Rec'd April 30
Ans June 18

Hubbardston

Hubbardston, Ionia Co., Michigan.
April 26. 1879.

Dr. Geo. Engelmann,

Dear Sir:

Would you like to receive specimens of our interesting oak growing in this vicinity? I found it five years ago and have noticed it often since. The tree is of good size and at a little distance cannot be distinguished from Quercus Ecinata. It seems to be a hybrid of this species and of Q. tinctoria, along with which two it grows. The acorns set a good deal out of the cup and are nearly one inch long; the cup is that of Q. tinct.; the leaves resemble those of Q. coc.; while the color of the inner bark is about midway between that of Q. coc. & Q. tinct.

I sent some specimens to Dr. Gray two yrs. ago but never heard from them.

I am much interested in the genus Quercus, and I should be glad to avail yourself of "Synopsis of N. A. Oaks." Can you ~~tell~~ send it to me or tell me where I can obtain it? Mention the price.

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Please let me hear from you soon

Very truly yours,

To Geo. Engelman, Erwin F. Smith.

St. Louis, Missouri.

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Rec'd July 5th
Ans. " 8th

Hubbardston, Mich., July 4th, 1879.

Dr. Engelmann,

Dear Sir:—

Your letter and "oak pamphlet" has come to hand. Please accept thanks for the latter.

With this letter I will send specimens of the oak in question, and will send you a more abundant supply in the fall.

I, also, send what I call Q. coccinea v Q. c. var. tinctoria. They are both common here, and do not seem to run together. At least, I have found not any trouble, of late years, in distinguishing between the two. For abundant supply of these two forms, you will, also, have to wait till autumn, as my stock is about exhausted. Then, if you like, I will send you specimens from many different trees.

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As you say, Q. rubra is common with us. It is a large forest tree, and often attains a diameter of 5 ft. I have seen individuals much larger. The trunk is often used for rail cuts, but Q. alba is preferred. Q. coccinea & the var. neoxenia attain such size here. The trees are low & seldom more than 15 in. in diameter.

I do not remember, if I mentioned our other oaks in my former letter. They are as follows: Q. alba, Q. macrocarpa, Q. bicolor, Q. prinus var. acuminata, Q. prinoides, Q. rubra & the others before mentioned. These are all abundant in Central Mich. except Q. prinoides, & are the only oaks I have met here in the course of a ten year's study of our local flora.

Very truly yours,

Erwin F. Smith.

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Acd. July 23
Ans. Sept. 1

Hubbardston, Michigan,
July 20, 1879.

Geo. Engelmann,
My dear Sir,—
Yours of the 8th has been received and its contents noted.
Should I be in this vicinity next spring, I will gladly collect for you the desired specimens of 2. coccinea. This fall I will send sections of the trunk, as requested.

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Quercus prinoides seems very much like Q. Muhlenbergii. Specimens of what I take to be the former vary in height from 3-20 feet and are very fruitful. I cannot tell the leaves of one from the other when not on the trees. The bush has smaller acorns. However, I will send you specimens of both in the fall & you shall judge for yourself.

Would you be willing to identify a few doubtful species of other genera, if I should have occasion to send them to you? I am at work on a catalogue of Michigan plants & wish to make it as trustworthy and useful as possible. The State Pomological Society has consented to publish the Catalogue when it is ready which will be in about two yrs.

Mr. C. F. Wheeler is associated with me.

Very truly yours,

Erwin F. Smith.

P.S. In what "different stages" shall I collect the "peculiar oak" & what are the chief features to be studied? E. F. S.

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Ans Nov 25

Ionia, Mich., June 25, 1880.

Dear Sir, —

Yours truly, Erwin F. Smith

I send you two specimens of Opuntia both from Michigan. The larger, which I think is unquestionably your O. Rafinesquii, is from Newaygo Co. where it is abundant. The other is a small variety, & comes from common prairies in Montcalm Co. It seems to differ from the larger form somewhat, and I cannot decide satisfactorily what it is. I have never seen either form in flower or fruit, & was rather surprised to find the genus growing so far north in Michigan, or even in the state at all. Owing to the pressing duties of my profession I was unable to send you fruit of Euphorbia marginata & E. prunifolia as I intended, or to send the sections of wood you desired. I will endeavor to do so [illegible] soon.

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Dr. George Engelmann,
3003 Locust Street,
Saint Louis,
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Rec Jan 12
Ans — —

Ionia, Mich, Jan. 10. 1880.

Dr. Geo Engelmann,
Dear Sir: —
The following is a list of the Juncè credited to Michigan. Will you kindly look it over, & if you know of any other species occurring in the State add them to it.
I should also be glad, should you notice any errors, if you would indicate them.

J. effusus, L. Throughout to L. Sup.
~~J.~~ var. conglomeratus, Eng. Center.
J. tenuis, L. Center & S.
J. filiformis, L. C. N. & U. Penin.
J. Balticus, Willd S. to L. Sup.
J. alpinus, Vill. var. insignis, Fries. L. Sup.
J. articulatus, L. N. & U. Penin.
J. Canadensis, J. Gay var. castaneus, Eng. C. N. & U. Penin.
var. trichocephalus, Eng. C.
var. longicaudatus, Eng. C.

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L. terrestris, Willd. S. to Straits of Mackinaw.
Atocolpum, 2½ ft. grows at Muir, in C. in wet places.
L. Greenii, Baker & Tuck. C. & S.
L. Vareyi, Eng. Detroit.
L. pelocarpus, E. Meyer. S. East.
L. acuminatum, Mx. ~~C. &~~ South.
var. legitimum, Eng. C.
L. morganium Robinson, S.
L. stygium, L. N. shore of L. Sup. & probably in our limits.
L. notatum, L. Throughout.
var. megacaphalum, Torr. S.
L. scirpoides, Gom. C. & S.
L. brachycarpum

Please reply at once, & greatly oblige,

Yours sincerely,
Erwin F. Smith.

P.S.
Pinus mitis has been credited to Mich, but I do not believe it occurs. Do you know?

E. F. S.

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Rec Nov 13

Lansing, Michigan,
Nov. 9, 1882.

Dr. Geo. Engelmann,
St. Louis,
Missouri,

Dear Sir:— Your postal of inquiry, forwarded to me from Hubbardston, has been received. *Vitis Labrusca* was given a place in our Flora upon what seemed good ground, but further investigation has shown, as you suggest, that it is an error. Ever since a suggestion of yours in a former letter, I have been on the watch, and am now satisfied that the plant does not grow in Michigan. It will be dropped from the next

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edition of our Catalogue, as well as a number of other things not recently collected or found in herbaria, but which we ~~too~~ were led to introduce upon "good authority." Fortunately we did not depend upon this kind of evidence to any great extent. I am satisfied that the best rule is to exclude all plants, however well vouched for, unless they are in hand, or in some authentic collection.

Thanking you for past favors, for which this reply is but a poor equivalent, I remain,

Very sincerely yours,

Erwin F. Smith.

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