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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.

[1904?]

Chumbur, Mo.

Tuesday S. M.

My Darling -

I thought of you
all night quivering away in
the darkness (leaving wife
and Baby's father and
father behind, and constantly
wondered just how far and
where you were, if you were
comfortable and not too tired
to sleep well after such a
long fatiguing day. Last
night was pretty cold, but
Mr Childers came so we were
safe and comfortable.

Yesterday was a legal holiday
so I couldn't pay the taxes

and Mr. Miller has very
kindly offered to pay them
for me to-day, so he is going
down to pay his own paper
that kind. Mrs Miller says
she will enclose the letters
to her friends in this as I
will stop there on my way
down from this A. M.

The water and light man
came yesterday but Maria was
taking a bath, as he could not
reach the meter. As he could not
wait he said he would just
let it go on to next month
and it would be all right.

Two letters from Uncle Bill
came to you yesterday which
enclose Dr. Will writes him
that you are away and also
that he forgot to send that

I have been reading "A. & S." did it not easily? I think I liked that book better. The nights are
soon be getting so
long I will be able to
read a book at night.
a good deal if any
eyes hold out. Do
you know you may
trouble some of you
have been using
apricots to eat & are?
Bright is coming on & it
is getting cool on the
porch as good night
with much love
Your affectionate
Mother.

[1964?]

Now says your sweet, my receipt for some sweet butter
cakes & baked cashew. I cannot give you a measure for I make "by guess"
as they say, but I will tell you as near as I can. Sift the meat & put
in salt, pour on boiling water & stir until the meat is thoroughly wet
but not sloppy, beat in one egg & a little flour, say to a small cup
of meat a heaping table spoonful of flour, then with sweet milk, you
can soon learn by experience how thin to make the batter, have the
griddle hot, & turn quickly, or they will be dry & hard. If scalded
too much they will not turn well.

Now for the cashew, I usually take half the bottom part (I mean
from the neck down) of a medium sized cashew, take out seed
& scrape out all the stringy part, wash & put in a boiler with very
little water, just enough to steam it, until the meat is done, take out
& scrape all the meat out of the shell, season (while hot) to your
taste with butter, sugar & any spice you like, I use all spices, some
like nutmeg, or ginger, put into a dish or pan & brown in the oven.
An egg beaten in is quite a improvement but when scarce & high can
be left out. I forgot to say put in some salt. Now I wonder if I have
been plain enough; tell me how you succeed if you can understand
my directions. I was writing Ben of the Cashew story but did not say

the greatest thing about them is there is no heat to the cook.

I am trying to coax Harriet (the girl who milks) to hurry & get out her cotton & come cook for us, it certainly wears aw out to do all the work, unless I am through I don't feel like doing anything else & I should be making some fall clothes. Lucy & sister Sally have made a very pretty blue petticoat I think it is for Lucy, piped with white which they say is the fashion now, wears at waist on ^a single faced ordinary waist, it is very nice material for waists & only 75 cts a yard. I will get some for myself when I can go to town, & make up that blue calico I had when you were here, pipe it with white. I wish I had some one to sew with me, so much more interesting than to work alone. Turn to page 1st

[1704.2]

Durham, N. H.

Saturday evening

My own Dearest -

No letter arrived yesterday, but to-day I was made doubly happy by two of the sweetest of letters. Thank you so much, looking for the inclosure.

You are a "phrogan" to pretend to think that I write to you only every other day, and that because I prefer it!!! Sweetheart, you know that if my heart had its way my pen would be writing and inditing words of love each hour of the day to keep pace with the loving thoughts that surge within my soul. Dear Heart, your day, though filled to the brim and overflowing with work - are ordered by yourself and you are

as you will stay. So you see, you have only to make
your plans according to what you think best and everything
will be O.K. Write for supper, write your men & write the
H. Adams and remember I'm ready for everything and
happy any way you put it. Will you run over to Wellesley
while in Cambridge?

I am so glad everything is going nicely in Columbia.
Will Mr McKenney take a young bride to the Subtropics?

