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About the Institute

The Hunt Institute for Botanical Documentation, a research division of Carnegie Mellon University, specializes in the history of botany and all aspects of plant science and serves the international scientific community through research and documentation. To this end, the Institute acquires and maintains authoritative collections of books, plant images, manuscripts, portraits and data files, and provides publications and other modes of information service. The Institute meets the reference needs of botanists, biologists, historians, conservationists, librarians, bibliographers and the public at large, especially those concerned with any aspect of the North American flora.

Hunt Institute was dedicated in 1961 as the Rachel McMasters Miller Hunt Botanical Library, an international center for bibliographical research and service in the interests of botany and horticulture, as well as a center for the study of all aspects of the history of the plant sciences. By 1971 the Library's activities had so diversified that the name was changed to Hunt Institute for Botanical Documentation. Growth in collections and research projects led to the establishment of four programmatic departments: Archives, Art, Bibliography and the Library.

to Mrs. Bartlett's & spent the day, first of writing out
my New Yorks badly but
really does not seem more
fuller than some times ago.
Came out from Memphis
last night after dark,
picked up a darby
coming that way & let him
draw him. Ruben says on
the 1st of Nov he will
open a pencil shop.
he means that my bro
John has engaged. Mrs
Bartlett to visit her
she plans over there &
write him to travel
Ruben's, then Ruben will
have Mrs. Bartlett's son to
help attend to his business
so there will be three in
that place, too much,
I would not do it if I
ever. Ruben, he will
not ^{be} I suppose except
that 1902
over. I look his son if it
is away & in that way he
a help. I am finishing this

Some letter afforded me much pleasure & I intended
to write you a once long one in return but will just have to scrawl
away as fast as I can & may be not finish until tomorrow or some
other day. I have been as busy as a bee today, putting the boxes in
order, leaving out provisions for feed & putting up some clothes & work
to take with me tomorrow to Leesville. Dr. Duggan left this morning
for Council, will not be home until Friday night, I did not know
what I would do, Ruben thought he would have to go to court
this week. I thought if the weather was good I would have old
Leah drive me to Leesville tomorrow, spend tonight with Mrs.
Bawden, she kindly invited me; sent over this morning to say I
must go over to dinner as I was alone, but I had to excuse myself
there was so much work to do, about eleven o'clock Ruben drove
up so that sit my around at out, he will be here tonight & take
me to sister Sally's in the morning, his case comes next week I
think it a good chance to have a little rest & sister I is so glad
to have me. Barnet will attend to milk & butter & cook Leah's
breakfast, he will cook his dinner & supper all in one. Is your
too kind have helped him as busy times even if there is a moment

to help, & you have no cows or fowl to add to the work. Many thanks
for wishing you could send our good cook, if it were possible I would
not deprive you by taking her. Sam & Ben must have made a trip
to the woods to get so many woodrats, who takes the job of killing
them? I reckon Ben remembers how he used to kill them when a
little boy. You will find them as now this winter. I have not noticed
whether there are any on the thorned yard tree, we usually get ones from
them, we don't care so much for mice now and teeth are so bad.
Yesterday Dr. Duggan brought in a box with 120 quince eggs in it,
he had been gathering them up & did not let our know of it, and
I must pack them in salt for winter use, they keep so well. Eggs
have been scarce & high all this summer. I never saw the like before.
Probably of all sorts is scarce & has highest than usual. My brother Ben
writes of such an abundance of everything in the west, says the
farmers have so much money they don't know what to do with it.
I think you would have had a visit from him a short time ago if
he had seen the advertisement of excursions out to Oklahoma in
times, only \$5.00 for the round trip from St. Louis, he was there when
he wrote to me, said a friend offered him a pass to Oklahoma City
& he wanted to write & ask Waver to visit him there, asked for Waver's
address, by the way Waver said he had received a letter from Ben,
I hope he will answer it but he is a poor hand to write. He has
gone to another camp or circle or two from the old one, it is on the
forest reserve but he says there are numbers of cattle on the

OCT 7, 1907 ✓

acorns & wolves frequently attack them. At Caabu the new camp they get the mail three times a week, keeps a pony, that is an improvement.

