



Black Oak Nov. 14th 1898

Dear Sir

I take the liberty of addressing you, & of submitting for your judgment, a few doubtful plants which I have collected in my vicinity - They are nearly allied to species described in your "Monog. Cyp.", & with your ample materials, you will probably find little difficulty in determining them -

Eleocharis (No 1) I find here growing in boggy places - flowers ~~May~~ June - It resembles somewhat *E. tenuis* Schult. & *E. tricostata* Torr. & nearly intermediate between these species - It matures fruit very sparingly -

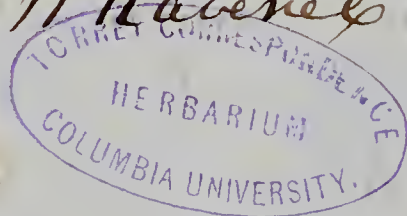
Eleocharis (No 2) I submitted to Mr. Curtis for inspection, & from a comparison with specimens in the herb. of Durand, collected by Baldwin in Georgia, he is inclined to think it *E. albida* Torr. - though there ^{is} several points of difference - I have no specimens of *E. albida* but my plant differs in several particulars from your description of that species in "Monog. Cyp." - found on damp sandy soil on Sullivan's island S.C. - flowers May -

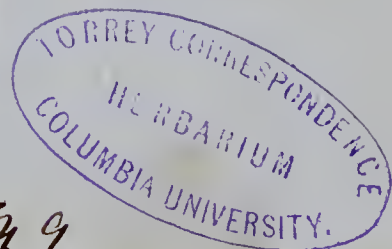
Eleocharis (No 3) ~~is~~ is near *E. microcarpa* Torr. but wants the bristles - the culms more robust - & the spike not proliferous - flowers Aug. - Sept. - damp Pine land.

My *Scleria* has the habit of *S. oligantha*, but the
nut is tubercular & the perigynium totally different.
Flowers May - fields & pastures -

I am sure I need scarcely apologize for troubling
you with these things, since your own labors among
the Cyperaceae, have imparted an interest to this order
of plants & have made their investigation one of the
pleasuratest departments in Botany -

I am, Sir, very respectfully,
H. W. Ravenel





January 12th 1849

Dear Sir

Your kind favour of the 8th ult, was received some time since & for your examination & opinion upon my specimens I am much indebted to you -

I have overhauled my duplicates & have made up a package for you of such things among the Cyperaceae (with some few others) as I had on hand - I hope the coming season to pay particular attention to collecting in this order & will send you a share of every thing of interest that may come in my way -

You will find in the package, notes on some few doubtful things, & also a good supply of *Eleocharis* (1), *E. albidus*? & 2 undescribed species of *Rhynchospora* & *Cyperus Inia* Lin.

The package was sent off today to my agents in Charleston Messrs Gaillard & Snowden, who will ship it to you & to whom you may transmit any package designed for me

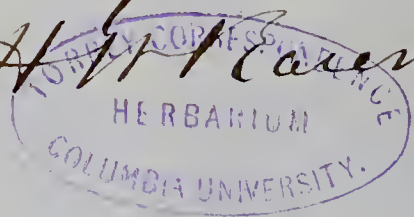
Your offer to send me some of the rare Northern species is very gladly accepted & if life is spared, I shall hope to make you ample returns for such kind favours - That we have been in the letter just

of South Carolina, many new & interesting plants
I can hardly doubt - In my collections confined
pretty nearly to this locality & not extending over
a period of 5 years, I have between 40 & 50 species
not described in Ell. Sk. & a very large proportion
of these among the Cyperaceae - I found a few
specimens of *Psilocarya rhyzochloperides*, two or three
years since, but have not met with it since -

This is probably the extreme northern limit at which
it has been seen - Our swamps & flat Pine
woods furnish an abundant harvest among Cyperi-
the Cyperaceae, whilst the great diversity of our soils
from the Pine barrens to the rich alluvial river swamps
gives a wide range to the Flora - I have from
this locality something over 1000 species of Phanerogams.

