

Bentham & JD

25 Victoria Street
Per
May 30/62

My dear Sir

In compliance with your
note which I received last night I send
herewith the letters I have from your
father I should have done so or sent
the general request published in the
paper but that I did not think them
worth my anxiety then which could be
of any use to you. Highly flattered as I
was by the kind and friendly notice which
which Mr Deane occasionally showed
me I was never admitted into his
intimacy and he therefore never made
any communication to me in relation to
his views and labours. I have been
throughout one of his most sincere

admirer and fully adopted his theories
and conclusions, notwithstanding the severe
pain and disappointment they at first
occasioned in me. On the day that his
celebrated paper was read at the Linnean
Society July 1st 1858 a long paper of mine
had been set down for reading, in which in
commentary on the British Flora I had
collected a number of observations and
facts illustrating what I then believed
to be a fixity in species however difficult
it might be to assign their limits and
showing a tendency of abnormal forms
produced by cultivation or otherwise to
continue within their original limits
rather than themselves. Most fortunately
my paper had to give way to Mr Darwin's
and other matters were read I felt

found the paper unfair for reasons which
I began to entertain doubts on the subject
and on the appearance of the Origin of
Species I was forced to recede reluctantly
to give up my long cherished conviction
the result of much labour and study, and
I recalled all that part of my paper which
was original fiction, and published my
portion of the remainder in another form
chiefly in the Natural History Review

I have since acknowledged on various
occasions my full adoption of Mr
Darwin's views and chiefly in my
widely-circulated Address of 1845 and in my
13th and last address issued in the form
of a report to the British Association at
its meeting at Belfast in 1874

I prize so highly the letter that I

Acad of St Barabas that I should feel
obliged by your returning them to me
when you have done with them
Unfortunately I have not kept the
envelopes and St Barabas usually
only date them by the month not
of the year so that they are not in
any chronological order

Yours very sincerely
George Mathew