

Viola rostrata

Lechea racemulosa, Lam. - Ours in
Nantucket is *L. racemulosa* Mx. or
is put down so in Mr. Leggett's mono-
graph, but perhaps they are the same.
I have found a number of queer things
in Dr. Oyster's Catalogue or omitted
from it, & I have only been through
the Fair Family.

Lychnis dioica

L. asperitina

Stellaria graminea

Lagotis subulata, var. *Frithii* - one of the
omitted things.

Mollugo verticillata, L. was omitted, or else it
has some new name that I don't know.

I have been doing a little work on my Cata-
logue - think I may be able to get it ready for
the printer in a month if nothing unforeseen hap-
pens. But I don't care so much for it now that
Dr. Gray is gone - he would have had a pleasant
word for it I am sure. But missing him as I do, my
next thought is always of those who lived near enough to
see him often - How different the Garden and all

connected with it - let me know when you have
time about the same -
Dear Mr. Deane,
I enclose some letters for you
to read, and which need not be
returned. I always like to be obliging,
but I am shy of promising any help
to professional botanists, because I am
not on an equality with them. Some-
times they want things by the hun-
dred, sometimes things nearly as
rare as *Magnolia cordata*. - They
can furnish rarities and specimens
in quantities, and they expect the
same of every poor little amateur
botanist like me.

Well I, with previous experience
in mind, write a very guarded

Springfield Feb. 10. 1887.

reply, told them in so many words
that I could promise nothing
except to collect in the coming
season what came in my way,
and mentioned that I had nothing
on hand but a few grasses &
Cyperaceae. Soon came the
second letter with its "Thanks" &
the promise of specimens "to make
sure". "Make sure" of what? That
being paid in advance I should do
my best for them?

They are very good up there in
Ottawa — they sent me beautiful
things for my ferns — overpaid me
and I am sure that, but I put up
with it, for I suppose they had a plan
perhaps more than they knew what to
do with. You must not judge of the
returns they make by those broken

things that I gave you in Nantucket.
You will see in the second letter
that they want some other botanists
enlisted in their cause — would
you take the place? If so, I will
send you the Catalogue (Oyster's)
as soon as I have made a list
of things that I can hope to pro-
cure. To give you an idea of what
they lack I will give you the names
that I have selected, as those that I
could ^{perhaps} get myself or through friends —

Ranunculus abortivus

Brasenia peltata

Nymphaea odorata

Nephris luteum

Nephris pernilum

Adiantum cirrhosum

Viola renifolia



Owen, Maria L. 1887. "Owen, Maria Louisa Feb. 10, 1887." *Maria L. Owen letters to Walter Deane*

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