Yes, I would have a pink waist, pink is so becoming to you. I wish we could see some together, it would be so nice. Now have it a machine have you? Mine is not much used now I have so little time to sew, the days are getting so much shorter now. I am so glad the weather has cleared off bright & the hay can be cut. We had a good deal cut in the garden, the sun-dried one is cured & Ned is putting it up, I think at least a wagon load & that is ~~not~~ the beginning of what is there. We had such a wind & rain storm Friday, the dead chinua tree near the little side gate tumbled over, was so rotten it broke up when it struck the end of the nursery & did not injure the house. I have plenty of kindling close at hand.

We have not heard from Fred in some time he must be very busy.

I wish you had some of our Keeper's peace to preserve. I had a basket full gathered to send Miss Lane this evening & come for Reuben to take home, always try to help out his poor hiring. Now spent Sunday with us went off with a loaf of bread & some cakes crumbled up & tied to his saddle. Uncle Warr was with us too, stayed until this morning, took

by a good light - as please against imperfect times, Miss Lane for one & gives him much love, Reuben writes with love. his love to you both. Good night - Good morning Mother.

Durham, N.H.

Oct. 9th 1902

My dear Annie:

It looks like as
if you were intended
writing to me again as I
will send you a few lines
this morning before I settle
down to work for perhaps
you might like to know that
we are all alive. I have had
just one letter from you
since you left Derby N.H.

realizing that you must-
be very busy but - so are we
all of us and have kept rushed
from morning until night-
and have to run until ten
o'clock nearly every night.
I have six cutting flannel
night-gowns under way for
the three youngest girls
and there are flannel
petticoats etc to make. I have
been much disappointed in
not getting Mrs. Merrill this
fall but the Co's have kept
her very busy every day.
I hope that you will be very

busy and a little bit glad to hear that
Prof. Priest is dead. It is so much better
as you do never could get well. He had
been dead a week before I heard of it.

Mr. Potter died Monday night-
and the General lately had to lay
him in at the family house for a
few weeks. Allie had just returned
to Vassar but came back for the
General.

Now to change the subject - the
Lodge General has recently given a nation
tournament quilt in honor of Prof. T. W.
Howard. Allots you have all a quilt.

as Church. must get many
letters from Durham. I have
not met Mrs Hayward yet
but have heard that she
reminds me of Mabel Hayes.
I like Mr. Hayward very much.
Capt. Clark has a very sensible,
pleasant-wife and I like her
she is better than her husband
and as slim as a rail. Not
a bit pretty but she is just
the wife for him for he
is much more sociable &
congenial since his marriage.

Emma grows bigger & bigger
every day and can wear my
shirt-swaist now. She celebrated
her fourteenth birthday last week
but she looks a year older. Did

not give her a party - this year
but she had Miss Hanson
OCT. 9, 1902
come to take supper & spend the
night.

If all goes well I expect to
spend a part of next week
with Mrs. Forest-Smith and
as it is the first vacation
I have had this year I know
I shall enjoy the change. I think
Mrs. Holmhouse will stay & keep
house for me. She is visiting
us now.

If you do not get the College
monthly & would like to have it -
I will send you one copy every
month. The first no. for this fall
seems to be an improvement
on last years.

I received a long letter from
Mr. Herring yesterday. He says
that you seem to be dodging him
for now he does not know
where you are. He sent his
best regards to Mrs. Duggan.

Dr. & Mrs. Cumberland & Mrs.
Rams are in Atlanta this week
& Mrs. R. is not yet back until
next Wednesday for she is going
to stay in Philadelphia.

Frisella goes to school every
morning for the forenoon
except on Thursdays. I have a nice quiet
time for my work. Miss Lee
very much though.

Well must close and go up
stairs as time is flying.

Give much love to Charles & Jean &
buy a big share for your dear self. All
the family would join with me but they
are not at home.

Love ever & very much

Alice.

P.S. Cousin-William has a baby daughter
as well as named Rebecca Cousin-William
his grandmother. He has announced
the name of this one will not make
quite a bit in that household.

Will tell you about Mary Anne & Joseph.

