

Dec. 18, 1909.

Dear Dr. Farlow:-

Yours of the 17th is at hand. Thank you very much for the same.

It did not occur to me that you might be very busy arranging for the A.A.A.S. meeting or I would not have sent the specimens until after Jan. 1. Under the circumstances I am sorry that you took the time to examine the specimens and reply while you were so busy.

It is only fair to you to state something that I did not mention in my letter of the 14th, as that was written rather hurriedly. My No. 5521 was collected on a small dead (or partially dead) branch of Black Oak lying on the ground in an orchard in Martic Forge, Pa., where the Chestnut Bark Disease was prevalent. There were apparently two small fungi growing on the branch, one a dark colored one (which I suspect is the *Sphaeropsis*) and another one forming very small orange or red pustules from which were projecting (when collected) small yellowish thread-like masses of spores almost exactly like Murrill's "*Diaporthe*" when examined under a hand lens.

Half of the branch was at once sent to Washington where cultures were made from the "red" fungus. A little later these cultures were used to inoculate Chestnut trees out of doors. All of these inoculations developed the characteristic "*Diaporthe*" lesions within three months.

I only recently learned the above facts from Dr. Metcalf. At the first opportunity I looked up the half of the branch that I had retained, cut it in two and sent half of it to you with my letter of the 14th. This was packed, and the letter written, rather hurriedly in a few spare moments just before I had to leave to attend an important meeting. As a result I probably forgot to call your attention to the small reddish pustules just below the small branch on the specimen sent. Possibly the pustules were rubbed off in transit, or, possibly, they were not exactly the same as those sent in to Washington, though I supposed they were. They were certainly from the same branch at any rate.

If the specimen has not been destroyed will you look again (after the A.A.A.S. rush is over) and see if there are any of these little red pustules left? These are really what the specimen (No. 5521) was sent for.

As I can find no mention of *Sphaeropsis linearis* being reddish I assume that these pustules were either rubbed off in transit or were overlooked. There were only a few of these reddish spots on the material I kept.

Very truly yours,

Collaborator, B.P.I.



Collins, J. Franklin. 1909. "Collins, James Franklin Dec. 18, 1909 [Collins to Farlow]." *James Franklin Collins correspondence*

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