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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.

Jack wrote me a few days
ago that there was
one other case of scab-
biness in the family, but
Carroll Bailey (Henry's
brother) reported yesterday
that Dorothy has it.
This is such a story
teller I don't know
whether to believe it
or not.

Oct 1st 1910

A longer time has passed
since my last writing than I wished but
I know you will excuse me when I tell
you that I spent 3 days this week at aunt
Melville's & another at Mr Harris' funeral
Thursday, yesterday I felt unable to write
you & today is not much better for more bad
news has come to us this morning - Green
Duggan died last night, we have no particu-
lars, Mr Jack only telephoned the fact. Your
Father & myself will leave for Greenboro tomorrow
morning as early as possible & be there for the
funeral, we can't leave this place at night
with no one on it, we will return in the evening,
a long ride for us old people, not feeling our best.
But I must return to my time with aunt Melville.

Monday in the middle of the day we were telephoned that Mrs Harris was critically ill, as soon as we could get ready we drove up, I found him very weak & breathing so hard, sister Sally was terribly nauseated from morphine Dr Moreley put in her arm for an attack of violent nervous indigestion, she could sit hold her head up, Lucy was lying by her as sick she could hardly get up but trying to keep up, altho Dr & Mrs Little, Julia & Mr John Harris were there & Benney & Lucy expected they wanted me to stay & I just could sit leave them. Lucy said they would rather have me than any one else as your Father returned, was to come for me next morning but he did not come until Wednesday, we reached home late that evening. Monday night the Dr (Moreley) & all of us thought Mrs H- was dying but he called, took nourishment well afterwards, & all day Tuesday, talked, & was able to sign a paper (a short will he wrote out some days before) As we had had little or no sleep the night before most of us lay down to

get some rest but just before 11 I was called to decide whether or no we should awake sister S- & Lucy. I went back to call them but before they could get in the room he breathed his last quietly, without a struggle. I had to come home with your Father, ^{Wednesday} ~~that~~ evening to get some clothes & he had run out of cooked provisions. I had helped make all arrangements & there was nothing more to do. We went to St. Michaels church where services were held at 11 o'clock Thursday, then out to the Cemetery & expected to come from there through the fields home but your Father thought best to accept Maria Brown's invitation to dinner & we returned to Haversdale & rested until the cool of the evening (it was a very hot day) Sister S's family went to Mr John Harris', in the evening I went by there & spend an hour with them. I wanted to see how sister S- stood the side. I found her feeling very tired but keeping up bravely. They have a dark future before them as many things to annoy them that I can't write but I enclose a note that will give you some idea of one of her troubles,

There is constantly worrying her about some thing
& a Mr Jackson on the other side who lives on
the Drake place, the places join & he wants a
slice on the other side. I hope I have not entered too
fully into particulars to be tedious. I neglected to
say Mr Cobbs officiated. He is looking very well
but so deaf.

I hope you are all well & not having such hot days
as we are. The cotton fields we passed through yesterday
were white, I was thinking what a sight it
would be to your children. I don't know when I have
seen such a crop. Grace Nelson & Hedy Wood
Mr Hadden are to be married soon & there is to be a
wedding in our neighborhood, Miss Annie Redding,
it is a home wedding, our invitation came
yesterday.

Mrs Powell remembered your Father Tuesday, sent
him over a nice dinner, I wish I had some way
of returning her kindness. I must stop now &
get up something for dinner, please excuse this
letter for want of time & all, much love to Maria
the children & yourself.

Yours devoted
Mother.

not - to spend a cent. of the
money for anything else. I don't
it - splendid that she could
afford to give Char. this great
pleasure for he has wanted
a machine for such a long
time & now could have afforded
to get one himself. He deserves
it - & will give many people
much pleasure with it. He
has not decided yet what
kind to get - for there are
so many good makes. When
all your dear people come to
see me I will be able to
tell you all over this beautiful
country - for it is beautiful when you

of stars. Really hot is the most
attractive place to me during
these days especially when
I don't see it - from noon
until in the morning until
eleven or twelve at night.

