

Hooker as you have, it is likely that I
should agree with you & Mr. Frisgale.

Now about the name. I wrote
R. Lastulatus as the syn. of *R.*
Engelmannii, and I see that you do
the same in your reply, but I ob-
served today in looking into the new
Manual again, that the name there
is *hastatulus* — it is, however, as
we both wrote it, in the 5th ed. which
must now be classed with the "old"
manuals.

I guess I can get you some
ripe fruit of *Lathyrus pratensis*. I should
think about the first week in July it
might be found, and I will go to look.
The plant grows amongst grass and it is
really very hard to find it when out of
flower, and besides they probably mow the
field about two times that the seed are
ripe. This is only to prepare your mind
for a disappointment, for it is a pleasant

Spring field June 21. 1890.

Dear Mr. Deane,

I wonder if I can't put you
in the way of getting a good specimen
of *L. Flor-cuculi*. You know Professor
Norton has a summer home in Ashfield,
and the man who takes care of the
place, Mr. Carter, told me that two
ladies by the name of Murray came
every summer and occupied a house
that Prof. Norton owned some little dis-
tance from the village; these ladies, he
said were always collecting plants —
They live in Cambridge, and if you
know them, or can make their ac-
quaintance soon, you might induce
them to bring you specimens. They probably
know where to find it as it is not
far from their house, — and yet if it is

out of bloom by the time they go up
they may not have noticed it; I can
tell him however, just the place, and
there is but one locality, I was in-
formed. Tell if you can secure fruiting
specimens through them, I will give
you a flowering one, not nice, but
fair. I had no claim with me, and no
conveniences for pressing. Mr. Carter
did not seem quite sure of the name
Murray - it might be Merrill or ~~some~~
thing else of similar sound, but one
of the ladies was formerly a governess
in Mr. Norton's family as I was told by
another person.

I haven't Hooker's Flora, and it is
not in our City Library nor within my
reach anywhere, but by the Manual my
specimen agrees with R. Engelmanni in every
particular but one, and that is the last -
"many times larger than the achenium". I
have a fresh specimen right here, and should
say that the valve was four times larger;

"four" might be called "many" in this case
and I felt satisfied. (Later - I see it five times
larger.)

Engelmanni - "stem simple" - mine is simple -
Acetosa - "like the last" (Acetosella) but
Acetosella has a branching stem -

Engelmanni "leaves nearly as in the next"
(Acetosella) i.e. halber form or hastate -
Acetosa "leaves oblong or broadly lanceolate"
In my spec. the leaves were strongly
hastate.

Ull three are said to have jointed pedicels.

My specimens have naked valves, to my
eyes - there is certainly no "grain" in
them. The mid-vein is thicker at the
base, or I should say wider at the
base, than above - that is all. The valves
are not "orbicular" as in Acetosa, but
"round heart-shaped" as in Engelmanni.

I am only showing that I am right
by the descriptions which I had - if I had

have an excursion over to the place
where it grows.

Don't answer this till you get
ready if it is not for months, but when
you do, if you don't forget it, please tell me if
the enclosed is *Carex aurea*, Nutt.

Yours very truly
Maria L. Owen.

Don't you think the description of
R. Acetosa is rather meagre? It
certainly does not distinguish the
plant clearly. M.L.O.



Owen, Maria L. 1890. "Owen, Maria Louisa Jun. 21, 1890." *Maria L. Owen letters to Walter Deane*

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