

I have made up my mind to prepare a Century of Dick. Nov. Aug. Exsicc. There are some fine things: and my names are right: besides which I shall send ^{all} ^{my} plants to Fries. A few copies for distribution is all I intend - W. Greene (Boston) 28 Jan. 1844. I hope, if favoured, to complete my stock of specimens, at the White Mt. My dear friend next summer - with Oakes, & I hope to spend there!

You will have time to read this I know. It is a part of what I want to say - but could not express half as well in conversation. 1st. The Junci. I will tell you what stopped me - finally - in my present study of the genus. Meyer has a remark under his *J. paradoxus* that under the American *J. nodosus* of L., many species lurk: - as from the European *J. acuticulatus*, L. a whole group of species has already sprung to light. Here is the sticking point with me. There are not enough specimens of hardly one of the *nodosus* group - either in Herb. Torr., or my own collection - to pretend to determine. Nor have I enough of the corresp^d European series (differing as my specimens do of some species very much from each other) to make up my mind - whether, as Hook & Spreng have begun to do - we should not locate the European series in our Flora - and call our plants *acutiflorus* (as Hook) or *lampocarpus* (as Spreng.) - or on the other hand consider ours as a distinct analogous series. I have one specimen of a Cambridge *Juncus* (aff. *polyccephali* Michx. & *scirpoidi* Lam.) almost perfectly like one of my specimens of *J. lampocarpus* - but not like the others. - Have I not put the difficulty in a clear light? Am I not right in concluding that more study of the living plants and large sets of specimens - such as I have seen in no collection - are essential to the unravelling of our *Junci* - which do not need names so much as a masterly revision - which if done in the most thorough way should also settle the foreign species. - How generally does this genus and the exceedingly near *Luzula* seem to have been neglected! Meyer is allowed to stand alone. - Hooker's *J. acutiflorus* a, (B. is exactly our *J. acuminatus* and of Mx. fide Herb. Torr.) is (fide Syn.) *J. pelocarpus*, Mey., orig^d descr. from Mass^{ts} specimens. Hooker says he cannot distinguish it from the Europⁿ *J. acutiflorus* - but not only will not Kunth's descr. ^{of that sp.} at all answer to ^{Hooker's} plants - but I am persuaded the *J. pelocarpus* is a very distinct species: though hardly known in this country. It grows at Burlington Vt. - & is ^{probably} ~~therefore~~ incl. by W. Oakes in his *J. acuminatus* - but I am sure it is very distinct - & will find a place in our Flora hereafter. It is not in Herb. Torr. Hooker's specimens are fr. Arctick America. - *J. dichotomus* Torr. herb! Gray! Oakes! is a diff^t plant from Elliott's in many respects - but partic^l in its nodulous leaves, always apparent on dissection at least, - its acuminate - nottrate fruit &c. Elliott's pl. belonged to the flat-leaved section of *J. tenuis* &c. - & a sp. of this section cert^l is ref. to it both by Meyer & Kunth. Our plant agrees with this latter section in its solitary flowers - perhaps more properly in this case we might say one-flowered capitules - but in habit leaves &c it is clearly a member of the other section. I have ventured to call this *J. Conradi* because in Herb. Torr. I find some spec^{ms} ticketed *J. viviparus* Conrad - which viviparous state is very common in this sp. I don't know however whether Conrad put any descr. (in Trans. Acad. Philad.) or whether if he did his name must ~~be~~ not be retained, however erroneous: and asked this question of Dr. Torrey in sending him the plant - which I called *J. Conradi* only to denote that I thought it was a distinct species. I sent a descr. with it. Could you give me a word of advice as to this. It being a Plymouth pl. of which I have a stock of spec^{ms} - I am the more desirous to

I hope I am not too positive in the above, & that you will treat it with consideration. Having the *Linnaea* I have been going thro' it systematically - & had the luck to encounter some American pl. pub'd by Schrader in the Index Bot. Goettl. 1831 which do not seem to be mentioned in any author at hand. There are 3 species of *Arabis*, from arctic Amer. and a *Trifolium Missouriense*. It is the *Linnaea* for 1833. No 1. If this be valuable to you I shall be much pleased. It was quite unexpected. In one of Chamisso's papers I find he recognizes *Alnus viridis* in Kamtschatka - & this with Spach's judgment (if I remember right) & other reasons leads me to doubt if our *A. crispa* is distinct. The 2 sp. cert' look alike. I have asked Oakes to examine & settle it for his Wh. Mtn. Flora. Then I find Cham. admits *Salix myrtilloides* as a Boreal Amer. pl. - some little confirmation of my ref. of *S. pedicellaris* in Sil. Jour. He also describes 2 or 3 arctic willows without being willing to name them - & one of them I think must be *S. Cutleri*.