In the last two days the
weather has been most trying
as hot & the humidity so
great that it is more than
the hot days of July. It gets
on our nerves & spirit - long
for a cool change. Mrs.
Merrill came yesterday
morning to join the ball
evening for the girls & the

heavy work is not attractive in such
weather & the children come from
home as near as they can
that do not want to be in any way
with their old punishment & let
something pleasant that has come
to us. The first brother next door
is big & fat & school to get on with the
world. He says it is a big butterfly
which comes next door but a -
the house he could get a better
beginning of it. Some of the year the
school let him to get a machine and

0461512
This winter if I were you I would
let Royce wear the little flannel
or wool suits, instead of wash
suits. You will find he won't
take cold so easily and be so
much more comfortable. I could
get him the little union suit
like I get Rubie for $1\frac{2}{3}$ per suit
than a little winter suit for
\$2.98, and the child will be so comfort-
able. I had to do it for Rubie
when he was three for a house
is so much colder than a flat.
I am just telling you this

Mrs Johnson, then dinner in
the evening with Edith. At 8 P.M.
Jack came over with his
machine and took Edith, Ruth
and Milton Tail. and ourselves
out to River view. So I had
quite a day of it. I will call
on your friends on the North
side, the next time I go over.
Am sure I will like them if
you do. Tell her this is an
awful long epistle. Kiss dear
Ben for me and tell him I
wish I could have helped celebrate
his Birthday. Kisses for the sweet-
kiddie and devoted Grand kisses

me so much, but did not ask me
until she got here at 8 o'clock and her
hair left at 5 P.M. she and Theo.
said they would pay my expenses.
He did not say if he were married
or much. ^{anything} you could hear read his letter, you
are very honest. Don't tell Ben. about
it. Don't worry about me. I am not
going to mix up with him. Although
I would do most anything to get
out of this prison. Yesterday I went
to the North Side and had lunch with

Deanie to save you. I have
a little cap I will send Boycie
and if Rubie's little red coat
looks well enough will send
that. I am going to see what
I can get Louise 2 little
bloomer dresses for, shall I?
a red and a dark blue.
That will save skirts and
are so stylish. Alice writes
happily she has Minnie,
and expects Oreste and Leo
this month. I wish I had
gone home with her, she wanted

can ride around & see 61910 -
I have had two fine rides
this fall for one day here.
Smith took me to her
Auto. up to Concord & Petterfield
& to see the Canterbury Shakers
& then the Gills took us
to the Beaches in their
new Buick machine one
afternoon. I will give you a
Lobster dinner at "Hans" in
Portsmouth next summer.
I can not realize yet that
we are going to have a Car of
our own & if I only had a
good cook to get the meal while
I ride around I would feel

very busy spirit - did not write -
& this week forced home feeling
it - I think Church, might have
put himself out a little & gone
to see Agnes when he knew
she was having such a hard
anxious time. His fair weather
friends will stand by him
in time of trouble but they
come just visit him and as
they did one day last spring.

Did you know that Fannie
Kear has a baby boy? I do not
know how she got her as I
have not seen Mrs. Barnham
 lately.

Mr. & Mrs. Catts took us over to
Barnard's father's funeral

quite - set - up - like a real Lady.
It has just been decided that
Leahy is to be transferred
from the Boston to the Springfield
Office of Thompson, Noble & Co.
as Mr. Lovell thinks his chances
for advancement are greater
in Springfield. Shall I then
him so far from home
but will have to submit as
he is anxious to try it & his
father & Joe think it is best.
Leahy has made good in
Boston & is highly spoken of by all
the men of the firm for which
I am very thankful.
Please thank dear Emma
& send me your letter &

read. I am sure you - say about 500
+ and - her is better money. For dear
the certainly has had a hard time.
The whole life is centered - her two
children & if any thing should happen
to either one of them it would break
her heart; I am not all any one
that we had a home. By heart
husband & have her expectations
kindly met & who would protect
comfort - her always. What no other
that she was having any trouble & that
kindly - was not made as her best - little
to me had been cheerful & as I am very

last Friday & Bernard Oct 6, 1910
appreciated it as much. He
came & spent Monday night-
with us on his way west.
He is one of the most loyal
men the College ever turned
out.

I was much surprised & sorry
to hear not long ago that Dr.
Brinkland had been asked
to resign from Chocoma
Academy & the same season
he was asked to resign here
and that he left us deeply in
debt that his car of furniture
was attached when he was
sacked up to leave. I do not
know where he & family have

good servant to help you & that
you can get her when you
return to Ithaca.

