

Manchester, N.H. June 10<sup>th</sup> 1845

My Dear Friend!

I have omitted writing to you for a long time because I supposed you had a sufficient supply of Correspondents and other labours to occupy all your time. But I wish to make some inquiries and make some requests. I have for once ventured to trouble you with a letter, & I suppose that Dr Torrey has told you that last season in July I visited a few of your old localities such as Quakerbridge Atrion Wading River Cedar Bridge &c &c - That I obtained a good supply of *Scleria laxa* from the latter place *Cratogeomys linearis* from Atrion and *Phexia Mariana* at Bridgeport or Bridgeton, where the Wading River empties into another (the place is perhaps better known by the name of William or Jimmy McKane's) Here I made an unsuccessful search for *Vilfa compressa* where I understood you had found it in abundance I searched both above and below the Bridge among some cedars on the East side of the Marsh below the Bridge and also on those little Islets in the Marsh where it was scarcely safe to plant one's foot - Will you be so good as to inform more particularly of the whereabouts the locality is for I now visit this region again - At the upper Wading River Bridge I found nothing of interest -



except the large form of *Rhynchospora Torreyana* and a great abundance of my *Rhynchospora Grayana* (By the bye has the latter ever been published and if so where?) Between Martha's Cove also and Cedar Bridge I obtained a good supply of *Rhynchospora Torreyana* both large & small varieties - & *Rhynchospora Grayana* fine and abundant and always either where iron ore had been dug or landed or where it existed in situ - The Oakies (*Eupatorium*) *Conradii* locality has been cut off & cooled and will perhaps nearly or quite eradicate that interesting plant - But I have found it three miles south on the road to McCarty'sville and also 5 miles south of the same place (Cedar Bridge) on the road to Menahawkin - There is something singular in the appearance and disappearance of *Larix Barrattii* which may account for the plant being so long overlooked by botanists. It is this the first year I was here I collected about 50 specimens nearly all I met with last season I could have collected 10000 specimens and in places too where I had not before observed but which I had often visited and passed over - This season I have not found a single good specimen fit for collection yet the number of flowerless plants of this species does not appear to be at all diminished.

What has become of our friend Oakes I have not heard from him for some time, he has not answered one or two of my last letters. I am under many obligations to him and will not soon forget his kindness - Give my kind regards to our friend Duchermann -

Have you any Botanical Pamphlets to spare & to give away? I would much like a copy of the correspondence of Cadwallader Colden - One of your Tour to the Mountains in North Carolina &c &c and anything else new or otherwise interesting. A copy of your new Edition of the Botanical Text Book - For what I will collect you any plants seeds &c &c that you may desire. - The fires in the pines this season have been exceedingly destructive to vegetation having passed over thousands & thousands of acres and destroyed every thing on the surface. The frost too has been very severe and the great drought is also very sensibly <sup>against</sup> in the stunted forms of vegetable productions at this time; Please write or send anything you may have for me before the first of July &c Please remember too that anything written on pamphlets subjects it to letter postage. - Believe me truly yours

Prof. A. Gray.

P. X. Michxers.



Manchester, N.Y.  
June 16<sup>th</sup>

Dear Sir

W.D. Knickerbocker  
Post Master

Prof. A. Gray.  
Cambridge  
Mass.



Knieskern, Peter D. 1845. "Knieskern, Peter D. June 10, 1845." *Asa Gray correspondence*

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