

1888. x x x x

x x x I resume my
pen after farther study of that
Catalogue to say that its hundred
mile radius includes Philadel-
phia in its sweep;— do they
want the earth? I will see if
I can get you a pressed specimen,
but you must have no high
hopes of my success, for Mr. Hime
does not live in Morristown, and
may not go there again.

I will enclose a plant this
time for you to name—a
grassy little thing that I find
almost always in the shallow
edge of the pond about here.

Springfield Nov. 11. 1893

Dear Mr. Deane,

I am glad you were pleased
with the photographs, but I thought
you would be. The names that you
gave me of those that I sent
unlabelled, agreed in every case
with my own decision, as the list
of names which I made out.
Before sending the pictures to you
I knew. But some of the others! I
was surprised to see how much
out of the way I had been. Spar-
ganium I thought of the minute I
looked at that one, but decided finally
on Carex—some kind of a Carex—
The stem is round as I ought to have

observed. I had known that
the Cornus was *C. paniculata* but
at the time of writing to you had
forgotten. I had compared it with
the plant in bloom - *C. cirrus*,
C. cuneata -- that gigantic thing -
never came into my mind in con-
nection with that picture, but I
guess you are right. You agree
with me about the *Asarum*, for
"Red-top" the variety which I suppose
it was is *var. vulgare* -

I let myself be led away about
that composite by Mr. Hine's
suggestion - "Is it *Rattibonum*
weed?" I dare say now it is
no *Hieracium*, but it doesn't
look quite like a *Sonchus*; the

tumescence of the head at base is
not evident in this picture. I
never saw *S. arvensis*, - perhaps
that character is less marked
in that species than in *S. oler-*
aceus which I do know.

The *Silene dichotoma* came from
Morristown N. J. I have Dr. Robin-
son's study of the N. A. *Sileneae*
& *Polycarpeae* and find that he
mentions but three localities for
the plant, Philadelphia, Trenton, &
the somewhat extensive one of Texas,
but it has been known in the neigh-
borhood of New York City for some
years, as it is in the preliminary
Catalogue issued by the Torrey Club

Year after year I see it, but never
 in flower or fruit. I got tired of
 my ignorance and sent specimens
 to Dr. Morong who kindly told me
 what he thought it was - of course
 he would not pronounce too positively
 on insufficient data - it takes me
 to do that. I have no disposition
 to doubt his thoughts but I would
 like to know yours too, and after
 you have evolved them you may
 read his letter. Now, Lenox right,
 don't let it influence you by
 your reading it too soon. Don't
 return the specimens.

It was a lovely Indian Summer
 day here yesterday and some of
 our botanical society had a
 field meeting; our object was to
 see *Pinus resinosa* where it grows,

but we found great pleasure
in naming all the trees which
we saw in their leafless state.

One of our members Mr. Waterhousen
has lately discovered a White
Cedar Swamp on the edge of
the city - a thousand trees, more
or less. We are highly pleased
always to find anything not
in the Amherst Catalogue, and
this plant - *Chamaecyparis sphaer-*
oides, has no place there.

Dr. Chapin is gratified to
learn that his criticism on
the description of *Pinus resi-*
nosa is receiving attention
at the Herbarium - He
shouldn't have gone wrong
about the name if we had

consulted Wood's "Botanist and
Florist". He divides the genus
first by the leaves - in 5's
3's or 2's; then he subdivides
by the scales, tipped with spines
or prickles, or spineless; so in
about quarter of a minute we
are led straight to *P. resinosa* -
I seldom think to look into Wood,
but the book is useful collater-
ally sometimes.

I wish you might know Dr.
Chapin; if you can only make it
convenient to stop in Springfield
next summer, I think we
could some of us give you a
good time botanically and otherwise.

Yours very truly
Maria L. Owen -



Owen, Maria L. 1893. "Owen, Maria Louisa Nov. 11, 1893." *Maria L. Owen letters to Walter Deane*

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