

Karl Moritz Gottsche
Altona July 8. 1880.

My Dear Sir,

I send you with this letter a dissertation with which I was occupied, when I got (3 May) your last letter of April 18, as the term of printing was fixed and my paper was the last but one, I was obliged to finish it in the fixed time, if the next piece should not wait. I was not able to answer your letter without knowing the extent of the labour, which would make your honorable proposal and if my shoulders would bear it in the whole; I therefore have overlooked the *Hepatic. Americ. boreal. of Austin* and the species of *Tagler* in North America, but I have found that this work will be too long for a man of 32 years, as it would take more than all my time if I had nothing to do, but I am still in office as medical practitioner for the poor of 3 districts of our city. I have been formerly in scientific communication with M^r. Austin, but I did not agree with him about his species and so I left him his natural part and looked for exotical *Hepaticae* of other parts of the world; of course the forms of North America are nearly unknown to me and by overlooking the herbarium of Austin I have had the impression, that the American type is somewhat different from our German *Hepaticae*, so that after my opinion only an American botanist would be able to arrange the book after the plants and papers of M^r. Austin, the death of whose I really lament. You will then have a real American work, and even if there were some mistakes in it, they could be corrected in a second edition.

I for my part assure you, that, if any one would make me the proposal to do the same thing for the German *Hepaticae*, I would hesitate at taking charge of the work and I am therefore

very satisfied that a friend of mine, Mr. Gustavus Limpricht, schoolmaster at Breslau, is requested to do so with the second part of Rabenhorst's Cryptogamian Flora of Germany, containing Mosses and Hepaticae; in 1844 he has edited the I part of the Cryptogamian Flora of Silesia - Mosses and Hepaticae, 350 pages - and is thus experienced in such things. He has 4 babies; and of course he has accepted the proposal of the publisher upon condition, that he may have two years time to finish it.

As my little treatise is finished, I will take, this summer, my pleasure in your Herbarium; the wish to help Mr. Watson with the Californian Hepaticae of Dr. Bolander has taken me more than a month in the spring; afterwards I was puzzled with 28 amber-slides, in which were enclosed Hepaticae of the Tertiary time or - Underoligocene, as our Geologists call it; I had made the drawings already before, a very tedious labour; but now I was requested by Prof. Goppert at Breslau, to make the text, as the whole will now be published. As we are contemporaries I beg you to favour me with your photograph and to believe me always

Yours very sincerely

Dr. Gottsche.



Gottsche, Karl Moritz. 1880. "Gottsche, Karl M. July 8, 1880." *Asa Gray correspondence*

View This Item Online: <https://www.biodiversitylibrary.org/item/222854>

Permalink: <https://www.biodiversitylibrary.org/partpdf/260134>

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>.