Hoping you may find something of interest to
you in my parcel I am very respectfully

H. W. Ravenel



In opening the box, be careful that on the labels may be
displaced - I omitted to enclose the loose sheets in a paper
envelope until it was too late -

August 17th



My dear Sir

Your favour of the 25th April last was received in due course of time - For your opinions upon my plants & also the specimen of *Cyperus Inia*, I am much obliged to you -

I enclose a few things which have been picked up since I made up my package for you - On a visit to Sullivan's Island (near Charleston) in May last I collected *Eleocharis* nos 2, 3, 4, 5 & 6 - On coming to study them at home, although there are slight differences, which might have been occasioned by locality, greater or less exposure &c, I am inclined to place them all with my No 1 (sp. nov.?) sent previously - I will however here record the few brief pencil notes I took of each on examining the fruit -

My glass is not as strong as I would desire for such an examination - "No 2 - style 3 parted - nut triangular, bristles retrorse, scabrous, overtopping the nut" - "No 3 - style 3 parted - nut biconvex? bristles scarcely as long as nut" - "No 4 - style 3 parted - nut biconvex, tubercle longer, corky - bristles 6" - "No 5 - style 3 parted - nut obscurely triangular - rather gibbous on one side - bristles 6 as long as nut" - "No 6 - style 3 parted - nut biconvex - bristles 4? shorter than nut" -

Eleocharis No 7 seems to be the same thing sent previously as *E. stiveea* Torr. - This was collected in mature fruit on May 22nd - the others ^{about the end of} in November & in a different locality - but in the same neighborhood - I shall endeavor to examine it in the flowering state -

The *Rhynchospora*, notwithstanding the presence of bristles & some minor differences, must be *R. divergens* Chap. (Curtis in Sill journal) & which I sent to you as *R. Navicularis* Curtis.

If so, the character of *R. divergens* must be modified in habit, this is rather smaller, with less divergent panicles & the bristles though small, yet quite distinct -

I have sent specimens to Mr Curtis, as he described *R. divergens* Chap. - [Culm smaller, Spikelets fewer, Nettle larger, pretty distinctly rugose transversely & bristles evident.]

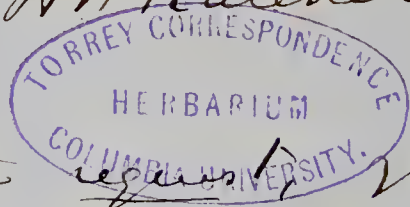
The specimens previously sent you as *R. Torreyana*, were collected in the month of June - Mr Curtis to whom I sent specimens referred them somewhat doubtfully to *R. Torreyana* in his better judgment I acquiesced, but never felt satisfied & for that reason sent you the specimens - They seem to differ somewhat in the palea compressed nut & the decurrent tubercle from the common forms of *R. cynosu* - This last I find very variable in habit - one of the smaller ultra forms I enclose - also a piece of *R. Torreyana* Gr. [The latter has such one sent before - *R. Grayana*]

Rhynchospora is a prolific genus in this section of country, particularly in our damp Pine woods - Finding them so abundantly & the species so numerous, I have become quite interested in their examination - I have collected the following species, with an or two exceptions, in a section of country not over a mile in diameter, viz *R. Bolanderii* Gr.

Chapmanii Curtis, caduca Ell., ciliata Vahl, cephalanthus Gr.,
cymosa Mutt., divergens Chap., distans Mutt., fascicularis? Mutt.,
filifolia Tor., glomerata Vahl, Gracii Kth., inexpressa Vahl,
microcarpa Baldwin, miliacea Gr., patula Gr., plumosa Ell., paniculata,
variflora Ell., Torreyana Gr. - also both species of Ceratocarpus
(Oliva Rhyssopus)

Your offer to send me some of the rarer Northern Cy-
peraceae, is very acceptable, I assure you - & those species
particularly (all of them) which you have described would
be highly prized as authentic specimens for comparison
hereafter - I have received liberally from Oliva of
R. Island, & some from Dr. Allen of Illinois, but very
few of the Cyperaceae from the West -

I am very respectfully
H. W. Ravenel.



