taken as referring to a crescent-shaped figure used to calculate areas. This Lunula is then the same as the Greek μνησιμωγ: see Aristotle, *Analytica Priora* 69a: 33; *De Sophisticis Elenchia* 171b: 15, 172a: 3.
8. *Batavian*: From *Batavi*, an ancient people who lived on the island of Batawe between the Rhine and Waal Rivers in part of what is now The Netherlands (*OED*).
9. *Leyden jar of Musschenbroek*: an apparatus for generating electrical charges invented in Leyden, the Netherlands during 1735–1746 (*OED*).
10. In early Roman mythology, *Venus* was a modest goddess who like Flora personified spring and fruitfulness (Guirand, 1968).
11. *Laterum offert robur*: literally, "he offers the strength of his sides" or, more precisely, of his lungs and thence of his oratorical skills.
12. *Marcasite*: a form of pyrite used for ornamentation in the Eighteenth Century (*OED*).
13. *Cadmean emnity*: probably hostility which involves one's own ruin. Cf. Cadmean victory (*OED*).
14. *Solon c 639–559 BCE* Athenian lawgiver who boldly protected the peasants of Attica from losing their farms and opened the Assembly to all freemen.
15. *Twenty four columns* probably refers to the twenty four classes in Linnaeus' sexual system of classification for plants. Cf. *Species Plantarum* 1753.
16. *Lycrugus*: King of Thrace whose capture of Dionysus' Bacchantes brought ruin to his land and personal madness. (Guirand, 1968). See also Lykourgos in *Iliad* 6: 130–140; 7: 142–149.

### *Discussion*

This encomium is not a piece of great Latin literature nor is it as choppy as the literal translation may indicate. Alliteration and approximate onomatopoeia convey much of the suggestive meaning and smooth feeling of the text. A free translation of the Latin text can help convey this feeling. For example, the first two paragraphs might read in part:

Beneath the shade of a leafy tree, divine Natural History chanced to repose. Nymphs instantly swirled about her eager to tell her of their daily chores. But her ear was dulled by their noisy prattle. She was worried, deep in thought and all fell silent. Finally, to the surprise of everyone, she began to pour out her heart.

How long shall I a goddess remain hidden, abandoned, disdained by science and mankind. Have you not witnessed, my dear Nymphs, how guiding spirits can launch fields of literature to develop their own fortune by setting alight the minds of mankind, by encouraging them for their own sake and, if it is possible by speeding up the course of fate? Great days are approaching (for I sing of future things) when the whole earth will have been explored; when hunger and the nightmare of starvation will have been driven from dry wastelands by domesticated crops. Arachne, the weaver, will cloth delicate humanity in a gossamer fleece. Timber and ore will be formed into useful machines quickened by creativity. Even wooden images will come to life: The skill of Ruyschius breathing souls into sculptures as in subterranean Egypt of old. The world will blaze as if lit by the torches of myriad pilgrims seeking Persephone and rebirth. Even the wrath of Vesuvius will be rendered harmless over the ruins of Rome . . .

Such a free translation, however, soon begs explication of phrases like

"... Wolff, through perpetual intertwining, as though slipping in matter... calculates the infinite distances of possibilities." An elegant rendering of these complex and often convoluted references and allusions seems impossible and will not be attempted here.

The date of this manuscript is certainly not 1745 as indicated in the catalogues of the Library. The Leyden jar of Musschenbroek referred to in the text was not invented until 1746. The text refers to several of the explorations accomplished by Linnaeus' students: Kalm and Engström in North America (1747–1749), Hassequist in Palestine and Egypt (1749–1752) and Osbeck in China (1750–1757) among others (Pulteney & Maton, 1805). It is quite possible that this encomium was written to celebrate Linnaeus' accession of nobility in 1761. The image of Carl Linné being summoned into an imperial alliance and being appointed to rule over extensive domains (of natural history) are consistent with this hypothesis.

