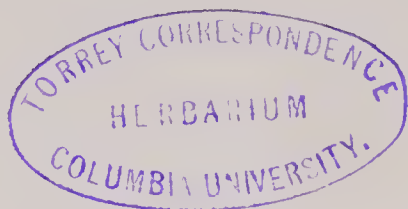


Utica, Nov. 30.



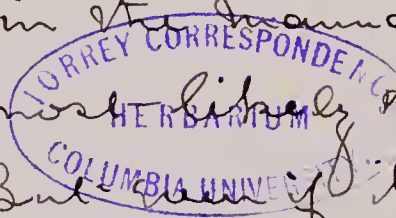
Dear Sir

I take the liberty of addressing you for the purpose of inquiring if you can give me the address of T. F. Allen Esq. who 'made his botanical fortune' in the discovery of *Marsilea quadrifolia* in Ct. I have heard that he was in a new university not far from Chicago, but this is no help to me.

What I wish of him is - to obtain a specimen of this *Marsilea* if I have anything for which he would exchange. And what I wish of this is to see if it is anything like a plant I found two or three years ago in a pond on Cape Ann, Ms.

At the time when I found it - I took it to be merely a plant - new to me, and so I gathered only a few specimens to analyze when I reached home - But when I reached home I could not analyze it - at all, and in my desperate efforts used up all my specimens. I have obtained no clue to it - yet, though it may be right here in the ⁱⁿ manual plain and fully told, - ^{most likely} the fault is all my own. But ^{even if} it is I would like to be helped out.

As near as I can remember the description would be something like this. Floating free, ^{in clusters} at the surface - nothing raised above. Rootlets, three or four inches long, and foliage issuing from outlets; these were very hard though hollow, could not be broken by the pressure of the thumb and finger, - and were black, bony and shining. Petioles of the leaves two to four inches long. Leaves an inch and a half long



ly half an inch wide, rounded at the
side I think, and at the base I can-
not tell whether they were rounded
or truncate or cordate. I do not
remember distinctly but I believe the
flower scapes or pedicels came from
the sheathing base of the petioles, or
perhaps higher. I had only two little
unopened buds, but if I did not mul-
tiply the parts by tearing them to pieces,
there were three or four sepals, and
from three to five sessile stamens about
a central ovary. This description is
very scanty and likely very imperfect,
as I have forgotten the whole thing
several times, and the description of
Marsilea in Prof Gray's *Volucella*
called it to mind again.

Not far from this city I have found
specimens of a *Scheuchia* that agree
exactly with all descriptions of *S.*
multicollis except the habitat: they were
as widely different as could be from

the *S. Ralmii* found on the rocks at
Tomton Falls. I regret that I have
lost my specimens.

Nearly a year ago I received a
number of plants from Salvador,
and have wanted the second vol
of Torrey and Gray's North American
Botany to make up some of the extra
limited ones of Gray's manual. This
is offered to in your state work but
I never have been able to find it. Can
you tell me where I can obtain one?

TORREY CORRESPONDENCE
HERBARIUM
COLUMBIA UNIV

I am a young botanist, and at length
have begun to set up my three or four
hundred specimens of the rarer plants.
The enclosed is the form of arrangement
of the herbarium papers that I have
thought of. If there is a better way I
would be glad to know it - or any sug-
gestions I would be glad to receive.
I am somewhat ambitious of having
a good and extensive herbarium.

Is Dr Kniesterns address still "Shark River n. J.?"
and can you tell me the locality of *Schizaea* so I can
find it next year? Please answer if it be a pleasure.
Yours truly
John A. Paine Jr. Wica N.Y.