I can scarcely venture to make the request, yet, if
in your rambles & hours of recreation, you are in
the habit of picking up the humble Cryptogams that
come in your way (& I know that to the readers naturalist
all these things have their charm) may I not bespeak
a portion of these treasures - I see occasionally in Schultz's
"Synopsis Fung. in Am. Bor. &c" an acknowledgment of debt to
you for specimens - Here is a new & almost inexhaustible
vein in the great mine, at which Botanists for 20 years to come
may work successfully - I have now about 1000 species of Fungi
& am daily adding to the number - of Lichens near 200 species
I possess over 100 - mostly all collected in this vicinity

10

Black R. Oak. J. C.

18th August

Dr John Torrey

New York.

N. Y.

Aiken S.C. Oct 10th 1866

Mr P. V. Le Roy

Dear Sir

LIBRARY
NEW YORK
BOTANICAL
GARDEN.

I have just received
your letter of the 2nd inst, inquiring the
terms on which I dispose of my botani-
cal collections. You wish only Phae-
nograms or "flowering plants"

My price is \$8 per 100. I can supply
between 200 & 300 species, all perfectly
labelled & in many cases, with mature
fruit attached to the flowering specimens
I follow Dr Chapman in his nomen-
clature, his late work "Flora of the
Southern United States," being the author-
itive & standard work now known
as the Southern Flora -

I should you desire a set & suppose
the most convenient mode of transmission
would be through the Express - though I
will be guided by your directions in the
matter

I am very respectfully
H. W. Ravenel.

Given by A. M. VAIL
from
Groose Collection

1907





Jan 16/69

My dear Mr

I received your letter of the 9th inst, a few days ago, & thank you sincerely for your kind offer.

I have been engaged since in taking out & labelling the specimens, & adding such notes as may be necessary.

I have put up specimens of all the Mexican plants except such as were more common & which I supposed you would

not care to have. — I have also added some South American plants which I think will be interesting to you.

Whenever you have made an examination of the set, I will be glad to have your opinion.

Although I have turned aside for several years into the walks of Cryptogamic Botany, I have not lost my interest in the Phænogones.

& especially to Cyperaceae.

I have never gone much south of this point before my late visit to Texas, & have always had a strong desire to visit Florida. I don't know however if the wish will ever be gratified. My business in Texas was principally to examine into the Cryptozoic vegetation, & the grasses of the pastures & other Cattle feed. From want of time & other facilities, I was obliged to pass by many Phænogams which were new & interesting to me, taking only such as I could manage whilst moving about. The prairies & Chaparral about Indianola & Corpus Christi were especially rich in new ferns, but my time was short, & I devoted it more specially to the grasses.

I am now preparing a report of my observations for the Com. of Agriculture

to accompany Prof. Gouges report.

Thank you sincerely for your very kind offer to send me plants. At present I am more specially interested in the Gramineae & Cyperaceae. Of the former I would be very glad to receive any of the Texan or Western prairie grasses & of the latter, Cyperus, Rhynchospora Eleocharis & other Scirpoidae.

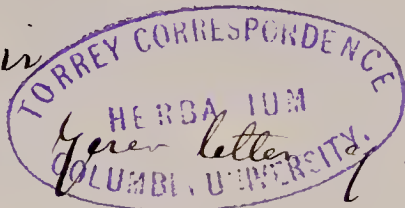
I have the promise from a gentleman who has a farm in S. W. Texas on the San Antonio, to make a full collection of grasses this season for me. If he keeps his promise I hope to be able to share with you.