Many thanks for your precious gift of the famous Bauhins - & yet not last for Darlington and Baldwin. They are invaluable - & the former I should not have expected even to have. You are resolved that I shall be in your debt: for my two pictures were of little account. I have two heads of Vahl - two of Link - and two of Dr. Porter (I don't know why he sent me 2 - nor why the worthy man ever submitted to the process) I shall be delighted if you find it agreeable to take any of them. There is a head of Waterhouse, the first author on Botany belonging to this Flora of the present cent' - indeed the first after Cutler who wrote in 1785. You have looked at his "Botanist" I suppose. I bought the print in London. My Cambridge "Enum." has been finished since last winter - & is in Oakes's hands - who said at first that I had nothing to do with Essex - but finally agreed to fix the Essex plants. Will not it after all be best to go back to your plan & make it a useful manual. The fact was I had an ambition (have had it in view for years - & begun my Catal in 1839.) to be enum. among those who have illustrated the Boston Flora. There are one or 2 new notions carried out in the Catal. I always quote the orig' descr. for species. I will not say *Desmodium viridiflorum*, Beck - but it is "*Desmodium viridiflorum* (L.) Beck. So in my List of Lichens I have called the *Lecidea sorediata* of Muhl - a *Parmelia* - & the modern way would be to put my name alone after - & take the whole credit - but how much better is it "*Parm. sorediata* (Muhl.) Tuckerman." So far as I know this is original - & the best plan I have seen. No Botanist can make any mistake without feeling that he ought to have known. Again I mention the year in which every plant became scientifically known by you. Then Jowelyn gives a good list "Of such plants as have sprung up since the English Planted and kept cattle in New England" which gives us the dates of most of such plants as Dandelion Shepherd's Purse &c. - and these are determinable in all cases by comparison of Parkinson & Smith. Then Jowelyn has another list "Of such plants as are proper to the country and have no name" where he gives figures & descr. of *Symphlocarpus*! *Gerardia*! *Mulgedium*? *Nabalus*? *Chelone*! *Trillium*! *Sarracenia*! In his other Book he well describes *Oenothera biennis* though under the name of *Lysimachia* with Ray & Murrison called it. Then Cutler a century later 1785 - made known 381 sp. the Ferns Grapes & Sedges being excluded: for all which he is cited. Again Cutler (like Jow.) says *Symphlocarpus* "must undoubtedly be considered a new genus". His pub'd work is not half such a monument to his memory as the ~~copy~~ MS. Flora of which I have seen 3 "books" would be. There *Comandra* & *Microstylis* are scientifically erected into Genera & named. This was in '89. A little work with a sketch of his life extracts from his MS - to shew what he found out all alone in Ipswich & what he knew with a portrait I sh'd delight to get together - & mean to try to hunt up his other MS. He was M.D., D.D., LL.D., I believe - a member of Congress - the great Philosopher of the whole country round & minister of Ipswich & Doctor too. On his death-bed he regretted that he had let his time be engrossed so much by Botany! Excuse all errors in the above from your most sincerely & resp^t Edw. Tuckerman

P.S. I have a parcel all ready for Dr. Torrey. Will there be
any way of sending it at present? — May I trouble you yet
further: ~~that~~ I promised a great many botanists in Europe to send
them some plants, and though where I received spec^{ms}, I always gave all
I could — yet almost always the balance was against me. By send-
ing once I think I can finish a good many accounts — which I
shall never get off my mind till I do: and I am willing they should be
in my debt. When I think how kindly the great Martins, the admi-
rable Zuccarini &c received me — who could bring so little of interest
to them — I feel I must satisfy all their expectations. To Sir Wm. Hooker
I must be — want to be, always — in debt to an extent which I cannot
discharge. But parcels for him will be a great while making — for
I mean (if possible) that he shall smile when he turns them over.
I have got at last to feel the extreme importance of complete sets of capi-
tal specimens — ~~with~~ such ^{will} ~~be~~ welcome even at West Park, where
common poor Amer. plants are almost coals to Newcastle. What a delight
it is to look at the specimens of Slope, (too much pressed however) Booth, Oakes, Sartw-
ell. Such I have now the ambition of making. I mean however not only
that the specimens shall be clean handsome picked ones — like some Maples or oaks

we are handsomer than any I have ever seen of Nature's exhibiting — though this is very well — but that the plants shall show their metamorphoses — their colours their varieties &c. Some of the commonest plants will shine lustreously with this treatment. In this way I am confident of being able to be useful in some degree to Sir W^m H. — & look forward I have done so with the greatest pleasure — to that parcel — which shall be made up if I am able to ramble again in woods and fields. My design however is only to satisfy the Europⁿ Botanists who gave me plants — and a parcel added to one of yours would do this. To send my Lichens & everything else whatever to Fries, for this great man has already grasped the whole System of Vegetable Nature — and everything comes to him eloquent as type or deviation — and I think I shall have no competitor in contributing to his stores — where everything will tell — my Lichens also to Borrer and Greville — the same to Hooker with all else that I can make worthy — & the same to Dr. Klotzsch — who is another that I shall have to send to all my life — but I am frightened already: & can't think of Maire of Paris, to whom I owe a good set of Lichens — & Montagne Lichens. I say if I send the above — & continue to send Fries & Hooker & Klotzsch it will be all I can do. I shall expect nothing back of course except fr. Fries. I promised to get him Schweinitz's Syn. Fung. and the Specimen Muscorum. Perhaps the Amer. Phil. Soc. would furnish a copy of the former. Or could I be bought?

But I did not mean to trouble you with all this. I only wished to ask you if you could not conveniently on some occasion let me add a parcel for Prof. Zuccarini one for Dr. Hoppe of Carices & perhaps another, to yours, when you send again. If inconvenient it is no matter — but I would rather not send them separately for I cannot continue to send: and these are only ^{to} show them I am not insensible to their kindness when I visited them abroad. I am ashamed to send you so much talk; but so it seems to be.



Tuckerman, Edward. 1844. "Tuckerman, Edward Jan. 28, 1844." *Edward Tuckerman letters to Asa Gray*

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