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May 14, 1957

Dear Dick:

We have just returned from six weeks vacation, which was about equally divided between St. Louis and Mexico, to find your recent delightfully charming, yet thoroughly scholarly descriptions of coca preparation in Amazonean Colombia and the use of Quararibea flowers in Oaxaca and elsewhere.

In my darker moments I sometimes feel that scientific investigation in the classic, personal sense has gone the way of the passenger pigeon and the lamented Dodo, but your contributions certainly refute any ideas that sprightly observation died with Bates and Spruce. I only hope to see much more of the same in book form before you retire permanently from the field.

Things rock along about as usual here, with early rains, which were badly needed, and the same indecision on the part of the Boston office of U.Fruit as to Dr. Popenoe's successor. We have been helping them bale up a fifteen year accumulation of Honduran colonial furniture for transfer to their palatial establishment in Antigua, in Guatemala, and Helen is actually on the way over with a truck load now. Doc follows on June first, so we suppose the secret, if there is one, of the new Director, can't be kept from us much longer. I personally suspect that they're not being mysterious, but that they simply havn't anyone in prospect. If you havn't been contacted in this respect you should probably feel slighted, since you are eminently qualified, and right in their back yard, so to speak.

When are you & Charles coming down our way, anyway? Remember that we have lots of room, and would love to have either or both of you. Dottie is trying to catch up on her end of accumulated correspondence but joins me in best wishes,

As ever,

Paul

March 14, 1957

Dear Dick:

Your perfectly wonderful review has just come to hand. I can't begin to express my appreciation for all those kind words. My only feeling is that everyone will either believe that I bribed you to write it, or that I have passed to my somewhat questionable reward, and that this was intended as an obituary. Never, and I repeat NEVER did I expect to have such flattering adjectives applied to any work of mine, in my lifetime.

When it appears in print, I would immensely appreciate a copy of the entire issue, which I plan to have framed, and hang over the head of my little bed, just to remind me that I still have some excessively enthusiastic, but pretty wonderful friends left in the world. I only hope that we can return the favor some day.

Just while we're on the subject, I wonder if you would be willing to also send this to Hacienda, in New York, and to do an English version for Natural History Magazine?

This finds us well along into a very hard dry season, and thinking about States leave. Dorothy's mother is 81, and has had five heart attacks within the last few weeks, so she plans to go up ahead of me, probably next monday. If one of our other staff members gets back on time from Costa Rica, I will probably follow in early April, but can't make any very definite plans until we see how things shape up in St. Louis.

For the moment, Dorothy joins me in renewed thanks and most sincere best wishes to yourself, and to Charles and the gang.

As ever, Rob

BOTANICAL MUSEUM • HARVARD UNIVERSITY • OXFORD STREET • CAMBRIDGE 38, MASSACHUSETTS, U. S. A.

August 10, 1955

Mr. Paul H. Allen
Escuela Agricola Panamericana
Apartado 93
Tegucigalpa, Honduras, C.A.

Dear Paul:

It was indeed kind of you to write your letter to me of July 23, 1955. I do not know of anyone whose compliments on my field work I would appreciate more than yours, since you yourself are so widely experienced in the American tropics.

It was good, too, to hear from you. I had not heard, except indirectly, since you left Florida, but I know that your heart is in the tropics and that you must be happy in Honduras.

We are trying to complete our portrait collection in the Ames Orchid Herbarium and find that we are very deficient in photographs of American orchidologists. I wonder if you would be able to send us a portrait of yourself for framing and hanging in the section devoted to Americans who have done work on this family? We will deeply appreciate this favour.

I had hoped to spend a month in Colombia following the course in Cuba which I taught this summer, but my mother's health is so very poorly that I decided to return home at once. I shall be here from now on and will be glad to help you in any way I can from the herbarium and library.

Please do not forget that we would be very grateful for any orchid specimens which you may be able to spare for us.

