

Prof.

Dr Asa Gray

Cambridge Mass.

Honored Sir!

Very much Thanks for your kindly
identification of my plants!!

Please send me 1 Copy of your

Synopsis — \$5.00

I would send you the money just now — but
I don't know if the price is understanding
\$5.00 with. or without include vet. excluding
postage.

Let me tell in plain words the history of
discovering *Salvinia natans* L.

On a mycological excursion in the
Bois brule-bottom of Perry Co, 13 Miles east
from Perryville Mo, I found *Salv.* last October
(1885) pure accidentally. About 300 steps
west of Dixon's lake in said bottom (1/2 Mi. west of
Fred Goldschlager's sawmill) I came to a

slough, which was covered all over with
the beautiful red *Azolla Caroliniana* Willd.
By fishing it out with a long pole I found
in the masses specimens of *Salvinia*. I had
no idea, that it would be so rare, because
I found *Salv.* in Woods Clearbrook of Potomac
enumerated in our Flora.

Few days before Christmas (1885)
Dr Edward Vogt, Friedheim Cape Girardeau
Mo., paid me a visit, telling me he
had found a Tree *Alia* without
thorns & that he could not find the name
of it in your Manual and he promised
me to send me once said Manual. I
received it & by overlooking the
same I found your notice about *Salv.*
p. 678. (5th Edit. 4th issue) and that was
the cause, why I have send you one
specimen.

If I had known that before resp. at
the same time I discovered *Salv.*, I would
have taken more care about it and
would give you better information.

It is a fact, that *Salvinia* grows in
Missouri, and I believe in abundance too,
but I can not say, if it is introduced
from Europe; if it is naturalized, pro-
pagating itself freely by spores or if
it is spontaneous only in reed slough,
before I have made better observations.

I shall observe it as well as
possible the coming season and will,
if refined, gather as many specimens
you wish.

Very respectfully

Yours thankfully
C. McDougl



Demetrio, C. H. 1831. "Demetrio, Charles H. undated." *Asa Gray correspondence*

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