

July 1 1885

My Dear Deane:

In regard to the matter of inferior or superior ovary, I like and hold to the views preferred by Dr Gray in his *Structural Botany*, 5th Ed. pages 25-2. He discusses the apple and teaches that the outside portion is calyx and that this calyx is inserted below the ovary. The ovary is therefore above the insertion of the calyx and is therefore superior to the calyx. He said that the earlier botanists called such ovaries inferior but he should prefer to discard that term and in such cases substitute the more accurate term, "calyx adherent." You understand that so long as we call the pulp of the apple the calyx so long must we say that in fact the ovary is superior to the calyx - inside of it and above it.

In the Sixth ed. of his *Structural Botany* Dr Gray makes the bad mistake - it appears to me - of saying that inferiority is not a real circumstance but an apparent one. (See p. 183, paragraph 333, line 5) Hence as the apple ovary is apparently inferior it is inferior! But in the 5th ed. p. 252, note at bottom, he says that some botanists regard the pulp of the apple

as a hollow receptacle, and in the 6th ed. p. 184 par. 336, he is inclined to adopt this view. If this view is correct then the apple ovary is surely inferior to the floral envelopes.

Whoever finds *Cardamine rotundifolia* purpurea C. & G. in Indiana is a little "off". They find the *C. rhomboides* var. *purpurea* which Mr. Watson says is *C. rotundifolia*. The color of fls. is a poor specific character.

When you get into *Carex laxiflora* you get into a puzzle. Torr. Nos. 14 + 15 are *C. laxiflora* v. *latifolia* nearly. They approach var. *blanda*. No. 16 is *C. virescens*.

I shall surely send you some *Carexes*:

I am glad that you are out of doors again. How long do you remain in Cambridge?

I am glad to hear of Larrabee's improvement.

I stole a couple hours yesterday for a ride to Pine Lake 5 miles away, and for the first time in my life I found *Carex fififolia*. It was floating on bogs in the lake. Of course I was delighted to

find it. I appreciate what you say about your enthusiasm. I can never make a bosom friend of anyone who lacks enthusiasm. The soul of nature and the height of enjoyment do not exist where there is no enthusiasm. And I shall not consent to be called a dreamer because I see in nature much that is enchanting, sublime and poetic. He who looks into nature with admiration lives in a higher world than does he who looks as a critic. (Cf. Talks of Field, p. 137)

Your willow tree may have been attacked last year or year before by plant lice or it may have rec'd some other injury and the hard winter finished it. Mr. Seymour means nothing. He is ~~at~~ absorbed in fungi.

The A. A. A. S. meets at Ann Arbor this year. We shall go.

Lots of business and must close. Do not be afraid of troubling me. Regards to Mrs. D.

Yours always,

L. H. Bailey, Jr.

P.S. I want to use some
fish glue - a quart or so.
Do you know if I can get
it in that quantity and
where and for how
much?

In card of June 25 you
say you send caries
Nos. 12 & 13. I have not
rec'd them. *C. filiformis*
v. latifolia = *C. lanuginosa*.



Bailey, L. H. 1885. "Bailey, Liberty Hyde Jul. 1, 1885." *Walter Deane correspondence*

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