All the best,

Dick

Richard Evans Schultes

July 23, 1955

Dr. Richard Evans Schultes
Botanical Museum of Harvard University
Cambridge, Mass.

Dear Dick:

The arrival of your most recent fascicle of the Botanical Museum Leaflets has reminded me that I have never acknowledged receipt of the earlier, and equally fine description of narcotic snuff obtained from Virola.

Both of these papers are typical of your previous unique contributions in the field of Ethnobotany and are some of the best examples of carefully planned and exeeuted field work ever to come to my attention.

I very much appreciate being included in your mailing list, and will loof forward with keen interest to future treatments of a similar nature. Dorothy joins me in renewed thanks and best wishes,

as ever,

Please address: American Embassy, Bogotá.

Soratama, Río Apaporis, Amazonas, Colombia.
January 28, 1952.

Dear Paul:

Thank you for your invaluable help on the question of the parica. I know the "amber" that the paye's rub into a muff, but it does not intoxicate and comes very probably from a sp. of Clusia and is used to "purify" because of its fragrance. I have the study of the Virola bark-muff now well under way, and my observations bear out those of Koch Grunberg who could not ascertain the tree. I am now sure that Piptadenia is not used in the Vaupés, except along the lower Guviare. Petersen is a rather unreliable observer, for he decides often beforehand what the results should be and then sees only what accommodates itself to this end.

The Vaupés is booming with the new price of rubber. Metá has about 2 planes a week, often more. The Arana still flirts with Metá, but the line to go is the Aida, a small line that flies out all rubber. Miguel Navarro is in Kareiré, up to his neck in debts. In fact, the only man making any real money is the owner of Aida which runs the one concession in the Apaporis which is infinitely richer in Hevea than the Vaupés. Such murderous tapping has been carried on in the Vaupés River than there is now a dearth of trees. Aida flies out latex in drums to Bogotá and, after concentrating to 60% DRC, sells it at $6000 pesos a Ton. The Dutch Padre have been pushed out by some Antioquenenie.

I have now, besides wonderful rubber specimens, some 3200 numbers plus 1700 bryophytes from the Apaporis. Recently, I went to Yapobodá when the tiny Hevea was in full flower. In 2 days, I got 101 collections, including a n. sp.

of aureseringa or Micrandra.

One of your boys – a Kubeo called Angelico – is at work here in the Apaporis; another who worked with you, Ramón Quevedo, white, is also here. They all speak nostalgically of the "old" days of the "Rubber".

Regards to Dorothy,

Pardon me: I signed → Richard Evans Schultes
before I thought. It should be
merely Dick.

ESQUINAS EXPERIMENT STATION
CIA. BANANERA de COSTA RICA
GOLFITO DIVISION

Palmar
January 14, 1952

Dear Dick:

Glad to have your letter, and to know that it is still possible to get to the Vaupes and beyond. From what we hear of disturbances in the country, I had rather supposed that Villavicencio might be the limit of southbound travel. What do you hear from the Mitu area and the Papuri? I have written to the Padres several times, and to Miguel Navarro, but have had to word in over two years.

Regarding Piptadenia, you will by now have to trust my somewhat uncertain memory. Paye kits seen in the Bajo Vaupes, but particularly from the lower Querari and vicinity contained lumps of an amber gum, which local people always told me was the active principal of Parica. I doubted it very strongly, and the Paye's were far too suspicious and resentful of my collecting activities to be very communicative, much less to be willing to stage a demonstration. The German Medico-Ethnologist Petersen, whom you must remember told me that he had seen the same gum, but that he had also been shown some seeds. These I did not see myself, but jumped to the conclusion from the literature that they must have been Piptadenia. I'm afraid this isn't going to be of much help to you, since even if a seed is used, it isn't necessarily that known from the Guianas, and even the gum may not be obtained from your tree.

