

The card and letter heading which I
enclose are duplicates of what I have
sent before, but there are doubtless du-
plicate little girls that you know, and
some one may care to have them.

With all kind regards to you
and your wife,

Yours sincerely

Marion L. Oakes

Springfield, Dec. 18. 1898.

My dear Mr. Deane,

I have only half answered a
number of your letters, but I have kept
them together, and will now take them up
in order, going back to Oct. 23. In that
you mention your Shakespeare Club, I have be-
longed to four in the course of my life, but
never fifteen years to any one. That length of
time must make it part of your life, — some-
thing "grappled to your soul with hooks of steel".

Have you distributed the Pentstemonians
yet? The last time I heard from Mr. Lloyd
he had not received his, but that was
some weeks ago. I have read Mr. Fer-
nald's review of the Britton & Brown Manual,
and it seemed to me very fair; it is very
strange that the authors did not take more
pains about getting the range of plants right.

Rhodora is certainly a charming name
for the new journal. One of the associates

editors of the Springfield Republican is a lover of everything that grows; flowers have such a life and soul that it nearly kills him as well as them to pick one; he is a fair botanist, by which I mean that ^{he} knows all of our wild plants except the very minute & obscure, or if he doesn't he ^{can} use the Manual well enough to make out their names, if he has a complete specimen. He was baffled by Myrica - Tupelo, as you may remember, but of that he had only a few leaves. What I am coming at is that he can write of nature as well as John Burroughs, Bradford Torrey, your countryman Frank Bolles and all that class of lovers of the earth's beauty, and he gives us such an article in the Republican sometimes, and if Rhodora reaches him it will be likely to bring out a notice which would be of use to the publishers. The Republican goes all through Western Massachusetts besides much farther and a complimentary copy might bring in a number of subscribers.

Hypochaeris radicata in Nantucket is a great surprise. Please tell me the collector's name, locality and date, and any thing else that ought to be entered in the Catalogue of Nant. plants. I think

I have a list of discoveries since the Cat. came out worth printing on a leaf to be added; so far I have not found time to attend to it, but I can at least put the new finds on record on the blank sheets of my own copy. Mr. Dame has some names that he promises to give me; I saw him last June but have heard nothing since.

I am writing in advance of Christmas but I will keep my letter book and send with it a remembrance of the season and you; I meant to have the cover just the holidays from Christmas to Epiphany but it has run over a little. This is not botanical at all and so I offer it to Mrs. Deane as well as to you; she will probably remember to take off a leaf every day which you might forget to do. It goes with all good wishes for both. I am very glad to learn from one of your latest letters that your wife is so well.



Owen, Maria L. 1898. "Owen, Maria Louisa Dec.18, 1898." *Maria L. Owen letters to Walter Deane*

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