

P.S. Who named your *Crataegi*?
I have a lot at the Gray Herb. that ought to be
determined by someone.

recd Oct 17

Urbana, Illinois

14 October, 1921

My dear Mr. Deane:--

Thank you again for your letters. The data sent I have entered in the card catalogue so that the notes will be ready when I reach that point. I am at present engaged in the slow task of arranging and typewriting the citation of specimens and it looks as though it would take what time I can spare for it for some months to come.

President Brainerd's letter I was much interested in and I am returning it herewith. Also in the account of the fire at Randolph. My mother was a witness of it from fairly close quarters and was horrified by it, especially the first night when it was at its worst. Her last letter said that there was still smoke ascending in places and probably would be for some time to come unless there should be prolonged rain. It has burned much of Gordon Ridge, directly opposite our cottage. She said that the nearest point it came to her cottage was perhaps $\frac{3}{4}$ mile. The fire was caused by a fire warden who burned up--for what reason I don't know--a little shack near the Madison Path at the second crossing of the Snyder Brook. He supposed that the fire was out; two ladies coming down the mountain a little later on Friday afternoon saw the ruins smouldering and left word with a certain person at the Ravine House, who, however, took no interest and did nothing about it. A strong gale fanned the flames and at about midnight on Friday the mountain was blazing up like a volcano. My mother and some of her neighbors who had roused her were ready to get together some of their things and abandon their houses if need be, but fortunately the wind was west rather than south--it never is south at Randolph--so they were in no real danger, I think. But it was an awful sight and she got no more sleep after midnight that night. I have had several letters from her describing the fire, but the clouds have been down over it part of the time and it was not easy from below to give an exact account of its extent. I judge, however, that the estimates of area as given in this article may be somewhat exaggerated. It had at last reports been kept west of Bumpus Brook and had been mostly in old slash, getting only a little into primeval forest. But it will be bad enough in any event and it will have to be carefully watched for a long time to prevent it from bursting out anew if a wind and dry weather should come.

I hope that you are well. All goes well here, and very busily. I am at the composition of the commentary on the second book of the De Divinatione; am getting galley proofs of another book which is being published in England, which I am doing in collaboration with a colleague, and am trying to bring the Flora of Coos County to a head; so you see I am not at a loss for what to do!

With all best wishes,

A.S.P.

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Pease, Arthur Stanley. 1921. "Pease, Arthur Stanley Oct. 14, 1921." *Walter Deane correspondence*

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