The author of this work repeatedly chooses divinities from the myth of Dionysius to populate the landscape of the text. This choice may be expected as the Dionysian myths contain many beautiful stories about nature. However combining these Dionysian references with the author's allusions to sculptures being brought to life as in subterranean Egypt, the legend of Faust, Wolff (and by inference Leibnez), alchemical sublimations of Mercury, Batavian pipes, hermetically sealed secrets, skilfully designed Zodiacs, and a 'theatre' of more illustrious fame indicates the existence of a hidden agendum to the text, an agendum which may betray the final resting place of 'The Art of Memory' and the 'Hermetic Tradition' in 18th Century Natural History (Cf. Yates, 1964, 1966, 1978; Dobbs, 1975). I will develop these possible origins of Linnaeus' thought more fully elsewhere.

The author seems very well informed about the life of Linnaeus. He speaks of "an opponent (who) will attack your fame from his own error . . ." and another "... will reveal his lack of courage through flattery." These are probably references to attacks by Siegesbeck and Wallerius when Linnaeus became a medical doctor in Stockholm during 1738. Linnaeus responded to their attacks without mentioning them by name in his pamphlet entitled *Orbis Judicium de Caroli Linnaei, M.D. Scriptus*. (Pulteney & Maton, 1805).

Towards the end of the encomium, melancholic notes are struck. First, the author mentions Linnaeus' "youthful gown of professor" (Linnaeus was only 34 years old in 1741 when he assumed his duties as Professor of Medicine at Uppsala) and then asks "Do you indeed ask whether I shall see several Linnés in the coming stretch of years?" (Linnaeus began to share his professorship with his son in 1763) The question is resolved by saying "Many are the stars striving to appear in the long and painful labour of the fates." And so it was. No star has yet ascended to outshine that of Linnaeus. Whatever the origins of Linnaeus' thought or the fate of this or that taxonomic designation or ecological theory, the importance of Linnaeus' contributions to humankind still "scorn the barbarity of an Alaric".

#### *Acknowledgements*

I thank John R. Lanci, CSC and Joseph Blain for their valuable assistance and comments.

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## A University Purchase of Elizabeth Blackwell's *Curious Herbal* (1737–1739)

Elizabeth Blackwell's artistic talent was put to good use in 1737 when she advertised sale of *A Curious Herbal, containing five hundred cuts of the most useful plants which are now used in the practice of physick* in two folio volumes. The motivation behind its production was to raise enough money to free her husband Alexander from his sentence in debtors prison. By taking lodgings near the Chelsea Physic Garden of the Society of Apothecaries she was able, with the encouragement of Sir Hans Sloane, to obtain suitable plant specimens. She was also responsible for the engraving and colouring of her drawings. The Archives of the University of Glasgow possess a receipt signed by Elizabeth Blackwell and further annotated by University officials of the time (University of Glasgow Archives, Accession No. 8846), and this outlines the sales procedure and the timing of the *Herbal*'s production.

The receipt, mainly printed but with written insets and additions (*italicized in the following*) states:

London, 15 April. 1737 173

REceived One Guinea & 14s. from Mr William Forbes Quastor for the Library of Glasgow being the first Payment for the Paper of a CURIOUS HERBAL, or a SET of CUTS of the most Useful Physical Plants, Engrav'd on Five Hundred Folio Copper Plates, from Drawings after the Life, the second Payment of Guinea to be made when Three Hundred Plates are delivered, and the last when the whole number is compleated.

*Elizabeth Blackwell*

The writing in the above is in the lady's hand. Additional writing at the side and beneath, and on the back, in a different hand, is as follows:

*Receivd 1£ 15s: as the payment for the second moiety from Mr Forbes as also for charge on shiling seven pence half pence Glasg. febr. 23 1738*

