

GRAY HERBARIUM OF HARVARD UNIVERSITY,

BOTANIC GARDEN, CAMBRIDGE, MASS.,

Aug. 22, 1899

Dear Dr. Robinson -

I got the registered package yesterday - it is a lot of Costa Rican things from London, as usual with "postage due".

I have done what seemed best with Pasteur's article. I believe we decided that it was best not to modify his patronizing English at all. By the way, the Azalea caulescens, of which he speaks, seems to be a very good thing, a marked variety of undiflora if not specifically distinct.

Button and Brown give it for Massachusetts but Deane seems to have entirely overlooked

it in preparing his list of
Cucaceae. It is the canescent
plant which Miss Day brought
from Mt. Equinox and it is
abundant on the ledgy banks of
the Connecticut at Walpole, N.H.

I have rewritten Barry's
Goodyea note. The other seems
to me too undigested material
as yet & I have let it alone.
Merrill's notes turn out much
better than I supposed, for I find
that a number of the things which
I supposed were published seem
to be unrecorded.

I enclose an article by
Knowlton which seems to me
very well written and a good
readable thing to offset more
technical things. At first it

seemed to me that he had enumerated
a great many very common things,
but I am reminded by an
amateur friend that those are
not common with most New
Englanders and that to him the
article is very interesting. Some
of the plants, as Comandra and
Diapensia are really unusually
interesting on a mountain of 3800
ft. altitude.

I also send a more technical
paper containing descriptions of
some asters and a Solidago which
have been in my portfolio for a
long time. It's a little hard to
make such things readable, but
perhaps this can go in when there
are a number of less technical
things.

Miss Day went to Dunstable

yesterday, but I will look up the references for Patterson.

I have been sorting the Fayou plants and have that work about half done — the sorting I mean — Miss Anderson has begun to mount our set.

Harpers plants are here but I haven't yet had a chance to open the package. I shall do so soon.

Prof. Macoun was at the Houlton meeting of the Josselyn Botanical Socy. and he told me that the Canadian Commissioner of Education has directed him to prepare a manual of botany for the schools of Eastern Canada. He is reluctant about undertaking it, especially as his son has gone to Paris for eighteen months, and he says that if we will include the Eastern Provinces — Nova Scotia, New Brunswick,

Quebec, Ontario and eastern
Manitoba in the range of the
next manual, and so state upon
the title page, he will prescribe
that work as a text-book in
the Canadian schools - thus, he
assures me, more than doubling
its sale.

I have made
a rough estimate based upon
Macoun's list and I doubt
very much if such an extension
of range would add a hundred
species and those not monotypes,
to the manual. It seems to
me a wise thing to do if the
publishers do not rebel.

With kind regards to Mrs.

Robinson Cordially yours,

Meritt L. Fernald.

(over)

I hope you are watching Ranunculus
aeris. At Alstead Centre the
true thing is very rare, the broad-
leaved R. Steudani being everywhere.
At Walpole R. Steudani is rare
and the other form abundant.
In Lexington where I am spending
this month I have seen only
the broad-leaved form. I
have written a number of
people for specimens.



Fernald, Merritt Lyndon. 1899. "Fernald, Merritt Lyndon Aug. 22, 1899 [Fernald to B.L. Robinson]." *Merritt Lyndon Fernald correspondence*

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