I had hoped to see the Vaupes again next year after the Botanical Congress in Bogota, but I understand that is off. Dr. Dunlap, my Chief in Honduras, is talking about sending me to the Botanic Garden in Rio sometime in the near Future, and with that beginning maybe I can wangle a junket to Colombia. Just now I'm supposed to be in Honduras & Nicaragua, but am trying to finish up a local utilization manual of the trees before I leave.

We expect to be in the States in the spring, probably in about April and May, and will probably make the rounds of the eastern herbaria checking tree specimens. I am serious about wanting to see the Vaupes again, and would appreciate anything you can tell me about conditions there.

Dorothy joins me in our best,

BOTANICAL MUSEUM OF HARVARD UNIVERSITY

Oxford Street
Cambridge 38, Massachusetts

January 6, 1952

Dear Paul:

Thank you for your nice card. I was very glad to get news from you. In April, I missed seeing you by one day when you were up in San José to judge a flower arrangement contest or some other world-shaking affair!

I am at home for 10 days but fly to-morrow to Colombia and will go at once to the Amazonia where I have been at work since last May. You may write me care of the Embassy.

Paul: I have read in your article in the Geographical Review that the snuff used by the Kubeos is prepared from seeds of Piptadenia. Did you see this or did you assume the snuff to be the same as that so much written about from the Orinoco? I have never seen Piptadenia peregrina in the Vaupes-Negro area, and now I discover in the Vaupés, apparently Kananari & Piraparana a snuff prepared from bark of a myristicaceous

tree. I would like to hear from you about this, as I am writing a paper on the snuff. Please address me at the Embassy.

I shall make a long trip into the Río Popeyacá & Urapananá as soon as I get "home": the Amazon!

Regards to Dorothy.

Cheerio,

Dick Schultes

ESQUINAS EXPERIMENT STATION
CIA. BANANERA de COSTA RICA
PALMAR SUR, COSTA RICA

December 9, 1949

Dear Dick:

After receiving your letter re: the AAAS meetings, I had another from Walt Hodge, and betwixt the one and the other I decided to step up my normal leave schedule and sail from Puerto Armuelles in Panama, to arrive in New York on or about December 24!!! I'll thus get to hear your discourse & the rest of the symposium on S.Amer. Phytogeography, and have a real oldfashioned visit, if your schedule will permit it. The Fruit Co. maintains rooms at the New Weston Hotel, 55 [illegible] & Madison, and we'll probably stay there. If you write, it would be best to send a letter to c/o Jasper Baker, Pier 3, North River, N.Y.C.

I still have plants to dry, seeds to clean & plant and about 999 other jobs to do before we leave, so this'll be all until we meet in New York.

'By for now,

ESQUINAS EXPERIMENT STATION
CIA. BANANERA de COSTA RICA
PALMAR SUR, COSTA RICA

November 30, 1949

Dear Dick:

We are considerably relieved to hear that your year in Cambridge has succeeded in ridding you of the effects of the Beri-Beri and malaria contracted on your Amazonean travels. I had rather hoped that you would decide to settle down this time permanently at the Botanical Museum, so that we could get to see you once in a while. Remember, it's all very well to be a second Spruce & Wallace rolled into one, but you've got to stay put somewhere someday and publish the results of your extensive travels. We hope to get up in January in time for a visit, but in the interval I am enclosing the slides that I have that seem to more or less fit in to the program you outline for the AAAS meeting. I hope they may some of them be of some use. I would suggest, in the event that we don't get there in time to see you, that you leave them with Charles Schweinfurth, explaining what they are. In most instances the data would have been too lengthy to put directly on the slide, so I've numbered them, as follows:

1 - Showing the emergence of a typical, gravel-laden stream from the eastern Andean wall. (Rio Guatequia, near Villavicencio).

2 - The same river, developing into a typical braided stream, as its load of gravel is deposited with the reduced gradient.

3 - Partially dissected gravel bench, near San Martin, showing small residual ponds and extended gallery forest filling the ravines, with grass confined to the upper ridges.

