

I have dissected and described the *Anemonospermus foliis & facie taraxaci incanis* *.

I am very glad to hear it was our friends' own fault that they were not received into the Society. If you value me, pray contrive to have John Gesner admitted, who is, as you know, greatly attached to you. He is president of the Physical Society of Zurich. It was my fault that this most amiable and modest of men called himself a member of your Academy. I am anxious that my negligence should not cause him any discredit.

Pray, my dearest Linnæus, let me not have to regret the advice that I here give you. Do not strike out species, and reduce them to varieties, so frequently as you are accustomed. Do not irrevocably determine the characters of plants till you have examined every particular. *Ophioscorodon* is not the *Allium* figured in Ruppianus. It differs in having abortive flowers, much larger bulbs, and a convoluted stem; all which circumstances are different in the *Allium ampicarpum*. Its flowers are manifestly of a violet colour, the bulbs ten times smaller; nor is there any curvature of the stem. There are also some others of this genus, which you have erroneously combined. Thus you oblige me to differ from you, and to express our disagreement, as I cannot, without concern, see good and genuine plants perish, as it were, and become lost to botanists, under the title of varieties.

* *Arctotis tristis*. Linn. Sp. Pl. 1306.