

Laurel, Pa., Sept. 25, 1865

I have just received a letter from Mr. Durand & opened yours to add what the enthusiastic French Professor says concerning our Isoetes from Vaucluse, France.

Prof. Durieu writes to me, says Mr. D. - "It is an admirable discovery, far more interesting than if it were a new species. These specimens prove at least the presence in N. America of an European species, the old type of the genus = Isoetes lacustris of Linnæus! the undoubted one!"

"I am the more satisfied to receive it, because I announced long ago, that I. lacustris would ultimately be found in the Boreal region of America, which it could have penetrated ~~from~~ through Greenland & Labrador. The N. American specimens so far labelled I. lacustris have no relation with this, but all of them belong principally to I. riparia, Engelm.

"You may congratulate Prof. Porter of his discovery. It will greatly interest the European botanists who have at heart the Isoetic question. I wrote yesterday to Prof. Braun to make him acquainted with the fact. I must acknowledge, however, that I saw in Mr. Kunth's herbarium, a sterile specimen of Isoetes with this indication: In montibus Novæ Angliæ, Tuckerman. This specimen looks very much like lacustris; but it is so poor & insignificant, in the absence of any characteristic organ, neither Prof. Braun nor myself were able to pronounce it to be the lacustris. Mr. B. did not even mention it in the report, which he made, three years ago, of all the known localities of Isoetes lacustris.

"Herewith I return one of the two specimens of



Porter, Thomas C. 1865. "Porter, Thomas C. Sept. 25, 1865." *Asa Gray correspondence*

**View This Item Online:** <https://www.biodiversitylibrary.org/item/225468>

**Permalink:** <https://www.biodiversitylibrary.org/partpdf/252329>

**Holding Institution**

Harvard University Botany Libraries

**Sponsored by**

Arcadia 19th Century Collections Digitization/Harvard Library

**Copyright & Reuse**

Copyright Status: Public domain. The Library considers that this work is no longer under copyright protection

License: <https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-nc-sa/4.0/>

This document was created from content at the **Biodiversity Heritage Library**, the world's largest open access digital library for biodiversity literature and archives. Visit BHL at <https://www.biodiversitylibrary.org>.