I do hope you missed the dinner à la Mr Ross.
Alice says that in Stora in Boston she saw a beautiful
Katyguinnian fish platter with the fish in silver on it
for only \$5 marked down from \$12. I am rather
tempted to ask you to get it. If its still there when you
are in the Hat of the Universe as I hope that Sam
which dearest Nance & Daddy gave me as a little present.
They are so generous. They also gave me a very pretty
string of gold beads. Isn't that nice?

I'll be glad to see the Harpers when you come. Do bring
a ~~big~~ ^{big} but you must handsome old Brown eyes!

I am reading a very clever story called "The Woman
Smart". I wish you could enjoy it with me. Also embroidering
the stockings of my gown of nice Leno.

I had to give Babykins five spanking last night more
to lose but I - might come so far. I find that children
are much easier in small families. She is a great flirt. What
are we to do when she grows up!!

My darling, my darling, I do love you - a ~~little~~
and with a thousand sweetest kisses and most devoted love
I am your very loving,

shop and write me a few lines
just when you will, but with me you
can well imagine it otherwise — a
baby, dishwashing, seventy-seven
children, names etc. Now, don't you
feel ashamed for ever pretending to
feel hurt?

Charles intends to leave for Georgia
Monday — day after to-morrow, to be
gone at least until the twenty-fourth
and in all probability until Sept. 1st.
He will pass through Newburgton but
at what time I do not know.

As I haven't given up the visit to Doug
and Alice for I really much will need
the rest as she has a nice girl, and
besides I think it will be very pleasant,
don't you? She and Douglas say that
we mustn't think of staying only so
short a time as one week, but that
the sooner we come the better.

Alice Parsons ~~say~~ she will be delighted
to have you any time and as long

1909 [67]

Durham, N. H.

Monday morning -

Dearest -

I have just given Babykins
her milk and put her to sleep and
will now answer the sweet letter
which I received this morning.

I know you must have had a
tiring trip to Baltimore, but I am so
glad that you have made ^{it} and are
now started on your clothes. Make them
give you a broad shouldered "effect"!
The samples you enclosed are very
pretty and I am so anxious for
you to get a business suit like the
\$22 sample. Don't you think that
the prettiest? I enclose ten dollars
which I want you to use toward it. Can't
you find the other three & give them and

can forget you! Oh you dear old Blues! If you knew how
I love you and think of you every minute of the day, dream
of you by night, go & sleep hugging the old hard pillow —
but no, I won't tell you for you are too conscious already of
my devotion and only ask those questions to be fishing. Remember
as your wife is too wary a fish to jump at such bait!!

How glad I am that you survived the June men! You
certainly escaped (?) a combination of concoctions! No wonder you
were tired. I do hope that Mrs. Moore did better by you. I hope
to answer her sweet letter to-day.

Yesterday morning Daddy, Ma, Leona, Lucy and I went
to church and heard Mr. Beard on home missions. I don't
say that I fully appreciated it, but it was pleasant to be in
the old church again and to meet the people in the informal
reception held after church. Mr. Beard's young brother is very
ill with typhoid fever — has been sick 28 days. His fever
gets down to normal and then they give him some jelly
brandy etc & up goes his temperature again. This poor Dr.
Grant doesn't know beans. I'm glad we don't live in
the country!

Albie and Chas took Baby, Lucy, Missella & I to
ride late yesterday afternoon and we enjoyed it greatly.
This country is beautiful with a quality of green or rather
green peculiar to itself. While we were at supper Mr. & Mrs.
Kirk came over & soon after Albie & Fannie. I went off
with the girls as saw my little of the Kirk family. Albie
invited Fannie & I to come on this evening & she promised
to prepare some wonderful cooking school concoctions

money by having it made now?
Socratic, it would please your series

21.
Let's not get any thing for Mr. Rich
until we reach St. Louis when we can
have it expressed from there.

As for bringing Alice any thing
Candy will do nicely unless you
see something pretty. I really haven't
a suggestion.

Charles left this morning at 8.15-
for Georgia & to give until Sept 1st.
so you see you won't be able to enjoy
his presence at the picnic board!
He really, though, has been extremely
nice since I have been here and on
his hot behavior.

What do you mean by saying if
you come? Do you mean that
you don't expect to come for Wiggins
and Baby Duggan?

And I think of asking if I order

[1909?]

are the shaping dish for us.

