York 5th Nov. 1845.

My dear Sir,

Geo. F. Story

I have to acknowledge the receipt of the Ward's case, which was received in the month of September. But from some cause or other nearly all the plants were dead. I think they had been too moist and had had too much sun upon them. Only one Gunnera was living, and some seeds live till they are cut off and eat out its eggs. We preserved a piece of Cemalas littoralis, two Breda's plants which lay at the top, Pellaeum, Pellandrium, tetraphis, Glabellum, all of which are growing. The hole at the bottom of the case is intended to drain off the water, which had been filled with earth which is saturated before the pots are plunged in it. The hole is then plugged up.

I doubt if the clay is not too impervious to moisture, and I do not think it a good vehicle for seeds. They can scarcely be got out again. So far as my experience goes seeds travel well in paper, or in muslin or calico bags in boxes not too air-tight in the cabin. Exposure to the steam of the upper part of the boat is destruction to them. They are
Least near the floor, yet quite out of the way of wet, probably the elevation of a chronometer would be best. Sent in letters in muslin bags, seeds come well. We have raised a crop of what was sent for Platychium bellicanum, and what I hope will prove it, but its young leaves are rather rounder than I recollect to have seen it. Plants are best if established in pots before being put into the case. Be purpose sending that another after a while. I hope it will have better success. Be ought to have mentioned that Dendrochilum Tenuardi often sheds its leaves and remains dormant for many months. We have had it without any appearance of vegetation for more than a year. Your high mountain plants are desirable to us, especially those which are showy in flower. Dr. W. Hooker says he has had Ferns from O.D. L. packed in a box, in nearly dry moss. Could we send us any in this way? We have Adiantum affine, in addition to the two above mentioned. I think it quite possible Gunnera might like wise survive the voyage packed in moss in an air tight box.
I have read a letter from Mr. Boulton. I think since I wrote, as has also Josiah Forster, & Birmingham has likewise had letters from him. Peter Bedford has lately had one from A. B. Flower, from Lancaster: he joined me in the hope that life of your son Mr. M. will deal tenderly with him feeling for the trying situation in which he has been placed, and for his constitutional peculiarities, which claim in some other members of his family, great allowance. It is very important in disciplinary proceedings to keep in mind the apostolic remonstrance. Remembering myself, lest thou also be tempted. I shall be glad if thou findest thyself comfortable in thy berth in the Botanic Garden, as I think it will suit thy taste. I am writing rather hastily being on the eve of leaving home on a religious visit, part of which I have accomplished at intervals, and for which I have had a minute more than half a year. Several others in the ministry are moving up and down in this country, but I conclude you will be made acquainted with such proceedings by your intimate friend.

My love is to my dear generally at Hobart Town in Swan Port. It is only since I wrote to Elthat, but now have my hands very full, so I must excuse me a while longer. Remain as thine,

Thy p.s.

Jas. Hackhouse