4 - Typical elements of the gallery forest, including palms such as Maximiliana elegans and Mauritia flexuosa and a common flowering tree (Vochysia).

5 - Groves of Maximiliana elegans and Mauritia flexuosa, near Apiay.

6 - Closeup, showing mature fruit of the Llanero or Moriche palm, Mauritia flexuosa.

7 - Air photo, showing dark lines of residual gallery forest along stream courses, composed almost entirely of Mauritia flexuosa, the only plant species capable of withstanding the tremendous annual fires. The dark areas in the foreground are typical extensive burns. At the extreme top of the slide the Rio Guaviare may be seen, with the far bank in typical climax rain forest, which continues unbroken from this river to the Amazon.

23 - Representative lines of Mauritia flexuosa in grasslands near Chaffuray, on the Rio Ariari, a tributary of the Rio Guaviare.

8 - Representative Amazon-type rain forest in the Alto Vaupes, near Miraflores.

9 - Typical margin of flooded rebalsa or igapo in the Alto Vaupes.

17 - Fall on the Rio Paranapichuna, a north bank tributary of the Bajo Vaupes.

20 - Cachoeira of Jacare, in the Bajo Vaupes, showing flowering Podostemons on boulders.

28 - Closeup, showing progressive development of vegetative fronds, flowers and dry fruiting plants of Podostemons during the dry season, Guaracapuri Cachoeira, Bajo Vaupes.

30 - Sand bars in the Alto Solimoes, near Tabatinga, showing typical stands of the Humboldt Willow.

Dorothy joins me in our most sincere regards to yourself and our other good friends at the Museum. Please let us have your future address so that we can keep in touch with you.

As ever,

BOTANICAL MUSEUM OF HARVARD UNIVERSITY

Oxford Street
Cambridge 38, Massachusetts

November 25, 1949.

Dear Paul:

Ever since my return home last December, your ghost has been wafting through the Museum because you had so recently been here. I was sorry not to have been here when you were up, but perhaps sometime we can see each other and have a good chat again. Everyone was happy here that you could spend a year at the Museum, especially Charles, who often speaks of you. I am sure you found such a well organized and complete herbarium a thrill after knowing the rainforest in the field. Please give my best regards to Dorothy.

My cherished year at home is drawing to a close now and it will once again be the Amazon Valley for me. The beriberi which deprived me of the use of my arms and legs for a while and a stubborn case of malaria that took me 45 lbs. below weight are cured, and I feel fit again except for the fact that I sometimes tire easily. My helper and I got beriberi when, after 11 months in the upper Rio Negro & its affluents we decided to return to Manaos via the Rio Uaupés, Tiquié and overland (carrying canoe, etc.) to the Japurá. We made it but had very little food, the last 4 days before arriving at the Colombo-Brazilian boundary on the Caquetá without any food. But we found some utterly fantastic things.

Paul, I am going to ask a favour, if you feel that you can trust the registered airmail. On December 27th, I must give a 20 min. talk at the AAAS meeting on the phytogeography of the upper Amazon. I am the last of 9 speakers who will do the same for other sectors of S. Am. So I must do something to wake them up! If you have any kodachromes showing vegetation, river banks, falls (with forest), savannas, etc. or, especially, air photos of Amazon jungle, I would very greatly appreciate the kindness if you'd let me use, say up to 5 or 6 in my talk. I do not want individual plants, unless they be extremely typical of an association – i.e. Bombax coreaceum, etc., because

of the extremely limited time. I would be glad to reimburse you by cheque for sending the slides airmail registered or whatever way you would prefer. This would be a very great help as, I took no Kodachrome, and a bit of colour will sort of wake up a drowsy audience. And I know your photos to be wonderfully clear and interesting.

Charles says you plan to come up this winter. I hope I see you, but I am scheduled to return in middle January.

I must thank you for your Christmas card of last year.

