

{vertical:} Notes collected beg Tues Aug 16/77

lares (65) Lar = Eng. lord f. Sun ~~Aug 28~~ <Sept 4>/77 (Jade) (p.86)

also → Etruscan (\*) first born heir of house?

sing N.B. \*Laurel f. (Lauraceae) see / cf (\*) House plant  
illust. Laurus nobilis p 10 (Taylor ↓ potted from  
plate 5) sprig, Gristedes {supermarket chain}  
Pencil draft b. Tu 8/30/77 Pt. J. May 25/77  
f. Mon (Labor Day) / Sept 5/77 Aug. 16/77

1 Stemclasp becomes two cross you

2 lar again tier on tier

3

4 stonecrop weathervane bay laurel's / noblest ↓

5 forehead-cluster open small white {vertical:}

6 stābile

7 arms 2 opposite leaves

8 spiraling in pairs each

Ink draft Sept 5/77 stonecrop pair at right

1 weather angles one

2 vanes above the other

3 T 275 Crassula

4 (krass'you-la)

5 forehead-cluster open small white large genus

6 of succulent

7 herbs Old

8 World,



mostly S. African

(la / lar Lear <La - Lar> Edmund I ii 151 = la (solfeggio) \*Crassula

(cont. laurel v.s. → v.s. house pot / plant → Calif / habitat argentea

Marina: beleeue me law [low = K.L. III iv 76 (florists'

gentle (Quarto 1609) Pillicock sat on names

line 2 (lore) Per IV i 87 Pillicock-hill alow Japanese

{cont. vertical up:} <Norton Folio p 297 l.81 laurel, Jap.

alow, loo, loo (line)> rubber + Jade

line 1 stemclasp↓ - Chaucer - Prologue CT l. 273 plant

(\*) Genesis (Vulgate) - Laban Isaac misleadingly

+ Rabekah / ch 24 / 29-35 grown in (\*)

Calif. thick

{vertical, thru "Afric shore":} olive gray green (1) stemmed (\*)

(3) / base appearing merged / with the stem. Flwrs may fleshy 6-10 ft H.

not bloom for yrs (or / ever in house plants) no teeth

white or pink, compact / clusters or cymes in

Petals miniature / desert gardens, via

S. Af [also offered / as C. portulacea.

Flwrs: petals sepals / stamens 5, sometimes

joined at the base. Fruit dry / stands abuse as house

plant, but not overwatering / best grown in cool

greenhouse, except / in frost-free regions

crassula Latin dim / of crassus = thick

(\*) see Milton P.L. / line 185 {585} Afric shore

(\*) as pot plant much smaller, often unbranched, lvs

(2) thick, shining, oval to roundish, app 1½" long the broad

\* \* \*

{All Louis Zukofsky materials copyright © Musical Observations, Inc. Used by permission.  
Edited and transcribed by Jeffrey Twitchell-Waas.}

### Sources

Taylor, *Taylor's Encyclopedia of Gardening*, **Crassula**, **Crassulaceae**, **Laurus**; Plate 5 (10)

*Century Dictionary (CD)*, **Afric**, **clasp**, **Lar**

Lewis & Short, *A Latin Dictionary*, **stabilis**

King James Bible, Genesis 24:29-35

Shakespeare, *King Lear* (Norton facsimile of the First Folio, ed. Charlton Hinman)

*Pericles* (Quarto text, ed. Stanley Lee)

### Textual notes

line 3: africa {should be} afric, introduced at printing stage.

line 5: 4 words

line 1: **Stemclasp becomes two cross you**  
 line 2: **lar again tier on tier**  
 line 3: **afric shore stable arms spiraling**  
 line 4: **stonecrop weathervane bay laurel's noblest**  
 line 5: **forest-cluster open small white**  
 line 6: **centered-yellow thick leave olive green**  
 line 7: **frost free desert guerdon smaller**  
 line 8: **houseplant unfleshy years return stemclasp**

8/30-9/5/77 (Labor Day)

P. back from Iceland Sept 6 { See note to #57 Dogwood on PZ in Iceland. }

line 1: **Stemclasp becomes two cross you**

*CD, clasp, n. {...} 2.* To shut or fasten together with or as with a clasp.

His botes *clapsed* [var. *clapsud*, etc. *claped*, *clapede*] fayre and fetialy.

