

Rec'd Jan 4th
As Feb 25

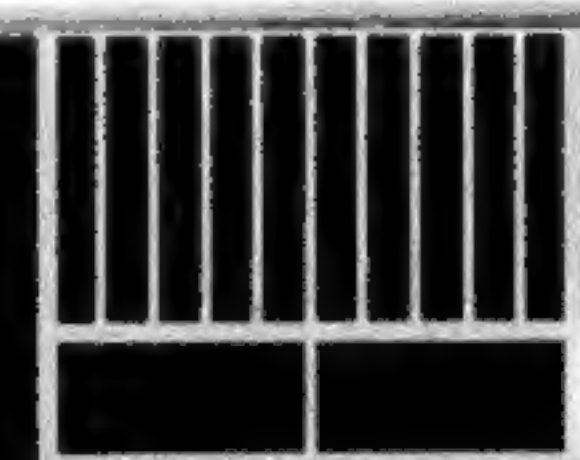
His oak sent by Wilson and
Q. rubra and a sort of
transition form to Q. coccinea

Fredrickton N.B. Dec 27. 1878

D. Engelmann

Dear Sir

I was somewhat surprised & greatly pleased by the arrival of your favor of the 7th Inst. - surprised to receive a communication from one of whom I ^{had} heard so much & seen so much in print & pleased to know that he was still active in the pursuit of botanic studies. Many thanks for the 3 treatises & the specimens of acorns. Your determination of my oak specimens relieves me of my doubts about it. By comparing the specimens with the figures in Michaux Silva I had come to the conclusion that they must be his borealis or ambigua, but now see that I have been mistaken. Well I am now wiser & not likely to make the same mistake again. I have deferred answering you till I could look again at the trees from which the specimens were taken. I have visited one of the trees, remember the appearance of another but cannot visit or find the 3rd



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The specimens sent to Mr. Watson were from
3 trees, the lvs & acorns were numbered from the
~~same~~ tree. The two I know were trees about
10 inches diam. smooth bark, grayish or
something like beeches - no rough cracked
or fissured bark. I took the leaves from
the lowest & most accessible branches which
furnished perfect specimens. I do not re-
member any diversity of form. In one case I
collected the acorns from the branches & in the two
others I collected them around the roots of the
trees, taking as many different forms as I
could find. I numbered the foliage & the
acorns at the time to prevent confusion af-
terwards. As I have a few specimens of each
beside me I can send you some if you desire.
I know nothing about the wood, but believe
all our oaks here are of the same species, *Q. rubra*

I am sorry to say I cannot give you any
satisfactory information about the Spruces.
I have only made out two, *A. nigra* & *A. alba*
but the lumbermen speak of red spruce. I
do not know how it differs from nigra
I know that the cones of some black spruces
hang on ~~more~~ longer than 1 year but do not
know how long - neither do I know whether



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they remain so long on all forms of the species
or whether they remain on the so-called red
spruce. They fall off very readily from the
alba. As our country is now covered with
snow I cannot make any visits to the
woods. In some parts of the Province we
have very scraggy scrub black spruces
growing in Sphagnum bogs whose roots do not
reach the solid earth or sand beneath the thick
bed of peat, & we have black spruces growing
on dry gravelly soil whose roots penetrated
deep into the hard dry gravel. The former
have much blacker rougher bark than the
latter especially the small trees. In spring
the alba grows much more rapidly than
the nigra & will often have 6 inches of new
growth before the nigra shows signs of growth.

I have moved here into the city & will
have few & perhaps no opportunities of
making observations in spring but if I
have I will embrace ^{them}. A few years ago I had
good opportunities to study the spruces
but my attention was not called to these



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matters about them.

Some years ago Judge Clinton of Buffalo asked me to collect 2 or 300 specimens of *Juncus Stypicus* for you. I did so & enquired how I would address them. The Judge replied that you had gone to Europe & I would get the needed information on your return. But years passed away before I heard of your return & I never received your address. The specimens in the mean time grew rapidly fewer & have almost all disappeared. Perhaps all are gone.