Sunday night
October 12th 1902

My dear Son

Your very acceptable letter of the 8th I read this evening. It had been waiting for me. Some Father left Tuesday morning for Council, Barbara spent that day & night with me & took me to sister Sally's Wednesday, which I have been until this evening. Some Father returned Friday night & was to go for me early yesterday morning but such a wind as we had all Friday afternoon & night, winds & thunders & lightning, if my son had been up stairs in a frame house I could not have gone to sleep, but felt comparatively safe in that log house. Saturday morning all the creeks were out & I made myself satisfied to stay perhaps until Monday, but just as we finished sunset dinner ^{today} we reached your Father, the road was very heavy going but with determination we found it had dried off a great deal; we reached home before sunset found Uncle Waver waiting at the gate looking very green, we asked him to drive in & spend the night but he would not, we thought he would come in for a little while any how, but when we looked around he was driving off, your Father got out & called to him to stop, he said "no, I came to see if you could do anything for my feet, have waited an hour & must go home" as if he were bound with us for not

being here, your Father then said come in & I will tell you about
council, "no I don't want to hear" & off he went, if the truth was
known I expect he had been asleep in his buggy several hours.
He told us not long ago he stopped his buggy in Mrs Stewarts woods
& went to sleep. I wish he could have a guardian. Mrs Beckwith
from Petoskey, a nephew of Bishop Beckwith was elected Bishop,
he is 48 years old & has been married three times. Mrs Murray of
Birmingham had a large number of votes. I am glad you are
near the minister, but that you need it, but I think it well
to be in good company, don't you?

So you have gone to work on the much rooms have you? I
think you must like that branch of your business, well, I hope
you will succeed. I think it is putting the cellar to better use than
storing distilling products. That is a new arrangement for the
Stetson Club, but will Maurice's eyes stand such work at night?
I hope Maurice's new & various dishes will fatten you some, I would
not care to see you very fat but a little flesh would be an
improvement.

Did not I write you Prof. Well was elected President of
Chambers College some time during the summer & soon left to take
the place? I thought I did, but it is very hard to remember to
tell each one every thing. Fred is very anxious to be appointed
Director, he thinks Dr. Carey wants it.

I did not tell you how much I enjoyed my quiet visit to meet

OCT 18, 1902

Mother.

His arms from the
other boys since I
wrote to Maria
last week.

Orchilles, her cook was taken sick the night I reached there, she
cooked breakfast, then we would all turn down, clean the table, wash
the dishes & help the house girl so she could get dinner as the
work was out so hard on sister Sally. I was making a dress & she
would help me, in fact made the skirt. Mr H. thought he
had a chill the day I arrived so Friday he lay in bed to keep off
a return, he seemed very much better yesterday & today, I hope
the cool weather coming on will brace him up. Lucy is much
improved too. Kate was over with her fat baby, she is a good,
grist, child. Ruben was with us today at sister Sally's, he goes to
Gainesboro tomorrow with one of his hands, he went on his bond.

The state Fair takes place in Birmingham the latter part of
the month, the twins are going up, Maria wrote to ask me to
keep her company that week, if Harriet can spare the time to
cook I think I will go, have not been there since early spring.
Lizzie goes to school in Fannettsdale, will board there in bad weather.
Of course your Father will want to go to the Fair, he cant miss any
thing. Herbert Collins was kind enough to give him a place to sleep
in the store Friday night, the rain poured down so he could not
get to Mrs Hotchkiss, went up there to breakfast next morning.
He dined with Watkins Vaughan in Selma. It is getting to be very

To Hurstoe ave.

Oct. 15th '02

Dear F. & F.

Many returns of the
day - yesterday - for you!
Strange permutations come
to scatter us about this
world - we Millers are stead-
fast so far - how long we
stay who can tell - though
at present we feel fairly
stationary. Persica's
letter warrants a good
long answer - so I am
only saying this A. M.
what my heart is full of.

OCT. 15, '07
2/ long life and joy con-
tinuous to you both
for the year that is begun,
and for the years after.

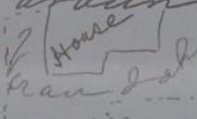
It does my heart good
to see people joined who
belong together - like the
Millers and the Duggars
and the Conlocks - In
spite of bad management
in much of his business,
Cupid does occasionally
lapse into the right way -
shows real strokes of
genius in his combinations.