*Chaucer, Gen. Prol. To C. T., l. 273.*

{ See LZ's notes above: "C's observation / 'Comes up as / one' (from succulent / hollow main stem) / 'and separates into / two'" }

Taylor, **Crassula** (krass'you-la). A very large genus of succulent herbs or shrubs of the family Crassulaceae, all from the Old World, and most from South Africa. Several of those below are very widely grown as pot plants and in miniature desert gardens, especially in Calif. Leaves opposite, very thick and fleshy, without teeth (in ours). Flowers (rarely produced in house plants) white or pink, in compact clusters (often cymes), the petals, sepals and stamens 5, the petals sometimes joined at the base. Fruit dry. (*Crassula* is Latin diminutive of *crassus*, thick.)

{...} As a house plant it will stand more abuse than almost any other, but it will not stand overwatering. While it will stand house conditions, it is best grown in the cool greenhouse, as are most of the others below, except in frost-free regions.

**C. argentea**. The common species in cult., but without an appropriate common name, the florists names of Japanese laurel, Japanese rubber-plant and jade plant being misleading. As grown in Calif., a thick-stemmed, branching shrub 6-10 ft. high, as a pot plant much smaller and often unbranched. Leaves very thick and shining, oval to roundish, about 1½ in. long, the broad base appearing as though merged with the stem. Flowers, which may not bloom for years (or ever in house plants), white or pink. S. Af. Also offered as *C. portulacea*.

**cross you / lar again tier** < *Crassula argentea*

line 2: **lar again tier on tier**

See Taylor line 1.

Taylor, **Laurus** (law'rus). A small but important genus of evergreen trees of the family Lauraceae, native in the Mediterranean region. There are only two species, the cult. one being **L. nobilis**, probably the true laurel of history and the poets, but commonly called bay, bay tree, and sweet bay by gardeners. In Greece it is tree-like and from 40 to 60 ft. high. But as universally grown here it is perhaps the most popular of all tubbed evergreens, usually in the form of standards, cones, pyramids, or any other shape, as it stands shearing very well. It has stiff, alternate, oblongish leaves, 3-4 in. long, and without marginal teeth. Flowers small, inconspicuous (see LAURACEAE). Fruit a small berry. (*Laurus* is the classical name of the laurel.)

CD, **Lar**<sup>2</sup>, *n.* [< L. *Lar* or *Lars* (*Lari-*), < Etruscan *Larth*, lord.] Lord: a title prefixed to Etruscan names, properly distinctive of the eldest son, and often mistaken for an integral part of the name. Also *Lars*.

**lar again** < *Lauraceae*

{See LZ's notes above, continuing from line 1: "i.e. / 2 opposite leaves / in pairs each / pair at right / angles one / above the other"}

line 3: **afric shore stable arms spiraling**

See Taylor, **Crassula** line 1.

CD, **Afric**, *a.* and *n.* {...} Same as *African*; as, "Afric shore," Milton, P. L. I. 585.

{See LZ's notes above, presumably associated with notes quoted at lines 1 and 2: "stabile / arms / spiraling / stonecrop / weather / vanes"}

Lewis & Short, **stabilis**, *e.*, *adj.* [sto, prop. where one can stand; hence, pregn.], *that stands firm; firm, steadfast, steady, stable* {...} {However, in the process notes, LZ indicates the pronunciation as: *stabile*}.

line 4: **stonecrop weathervane bay laurel's noblest**

{See LZ's notes line 3.}

Taylor, **Crassulaceae** (krass-you-lay'see-ee). The orpine or stonecrop family is easily recognized if only its garden representatives are considered. They are characteristically fleshy-leaved plants with often handsome, prevailing red or yellow, rarely white, flowers. They are chiefly grown as pot plants, {...}, but many are grown in the open border and some, especially in *Sedum*, are popular rock garden plants.

Leaves (in our genera) thick and fleshy (scale-like in some sedums). Flowers perfect, nearly always in clusters, often in cymes, the individual flower small, but the cluster often very showy, {...}.

See Taylor line 2.

line 5: **forest-cluster open small white**

See Taylor, **Crassula** line 1.

See Taylor line 2.

line 6: **centered-yellow thick leave olive green**

See Taylor line 1.

Taylor, **Crassula** {see line 1} > **C. arborescens**. A shrub 3-5 ft. high, more in its native region. Leaves thick, fleshy, grayish-green, dotted, the margins red, generally round-oval and about 2 in. long. Flowers, often wanting in cult., white but ultimately pink or red. S. Af.

line 7: **frost free desert guerdon smaller**

See Taylor line 1.

**desert guerdon** < desert gardens

\*CD, **guerdon**, A reward; requital; recompense.

line 8: **houseplant unfleshy years return stemclasp**

See Taylor line 1.