

BOTANIC GARDEN OF HARVARD UNIVERSITY,

CAMBRIDGE, MASS. Sept. 6, 1883

Mr. Deane.

Dear Sir:

I have been unable to find any reference to a European May-Flower. Prior, in his exhaustive "English Plant Names", makes no mention of any plant known by that name, and there is no reference to such a name in Ray's "Historia Plantarum" (1704), nor in Gerard, 1633, nor in Clusius, 1601, nor in the still older works which I have consulted. Dr. Gray informs me that there is no native of Europe known as May-Flower. There is a "May", however, well-known in England. It is the *Crataegus oxyacantha*, or English Hawthorn. The plant known to us as May-Flower (the *Epigaea repens*) is somewhat cultivated in England and has been many times described in English works, but I can nowhere find any reference to it as May-Flower. Edwards, in Botanical Register 1817, even says that it is known in America as "Ground Laurel". The plant was introduced into England in 1736 by Peter Collinson who no doubt obtained it of his friend John Bartram.

Yours respy, L. H. Bailey, Jr.



Bailey, L. H. 1883. "Bailey, Liberty Hyde Sep. 6, 1883." *Walter Deane correspondence*

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