OCT 15, 07

3/ We are thriving - I am
rejoiced to unload the
big book - I have picked
my last flaw in it, and
have only the index to see
again before it comes in
its green (plain) cover.
It is a whacking big one.
I am inclined to be
proud of it - now.
Perhaps I will not feel so
when the unfeeling critic
of new books jumps on it.
I am busy as ever, tho
in new directions. The
Cor. Course is going well.

4/ Soon it - is to widen ^{OCT 15, '02}
perceptibly. I go a' lecturing
as of yore - only more so.
Harrisburg, Scranton, Phila-
delphia, Lancaster and
Baltimore come in to my
schedule This season. I had
such a delightful time
at Chautauque this summer.
Staid an extra 3 weeks after
I finished my Plants and
Insects Courses in July.
Had an extra course of
45 pupils - Earned about
\$250 during the summer, and
as much since, so I do not starve.

5/ This note grows ^{OCT 15 62} space.
So you are spread out by
this time in a great
house - I wish I were
close by enough to see
you in the role of
Mistress of the Mansion.
You will adorn the
profession, Persica,
and learn the intricacies
of it - little girl - and
you will get a lot of
pleasure out of it. And
Benjamin, he's a domestic
man, as well as a gay one,
and you will delight in your
home together.

6/ I hope you have a big fireplace - Assure me.
We miss this feature in the new house. But we are getting a great 2 story ~~veranda~~ ^{veranda} all the way around the house.
 The shingles are to be stained all over, and so we shall look very different from the old Braconer - Furlong place. It's have a pretty baby - ditto the B's - tho' the latter mile is frail and uncertain as to its little turn turn and may not survive.

OCT 15 '10
7/ The Hug baby is lasty,
to a fault - Ditts, the
Fellers - Mrs. Sturcell has
another baby girl. They
live here: ^{888 mat x Stones}

This is No. 4.

Prof. Sturcell - (Greek in cell.)
was disgusted - "I don't mind
the three graces - but I object
to starting in on the Nine muses."

Mabel Hale & Imogen Stone
and Lillian Johnson are here.
Dr. Kellerman is visiting
here this week. The Atkinsons
are building over the Dr.
Tyler house on Campus,
Mrs. having bought the
same. The Austin's new house

of just below and north ^{west} of the Mrs. Prentiss site -
is a beautiful little street
now - but quite overshadowed
by the new Prentiss house
built just east of it - on a
narrow lot beside the gorge.
Mrs. P. sold her old house to
some fraternity.

We are axed to the F.F.
next Monday to a dinner.

Don't know what's nature fit.

I was west through
June - finished ms. of book
left it in Chic. & went
on light of heart to a 10th
reunion of my U. class.
Did I tell you of my B.K.

OCT 15, '02
I send back this printed
thing, please - It is for my
new scrap book. Next
month I go lecturing,
and sight-seeing - to
Washington - Baltimore
Philade - and Wilmington.
Shall see Peggy B. Windsor
in N - and spend a week
in Phil. with the Hills ^(Thos. R.) -
Chaut. friends - He is son
of former Pres. Hill of Harvard.
His wife spent a week
here in Aug., & the Millers
were enchanted with her & she
with them. We all spent a day
at Backwick - most enchanting.
By - Chittens - I love you -
Must close -
Must July 22.

10/14/02

Editor's Office, Ithaca, New York

Dear Ones,

I hope this letter will get a skate on itself and reach you on the morn of your wedding anniversary. You will excuse the office paper, I trust, if it carries enough love and good will, which I sorely aims to convey.

Before I forget it let me ask whether

you care enough about your country life to have it bound. I imagine not. You won't hurt my feelings in the slightest by saying so. My only reason for mentioning it is that it seems to be a case of now or never. In the summer shift I fear you have failed to receive some of the numbers and if Persica will send me a list of missing numbers I will do what I can to fill the gaps. The publishers are buying

back numbers at 25¢ ^{1/3} and selling them for 40, but we have a little pile of back numbers we noticed will soon waste away. This being your paper weekling I expect to send you the paper for another year, just so you'll be reminded of Uncle Bill and a month away. I also hope to write a few grants over this or that feature noticed you don't like. We have a million things to talk about but I don't see any way of putting talked out unless we all agree to

- 16 -
meet in St. Louis during
the Fair and have fun
together same like old
times.

