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8 Hamilton Place,

Boston, Mass., July 14th 1877

Dear Sir;

I have the pleasure of sending to you a specimen of what I believe is a new species of *Cheilanthes*, and which I have ventured to name *Cheilanthes viscida*, ^{the species before} subject to your approval. I detected it among some specimens sent to Mr Robinson, by Dr Parry, for *Cheilanthes Cooperae*. It is quite clear to me that

~~Dr Parry collected it with, and for this latter species as the specimens received by Mr Robinson were all together under this one name, and Mr Robinson, being at the time busy, sent specimens to me without observing the difference. The plant, however, is certainly very distinct from C. Cooperae and different from anything that I have before seen from the United States. I cannot make it agree with any known description, and think it must be an entirely new species. During a visit to Mr Robinson a few days ago I called his attention to it, and together we gave it a more careful examination with the ^{same} ~~above~~ result.~~

The plant is peculiarly viscid, being covered with ^{distinct} glands that exude a glutinous matter

that makes it most decidedly sticky. A frond placed in warm water to soften the parts became so sticky as to leave on the fingers a stringy tacky feeling for some time, and even the dried frond if held between the fingers tightly a few moments becomes sticky, as the warmth of the hand softens the glands. It is this character that suggested to me the name which I propose for it, and which meets with the approval of Mr Robinson, as I hope it will yours, unless you are able to place it with some species unknown to us here. In other respects the species seems to me to be no less distinct, and if my judgment is correct, then we have another species to add to the list of Cheilanthes given by you in the new Fern Book. Please retain the specimen I send. I have about as much more for the Mass. Hor. Soc. Herb.

I have for some time suspected that *Calceolanthus myrtillophylla* has got mixed up with *C. Clevelandii* in the specimens sent out by Mr Cleveland, but have never had a genuine specimen of the first species by which to judge specimens from Mr Overhill's plant, grown in

The greenhouse (and which I think must have varied
greatly ^{from its natural} appearance during its cultivation under
glass, as I know some other of his ferns have
done so) have recently strengthened this
suspicion and Mr Haxson kindly loaning me
his specimen of *Myriophyllum* from Kew Mr
Robinson and myself examined some specimens
of the Cleveland's that are hardly ^{at all} to be distin-
guished from the Kew specimen and not only
found the same beautiful ciliated appearance on
the upper surface of the frond that we found on
the Kew specimen, but on removing the ^{delicate} veins, "
4 beautifully ciliated scales we found on the
under surface of the pinnae in Mr Cleveland's
specimens distinct hairs attached just as in
the Kew specimen. I send one of the fronds
examined (from Mr Cleveland's) to you and re-
spectfully solicit your opinion in regard to it.

An examining specimens of C. Hendleri from Colorado and California, we found that while the Colorado specimens, without any exception, were scaly only with entire ~~into~~ scales, the scales on the California specimens were more or less ciliated, the long cilia overlapping the base

face and giving to the upper surface of the frond a similar appearance to that shown on *C. myriophyllum* and *C. Clevelandii*, but on removing the scales we found the under surface of the pinnae smooth and free from hairs.

I had intended to have made some communications to you in regard to Utah specimens of *Adiantum Capillus Veneris*, but as I have already trespassed too far, I fear, on your patience I will reserve that for another time.

Respectfully

Geo. E. Davenport

Prof. Daniel C. Eaton
New Haven, Conn. }

Do you think it would be possible for me to obtain it.

Stipe 2 to 4" long, scaly at the base with scales
a few scales or none above leaf hairs - but much from
common involucre which glances at the
4 to 6 in long
to over pinna distant



Davenport, Geo. E. 1877. "Davenport, George Edward Jul. 14, 1877 [Davenport to D.C. Eaton]." *George Edward Davenport correspondence*

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