

write me of the genus *Panicum*.
196 species and varieties! Isn't this a
little too hairsplitting? We have a
similar matter in the *Rubus* species.

My old *Philadelphus* has offered very
few teratological flowers this year,
most flowers were normal. A *Heliopsis*
scabra sown by itself, blooming for the
first time, showed the inclination to
produce tubular rays and I am curious
^{whether} ~~if~~ this will come again next summer.

Please give our kindest love to Mrs.
Deane. We all, my mother, my wife and
I unite in kindest wishes for her
early recovering and send to yourself
our best wishes and kindest regards.

Very sincerely yours

Rudolph Blaschka

Hosterwitz b. Dresden Sept. 28.
1913.

Dear Mr. Deane,

Since some weeks already I was
anxious to write a line in reply to
your good letter of August 14th.

How very sorry we all were to learn
of the accident that dear Mrs. Deane
has met with and we hope she feels much
better now. Specially this turning of
ankle is so rapidly met with and it
takes a long time before everything is
all right as before. We all had some
experience in this most unpleasant matter,
myself in early youth when skating.
Please tell Mrs. Deane how sincerely
we are sorry for her and we cordially
wish her to get soon over it. We hope
you both could take your planned
country trip in September and you are

enjoying your glorious autumn.
Our summer was pretty monotonous.
Walks were scarce owing to the rough
weather. Autumn makes good for the
unpleasant summer. September gave
us a series of wonderful summer-days
and it seems to continue in this way.
We all were saved from serious trouble
this year. My mother is much better
in walking, this is very fortunate.
We enjoy to observe the refreshing
effect of the fair autumn, also with
our garden-flowers. Today I saw
an old *Stier Novae Angliae*, the rose-
colored variety, that came 24 years
ago from the Harvard Bot. Garden, in
full bloom, a rare view, for, since
many years the buds did not develop
owing to the rough autumns and too
early freezing. Also the insects enjoy
the warm days and we have lots of

bees and the lovely flower-flies of
the order Syrphidae in our garden. By
the way, have you many representatives
of this interesting order in America?
I could not yet get certain information
about this. The Syrphidae are one of the
most useful orders of insects, the larvae
feeding on leaf-lice, the imago very
important in the cross fertilization of
flowers. The most interesting matter in
these Diptera is the clearly visible
mimicry. These helplessly unarmed
Syrphidae are imitating wasps and bees
in striking resemblance of form and
behaviour, deceiving by this the un-
scientific observer as well as the birds.
I think most of your insects in
America are different from ours, at least
in the species. The hive-bee and house-
fly are cosmopolites but otherwise the
list of mutual species will be only small.
I am much interested in what you



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