Many does out those
Brook Books as if they
were Robinsons but hasn't
made the rounds of her
family yet, but she loves
you still and I wouldn't
buy a copy of her book
until after Xmas if I
were you, because - well
because. Fesser comes to
supper every Wednesday
night until next Spring
when the Madam is
supposed to quit travel-
ling. Retzium Rube comes

12/14/27
Editor's Office, Ithaca, New York

-5-

Sundays as of you. Our domestic life is a thousand times happier than last year. The responsibility of getting meals for outsiders was something many never should have had. It galled us three last year. It didn't pay in any way and we are immensely relieved to get quit of it forever. Whatever else we do we shall not make that mistake again.

May & I have not read a word of proof

in Julia's book. I read it all it was. But it was only to hurry things up and help her get her nerve back which she lost for a while. It is going to be a fine specimen of book-making and well worth \$3⁰⁰, I think. I have entered into a conspiracy with the publishers to have a little celebration when the first copy comes. They are to send it to me and I will do the rest. We have some bottles in the cellar now anent this occasion

-7-

But I don't think the poets will die for want of liquid nourishment. Marguerite sees that the proper facts happen in casual-like.

Reverie! What because of that beautiful man-brother of Denis whom all the East St. Louis girls were trailing after like children after Charles Apple or like that? So he got up with any of those children yet? Dear me.

I'm so loaded with secrets
these days that I'm just
fit to bust. All kinds.
I wisht you all wuz here
so we could have a little
klat.

Well, here's to ye, Fuzzy
Wuzzy - oh! dear no offence
I hope, - may your shad-
ows never grow less. I
hope you'll get lots of
fun out of life and
plenty of wherewithal
on the side.

Your affectionate and con-
gratulatory uncle

Bill!

Durham N.H.

Oct. 14. 1952.

Dearest Marie + Ben:

This is I wish
you many happy returns of
your anniversary day and
may each one be happier than
the one before. I know you will
celebrate and wish I could
help you eat the fine dinner
that Marie will have and
surprise to you Ben.
I would send the receipt for

wish for in this Marie dear
but have not had time to
copy them off yet. One that I
have tried & like better than
the Bishop pudding is in
the Duchamp cook book and
is the steamed graham
pudding on page 111. It is very
simple but very nice. Be careful
to pour the sauce on the well
beaten egg and stir just before
you pour it - on the pudding
sprinkle the sauce with a
little lemon and sherry.

To day I put up some pickled
peaches (surely the first I have
made and they are delicious &
nice & eat with meals.
 $\frac{1}{2}$ lb of peeled half ripe peaches

3 $\frac{1}{2}$ lbs half brown sugar
1 pint port side vinegar
1 or 2 whole ones
By ~~which~~ convenience

tying the pieces in a piece of cheese cloth
& let boil with vinegar & sugar; add the
peaches in this a few at a time until
just tender then put in a jar and
after you have cooked all the peaches
have on the spring. They are not hard
to be kept in tight.

All this is not very interesting. I have
been dear so you can skip it.
There was much to send to you
but it and had as much of it as I
could understand. I have a few

are going to Boston Thursday
to spend four days with the
Smiths. There a lot of shopping
to do or work - have much work
but I shall enjoy the change
for I am very tired.

Charlie has come home
to supper so I must say good
night. He joins me in sending
fond love to your both. Give
Church my love and tell him
that the kappa sigma was
a big success.

Yours ever loving sister
Alice.

This certainly is a secret but
I usually have to write at the
rate of 75 words a minute.

~~a long time~~

Read in the Council
room yesterday last
Mr. D. B. Dr. Duggan
had been called
to the Museum
October 19th.
P.M. 1902

My own sweet dear:-

I wanted to write
and send congratulations ^{to you and Ben} on
your first anniversary, and I
hope it isn't too late now, my dear.
I wish you both much happiness
and joy and may the rest of
your lives be full of sunshine.
You certainly are a dear, loving
couple, and Jack and I thank
to your hearts on the 16th.

I never can forget how lonely you
looked on the night of your
wedding. And I wish I could
have been with you in your own
little home this year to celebrate.
I had looked forward to my
visit ever since you left but
have been too ill for anything,
am feeling much better now, only
so stiffly. I bet mine will be a
boy. You have been so fortunate
in not being sick, and I am so
glad for your sake.