I will send my package by Express as a subser made them by Post-offices prepaying, so as to insure delivery (as I have been requested to do in other cases). I am very truly & respectfully
The package will be sent
W. M. Ravenel



Aiken S.C. July 14/69

My dear Sir



Your letter of 29 ult, was received several days since. Thank you for the two photographs sent, — & the promise of your own. I have one of Sir Wm Hooker of larger size & taken later in life. Rob^t Brown I never saw before. I have Lindley's photo — but name ^{of} the English or Continental Botanists. Can you put me in the way to obtain them?

I received information of Mr Donnell's death from his friends soon after the event. He had three sets of plants from me. Two were sold & settled for. The third I had asked him to present to the Buffalo Socy through Mr Clinton, & he promised to do so in his last letter, but I have never heard any more of it, nor has

to assume the duties of a position I
may not be able to discharge sat-
isfactorily. Perhaps you are not
aware that I suffer from partial
deafness, — to such an extent, that
I am in a measure cut off from
ordinary social intercourse. In my
family & among my friends, this is
well known, — & provided for, — but
I fear it would be an obstacle in
a lecture room & before a class
of students.

I may add also that I feel a
becoming distrust of my abilities
for such a new & untried sphere
of action, never having been engaged
in teaching Botany in schools or
colleges.

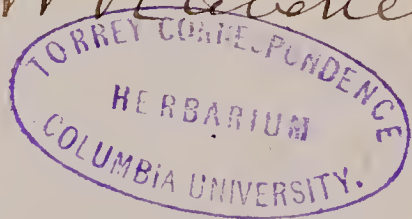
Thanking you therefore very cordially
for the friendly interest you have
taken, — & also for the compliment

you offer in making the paper thin,
I think I should decline for the
reasons given above

With much respect & esteem

I am yours

H. W. Ravenel

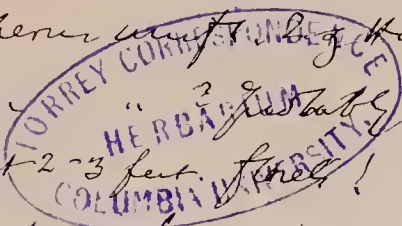


Ravenel's Plants.

51 "Isoplepis carinata H. & A." - Yes.

131. Cyperus ~~uncifolius~~ Hook -

134 - " " [?] probably the same
but 2-3 feet. fresh!



160 "Ceratosch. brevirostris, n. sp." Ravenel

A good species - near C. capitata
Chab. S. Fl. [Ceph. Chapman. Torr Hb
about 1850]

142 "Ceratosch. n. sp." immutus. C. macrostach.

140. Krameria lanceol. J. in R Mt-A.

100. Acalypha radicans, Torr. Mex. Bot

between fasciata & Guaca
Rhyssolop. F. "near fasciata Nutt." but
that has bristles only to length of nut - these
longer than nut & tubercle! But Chapman
says they vary to nearly twice length of nut.

$$\begin{array}{r} 11.8 \frac{1}{2} \\ 5.5 \frac{1}{2} \\ \hline \end{array}$$

$$17.3$$

$$\begin{array}{r} 8.5 \\ 4.2 \\ 5.9 \\ \hline \end{array}$$

$$18.6$$

$$4.3 \frac{1}{4}$$

$$4.4 \frac{1}{4}$$

$$12.5 \frac{3}{4}$$

$$\hline 21.1 \frac{1}{4}$$

$$1.5$$

$$\hline 22.6$$

Ravensli Plants, Continued

Rhynchospora. G fascie. Nutt.
var. trichoides Chapm
in ~~the~~ ~~series~~ ~~of~~ ~~plants~~ ~~in~~ ~~the~~ ~~series~~

R — E. glomerata - Hunt.

R — D "cephalanthus"
but too near glom.