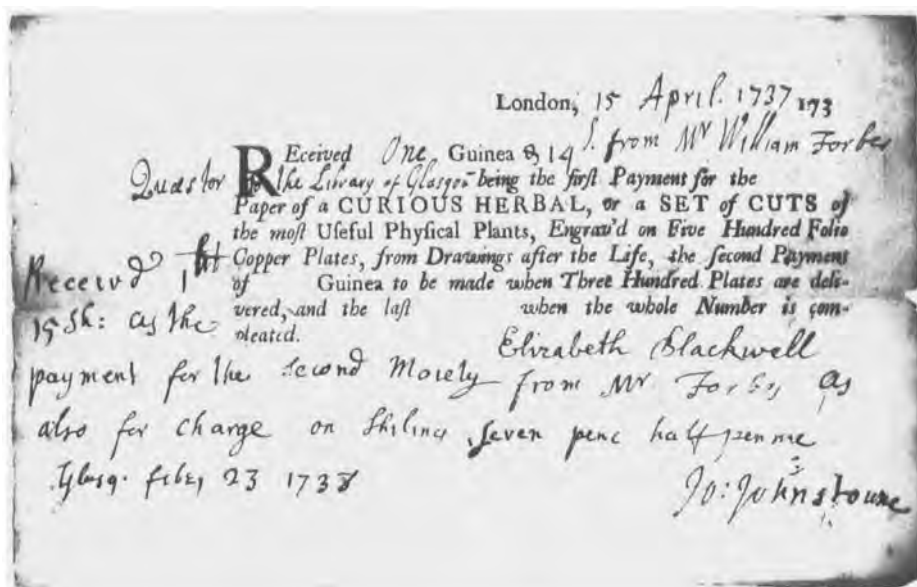
*Jo: Johnstoune*

The following is written on the back of the receipt, also by Johnstoune:

*Then Receivd by me from Mr Alex<sup>r</sup> Dunlop Quastor one pound seventeen shilings and Elevenpence sterling for the last Subscription and charges for Mrs Blackwells herbal*

*Jo: Johnstoune*

The Quastor (Quaestor) at that time was an official responsible for the finances of the library. Professors took turns in serving as Quaestor, William Forbes being Professor of Law, and Alexander Dunlop, his successor, Professor of Hebrew and Semitic Languages. The added notes were by John Johnstoune,



Photograph of Elizabeth Blackwell's receipt and annotations. (Original size 21 x 13 cm.)

Professor of the Practice of Medicine. Whilst the Quaestor made the first down payment, it would seem that Johnstoune himself paid for the first and second instalments of the herbal and was then refunded by the Quaestor. With the dependence on herbal medicine of the time, Johnstoune's interest in obtaining the herbal is understandable, although he seems to have been an ineffectual teacher of medicine (Coutts, 1909). It is noticeable that no mention is made of

Thomas Brisbane, the first Professor of Botany and Anatomy in the University. By 1737 he had long ceased to teach botany, and had not taught anatomy from the day of his appointment. Noticeably Elizabeth Blackwell made no prior commitment regarding the second and third payments for the herbal. The

Plate 86.

Plate 86 of Elizabeth Blackwell's *Curious Herbal*.

overall cost of the University was £5/8/6d sterling, and this would have included despatching costs, either by stagecoach or ship, the latter a frequent

means of goods transport to Glasgow at the time.

These two volumes of the herbal are today lodged in the Special Collections Department of the University of Glasgow Library.

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A. D. BONEY

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## **The Glasgow Expedition to Papua New Guinea 1987**

Sponsors: The Trades House of Glasgow

Patrons: The Royal Society of Edinburgh

Leader: Dr J. H. Dickson, Botany Department,  
University of Glasgow, G12 8QQ, U.K.

Deputy Leader and Horticulturist: Mr E. G. Donaldson, Deputy Curator of the  
Glasgow Botanic Gardens

Photographer: Mr T. N. Tait, University of Glasgow

Botanists: Mr G. Steven and Mr K. Watson,  
University of Glasgow

Approximately two months will be spent in Papua New Guinea beginning early in April. We have as our principal objectives Begoniaceae (of which there may be 100 species of *Begonia* and twelve species of the closely related *Symbegonia*, endemic to New Guinea), Orchidaceae (of which there may be some 3000 species) and pteridophytes (of which there may also be thousands of species). We are especially concerned with these taxa because the Glasgow Botanic Gardens houses fine collections of all three groups. The British National Collection of *Begonia* is the particular interest of Eric Curtis, the Curator of the Gardens. The stimulus is the Glasgow Garden Festival of 1988 where some of the plants will be displayed both growing and in photographs. The photographic display will tell the story of the Expedition, relate something of our findings and emphasize the richness of the forests of Papua New Guinea.

