

91 St. James Ave.,
Boston, Mass.
May 15, 1916.

Mr. J. Franklin Collins,
Dear Sir, -

Mrs. Dunham of Waban,
Mass., made specimens like
the enclosed Polytrichum
Ohioense R. & B., but she was
not satisfied, and asked
me to send you a speci-
men. I am sorry that

I have not more to send.
Will you kindly tell me
what you think it is?
I enclose a stamp. There
was something about the
cell structure ^{of the leaf} that puzzled
Mrs. Dinham.

Yours gratefully,
(Miss) Emily L. Crosswell.

May 19, 1916

Miss Emily L. Croswell,
91 St. James Ave.,
Boston, Mass.

Dear Madam:-

I have been examining your specimen of *Polytrichum* from Bartlett, N.H.; not as much as I ought, but as much as I may have a chance for a week or more, so it is possible that I may want to change my mind regarding its identity if I get time to make a more thorough study of it.

Usually Mrs. Dunham and I agree pretty closely on our determinations, but in this case I am inclined to think your moss is nearer *P. Smithiae* than *P. ohioense*, though not typical of either. In measurements of leaf, sporophyte, and gametophyte, and in the height and number of lamellae it seems to closely match Grout's original description of *P. Smithiae*. It does not match this species, however, in the general habit of the gametophyte, and, possibly, in the end cell of the lamellae.

In this connection it is interesting to note that in co-type specimens of *P. Smithiae* distributed by Holzinger, the lower parts of the gametophyte shows a spreading habit to the leaves, somewhat as in your specimen. Of course, the slender stems with appressed leaves--suggesting *P. strictum*--are entirely lacking in your specimens. This character is emphasized by Grout in his description, but specimens distributed by Holzinger show in some cases the other type of foliage when dry, as well as the strict stem.

If either you or Mrs. Dunham get an opportunity to study this material more before I get a chance, I would be glad to hear what you decide

Very truly,



Croswell, Emily L. 1916. "Croswell, Emily L. May 15, 1916." *James Franklin Collins correspondence*

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