(R. gracilentus in Chapman Fl,
very section ~~1144~~

R. — ~~DB~~ "cephalanthus"
bristles all ketose

R. — C — "Stenophylla"
= Chapman.

138, 139, 144 - I agree with
you - R. cynura Nutt

83 "Eleocharis palust." yes.

121 " " quadrang. ?" yes
- not quite ripe - hence pale

180

113 "Duncan leuformis" yes.

106 } "brachycarpus Engelm." yes.
153 }



Ravenel's plants - continued

"*Tillandsia recurvata* Ph.?" - yes - but
of Lin - not Pursh.

54 *Equisetum hyemale* -
I cannot distinguish *Braunii* spec.

55 *Allium striatum* Jacq.

56 " *mutabile* " Mx. yes.

57 - " *Canadense* Kalin" - yes

97 *Lechea minor*

98 *Centaurea minima* L.

177 *Cynosciadium pinnatum* Nutt
young -

103 *Petaloterenum emarginatum* Tzfr.

76 *Chaetopappa asteroides* DC.

80 *Filaginopsis multicaulis* Tzfr.

F. Drummondii Nordstr. See

B.A. Mex. B. p. 84

82 " *Plantago Virginiae*? yes - dwarf form

125 " " *Patagonica* - var. *gnaph* " } 344

126 - " " var. *aristata* " } 344

150 *Sisyrinchium mucronatum* Bermudeana
var. *mucronatum*



Ravalli Plants - Continued

127. Iridaceae plant - poor specimen -
nearly allied to *Nemastylis* + 1

174 *Physostegia virginiana*. - one of
the numerous forms of this poly-
morphic species

148. *Asclepias* - no fl. or fr. - seems
to be *A. Cavendishii* -

156 *Polygala incarnata*

145 " " *"alba"* yes.

149 "*Delphinium azureum* Mx" probably
but - poor bit to decide upon!

117 no fl. or fr. - I think it is *Herpertsia*
monnensis Kth

~~157~~
104 "*Giodia tricoeca* Tz Gr." yes - 9

151 *Oldenlandia stricta* ~~the~~ *argentea*

136 "*Femibractylis spadicea* Vahl." yes

142 *Ceratocloa* - 2 specimens - one
immature - the other ripe.

"
47, 105 & 153 "*Juncus tenuis*" yes -



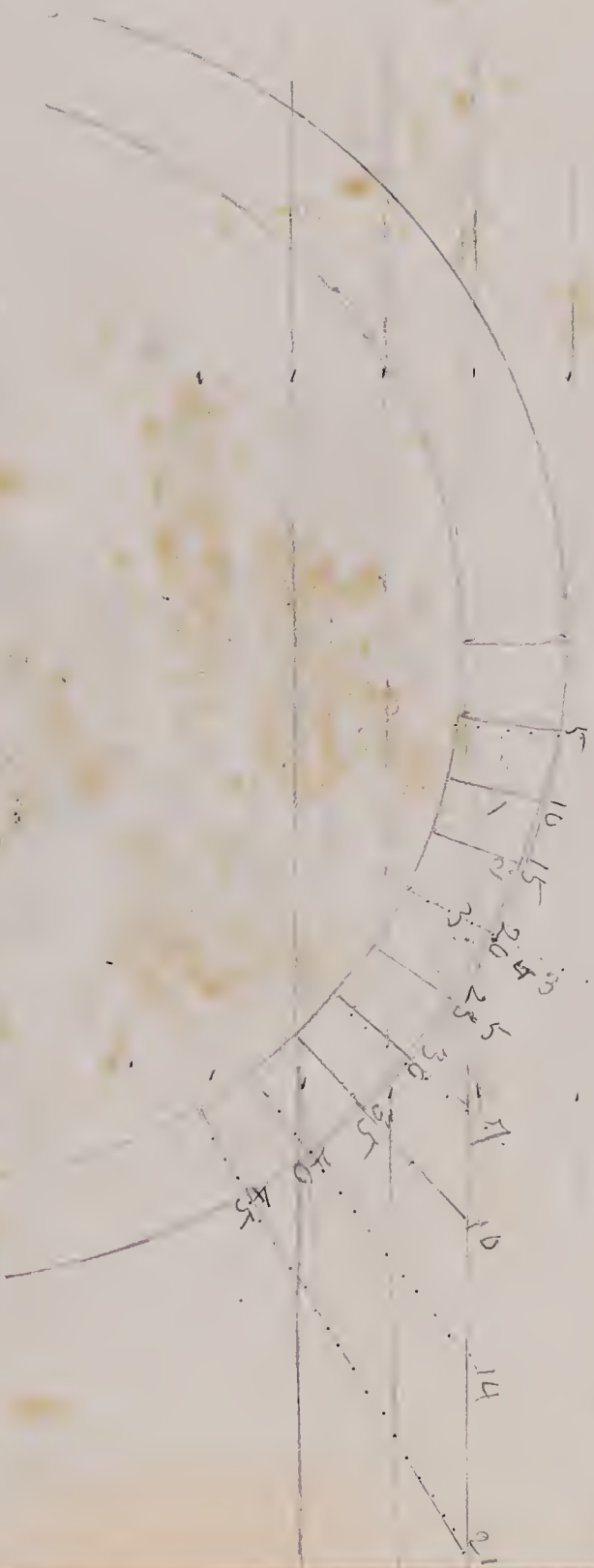
45 Carex ~~stenolepis Torr~~ cephalophora Nutt.

