

drawing of it in water colors when it was
fresh, and I would rather give you one flower
than mount it to myself. It is just as
it came to me; Mrs. Call who picked
it in Becker, is no botanist, and never
thought of taking the stalk to the root.

I can join most heartily in all that
you say of Dr. Gray. I go to see him some-
times, and I have something pleasant to
remember of every time that I ever meet
him. I know Dr. Goodale too, and Mr.
Waters, and owe them many a favor.

I should say that *Typha latifolia* was
common enough in Nantucket; I will pay
more attention when I go again. I know
that very field of *Phragmites* that you saw.

Mr. Churchill says I ought to send
you one of my "lists." I never had a single
one from the publisher's of the Nantucket
Guide Book. I gave Mr. Codrey that im-
perfect list at his urgent request, and
asked nothing in return but a few
sheets of that part of the book, to put
into the hands of botanists visiting

The *Ardisia* is
marked X and is
close in its paper.
I see that I can
not have got
the whole of
that collection
news collection
in September
but they are
all Nantucket
specimens I am
sure of that.
They were
sent to me
because I
was going
to destroy
them -
Mr. L.D.
Did you ever
find *Paricum*
glabrum, *Grandis*
in Nantucket?

Springfield Mar. 15-1885

Your letter and plants reached
me yesterday and with both I am very much
pleased. I cannot say whether *O. Virginianum*
is common abundant in any locality. Dr.
Hitchcock credited it to Monson & Nantucket
in his catalogue. He found it in one place in
Springfield, but there are not many plants.
I have seen that *Carex* with its pretty name, - the
hay edge of the lands - many a time, but I have
no confidence in my own determination of the
Carex, so I let them alone. I will conquer them
however, if I ever get time. I don't shrink from
the grasses and the other edges, indeed I am
very fond of them, but I always like to have
them verified by a competent botanist before
putting them into my list. I was in Nantucket
in September last year, from the 18th to the 27th
- or thereabouts. The circumstances of my stay
were very unfavorable to collecting, and pressing
anything was out of the question. But I

gathered what I could, rolled them up in a bundle, and brought them home. Mr. Dame told me that Dr. Swan of Boston would name them, so I soaked them and pressed, making as nice specimens as I could, and sent them to him. I have had no reply, but it is not time yet to expect one. Looking over the very few that I have left I find that *Carex* *foenea*, but I cannot tell whether it is the variety. I will send it to you and all the rest of the things - one rush, a few more sedges and a few grasses. Things that are very familiar to me, may be interesting to those not used to our flora. The *Limosella* on the edge of *Sesachacha* is a lovely sight, and I know would be new to inland eyes, but I don't know so well how our flora differs from that of the rest of the Massachusetts coast - that part, for instance, that you and Mr. Churchill are acquainted with. You will observe that I write "*Sesachacha*" though I say "*Sachacha*". Take the word of a native, that that will be the correct thing for you to do; and also

to finish "*Siasconco*" with one "t."

I have Mann's Catalogue, and shall be very glad to check off in it such of your desiderata as I think I can get for you. I am going to New Jersey in June on a botanizing excursion and to Nantuxet in August or September; here in Springfield I am pretty familiar with the country and can have the help of our small botanical society, and it is nothing but pleasure to do any work of that sort.

I have Mr. Upham's Catalogue of the Plants of Minnesota. I met him in Minneapolis last summer, but I had seen him long before that in Hanover, N. H. when he was a student there.

I occasionally see in the Torrey Bulletin or the Bot. Gazette, articles by Mr. Bailey on the Canes, but I have not his Catalogue even though it was published in one of those magazines. You gave an account some time ago of an odd specimen of *Rudbeckia hirta* with tubular ray florets; I will send you another odd thing to go with it. I made a

the island, and so get additions to it
from them. Mr. Godfrey was willing enough,
but the publishers refused to part with
any, for love, or money either. You may
have seen the list in the Guide Book,
but if my ^{manuscript} with its additions would
be of any use I will lend it to you.
If you want it please tell me where
in Boston it shall be left for you or
Mr. Churchill. I cannot send it by
mail very well, because I want to
keep the sheets flat, but I can easily
get it to my son in Boston, and he will
leave it where directed.

I was in Boston myself last month
over a week, and if I had only had
your list before that time, I should have
asked at least if you could not come to
see me, either where I was visiting or at
the Horticultural Library. I never fail to go
there every Saturday that I am in the city;

I am sure to meet old botanical
friends there, and I frequently make a new

and pleasant acquaintance. I have
barely touched on the various topics of
your letter, although if I had the opportu-
nity of conversation, I could tell you things
that might be of use when you go to N.
again, and I should like to know more of
what you can impart than it would be reason-
able to ask in writing.

I do not mind your grasses' being "far
gone"; they are beautiful in my eyes &
are in excellent condition to help me verify
specimens that I may collect in future.

Mr. Dame pays no attention to this order,
wretches & ceases and I am very dis-
trustful of myself when the plant is past its
best condition, particularly in Nantucket.

If a plant does not quite agree with the descrip-
tion, how do I know, but that it is some variety that
ought to be recognized? I have found *Spartina* on this
island that puzzled me much — a grass as well marked
as that. I think I know some of the grasses & things
that I send you, but if you can without trouble give
me a list of them it will oblige me. They are worth-
less herbarium specimens and are not to be returned.
Dr. Swan will tell me the names I suppose, in time,
but my own notes is "Now."

With many thanks for list, plants & letter,
Yours very truly Maria L. Owen



Owen, Maria L. 1885. "Owen, Maria Louisa Mar. 15, 1885." *Maria L. Owen letters to Walter Deane*

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