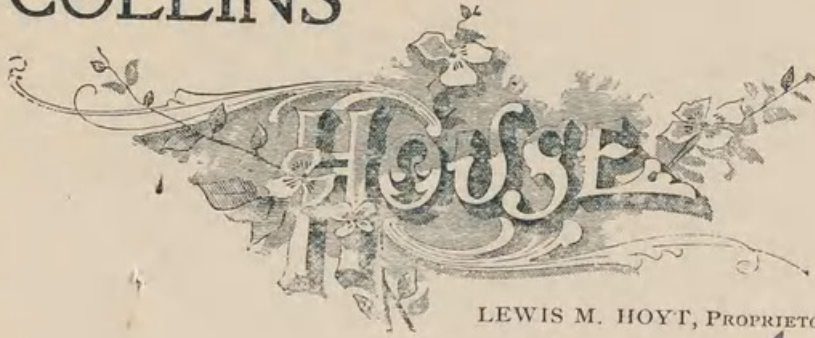


COLLINS

STEAM HEAT.



LEWIS M. HOYT, PROPRIETOR

Fort Fairfield, Me.,

July 16, 1902

My dear D. Kennedy.

Your very kind note with its generous enclosure was here when we came from Presque Isle, and I am much more grateful to you for your goodness and generosity than I can express.

The check is now converted into Canadian bank notes for the next stage of the trip and I hope to attain such results as to prove it a good investment.

To tell the truth, I had been a little puzzled at times to know just how my fund, which had already been largely increased by Williams, would hold out for Boundary Lake and other side trips, but now I shall be able to do everything that seems

possible in the time I have

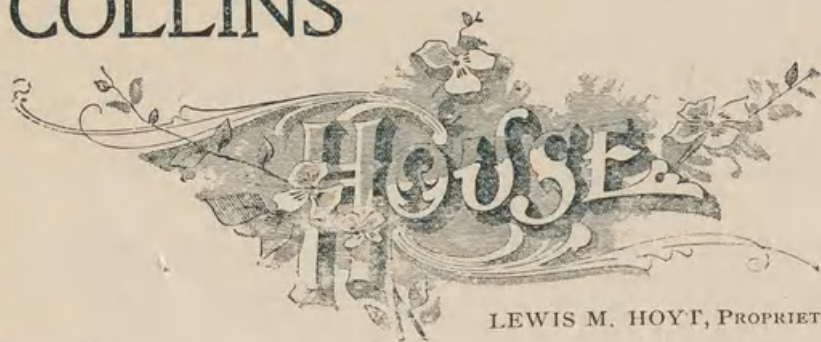
As you know very well we have wished many times the past week that you were with us and we especially want you here for, with the exception of Cutler, Fort Fairfield is the best situated spot for botanizing that we shall see this summer.

It has already turned up more strange things than any other town in the Acrostok and now it is keeping up its reputation. In fact

there is so much to be done here that Williams & I have agreed to drop Parroboro from the July itinerary in order that we may put in the time here.

Presque Isle turned up good things, but mostly the reputation Acrostok Valley plants which we already knew.

Haystack was a great disappointment in most ways, and it is nothing but a burned-over hill with a sheep pasture on top. Nevertheless, on the



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one small area which hasn't been destroyed by fire we found a small forest of Betula pendula all in fruit, thus definitely settling that species in Eastern America. And in the wet larval tatus we got two very strange strawberries, quite unlike anything we ever saw.

Here we have had our hands full. Monday p.m. the most important discovery was the European Rubus Idaeus in its typical form. I had pointed out two years ago in Rhodora that our R. strigosus is probably only an extreme of the European species, but our only real matches for the old world plant were from the Black Hills to the

Cascades. Now we have a big
press full of material from nearer home.

Yesterday we explored - all day - three
or four rods of "seepy," brackish river-
beach. On the terrace above Polygala
Senega & Patentilla arguta were in full
flower, and the beach so far as we explored
it had among other things a strange Glyceria,
Carex aquatilis, both Triglochin, and various
peculiar sedges - but the plant which
took our time was Carex elachycarpa which
I described in the spring from over-ripe
material. The plant is excessively
rare & we crawled on hands & knees
in the wet ground, & with a succession
of thunder showers going on, to separate
the roots from Juncus balticus with which
the Carex was mixed - But we may
not be able long to call it a Carex,
for the perigynium-like vessel dehiscens
and falls away leaving the achene, the
elachycarpal part of the plant, persisting.



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We did not discover this remarkable fact until we had most of the material in press, so that as the wind hasn't shifted from the S.W. & more showers are promised for the day, we shall again postpone Acrostich Falls & spend the day hunting for young stages of the peculiar sedge. The fruiting tick is quite unlike any Carex, though in habit the plant resembles undeveloped C. canescens. Without literature here we can do nothing but collect blindly, but I surmise that we have one of the arctic genera, Elyna or Taberna.

Williams is waiting for me to come to breakfast. Again thanking you

most heartily for your generous gift, and with warm regards to Mrs. Kennedy & the boys when they are back, Very sincerely yours, Merritt K. Fernald.



Fernald, Merritt Lyndon. 1902. "Fernald, Merritt L. 16 Jul 1902." *George Golding Kennedy correspondence*

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