

\$7.50 of the \$15.00 and saddle you
with a large express bill be-
sides. I could not plan otherwise
for I was bound he should not
have them for nothing after such
a selfish letter.

Yours cordially
L. F. Henderson.

Portland, April 9-81

Dear Sir,

I have been for Iris tenuis,
have collected a good quantity of it,
and hope to have it on the way tomorrow.
If you receive an overwhelming box
of it aero from New York, I hope it will
not prove superfluous. To explain.
Just as I read your card the other
day, I read a very peculiar letter
from Mr. Nelson, whose contents
I cannot keep mentioning to you
sub rosa, but hope you will men-
tion it to no one else. Condensing, he
says: "Get me 1000 or more plants of
I. tenuis and send rose to anyone
else and I will pay you ~~25~~ or 30
dollars." If you would not be willing
to send me your entire stock, I will
be willing to go in with Mr. Nelson.

so as not to have the entire expense exceed \$25.00." To this I replied, perhaps too shortly for my own good, "How do you expect me honorably to neglect the request of Mr Watson, which preceded yours, and send to you alone I shall send you 1000 plants, if I have time to collect so many" (never fear about my exterminating it; I was from 8 to nearly 4 o'clock steadily digging at a patch 20 by 15 feet, and it was as thick as it was here for a half a mile) "I will send them to you for \$30.00 c.o.d. you to pay express. If you do not care for them in those days, I shall direct them to send the whole lot to Mr Watson." I sent off the coal-oil box full of them today, and it remains to be seen whether he will take them or turn them over to you. If he does refuse ^{them} you, I shall have to call upon you for the other



Henderson, L. F. 1888. "Henderson, Louis F. Apr. 9, 1888 [to S. Watson]." *Asa Gray correspondence*

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