I know you are enjoying our dear
parents' visit - & I wish I could
share them with you. It was
not so terribly cold up here in
the winter time & not so hard
to keep this big house warm &
comfortable should by them &
come to us after leaving you but
the cold is too great. I suffer with
the cold more & more every year
& I dread to leave the long, cold
winters up here. I would gladly
go south every year if I could.
Tomorrow will be here as soon
that I must say good night
& sweet dreams to my sweet-mother

gone to & I can not see the
tips of me see why he should
be in debt when he had
a salary of four thousand
dollars & Maria is self
supporting. She had a good
school before her mother
was so well & she taught
in Andover all through her
brother's illness. Dr. Sumner
ran through all his wife's
property in Middleboro some
time ago. It is too sad of
in some ways he is the
most brilliant man I ever
met.

Do you feel as if you had
been married nearly nine years?

It does not seem possible. The time just
over by is rapidly shot & Maria will
be a young lady before we are half way
to them that grow up. How happy you
will have a most pleasant visit.
in Alabama & that you & the children
will perfectly well. I think I am for with
some things and I am particularly
for them. I have not seen her in good health
of spirits. She said she was very good
of them. It is so much - a little more
with the yellow. I suppose I am. with such
you just - found - I suppose - in her before
you go now? How happy you have a

Oct 11th 1910

My dear Son

I am again behind time with my letter. I am always so busy & times get away so fast I can't keep up with it, to think of it being so late in October! You certainly had your hands full getting every thing ready for the opening of college work. So many students in plant physiology must increase your work & I am glad there are not desks to accomodate all who applied. Yes, I think Auburn is full & Fred has a great deal to do. I think over 600 enrolled at the opening & of course others come in later. Frederica has been out a week or more & through disinfecting given his room & the halls up stairs & down, no other case. I had a letter from him a few days ago. I feel for Marie having 2

girls to train but it is better than having none. I was trying this morning to get John Mitchell's girl to say she would come to me when their cotton is picked out, she came with a load of corn, part of John's rent. Oh! how you do have to pay for washing! I hope the girl will prove satisfactory & stay, tell Maria she will have to do as I do & not be so particular, let things go & save her strength. I hope she will be stronger when cold weather comes. If we were a little better fixed you might leave her with us to rest for the winter.

Lucie is certainly getting on nicely for one of her age. I don't believe in pushing a child too much, they soon have such heavy tasks at school. So the French lesson answers a double purpose, teaches her, & amuses Boyie. I expect he will pick up some words too. For Wavie's last letter he said he was afraid he could not be with us in Nov., but I wrote

to him yesterday & told him how much we want to have him, & that you are so anxious for him. He must Maria & the children, in fact all of us are. Reuben jokes me about my "bag daughter," but really he thinks as much of her as I do. No, he has had no more goats stolen but he keeps them near the house & grazes them himself twice a day. Maria was here this morning said R - was pulling his little patch of corn.

I think I wrote of Queen's death & that we expected to go to the funeral on Sunday, your Mother went but as Reuben came up Saturday night & would be here with me I decided not to go, the ride would have been so tiresome (36 miles in one day) & I was not feeling at all well. They could not keep the body, had to bury him Saturday evening. Altho he worked so hard his financial matters are in a bad fix & the family will have little or nothing. When he died Florence was taking boarders

& little Florence was to have gone off Saturday to her school. Poor fellow he had a comparatively hard life in the country alone, & died with only a little negro boy named, Florence kept the house in town, it was advertised for sale on last Monday. Mrs Blunt was a good friend of his & I hope he will help the boys, he is a bachelor & the youngest boy is a great favorite with him.

We had heavy rains Saturday night & Sunday & there was a cool change but now it is warm again.

We spent a day last week with aunt Pauline. Dr & Mrs Little were still there it is to be hoped they left before the rains, that is a bad trip to Newbern where they take the train! I feel so much for sister Sally, not only for the loss of Mrs H- but for her business troubles, times look hard, & dark before her but she holds up bravely. All these business matters are as new to her. Our home made lards

Oct 11, 1910

are changing hands, these places lately that we know of. A man from Ohio bought the Reese place near Van Buren & joining Mrs. Korrigan's place on the north.