Do you suppose you will have time
when next you go to Baltimore to see
the Walters collection? Mrs. Moore can
tell you the days & hours when it is
open.
Poor Baltimore! It must be deserted.

Dearest you have my whole heart
too. I think if you are away from
me much longer I shall end by
idolizing you! Louise sends you
sweetest kisses. I wish you could have
seen her this morning when she was alone
with me in our room. She was playing
as ^{usually} by herself - playing on the
piano, with Cornelia in her arms
and then trying to make Cornelia
play. She goes out every day.

Are you writing down for future use
all the jokes you hear?

Mamma & Daddy - oh all send you
sweetest. I and Bert I am
heart and soul, your
lovers.

[1904?]

Columbus Mo.

Dearest Heart,

Must not as
Laurie says - I just do miss
you more than words can tell.
I just long for you & come
back. And yet no whole
makes yet! Are you having a
good time? Are you thinking
of your Dolly? I lay awake
pondering almost all the night.
Mamma says that instead of
being plump and rosy we you
return ill & pale and listless.

flavored it with rum, brandy, marachino,
and put marachino cherries in it. I said
I wished you could have some, but Mamma
said Oh his having plenty of good things in
San Francisco. So you are, I know, but you need
have liked a taste, now wouldn't you? Mamma
delicious red cakes & fruit cake with it, (which
Mamma furnished). Every body took a second helping,
so it must have been alright.

I enclose Mother's letter which came this morn.
Also your friend Miss Ferguson's. I also received
a sweet letter from Mrs Atkinson thanking
me for the handkerchief.

You received a letter from Mr. Catell
saying he would be glad to print your St Louis
address. There will be a little delay as the Philadelphia
proceedings have to come in first. I enclose his other
letter.

You see how little room there is in the
envelope for Madrie-Padrie, or Madrie!

To night at the University they celebrate the
turning of the University. Ever to that a curious
thing to celebrate? J. P. is going to address them. By
the way he says you debt get a lot of fibre from
the opportunity. I haven't had a chance to ask for
details.

Dearest do Precious I am heart and soul
your own I. Harvey Piers

Mr. Miller tells me women to
"cheer up" everytime he sees
me and says we are like him
"cheering up" as I guess
don't not skeleton yet.

We had a very good time
yesterday at mamma's birthday-
party. Mr + Mrs Miller, Mr + Mrs
Cumbford, Mr + Mrs Arkheemy
and Mr As sister, Mrs Dietrich
The Spaldings + Mr Brown were
here and Dr + Mrs Hayes
called + so did the Trembaines
with Grace but they wouldn't
take any ice-cream. My ice-
cream was dandy. I made
a quart of custard I add
to it two quarts of cream and

[1904?]

Sunday -

My dear

just a note to
tell you how I love you. I am
very busy hands & feet, but
heart, mind & soul are with

you, my dearest husband.
It is dear Mamma's birth-
day and I am trying to make
it a happy, cheerful one.
I am going to give her a
nice dinner and the after-
noon I have invited a few

went down town & stayed
out talking to Mr. Fortune late
& so made himself almost
ill.

I wish you could see Louise
to-day. She looks as pretty as
a little flower.

Mr. Cook of 829 W. 35th St
Los Angeles says he hopes you
will send him definite word
"of your coming that he may
do his poor best to show you
some slight appreciation of
your past kindnesses."

Now I love you dear sweet
as letter from "Wyo." I wish
I could tell you all that is
in my heart, but omitted & have
sent it on to you — read it.
Yours own ^{Wisc.}

people in. Mr & Mrs Jee
have just written a very pleasant
note regretting that they
won't be here and Mr &
Mrs ^{Walter} Williams can't come
either, but I think the rest will
come. I am going & have
chicken, cranberries, celery,
beautiful lettuce with Louise's
dressing, rice and peas.

We are having very cold
weather and I spend my
time keeping things warm.
Daddy has a dreadful cold
and deep cough. He came
home from Ashland all
right, but the next day

NEW YORK - NEW ORLEANS
LIMITED

(1908)
{ PENNSYLVANIA R.R.
SOUTHERN RAILWAY
WEST POINT ROUTE
LOUISVILLE & NASHVILLE R.R.

