

New York Botanical Garden,
Bronx Park,
New York City.

January 15th, 1906.

Prof. J. F. Collins,
Brown University,
Providence, R. I.

My dear Prof. Collins:-

Thank you very much for your letter of January 14th. I shall be glad to hear of any change that will enable you to have more time for the mosses. I will answer your questions in turn: 1. Nothing would happen if you were unable to complete your work on the North American Flora. There is no contract in regard to it. If you have not seen the two parts which have appeared of this work and decide to assist us, I shall be pleased to send you a sample copy. 2. There is no limitation as to time for completion and every author is at liberty to either monograph or compile or both as seems best. 3. The nomenclature is based on the oldest specific name and would probably follow the Vienna Code, although so far and until the next congress is held in Brussels five years hence, there has been no decision for Bryophytes. 4. Each group requires more or less different treatment, but the plan is to get as many species on a page as possible. In the parts which have appeared there are four or five species on a page, but this will hardly be possible in certain genera. The Engler and Prantl treatment will be followed as far as possible, although I find a good many omissions and corrections are necessary. I am basing my sequence on a card catalogue compiled from this work which includes all the North American species and Greenland, the West Indies and Central America, making the total 146 genera and 1500 species.

Dr. Best has only expressed a preference for the

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Polytrichaceae, but he has not actually made a definite promise to do them. The other families which you mention would be fully as interesting. Miss. Julia T. Emerson is studying the Andreaeaceae and has made a good beginning. Dr. Evans tells me that F. LeRoy Andrews has made a good beginning on the Sphagnaceae, so that neither of those two genera need bother us, as I hope Dr. Evans may be able to persuade Mr. Andrews to ^{do} the Sphagnums.

The scholarship yields \$50.00 a month and the time may be devided to suit your convenience. I would advise however, your beginning the work at such a time that you could have a month free and I could be here. I expect we shall be away between the 18th and 28th of March and a week or ten days is very little time, especially if you have college duties on your mind between ^{times} ~~times~~.

Thanking you for your interest and hoping that you may be able to join in the work, believe me,

Very sincerely yours,

Elizabeth G. Britton



Britton, Elizabeth G. 1906. "Britton, Elizabeth G. Jan. 15, 1906." *James Franklin Collins correspondence*

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