Cheers,

Dick

List Local & Curio Names

& uses of various plants.

Rio Madeira, Brazil.
August 28, 1948.

Dear Paul -

Your letter of April 6th was certainly welcome, and I am glad to hear that you may perhaps be able to prepare me some contribution, however small, for the ethno-botanical miscellany. Please try.

It was a surprize - and I do say a pleasant one indeed - to know that you are at work in the Museum. I do hope it will be permanent, although I do not know how you like New England winters. Give me all of them you will!

I finished 10 hard months in the upper Rio Negro area and now feel I know something about Barcelos, Cucuiza & Marabitanas there. You know the area and will like to see the rivers I've explored: Rio Negro from Santa Isabel or Tapuruquara to Cassiquiare; Rio Guainia & its headwaters; Curicuriari, Uaupés (Brazilian part) Tiquié - Castanho, Uaupés, Issana, Xié, and Tarairá. All this was done by the two of us - a Colombian boy (perhaps you remember Francisco Lopez, who temporarily worked for RDC in Leticia when you were there), my helper for 5 years and I - in my aluminium canoe. We finally crossed overland from the Uaupés to the Tarairá, carrying everything.

At present, I have a little beri-beri and find it hard to write or walk as my fingers and toes are numb but my malarial infection is all cured, thanks to that

new and fantastic drug <u>avalon</u>.

I am wondering if you are back in Costa Rica now and if you will get to Turrialba. Say hello to all the boys there, if you do.

Paul: why could you not write me a "spurb" on native uses of orchids in the world — a really novel subject. That is — we do not care whether the lets say medicinal use of such & such orchid is superstitious or valid — the more bringing together of all this lore in a paper, built, of course, around Vanilla as a core, would be really something. And we could use some of Prof. Cruz's fine sketches. I've a lot of notes on native orchid uses — including one bulb which is thrown into Curare for good measure — & I'll pass them on to you, if you like.

I had 2 yajé drinks in the Vaupés. An extraordinary experience which, when I can write with less trouble, I'll tell you about.

Regards to Dorothy.

Dick,

ESTADO DO AMAZONAS

PREFEITURA MUNICIPAL DE B

Please forward

Paul H. Allen, Esq.,

Esquinas Exp. Station

Pica. Bananera de Costa Rica

~~Botanical Gard.~~

Golfito, Costa Rica, C.A.

~~St. Louis,~~

Registrado

VIA AÉREA
PAR AVION

(Please forward)

April 6, 1948

Dear Dick:

I have just finished up the manuscript on Maxillaria, with some 12 pages of key to our 41 species, and I feel like it is time to have a visit with old friends. It seems like every week I hear that Dr. Mangelsdorf has had word on the progress of your work, and I hear rumors first that you were expected here within a short time, and then that you might probably be delayed until after we are gone. It would certainly be a treat to have an old fashioned get together & hear about your present trip. It certainly sounds like it has been a wonderful opportunity for further observations right down the line of your previous investigations. You will be the 20th. century Bates & Spruce rolled into one when you get it all in print.

Since we may not get to see each other here, I had better mention something about your Ethnobotanical paper you plan to do for Verdoorn. Right now I'm snowed under with this Orchid job, but I can probably contribute something after I return to Costa Rica, particularly since you say some of the others will be short. I am considerably hindered by the complete lack of determinations of my small collections, but even without 'em, perhaps I can scrape up something. I have seen many similar things you have done here for the Leaflets, and they have been excellent. You should have a world of good material from this present trip.

I am delighted to have the information on the species of Cunuria. Dr. Mangelsdorf was kind enough to let me have a set of the leaflets, so that I now have many of your earlier published things. The paper in progress on Micrandra will certainly also be of great interest. The only rubber producing plant other than Hevea that I saw in the Vaupes was that common "Arara Siringa" thing, and although the yield was poor, and the resin content apparently high, its tensile strength beat anything I ever saw. You probably have seen much of it on your present travels. It is a particularly interesting species.

