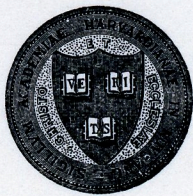


Gray Herbarium



Harvard University

B. L. ROBINSON, Curator,
Asa Gray Prof. Syst. Bot.
M. L. FERNALD,
Fisher Prof. Nat. Hist. (Bot.)
MARY A. DAY, Librarian

CAMBRIDGE, MASSACHUSETTS, U.S.A.

May 10 1919.

Dear Mr. Nelson, I am grabbing a few moments out of the valuable time of a Sat afternoon to answer in at least some fashion your pleasant letter to me of nearly a month ago. It is my impression that I have indicated to you at one time and another that my various experiences led me into new fields of endeavor which were constantly claiming more and more of my time. The situation finally became such that I severed my active connection here as ass't. but I want to emphasize that I am still connected here to the extent that I attempt at least to take care of all the western correspondence and I shall continue to give myself the pleasure of personally determining such collecting as you and other of my good "botanists" friends of the far West may care from time to time to send me.

Yes, Benton (whom I have met) "took notes". Have you assured him that the "scientific accuracy" of the botany of the book is quite as remarkable in the way in which it is manifested as the etymology??

And now in regard to Clements. Now that you
remember his pamphlet which
came out early in his career. He is now
with the Carnegie station in Arizona and for
ans. yrs. was at Minn. where he was head
of the Bot. Dept. I have met him a number
times which I remember pleasantly. No one
is so well known as he in the field of
ecology (botanical). He has written most
extensively but a good many folks regard
considerable of his stuff as pretty "light weight".
He is an impossible systematicist (he has dabbled
in taxonomy to the discredit of both himself & this
branch of bot. science). And if one can be
a first class ecologist and I not know plants
I presume Dr. C. is very good; certainly he is
widely known.

Dr. Robinson is still in the Middle West
but as soon as he returns I shall take the
matter up with him re-plants from Iowa.
I think we should be glad to have the stuff
from the Spirit Lake region and shall recommend
that you be commissioned to pick up the
plants that are of interest. But I
am sorry to hear that maybe you will
not continue your Oregon exploration this
yr. Of course you would gain much in
other ways by visiting the Lakeside Lab. By the
way have you heard from the gov. pertaining to?
This must do for this time. I suppose
you have found *S. rancevianus* by now. Spring is
just under way here. I gathered *Soxigone*
virginiana only the other day.
Sincerely,
Frank Macbride