

ravines, whose walls and detached  
rocks are carpeted with Polypody, &  
Samolus and being with a diversity  
of mosses, lichens, etc.; to our deep,  
and cold "cedar swamps" and their  
Orchids; to ponds, bordered with sphagnum  
and the plants peculiar to such situations,  
to our sandy, pine plains; to the marshes  
where our rivers enter the lake; to the  
calcareous cliffs of the Minors for Pellaea  
and Asplenium ruta-muraria; and to our  
cold, bare mountain tops for the sub-alpine  
plants which find there their congenial  
home. As I had planned to explore  
the cold regions in N. E. Vt., I should  
hope to be able to go with him as  
far as Willoughby Lake.

Your success in obtaining <sup>for</sup> *Cypripedium*,  
etc., I think quite remarkable. Before  
receiving your request for live plants  
of *C. arcticum*, I had been planning  
how I might send <sup>you</sup> for exhibition

Charlotte, Vermont.

April, 27th, 1874.

H  
Dear Mr. Donport,

Though a great  
snow-storm is in progress, and more  
than a foot of snow has fallen,  
spring has come even to our  
northern valley; for vegetation,  
in which you and I find so  
much delight, is springing up  
new again into active life; the  
grass has already given the  
fields a tinge of green; and the  
other day I found in the woods  
a few *Hyptis* nearly open.

And I have already taken  
my share of the joys which the  
opening season offers; for last  
week I spent several days in  
the fields collecting a barrel of

fern roots with which to assist  
Dr. Hooker of New York to stock the  
new fernery which he is  
building. Do you not think I  
was very successful, since I  
found even at this season  
nineteen species, with two exceptions  
all our Vermont ferns not indig-  
enous in Europe?

As *Pellaea atropurpurea* and  
*Aspidium ruta-muraria* are named  
in your list of desired plants, I  
gathered for you at the same  
time a little package of these ferns,  
which I mailed two days ago. I did  
it more by way of an assurance  
of my purpose to remember you  
this summer in my botanizing,  
than because the plants, the best  
I was able to find at the time,  
were quite worthy of your her-  
barium. I thought they might

add to your fernery. Much better  
specimens I shall hope send you.

I think, if Mr. Faxon wishes  
to obtain a full set of Vermont  
ferns, he may anticipate entire  
success, if he will come to Charlotte,  
when he first comes into this region.  
In a single field of a farm ad-  
joining ours I have found 26 or 27  
species, and of all the others given  
in Frost's revision of Oakes' catalogue  
(except four) I have found stations.  
And of those four exceptions Oakes  
is particular to give their stations.

I anticipate deriving much  
pleasure and benefit from Mr.  
Faxon's visit to Vermont, and, if I can  
possibly get away from home, I shall  
endeavor to convey him, if it would  
be acceptable to him that I should  
do so, to the places of most interest in  
our part of the State, - to our rocky



various H. plants. I think I can pack  
them so they will go safely and upon  
exposure to warmth and sunlight,  
open as naturally as though they had  
not been disturbed. We shall see.

The little plants which came  
up about the roots of *C. spectabile*  
I will guess to have been *Pillium*  
seedlings, and, if so, probably of *P. grandig-  
florum*. I have seen them very abundant,  
resembling the dried specimens you sent;  
and *Pillium* grows with some of the  
*Cypripediums* which I sent you.

If Dr. Hooker should wish me to  
help him procure a few roots of many  
species of *Am. filices*, I shall need to  
apply to you for the names of botanists  
whom you have found ready to  
furnish them at least for a compensation.

I will refer again to Mr. Fax's  
coming to Vermont to say that my

leisure comes after hay-making is  
over, or after the first of August;  
but there is no more favorable time  
for gathering ferns in fruit than  
the month of August, indeed some,  
as Asplenium angustifolium do not  
come fully into fruit till about  
that time, I think.

Thanking you for continuing to  
remember me with welcome fears,  
and for the assurance of your friend-  
ship and esteem which I have  
come to hold as very precious, I  
remain

Yours faithfully,  
C. G. Pringle.



Pringle, Cyrus G. 1874. "Pringle, C.G. Apr 27, 1874." *George Edward Davenport correspondence*

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