

2 Grosvenor Villas
Junction Road
London N

My dear Sir

I have received your post card, but I do not think you understand me accurately.

I fully credit you with the good service you have rendered to mycology, and in my remarks upon your genera of Nectriacei I only stated my opinion generally which I still adhere to, that the principles of classification now being adopted by many mycologists for Ascomycetes is wrong, as it is purely artificial - and not a natural system. The artificial has been discarded for Phanerozonia and I consider it a backward step to return to an artificial system for Ascomycetes

As I cannot write you
in Italian I cannot hope
to convince you that I
have good reasons for my
opinion, so, I must leave
it, but I think it would
be folly to permit this wide
difference of opinion to cause
any ill feeling between us
I hold that I am justified
in my opinion, as you
may be in yours.

I think it would be a
very great advantage if we
could come to some certain
arrangement as to the
characters and limits
of other genera, not so
much as ascomycetes -
in which mycologists are
by no means agreed -
You do not like my
genera Dochmophora
and Dichomera which

I do not understand. The genus Hendersonia was one of Berkeley's genera, and the type was Hendersonia elegans - surely I think species should be kept within the limits of a genus, and I cannot admit that the species I have removed were good Hendersonias

Do you not think that species should conform in their principal features to the types of the genus?

I should be very glad if you would interchange views on a great many of the genera of Sphaeropsidici which although perhaps mostly incomplete fungi must be classed as well as the others. I do not consider myself infallible

and should be glad to act
in harmony with others, &
thus perhaps unnecessary
synonyms may be spared

I have no desire to create
new genera. I have not
characterized 20 genera in
a period of 30 years, but
I have by me species, of
which there are no allies.
If you will allow me I
will send you a few, to
me very interesting forms, in
a parcel with Ravenal's
Exsiccati which I am
about sending you. One
of these is a genus of the
Perisporiaceae "Saccardia"
with muriform spores but
otherwise allied to Erysiphe

Is she enclosed at all
like your genus Staurochete
Yours truly
W. Hooker

July 20/78