

very gen -

But I am nearly forgetting the winter-flowering Jasmine. That I mentioned in the preface to the Catalogue as showing the mildness of our winters. I never saw it in bloom myself till now, not being here at the right time. It is Jasminum nudiflorum, a Japanese species. It is not at all uncommon here. ~~The~~ The bush that I had easiest access to was full of buds <sup>and must have been in December,</sup> in January, and it began to bloom early in the month, but then came that intense cold. We got off with 40° above, though "off-island" it was any number of degrees below according to locality, but 40° above was enough to stop the development of those buds and they waited till early in April, but now their yellow stars show in many yards - With all kind regards for Mrs. Deane & yourself -  
Yours most truly, Maria D. Owen

Nantucket, April 22. '07

Dear Mr. Deane,

I have meant all along to answer your pleasant Christmas letter, and Mrs. Deane's too, but I was going to wait till I had something of interest to write, and that time has come. One day I went out to walk, but only in the streets, and when I came home, I found a stiff, black seedvessel sticking to my hair. I don't think I ever saw its like before, and I am sure I don't know it any more than I do how it got to my hair, so I send it to you for a name. It is packed with a little bit of furze and some leather, - all

Calluna, I think, though I had some Erica cinerea in the house. I don't know the winter aspect of these two - though if they have the dried-up, persistent flowers, it is easy enough to distinguish them.

I came here last June. My daughter & her husband wanted to have their little eight-months-old baby here for the summer, so my daughter & I came together & Mr. Sullivan followed when school closed - the N.Y. High School of Commerce with its 1800 boys. I stayed till the middle of October then went home to get my winter clothes, came back in November and have been here ever since. I came for a mild winter, the

usual Nantucket variety of that season, but this last one turned out the worst for twenty years at least; it has been a dreadful winter all over the country you know. Mr & Mrs. Sullivan have been building a house at Manhasset, Long Island; it is to be done very soon, and there it is to be my home in future. My son is all broken up by the death of Miss Coffin, so I am going to sell my house, and dispose of its contents in one way and another, and leave Springfield. I am planning to go home next week and attend to it. In closing I wish to thank you and Mrs. Deane for the Christmas card; I have kept it in sight and thought of the gives



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