166 or Stenolepis Torr.

Ravenel's plants - Continued

- 101 "Juncus maritimus" Gr
60 " " *beiformis* " "
38 *Luzula*. agrees with my spms of
L. campestris
58^u *Juncus Romerianus* Scheele
Too young
29 " *J. dichotomus* Ell. " Too young to dis-
tinguish it from *J. tenuis* - wh. however, I
think it is.
106 " *Juncus brachycarpus* Engelm " yes
102 *Convolvulus lobatus* Engelm. Gr
25 *Verbena bracteosa* Moq.
176 *Ruellia speciosa*
" *Eleocharis olivacea* " C " *Prister* *colony* -
culm compressed & furrowed
99 *E. pygmaea*, Torr.
Eloch. Fr very near *E. microcarpa*
" *E. quadrangulata* ? "
96 *Eleocharis acicularis*
95 " *microcarpa* var *anachaeta*
nut triangular - not lentic.
114 *E. obtusa*.
107 *E. near olivacea*

$\frac{5}{10}$ 10 15 20 25 30 35 40
 $\frac{10}{12}$ 30 56 90 100 140 210

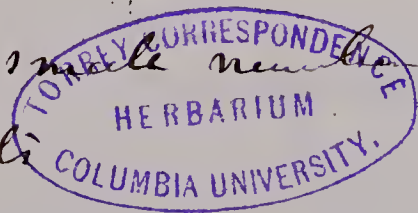


Cyperus pauciflorus. nov. sp.

133
4
131
+
134

Plant 6 to 12 inches high - Root tuberous -
Leaves clustered at base, shorter than the 3 angled
culm. Umbels simple, erect, 4 to 6 rayed,
with the central one sessile, shorter than the
3 leaved involucre. Spikelets linear,
2 ranked, spreading & somewhat reflexed
2-3 flowered, the uppermost abortive -
Scales obtuse, mucronate, compressed,
keeled, nerved, reddish brown, - points
of the uppermost scale spreading on recurvance
at the apex - Style 3 cleft - Nut oblong
3 angled, acute.

Near *C. repens* & *C. lutescens*,
but differing in the ^{small number} of flowers
& in the scales & nuts



April 30th 1869

on mixed Prairie & Chaparral, near
Necess Bay, about 6 miles north
of Campus Christie Texas

H. W. Ravenel

