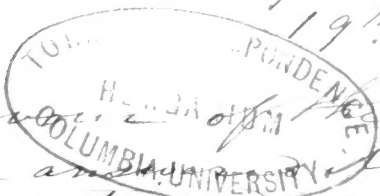


Ans. March 5th.

Post Independence, Boston

Dear Doctor.

19<sup>th</sup> February 1834



Your favour of the 3<sup>rd</sup> inst. was rec<sup>d</sup> on the 8<sup>th</sup> following, & I should have answered ere this but for the arrival of my library (which contained an essential article for you) from the South, and was then expected daily. It accordingly arrived last week, & so soon thereafter as its arrangements admitted I now seize the pen and accompany it with a copy of the Prodromus, which I hope will prove satisfactory.

The information imparted in yours of the 3<sup>rd</sup> viz that you wrote me a letter while at Baltimore, & put it into a parcel which Mr. Rafinesque placed in your hands for me in April 1831 is the first intimation of a correspondence attempted I have had of the fact. In May 1831 I rec<sup>d</sup> from Rafinesque a letter only dated 30<sup>th</sup> March, of which you appeared to have been the bearer as far as Baltimore: for a short note in your hand writing on the back of the letter dated "Baltimore 1<sup>st</sup> March 1831," addressed to me as follows: "I greatly regret that he is obliged to return immediately to New York &c." (Why, not so near, come on? Rafinesque informed me that you had your Lady with you: I know that mine would have rendered his stay agreeable; with ourselves I presume time would have been lost in chitchat on many subjects.) But to continue, Rafinesque states in his letter, that you had the goodness to take charge of for me, two copies of his Medical Flora, (one intended for Rich) and - copies of his "Neogenyton": one of the Flora's was rec<sup>d</sup> in June fol-

lowing: the Neogenyton I have not seen, or the other copy of the Flora, even to this day. Our Botanical friend, in the District of Col<sup>a</sup>, greatly regretted the necessity that prevented you from reaching Washington, for they anticipated & dwelt with much pleasure on the courtesy & satisfaction it would have afforded them in rendering their cordial hospitalities to your Lady and self agreeable to all parties, & particularly to one so well known to them.

I have not at present with me a herbarium, but either of your friends in the District will take pleasure in forwarding any plant you may desire, either dry or green, mentioned in the catalogue. Dr. McWilliams, particularly has the largest & fullest herbaria, & more duplicates than the others of the "Club"; (for there are no other botanists in the District I might safely add in the adjoining States;) who I am sure will exchange, or furnish you with peculiar pleasure any plant named in the Prodromus. as I shall have occasion, next week, to write to McWilliams, to whom I shall <sup>will</sup> certainly make known your wish and with a request to communicate your object to the rest of the Club; whom, also, I can assure you will each be gratified by

by indulging any scientific request you may be pleased to ask of them.

I rejoice at the prospects of your new pursuits. — Your Monograph of Carex formerly amused us greatly, & he among us was considered the best tactician who could make his plant (or species) accord to the catalogue. It is however by far the best ever presented. I know that there are many more of the Cyperaceae, in the district, than are noted in the Prodromus, for many were left undecided from want of maturity and other causes. — As to the Prospes, if you have not a copy of Beauvois, mine is at your service, as well as any other work in my possession. — Your forthcoming general Synopsis, we shall all be gratified to see, a work, that, there can be no doubt, will <sup>add</sup> much to the literature of our common country. God speed, & protect it.

Have you seen any numbers of the "Supplement of the Hortus Britannicus of London" except No. 1 which is published in his edition (first) for May 1836? He promised that one should be issued annually on the 1<sup>st</sup> January. My copy is becoming very rickety, I want the helping hand of the Binder, but I've been daily waiting for the Supplements.

I have some "botanical disquisitions", which I will reserve for future correspondence, & I am sure it will afford you amusement, if not information. It is the decision of arbiters puzzled (Rafinesque and Darling ton) on one of the most, I might almost say, simple, genera, "Senticaria". non anon.

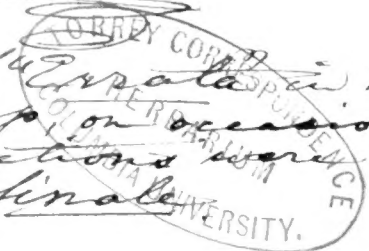
Were you ever perplexed with Rafinesque's "Divitial invention"? If you have not, I can hereafter give you some information on the subject, if desirably, for you must know that I have had the honor of being appointed an "Agent."

I am Sir very respectfully  
& truly yours.

A. J. PETERSON

Dr. T. Torrey. }

P. S. The augmentation of the label of *Errata* in the Prod. occurred during an absence from the post on occasional duty from Washington, and on return corrections were immediately except its exposure as a finale



18

Brereton

LIBRARY  
NEW YORK  
BOTANICAL  
GARDEN.

Fort Independence, Boston  
28<sup>th</sup> January 1834.

Dear Sir

I take much pleasure in forwarding to you a copy of the foregoing "Card," presuming you have a copy of the work therein indicated, viz the Prodomus of the Sis. Col.<sup>a</sup>. If I am not mistaken a copy was forwarded to you from Washington, immediately on its publication in 1830; however I have no acknowledgement of its reception, and should there be a mistake in the premises, be pleased to inform me at your convenience, & it shall be rectified, by forwarding a copy, tho' at this late period.

I am Sir very respectfully  
Your obt. Servt.

A. S. BRERETON.

Given by A. M. VAIL, from the J. D. Brooke Collection

Dr. J. Torrey  
New York

MAR 4-1907

*R*  
Professor L. Torrey  
New York  
N.Y.