Now my dear I want to thank
my dear Ben and yourself for
the beautiful sugar spoon you
sent me on the 16th. It certainly
is fine and you are both just

as smart and clear as ever as to remembering
me. Also my dear Charles, tell him I
appreciate his smart letter more than
I could a gift, for it is the thought I
look at more than any thing. I am so
glad that you are all so happy together. I
knew to be sure would be with you and Ben.
I wish I could take dinner with you all
today. It would be grand if I only could
visit you this fall. How you have
been away for the little changes. I don't
want to do anything yet. I don't think it
to do any thing around. If we could be

together we could do lots of sewing.
Baby Alice has gone over to the
McPhersons for dinner this
afternoon. I think we will dine
out and see the Harrisons. I am
trying hard to find a dressmaker
and dressmaker does not seem
any more. And I do need a
skirt so much. Have you good
dressmakers in Columbia? Have
you had your pink waist
made up yet? I haven't. I think
after all that I will have to do
it myself.

J & M are having grand
mutton. You would not heard
how flat, Marie dear, it is
fixed so nice with the

partition between the alcove and
parlor, so that the two rooms
look so pretty. And we bought
a new rug and curtains for
the parlor, so that we feel
better satisfied and it gives
us a nicker room for a
spare room. Mama and Papa
won't be satisfied long in any
place you know, although
the room they have now is
larger and more private than
the alcove.

I have a real nice
"Sofay" in the kitchen. I am
willing to put up with a great
deal, so as to have someone do

the work. Isn't that the way you
feel. I heard from Alice on
the sixteenth she was going to
visit Mrs Forest Smith, and
said she would send me a
package when she returned
home. Mama gave me a
pretty center piece that she
made, and Papa \$5⁰⁰. So I felt
quite well remembered.
You know we had a book of
Gibson's pictures given to us
when we were married, so
Jack is going to frame some
of them for his office. He
buys the black tape and glass
and makes his own frames.
And they are so pretty. Jack

is very artistic you know! Did I tell
you that Willie and Emma are staying with
the Mother-in-law. I wish Emma jolly!

Will my aunt Jessie, I must close and be
ready for dinner. I have so much to tell
you that letters seem so unsatisfactory.
With love to our aunt - Miss Helen, Ben,
Charles and your precious self. I am
ever your devoted
Aunt
Alice
Oh! come and take every one
of your lot, and do not read up for
any thing. I am sure, Papa, and Jack will
stand for it you know.

October 19th 1902

My dear Son

This is a very quiet Sunday morning, I am the only person on the lot, your Father calls with Mrs Beasley to Fredericktown to show him where he can cut some grass tomorrow but I am afraid he will be again disappointed for it is clouding up. Now or five persons have promised to cut that grass & failed to do so & I am in hopes Mrs Beasley would.

I think I have been right except this morning, it is only a little after ten, I cooked as usual, only putting on one more than usual at breakfast time, the beef, peas, corn, & egg plants, the vegetables are done, ready to do for a short stewing, & broiling, the dishes washed & put up & the house in order. I have read our services (as I always do on Sunday) & come by ours & am now ready to thank you for, and answer your very welcome letter of yesterday, ask Maria if she can beat that without help? We peeled the peas last night, that reminds me I wish you & Maria had some of our Kidney, some of them have ripened in the house & are very juicy & nice.

Yes, I thought of you both on the 16th, you were right about missing the 38th anniversary, I can only regret it when I count up the boys ages. I know it must be a relief to get almost even with the girls, but

them they will be coming again but not with quite such a rush. I feel
as if I have been going a good deal lately, that went to Lawrenceville, then
Thurs day we went to Saundersdale, started at eleven o'clock, ate a little
lunch in the buggy as we could spare ourselves from dinner if asked,
as we were going, we met some sister Sally, Mrs Harris & Lucy
returning home, we stopped & had a long chat. The object of our visit
was to sign a paper giving Mrs Harris power of Attorney to sell that lot
in Richmond that we are all interested in, the paper had been sent to
Johnny to keep at the store until we could go down, he had forgotten
all about it & instead of its being at the store he after much thought
remembered it was at his house so that day was thrown away, & I
had so much to do at home.

