

both *Salactia glabella* and  
*S. mollis*. The old fruit I  
sent you (all I had of either) I  
thought might have lost its fuzz by  
age. Both are rare, and fruit  
especially.

The *Gespedezas* are another  
puzzling group. I had never made  
out *L. reticulata* to my satisfaction  
and shall add it to the local  
flora on your authority.

If my *Juncus marginatus*  
had 6-flowered heads it was, of  
course, the type. Dr. Engelmann  
gave me when at his house in 1878  
a set of his *Junci* and a copy of  
his paper on them (*Trans. Acad.*  
*St. Louis*, 1868, Vol. II, pp. 424-498),  
and I studied up all my specimens  
with their aid. I have no doubt  
I found the var. *biflorus* among  
them, and remember that it was

1464 R. I. Ave.

Washington. D.C.

Dec. 31, 1884.

Mr. Walter Deane,  
Cambridge, Mass.

My Dear Sir:-

I am  
almost sorry that I have  
received the last of your  
searchingly critical reports  
upon the plants received  
from me. I am glad you  
feel that you have yourself  
been benefited by it, and  
judging from labors of my  
own of a similar nature  
I doubt not you have been.  
But I prefer to regard it as  
a pure gratuity in my interest  
and I feel obligated accord-



ingly. I am still locked  
out of all access to my plants  
and waiting for an earthquake  
to sink New Orleans and  
frighten its present inhabitants  
back to ~~the~~ Washington to at-  
tend to pressing home duties.  
My comments on your last  
report must therefore be, like  
former ones, desultory and  
indefinite.

I presume you are right  
about *sericeum*, but I found it  
impossible to depend upon the  
characters of the receptacle except  
in mature fruit, and had come  
to rely chiefly upon the flowers  
for flowering specimens. These  
are quite distinct, and I have  
found the colors (white + yellow)  
sufficiently constant in all

cases closely examined.

I had entirely failed to  
notice the change in *Physalis*  
*viscosa*. My specimen was cor-  
rectly named as *P. viscosa* L., as  
given in the Mammal, which appears  
not to have been Linnaeus' plant.  
We have not found the true *P.*  
*viscosa*, L.

Our *Ruellia ciliosa* and var.  
*ambigua* are troublesome. I have  
studied them much by the aid of  
the Syn. Fl. and am sure we have  
both if they really are worth sepa-  
rating, but my recollection of my  
investigations is that I concluded  
that they largely blend. Probably  
I sent you the variety. I hoped you  
might have your attention arrested  
by it.

I fully believe we have



extraordinary hybrid white oaks. We have at least three forms which from their resemblances to the putative parents I have designated as

1. *Q. alba* x *stellata*
2. *Q. stellata* x *alba*
3. *Q. Prinus* x *alba*

the species whose characteristics are most strongly marked being placed first. Of course we do not know that they are hybrids at all. I would gladly send you specimens of each if they would be acceptable to you. I want them to get into critical hands.

The 38 species more or less which you asked for and received something else instead will constitute a list

upon my herbarium until furnished or commuted to something else that you want. Your several reports will be preserved and as soon as possible carefully studied in connection with the plants and all corrections duly made.

With the compliments of  
the season

I remain

Very faithfully Yours  
Lester F. Ward.

a small form. ~~In~~ later  
I will look the matter up.

In my remark upon  
*Osmanthus* I lost sight for  
the moment of the fact that  
it is the same as *Olea Americana*  
of the Manual.

The anomalous leaf of  
*Quercus Leana* is from  
the same tree collected at  
the same time from the lower  
branches. I took pains to  
put one such with every  
specimen. It is very remarkable.  
I have this last season found  
another large flourishing tree  
of it. I have also found a very  
remarkable form of *Q. hetero-*  
*phylla*, much nearer to *Q. Phellos*  
than any yet seen. I suppose  
I have told you about our



Ward, Lester F. 1884. "Ward, Lester Frank Dec. 31, 1884." *Walter Deane correspondence*

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