We intend to work in various places mainly from low to moderate altitudes but we shall reach high altitudes if only briefly. Our official affiliation in P.N.G. is the Botany Division of the Department of Forests in Lae, and we have support from both the University of Papua New Guinea in Port Moresby and of the Papua New Guinea University of Technology in Lae. Duplicate specimens, both

live and pressed, will be deposited at Lac, and we have sought the co-operation of the appropriate taxonomists at both the Royal Botanic Garden, Edinburgh and The Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew.

We shall be visiting logging areas where the rich flora of epiphytes, necessarily dies when felling is carried out. Only in such places will any bulk collecting be made.



Pictured from left to right are: team leader, Dr James Dickson, senior botany lecturer of Glasgow University; Deacon Convenor of Glasgow's Trades House, Mr Bill Hunter; botanist Keith Watson; Glasgow Botanic Gardens manager, Ewan Donaldson; photographer, Norman Tait; and botanist, Graham Steven.

The sole sponsor of the Expedition is the Trades House of Glasgow, the modern counterpart of the medieval craft guilds of the city: within Trades House, the Incorporation of Gardeners became the strongest supporters of the Expedition after an approach from Mr Keith Fraser, Director of Parks and Recreation for the City of Glasgow. All other thirteen Incorporations have helped in the fund raising. Trades House is a charitable body which seeks to foster the interests of Glasgow and is happy to be associated with educational enterprises. Part of the funds being raised will be used to bring P.N.G. nationals to Glasgow for short visits to be trained in horticulture and botany.

J. H. DICKSON



## LIBRARY

One of the most successful events in Spring 1987 from the point of view of the Library was the 'Bring and Buy' book sale held on 26th February. This time it was a joint function with the Fauna and Flora Preservation Society who contributed a large number of books to the sale from which the Library was able to make some useful additions to our holdings. The total proceeds were divided with the FFPS. No date has yet been fixed for the next but we are happy to accumulate unwanted books from Fellows in readiness for this: they need not be biological although it is from among the biological works that we fill gaps in our collection.

### Donations

We are most grateful for the donations listed below and to a number of Fellows who continue to give us journals they have finished using, these include Mr R. Fitter Mr J. Gardiner, Dr R. W. J. Keay and Dr G. Pontecorvo. We are also most grateful to the British Mycological Society for the donations listed below.

- |                             |  |
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### *Review Copy*

The following review copy has been received and a review will be included in  
a later issue:

Dance, S. P., *A History of Shell Collecting* (a revised edition of *Shell Collecting: an  
Illustrated History*), 265 pp. Leiden, E. J. Brill, 1986.

# FORTHCOMING PAPERS IN THE JOURNALS

## Biological Journal

*Nature, Natural History and Ecology*. Edited by R. J. Berry and J. H. Crothers.

BERRY, R. J., Foreword.

BARRETT, J. H., The Field Studies Council: how it all began.

BAKER, J. M., From chocolate mousse to acid drops: an introduction to FSC research.

BEBBINGTON, J., Formative field work for the younger pupil.

BERRY, R. J., Scientific natural history.

CROTHERS, J., Formative fieldwork: the age of the sixth form course.

DICKS, B., The FSC Oil Pollution Research Unit – the 1980s and beyond.

EVANS, R., Beyond the classroom.

MERCER, R., The FSC's land: managing a fieldwork resource.

RAINBOW, P. S., Degrees of field experience.

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TILLING, S. M., Education and taxonomy: the role of the Field Studies Council and AIDGAP.

THOMAS, T., Which way the future?

THOMSON, C. H., The acid drops project: pollution monitoring by young people.

## Botanical Journal

EISIKOWITCH, D. AND LAZAR, Z., Flower change in *Oenothera drummondii* Hooker as a response to pollinators visits.

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MIDDLEY, J. J., The derivation, utility and implications of a divergence index for the fynbos genus *Leucadendron* (Proteaceae).

SUNDBERG, M. D., Development of the mixed inflorescence in *Zea diploperennis* Iltis, Doebley & Guzman (Poaceae).