My set of Tucano plant names was not extensive, and it would seem much better that I let you have the few to add to your doubtless now extensive list. Most of my names were in Kubeo, which if I can get a few determinations might be used as well. Since you say most of this won't have to be in before next November or so, it might give me time to make a little better job of it.

I hope you havn't had too much further trouble with Malaria. It can be a real nuisance, and sometimes upset your best laid plans.

Dorothy joins me in our best wishes for your continued health and successful completion of your work.

Sincerely yourss,

hoping very much you will give me something. So you may see you're company, I list a few contributions already prepared or promised:

deBarre: "Materia medica of the Aymará of Bolivia"
Ducke: "Plants cultivated in ~~pre~~ pre-Colombian times in the Brazilian Amazon" (Brazilian)
Hodge: "Ethnobotany of the Caribs of Dominica"
Huntzicker: "Non-cereal grains found in pre-Colombian graves in southern S. Am." (Argentinian)
Schulte: "Plant arrow poisons of the Kofáns of Colombia and Ecuador"
" "Plant names in Tukano"

Also I hope to get contributions from Ames, Margaladoff, Castetter, Vestal, Jones, and several good South Americans.

You notice that I am jotting down an article on Tukano plant names. Here in the Llanos and Negro, I am gathering these. Should you desire to have them to combine with yours (I know you collected some Tukanoan names, but it was mostly tuberos as I recall), just write, and I'll turn my data to you, and I shall write my little blob on "Plant names of the Tikunas (Letícia)" instead. If you have your plants identified, a list of tuberos names would be fine, good. Don't be afraid of submitting a short article, for most will be 5 Chronica Botanica pages or less.

I am in this mighty interesting area to try to track down some of the mysteries of Hevea. I am getting some very interesting results. Old Spruce was certainly a wonderful to do what he did 100 yrs. ago. I sent Ickewitz the bug notes and types and returned full of admiration for him.

Except for a lingering malaria (2 attacks the last 4 months), I am well. I send you and your wife the very best of good wishes for 1948. Hoping you will help out with an article, I am

Sincerely,
Dick Schultes

Address: Consulado americano, Belem do Pará, Brazil.

PROGRAMA

On up Rio Negro, Amazonas, Brazil
January 1948.

Dear Paul - I cannot recall that I wrote you the following information and requests, but if I did, please forgive me my absentmindedness. For a long time, I have wanted to write, especially to tell you about several of your collections from the Uaupés River. So, here it all is.

In Harvard Botanical Museum Leaflets vol. 12, no. 10 (1947) 325 ff., Baldwin and Schultes published a "Conspectus of the genus Cinnamomum". In it (pp. 336, 341), I cite two of your very interesting collections. You will recall that you asked me long ago in the field what these might be. Well, here is the answer at long last. First collections from Colombia, of C. crassiflorum the first collection since old Spruce days. If I did not send you a copy of the paper, write to Dr. R. D. Rands, Bureau of Plant Industry, Beltsville, Md. for a separate.

In addition to this paper, there are 2 articles which you ought to know about - and which Dr. Rands can send -: the English and the Spanish articles on the "Use of Formaldehyde in Plant Collecting". In these, I try to point out the advantages, in hot climates, to the system of collecting you first taught me.

One of your collections - I don't have the notes here with me - known locally as arara-seringa is a species of Micrandra. The monograph of this genus, closely akin to Hevea and Cunuria, is ready for publication as soon as I incorporate the recent collections I've been making here in Spruce's type-localities.

Now for a request. Next autumn, I hope to go home and have promised Dr. Verdoorn of Chronica Botanica to edit for him a collection of ethnobotanical articles. The mss. should be in by December 31 and may be from 1 to 30 typed pages. Photos are also desired. Now, I remember you had some damn fine ethnobotanical data. Would you be willing to draw up an article for that collection on any phase of ethnobotany from the Mitú area? I am

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

BUREAU OF PLANT INDUSTRY

WASHINGTON

Leticia, Amazonas, Colombia.
September 20, 1946.