EN ROUTE

Dear Grandmother:

We have had such a
good time.

n- While we were at the ex-
position we saw the life-
saving exhibition. One
ship was pretended to be
sinking with two men
on board, the life saving
crew shot a rope across to

them some way with a little seat on it. One man got in it and they drew him ashore then they sent it back for the other.

After that they all went out in a boat and turned it over on purpose. They were all under the boat but the boat would not stay turned over because it was a life saving boat; it turned back again and the men came with it.

We went up in the dome of the capital and looked down on the city everything looked so little. We also went up in the monument and in the library, the Printing and Engraving Department, the Treasury, the Patent Office and the Navy yards.

We are now on our way home. We will get home tonight at 10

o'clock.

Your loving Granddaughter

Margaret.

P.S. In the Treasury
they were making mo-
ney.

The Library is such
a pretty building.

(1904?)

Prine - Viter, Alta.

(May. Friday Evg -

Dear Ben:-

We were glad to get you this morning - and yr. Mother has concluded to write to Maria - hence a double letter. How delighted I would be to see the little girl. & watch her various pranks - just at this age they are so interesting - do not forget to teach her to say Grand Father. & Grand Mother, & show our pictures to her.

You were fortunate in the opportunity to secure Mr. Ferguson to take charge of yr. house whilst you & M. are away this summer. But I hope you have considered well the precautions of Typhoid Fever - in getting a safe place

[1907]

In Liberia. For I well remember
to have seen a statement of
the severe epidemic of this
disease they had at Liberia
last summer or the one
before. It would be terrible
to incur an attack there
for your family - for either
member. Guard well that
point. - drinking water
&c.

Indeed I have been
to so many Exhibitions. I
fear another would be tedious
& irksome. I am sure for
mother could not stand
the fatigue, of the trip and
then the whirl of excitement.
I suppose she has exhausted
the every day. news, nothing of
much interest. 'Tis time for post-
man - Take care of yourself.
Affectionately M. K. K. ~~W. H. K. K.~~

Dear Ben:

[1904?]

I presume yr mother
has written you of her intention
&c in full. Now - I write just
to say to you that a note is
rec^d to this half hour's time
wishing me to go to Fanneshole
to see yr uncle Ben Thinge. ~~John~~
says Ben (his Brother) is taken
down like he (~~John~~) was last
summer - a partial paralysis.
Yr Mother & I intend going
on this afternoon's train ~~4:00~~
to see about him. Ben has
been complaining somewhat
for two weeks or more - yet
has continued to keep up his
constant riding &c. Since
yr uncle John's attack (who
is now fairly better) Ben has
had chiefly all the business
about the store & looking after
several plantation managers.

The hot sun & various exposures & fatiguing rides & toornies over retrenching the demands & expenditures of extensive planting interests - has exhausted a rather strong Constitution - yet you know Ben has a "build" physically - which predisposes to congestions & short neck - florid complexion &c. & a great lover of good things. When I return from Tams-ale - I will drop you a Card. Gr Mother is stirred up about getting Ben fixed for a trip tho it is a pull. As I have much to do today - I must close with love to all.

Yrs affectionately

Wm. Douglass



OPPOSITE GRAND CENTRAL STATION.

FORD & SHAW,
Proprietors.

Tuesday
New York, 1 P. M. 1904

Ma Mie

This, too, is just a word to tell you that I finished up Sunday as a full day, went to Bennett's yesterday and saw the mushroom habitat of this country, reached N.Y. at 8 P.M., and have had me constantly rushing round up.

Your dear, sweet letters of Saturday and the little note of Monday are both just enveloped somewhere deep in the folds of my head, but yet very present to all love's senses. I received them only half an hour ago, just as I went in for lunch, after

returning from a trip to
Montclair, N. J.

Unc. Bill is out of town,
and I shall leave either
at 6 P. M. for Boston at 11 P. M.,
or at 11 P. M. for B. - 6:45 A. M.
tomorrow, - whichever seems
most convenient later.

I am off now for a visit
to the N. Y. Bot. Garden, and
I hope to return in time
to see some seedlings.

My love goes out to you,
Dearest, constantly, in all
its fullness and depth,
and I am Always, with love
and kisses to my Babykins too,
Your Obedient
Son,
Benjamin.