“I observe the peculiar steel-bluish purple of the night-shade “,” i.e. the tips of the twigs “,” while all beneath is green “,” dotted with bright berries “,” over the water. Perhaps this is the most singular color of any autumnal tiny. It is almost black in some lights “,” distinctly steel-blue in the shade and contrasting with the green beneath “,” but “,” seen against the sun “,” it is a rich purple “,” its veins full of fire. The form of the leaf “,” too “,” is peculiar.”

PE 14, pg. 186 9 July 1858-9 November 1858 / NNPM MA 1302:33 / T vol. # XXVII / PDF # XVII / JXI