Mrs. Conington & Bley bought some of the other Reese place, the one with the large house (Mrs. Reese as folly I always said) on the other side of that place & fronting the Spring Hill road, is what is called the Standwick place. Mrs. Bull bought that & will move as soon as he can put up "a shack" as he says.

We have an invitation to Grace Nelson's (Willie's daughter) marriage to Hollywood Ore. I fear he is a poor chance, would not study at school & has not worked much since.

John Wilkins gives his daughter to Newstead of Mobile, you remember John has been living there a number of years. Yours Father

has gone over to see Dr Will Barnden, we
heard he was in bed with the gout. Mrs
Powell is in Birmingham, I thought it
very kind of her to remember me with a
card.

When is Thanks giving? I believe the President
sets the date but I have seen no notice of
it, probably I am looking too soon. I am
thinking constantly of the time when you
all will be with us. I cant make any improve-
ments, or do much fixing for you but the
welcome will be all the same & I know
you will overlook it because I have set
the strength ^{or help} to do better.

It is time for this to go to the office, much
love to you all & kisses to the children

Your devoted

Mother.

October 17th 1910

My dear Son

Yours Father has gone to the depot, says when he returns he will take me up to call on Dan, a short & late call I think it will be as it is now half past three, but I have to go when the buggy is hitched up ~~or~~ not when I would like best. I intended to leave a letter ready to send you tonight but don't think now I will. I am sitting on the front porch, Dr. Will Beardslee has just popped in his cart driving as slowly as possible, has had an attack of gout & getting hurts his foot, he is a young man to have that trouble isn't he! Too much high living! Yesterday was our service day, I was rather surprised when a card came saying Sister Sally & Lucy would be over to church, just 4 weeks from yesterday they came, Mrs Harris with them, but he was too sick & tired to go to church, stayed here & rested. It must have been a great trial to them to come

or he whom he had to marry, have with them
but I don't say at home with them is as long, long
day didn't say how up comfortably, I think but
of course is not, is not. I hope this you have
written to her since his death, so many heart throbs
than have received 50 I think also said. I don't
know of them when we were there last week.
She told me that had written to her. They will
know so long time that winter, long & long, this
is not so much.

I was so surprised when I saw a few children
well but no dramatic gathering, but not home of her
evening. After her husband died in that she
decided to make that his home, against the wishes
& wishes of all his relatives. I think she must have
had a long time as at last she wanted to
come home. I don't follow it since her father has
no change, will need a house in Birmingham
for her, but not with her himself & get as many other
there does as he was. She has no one given in

sign. There is Mrs. West.

She was is sitting & your father has not returned so
I will not have any visit this morning but Mrs. West
says she will take her tomorrow. Your father & she
both will get Division Junction to some apartment
there & I will spend the day with Mrs. West, some
time with you father when he comes from the train.
This is the first attempt to write any letter.

Yet the children's great father caught as
premise a few nights ago. The dog had
some time at last he went out with a
lamp, found the premise in a chicken
box, he had killed one chicken, then some
I follow along in the box. You get as far of
clear large, took them out & shot the
chicken up, as feeding him but I don't think
he will need father him, he can't follow
any thing that is not far enough, especially
get over water. I feel there - I will have to

be starting early in the morning to get
through in time for your Father to meet the
train. I have engaged a cook for the time of
your visit, I think she will be very satisfactory,^{is}
one of Susan Scott's daughters & cooked for me
once, several years ago. I must decide which room
to fix for you all, the chamber would be rather
crowded with 2 beds, but I am so afraid if I
put you upstairs Boyce's might fall coming
down those crooked steps. Do tell me which room
do you think would be best. No more trouble to fix
one than the other. You know better than I do how
Boyce's can get about. I have heard nothing more
from Waver, wonder if Mr & Mrs Roberts are still
with you, if so I know Oscar is as "busy as a bee".
The Reading meeting comes off on Wednesday at their
house at 4 o'clock p. m. For a wonder your Father
does not care to go. My good neighbor (Mrs P) still stays
on in Weirymoor, (Fair &c) & I am missing
her very much. Much love to you all & a kiss to each
one of the children, I am so glad I will see them soon.
Your devoted Mother.