

383 Union St.  
Springfield, Mass  
June 21-1878

Dear Mr. Deane,

I enclose a letter in reply  
to which I could only tell Mr. Dana  
that I must ask for a little time,  
to get the desired information from  
some one who knew more than I about  
that department of Botany.

I hope you can, without  
trouble, put the letter into the hands  
of some one able and willing to pro-  
mote science here in Springfield, by  
giving the list which is wanted.

I should like to have it some-  
what classified in this way: - The  
books to be bought first for beginners,

and those to be added later when  
needed. I don't believe there is a  
single student of lichens in this  
City. In our botanical society, now  
in its twenty-third year, some of us  
know the common species by sight  
and name, and we should probably  
use a work for beginners. My way  
would be to put in only two or three  
elementary works, and add others as  
asked for. Any other way seems to  
me a waste of money, for before  
there is interest enough in this neighbor-  
hood in the study of lichens, and ad-  
vancement enough to go deeply into  
it, the present books may be quite  
out of date, superseded by those giving  
the result of later researches. Any  
more books would only make a show-

on the shelves, and I think that is  
not the aim of the trustees of this  
Memorial Library fund which is not a  
large one.

If you will help me in this matter  
as you have in so many before  
this, you will oblige again

Your sincere friend  
Maria L. Owen.



Owen, Maria L. 1898. "Owen, Maria Louisa Jun. 21, 1898 [2nd item]." *Maria L. Owen letters to Walter Deane*

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