Wishing you a happy new Year

I remain Yours truly

James Fowler
Normal School
Frederickton
N.B.

I am now engaged in School work as Instructor in Nat. Science in the Provincial Normal School.



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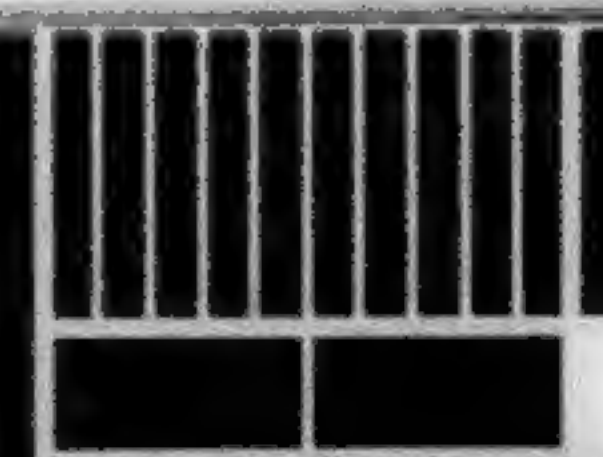
Rec April 17th

Fredericton Apr 12. 1879

Dear Doctor

Your fine package of
juice & Pamphlet arrived safely a day
or two ago. Yesterday I opened them out &
looked over them hurriedly & am delighted
with them. Several of them are new to me,
& all are valuable as standards of refer-
ence. Many thanks for them. But
what can I do for you in return? I
have some specimens of the *Quercus*
rubra which I will send you sometime
soon when I can command time to put
them up. I will notice all oaks I see
this season & report results.

Our country is all under snow yet.
Yesterday ~~we had~~ a heavy snow storm, today
it is still snowing. How different in your
region! I will turn attention to
Spruce & make what observations I can on
it. I have no correspondence with any



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botanist in Province of Quebec. In this
Province only one person (George W. Hay,
Carleton, St. John) devotes attention to botan-
omy, but he is still young at it & his time
is limited. Thanks for the Acorns.

With feelings of gratitude for your
kindness & best wishes for your welfare
I remain Dear Sir

Yours truly

J. Fowler

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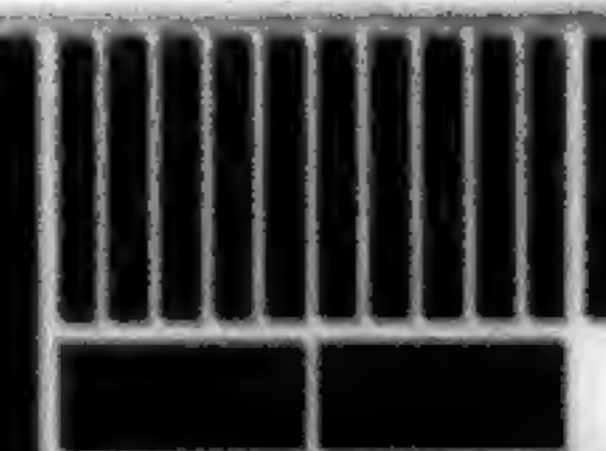
Rec'd April 10
Am - 12

Fredericton April 6. 1880

My Dear Sir

After such a long silence I feel ashamed to write you again, but as I have had some specimens of oak leaves & acorns laid aside for you since last summer I must send them. In my present position I have very little time to devote to Botany, but my vacation has now begun & will continue till May 1st. Last September I discovered a new oak of which I had never seen a specimen before. I believe it to be *Q. alba* & send you a specimen.

I have been unable to obtain any satisfactory information about the *Abies nigra* of which you spoke. Some trees do retain their cones for several years. This is the case with a dwarf form occurring



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in wet sphagnum swamps. I have no
opportunity of making observations on
Red Spruce, & can get no information
from those who ought to know all about
it. People who live among trees only see
them in the mass, & never ask questions
about them.

Hoping the few specimens
I send may reach you safely
I remain Yours
truly

James Fowler
Frederickton

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