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Spring Park,
Charlottesville, P.E.I.
July 29, 1912

Dear Dr. Robinson:

Through some stupidity at the Charlottetown Postoffice Miss Clark's proof was not delivered to me - as much mail before & since has been, very regularly - and she writes me that she has sent it to you. As I have all

the other Rhodora matter it may perhaps be simplest if you will send the proof to me here. The full address

as above will be certain to bring it.

We are back this morning from the first trip to the Magdalen having

been exactly six and one half days getting back from there to Lewis - a distance of less than 70 miles! The past week was violently stormy & the

little steamer which carries the mails²
was forced to lie at anchor days and
nights in dense fog or hurricanes,
unable to approach the islands which
are surrounded by broad sands³
and treacherous shallows. Fortunately
for us, only two days of our return trip
were spent on board - the rest being merely
waiting impatiently & unable to do any-
thing definite until the boat should come
in.

The four of us - Bartram,
Lang, St John & I - have got the July
flora of the islands cleaned up to such
an extent that it took much searching
to turn up anything else so we are
back on Prince Edward Island for a
while. Bartram returns to Phila.

at the end of the week, but Lang will
remain into September & on the 12th
of August we shall return again to
the Magdalena for the late summer trip.

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The Islands are interesting, each of the group consisting of an intrusive lilly core with Carboniferous red sandstone at the base & innumerable ranges of white sand hills of washed sand & hundreds of little "pinbarren" ponds. The sand hills are covered like Long Island, Cape Cod or the pinbarrens with a carpet of Carex, Hudsonia, etc.; but the marshes and woodlands of the trap areas are similar to those of Gaspe & Anticosti, with numerous calciphiles of Rocky Mountain affinity.

The beaches contain extensive carpets of somewhat unusual things: Pillaea agrostica, a queer Atriplex very different from any of our ordinary things and apparently not related to them, Polygonum Roberti, Aster frondosus of the Rocky Mts., a queer Sparganium, etc.

Here on Prince Edward Island we got some interesting things before the Magdalen

trip, the most surprising being the finding⁴
of Catula coronopifolia in greatest profusion
and seemingly most indigenous (not any-
where near wharves or towns) on the borders
of brackish marshes with Montia lamprospora,
Stellaria crassifolia + humifusa, Catabiona
and the other good natives of the semi-saline
areas.

Tomorrow we start out again for work
on Prince Edward I. - going to the region where
John Macoun found Centunculus on the marshes.
We shall stay on the island until the 12th
of August, then to the Magdalena for the
later things, then back here for the last
things: Snacdas, Atriplicis, Aster etc.

We are in a very comfortable home -
an old mansion with quantities of
room for us and our work and good
farm fare - a place secured through
the local "authority", L. M. Watson, who is
himself a second G. M. H. and much amused
because his new Violet (V. Watson Greene) is not

recognized in either Manual!

I have today sent Wheeler galley proof to make up a 12-page August Rhodora - $\frac{2}{3}$ of Hubbard's home letters article and 5 short articles or notes. I have left a total of 9 pages and two plates toward the September no. If you have anything in hand I shall be glad as nothing has come to me since June.

I hope you had a good visit at Seal Harbor and escaped the hot wave. We didn't - for a week the mercury reached 90-100 here and we decided that the accounts of Prince Edward Island as a warm area were well founded.

I shall be glad if you have time to write to know how you find western Massachusetts and that you are well and getting a real rest. With kind regards to Mrs Robinson.

Very sincerely yours
M. D. Sturges



Fernald, Merritt Lyndon. 1912. "Fernald, Merritt Lyndon July 29, 1912 [Fernald to B.L. Robinson]." *Merritt Lyndon Fernald correspondence*

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