Tuesday I think it was I went to Brunstons to do a little shopping,
then went to the new rectory to ~~do some~~ to see our old friends, Mrs
Henry is getting rather feeble & often sick, Mrs Wren looks badly but is
stronger than Mrs Henry. In the evening later I went to Mrs Gholson's
& she walked to the depot with me, after waiting until nearly dark we
boarded the train was 2 1/2 hours late as there was nothing to do but to
return to Mrs G's & try again later which I did, instead of 2 1/2
hours it was 4 hours late & I did not reach home until 11 o'clock,
your father waited, the snow was bright & we had a nice drive
tho' rather cool as he forgot my wrap; he entertained me with
rather an amusing account of a little fight between Dr Tench
& little Luke, he jumped upon the Dr like a duck upon a goose.

OCT 19, 1902

Very devoted
Mother.

long" but before the blow (right in the middle) was returned friends
came between them. The fact I was altogether to blame, he drew a
pistol on me to - & he was unharmed. In the afternoon (the first fight
was in the morning) me to - accused himself & told the D^r he was ready
for him any way, the D^r apologized & deigned the by standards of an
expecting time. Bob & Susan asked so much for their furniture that no
one would buy it so they pushed & took it to street front with them. Susan
was trying to sell the house; in this week paper we see it advertised
by Mrs J. J. Torbert, guardian's sale, you know it belonged to his wife &
now to his little girl, he took the bankrupt law.

Grand Father has come in & is writing to you to put in this, I hope
we have not told the same things. I am in hopes Rebecca would
come down today but now I think it too late & Uncle Waver has
not come either, I suppose he is not in a good humor with us yet.
Fred seemed to expect to meet you at that meeting in Atlanta, he
made a great many acquaintances & invited a good many to stop to
see him, some of them did, but your Father says he told you of that
as I will not repeat. One thing he forgot & I did not know - a Mr
Marshall from "Missillon" has bought the Torbert place is coming there
to live & will sell all the grass land around, that is good for us -
I think I must see about dinner now, please excuse mistakes & bad

"Pinnis - Vica"
Hale Co - Ala

Oct 20 - 1912.

Dear Ben: -

I shall be glad to get Marie's letter when it comes to hand - say to her she must tell me what cost ex. People inhabit "Witt St" 40 - Lx letter to yr Mother was duly rec'd yesterday, hence I mention the anticipated "Measure" of one Anna Marie. A recent letter from "Fred" describes his satisfactory attendance as a Delegate to the Convention of association of "Grand Colleges" at Atlanta. I know he had a splendid time - for his letter was brimful of pleasant experiences - Fred always in his letters gives the tone of his feelings - when he is pleased his letter is truly indicative of enjoyment, when he is bothered or worried in mind or body his written thoughts say plainly but not in words - "I am pained with worry". He was so full of happiness & contentment of the outcome of the proceedings that he

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I failed to mention a word about his own people;
— The entertainment of the Visitors to Auburn,
who took the opportunity to stop over from the Atlantic
Convention, (Prof's Hunt & Hopkins, Twines & he-
live also.) Some to his house and several others
to Pres^t Thatch's & Prof B B Ross. — altogether a
very congenial assemblage — several little "inter-
courses" were had, and all passed off with
great satisfaction & delight to the transients.

I must say to you & Maria that you
must take pains to let our distant connection
"Adolphus McKelvey" know you are at Columbia,
he lives at Brown's Station, and was a pleasant
palsmate of my boyhood. — Belongs to a good
family — (close relative of the Montagues). Has heretofore
been a great "entertainer". At Marshall, Saline Co.,
are more of our Montague friends & relatives — Bro
Waverly would like to hear of them — says you must be

OCT 20, 1902

Sure to recognize them for his sake -
and the great kindness & attention they paid
my Mother when she visited Marshall
& St Louis. In St Louis we have again
some good friends of the family. The Ellershaus
relations of the last - Ellershaus & DeBases - as
well as the Vaptans & Montgoms &c.

Now I will say that I never attended
a more harmonious Council than the last
one in Montgomery & the St. Beckwith (now
of Texas) was made our next Bishop and
he has accepted. - As probably by December
coming we will have a new Bishop. Our friends
in Montgomery & St Johns Ch had prepared
everything just to suit us exactly. The
"Glenmore Hotel" across the street from
St Johns Ch was our headquarters, a brand
new Hotel with all the latest improve-
ments & accommodations; having in my
charge Capt Taylor (94) I was treated with
distinguished consideration - The best

room on the first floor, & Cuisine all that a
good appetite could wish for, and a most
courteous Host. In the two days I spent
a whole week. — Returning, Dr Leach
& I had a special invitation to dine at
Cousin Erin's - (Watkins Vaughan's) - but oh;
what a rain we had; & at Tallinn it stormed
when the train stopped. The night was spent there.