TUCKER, S. C., Pseudoracemes in papilionoid legumes: their nature, development, and variation.

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WHEELER, E. F., LEE, M. AND MATTEN, L. C., Dicotyledonous woods from the Upper Cretaceous of southern Illinois.

## Zoological Journal

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CAMPBELL, R. D., A new species of *Hydra* (Cnidaria: Hydrozoa) from North America with comments on species clusters within the genus.

GARDNER, A. S., The systematics of the *Phelsuma madagascariensis* species group of day geckos (Reptilia: Gekkonidae) in the Seychelles.

NOTARBARTOLO-DI-SCIARA, G., A revisionary study of the genus *Mobula* Rafinesque, 1810 (Chondrichthyes = Mobulidae) with the description of a new species.

RUDMAN, W. B., The Chromodorididae (Opisthobranchia: Mollusca) of the Indo-West Pacific: *Chromodoris epicuria*, *C. aureopurpurea*, *C. annulata*, *C. coi* and *Risbecia tryoni* colour groups.

# THE EUPHORBIALES

## Chemistry, Taxonomy & Economic Botany

*Edited by:*

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*Proceedings of a joint symposium by the Linnean Society of London and the Phytochemical Society of Europe in celebration of the Linnean Society Bicentenary*

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The Euphorbiales is a large Order whose delimitation has long been disputed by taxonomists, still with no agreement. This volume contains several, sometimes conflicting, ideas on interrelationships in the Order, seen from a variety of viewpoints. These differences of opinion and approach highlight present research problems, as well as indicating promising pathways for new advances. That the order contains species of economic importance, for example rubber, is not neglected. Economic uses of a plant are usually reflected in its chemistry, and the Euphorbiales provides a wide vista of chemical problems—a particular interest being diterpenes with tumour-promoting and anti-tumour activities. Many chemical aspects of the Euphorbiales involve the laticifer system, here again we have a frontier between diverse subjects, arousing much interest: it is hoped that this will stimulate a multidisciplinary approach in the future.

### **Contents:**

Preface, **T. Reynolds and D. F. Cutler**. The saga of the spurges: a review of classification and relationships in the Euphorbiales, **Grady L. Webster**. Segregate families from the Euphorbiaceae, **Alan Radcliffe-Smith**. Problems of distinction among succulent *Euphorbia* species from eastern tropical Africa, **Susan Carter**. Members of the Euphorbiaceae in primitive and advanced societies, **Richard E. Schultes**. Fuel oils from euphorbs and other plants, **Melvin Calvin**. Wood anatomy of the Euphorbiaceae, in particular of the subfamily Phyllanthoideae, **Alberta M. W. Mennega**. A survey of pollen morphology in Euphorbiaceae with special reference to *Phyllanthus*, **Willem Punt**. Laticifers in Euphorbiaceae—a conspectus, **Paula J. Rudall**. Laticifers and the classification of *Euphorbia*: the chemotaxonomy of *Euphorbia esula* L., **Paul G. Mahlberg, D. G. Davis, D. S. Galitz and G. D. Manners**. New aspects of rubber biosynthesis, **Bernard L. Archer and B. G. Audley**. Tumour promoters of the irritant diterpene ester type as risk factors of cancer in man, **Erich Hecker**. The biosynthesis of tiglane and related diterpenoids; an intriguing problem, **Richard J. Schmidt**. Activity correlations in the phorbol ester series, **Fred J. Evans and Mary C. Edwards**. The activation of protein kinase C by daphnane, ingenane and tiglane diterpenoid esters, **Alastair Aitken**. A review of the evidence from *in vitro* and *in vivo* studies for a role for phorbol ester tumour promoters from the Euphorbiales in the selection and clonal expansion of specific cell populations, **Anne R. Kinsella**. Phorbol esters as probes of the modulatory site on protein kinase C—an overview, **Peter M. Blumberg, T. Nakadate, B. S. Warren, Marie Dell'Aquila, T. Sako, Gabriella Pasti and Nancy A. Sharkey**. The chemical constituents and economic plants of the Euphorbiaceae, **Abdel-Fattah M. Rizk**.

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