

SYSTEMATIC BOTANY OF NORTH AMERICA.

UNDER THE EDITORSHIP OF

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May 28 1894

MY DEAR SIR:

We hereby call your attention to a proposed new work on the Flora of North America to be prepared and published under the direction of a board of editors as given above, who are assured of the coöperation of the following botanists:

Prof. THOS. C. PORTER, Lafayette College, Easton, Penn.
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Dr. J. E. HUMPHREY [at present abroad].
Prof. GEO. F. ATKINSON, Cornell University, Ithaca, N. Y.
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Prof. C. HENRY KAIN, Philadelphia, Pa.
Dr. H. H. RUSBY, College of Pharmacy, New York City.
Mr. JOHN K. SMALL, Columbia College, New York City.

The general sequence of orders will be based on that adopted by Professors Engler and Prantl in their "Natürliche Pflanzenfamilien," now approaching completion, and the work will be divided into seventeen volumes, as indicated by the enclosed scheme, and issued in parts averaging about 100 pages each. About five of these parts will constitute each volume.

No illustration is contemplated, but copious references to published plates and figures will be made a feature. In addition to the technical characterizations, chapters dealing with the economic, palæontologic and horticultural aspects of each order will be appended. Especial attention will be given to the verification of original descriptions, to the examination of type specimens, to the citation of type localities and to geographical distribution.

No attempt will be made to treat the groups consecutively, but the sequence of orders being tentatively established in advance, and the number of genera and species being approximately known, it is possible to print parts of all the volumes, or of as many of them as is desired at about the same time. It is hoped that five or six parts can be issued annually, beginning in 1895. Several parts are already in preparation.

Each monographer will be responsible for his own matter, the only restrictions placed on contributors being that they conform to a general style, and to principles of nomenclature and citation, and that descriptions be extended only to an average limit of a certain number of words, this number to be hereafter determined. The treatment of these matters will be indicated by sample sheets which will be submitted at an early date. It is expected that an approximately uniform consideration of species can be secured.

The editors believe that by prosecuting the work in the manner above indicated, it will be possible to produce a complete Systematic Botany of the country within fifteen years. They fully realize the impracticability of such a task being accomplished by a few students only, and earnestly desire the aid and support of all American Botanists. They request your coöperation, ask that you send a reply to this letter to the undersigned, and will welcome any suggestions that you may be pleased to make.

For the Board of Editors,

W. L. Britton
Chairman.



Britton, Nathaniel Lord. 1894. "Britton, Nathaniel L. 28 May 1894." *George Golding Kennedy correspondence*

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