We have had any quantity of good pears, not-
withstanding they looked so insignificant during the
summer - two all Fall growth. Still enough on the
trees to last us another month. Mr. Mother of course detailed
to you her visit to Mr. Uncle Harris. — We have the promise
of a Cook - (The one I have declined to hold on?) With best
love to Mamie. & Myself — I am
Affectionately Yr Father — *[Signature]*

Oct. 26th 1902

Very dear Lou

I have been thinking of you & Annie a great deal today & wished to write to you this morning but had such a headache I could not do it, but it has nearly worn off & I hope I can finish this before I am very sleepy. We have had a very quiet day, no one with us. I was so sure Helen would come as I did not see her in Sarnedale yesterday. Some Patten arrived. Marie's letter & will arrive some time "where the spirit comes from" I reckon. She had a very nice anniversary dinner, but cake must have been a novelty to those hungry Pros. I am glad she succeeded so well with it. I think the greatest trouble is picking out the nuts, I don't make such trouble some dishes more than I know every thing to do.

I took a little holiday last week, Henriette's cotton was opening so slowly she consented to take my place for a few days. I went over Thursday morning & returned on yesterday's (Saturday) freight, as usual when I travel, the train was a long way behind time & I did not reach home until 1 o'clock, found Marie & Waver waiting for us. I am called for Henriette, but no answer, no dinner on, & not even a fire, I saw hauling hay were waiting for dinner. I had to hunt around & give them a cold lunch & take one myself. I had a very pleasant visit

stopped at Beebe's sometimes & then went out to Uncle John's. Friday night the Goshen Shanty troupe played at Truro in the new opera house in Danvers. Uncle John asked Beebe & myself to go with him, we went to Beebe's to supper & when she learned we were going she jumped up & was ready to go with us by the time we finished supper, then it was train time, & we rushed down to wait at the depot about an hour, but we were in good time for the Opera & I enjoyed it very much, there were several very fine singers, the scenery was very pretty & acting good. I was as familiar with many of the airs that I was raised back to my school days, how I have heard them sung & played over & over again! We reached home at 2 o'clock, came out on a special bringing the troupe. The new Opera house is a very neat building & much larger than the old one but is rather an out of the way place, it is on the cross street running down to the R.R. from Bailey's Drug store & right on the R.R., it would do very well if trains stopped near there but the depot is some distance off. Mr. Bracewell put up the building at a cost of \$22,000. I remember when he worked with his own hands in a little shop, now he has a beautiful store & large stock of glass, china, & hand ware.

I think I wrote you of seeing an notice in the paper that Mrs. Grigby was burned to death, that happened last Thursday week & not a line have we had from Fred or Harry since. I don't know what to think of them. I felt its my duty to write to Mrs. Converse, of course. I do not expect an answer from her. Your Uncle Ben comes home

Oct 26, 1902

yesterday morning, he & Lucy have taken board at the hotel in
Farmdale, he expects to handle apples on his own hook this winter.
He is looking very well. Oleg has made another move, gone to Dakota
this time, Lucy is much worried about it. I think. Berrie has had
2 cases of continued fever among the young ones in her house, one
was taken home, the other still quite sick. Johnny's little sister
- Ann Stokes, has typhoid fever, they have been in the room next to
them & are up with her a great deal every night. Now left her
little girl with them, she is as good & talks as sweetly.

We had only a card from Alvey last week, nothing from Waver, if
he writes once a month I believe he thinks he is doing well.

Mrs Harris expected to go to the Fair & Rainbow was to stay with aunt
Melville & Lucy. I wish they would shut up the house & come stay
with us.

Mrs Cobb was to have given us a review today to make up for not
coming the 2nd Sunday but he changed his mind & did not come.
There is nothing new in this neighborhood as far as news I must
bring my letter to as close, with much love to Maria & yourself

Yours devoted

Walter.