Airmail address: Tabatinga,
Alto Solimoes, Brasil.

Paul H. Allen, Esq.,
c/o Missouri Botanical Gardens,
St. Louis, Mo., U.S.A.

Dear Paul:

Next December, I plan to go home to Boston for three months' holiday. During this period, I want to do considerable research on Hevea in Colombia. I would deeply appreciate the favour if you could arrange to have a set of your Vaupés Hevea material sent to the Harvard Botanical Museum for my inspection. If, of course, there is an extra set, you know how very much I covet it. I have spoken several times with Dr. Dugand about the set which you state you left in Bogotá but I have been able to learn nothing about it. Perhaps the Missouri Botanical Gardens might sent the set to the Harvard on loan. At any rate, I MUST see your material. Your region is, taxonomically, the most important area of Colombia so far as Hevea studies go, and, knowing of your extensive work there for RDC, I neglected to continue on downstream below Mitú. I hope you can help me.

There is some possibility that next year, upon my return, I may do some work in Brazil. If so, the first area upon which I shall concentrate will be the Spruce Rio Negro-Vaupés sector.

Russell Seibert has gone back to the United States and I presume he will be in St. Louis to do his doctoral dissertation. I hardly expect to get so far west this winter, as I want to spend all of my vacation near the folks.

Life with me is the same. I spend nearly all of my time in the field, finding it interesting and far less exacting that artificial city life. Recently, I had occasion to go to Belem and to Rio de Janeiro, but I am frank in saying it was good to be back in the field.

Write and let me hear about your work at the garden. Regards to your wife.

All the best,
Dick
Richard Evans Schultes

Post Office Box 43,
Gamboa, Canal Zone
October 10, 1946

Dr. Richard Evans Schultes
United States Department of Agriculture
Leticia, Amazonas

Dear Dick:

Your very welcome letter reached me in remarkably good time, considering that it was forwarded to me from St. Louis. I have had you a great deal in mind recently, wondering if you were still in Colombia, and how soon you would be needing my few Hevea specimens. On my return to the M.B.G. I turned over to them my Colombian plants, including Heveas, but with the understanding that they were to be made available to you when needed. I wrote to Dr. Robert E. Woodson, Asst. Curator of the Herbarium yesterday reminding him of this, and giving him the collecting numbers of my Heveas, with instructions that they be sent to you at the Botanical Museum "Cuanto antes".

You proposed survey of the Vaupes below Mitu will certainly produce a world of good things, and I only wish that we could do it together. So far no one has been willing to tackle my Colombian collections, due to pressure of other work. I would suppose that Cuatrecasas, yourself, and the few others who have collected there probably have collected everything I did anyway, but I'm naturally curious about what my things were, particularly plants collected in the Rio Papuri, and its tributaries, and on the Yapoboda, in the Alto Cuduyari. Mebbe I'll be in the U.S. myself some day, and see your things at Harvard, which by them will include all of mine & more.

As you will see by the heading, my return to the M.B.G. has meant Panama again, with work on their Flora of Panama, now in the process of publication. I expect to be here for perhaps two or three years more, after which I have no idea if they will send me to another country, or will insist (again) on my returning to St. Louis. I would like to go there some day, but not quite yet. I find it very stimulating to be in a place where any two or three day jaunt will still turn up new things like the fine Magnolia found last week in the mountains of Cocle province. There simply dosn't seem to be any end to the timber trees on the Atlantic slope, and there would probably still be new ones to be found ten years hence.

If there is any chance of your returning to Washington via Panama, we would be more than delighted to see you. We have plenty of room here, with an extra room & bath, and if there is any such possibility let us know, and we'll meet the plane with bells on.

Regards as ever,