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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.

about 1913 ? East Aurora, N. Y.
Sunday 2. M.

My own Dearest -
We reached home

Friday night & found your
dear letter awaiting me.
I know how relieved you are
& how settled upon a place
and to be getting the most
ready. I telegraphed yesterday
morning to see the bank

room, not of your diagram
as the dining room.



That is the best solution I can
see.

We will leave here Tuesday at
8.30 P.M. arriving St. Louis Wednesday
at 3. P.M. I couldn't get honest
buthers on the 1.25 go either Tuesday
or Wednesday. We are all crazy
& get "hoochie" by you. I am so tired
with all this travelling around
and need the quiet & repose of
ordering my own life. I will be

so glad too & have the long trip one
for I rather dread it. I hope you won't
mind our coming early for I want to
see if we have \$30 & a hotel for a
few days or board somewhere for a
week. Put an advertisement in the paper
for a girl won't you please.

This is a beautiful Sunday & the family
have all gone on to Derby except Marion
& I. She didn't want to go, & I couldn't
stand the long auto ride. Boyce
& Irene went with the rest. Yesterday

I went in to Buffalo on the train & met
Blue who went in with Doug in the auto
& we lunched together. I bought a coat
& they took me to see "The Siren".
It was very pretty & light & we enjoyed
it all. Then we came home in the
auto. I was so stiff when we reached
the house that I could hardly get out
& still feel "all in" this morning though
I haven't a pain or an ache, just tired.

I charged the cost on Blue's account.

I will send her ^{about 1913?} the check
after I am in St Louis. I
have \$4.00 which I think ought
to get me there safely & if
necessary I can borrow from Daisy.
— I have just figured up & I will
borrow \$10.00 from Daisy.
I enclose a memorandum the
other presents I don't remember
what became of them.

I also enclose a communication
from Chas. which I received last
night. Keep it until we can
talk it over.

With all my love, Love,

I am your own machine

I am so glad the Swings
& Van Kleeck have been so
good to you. I don't want to see
anyone when I come. I can't
stand the nervous strain
any longer. I am sorry your
wife is an invalid but it
must be for my long absence.
Kisses is coming.

1913

11 A.M.

My dear Heart,

We have stopped
for a new engine at Oko-
lona. I do hope it will be
better than the last. We are
now $1\frac{3}{4}$ hrs. late, and an-
other quarter will make
us miss our Meridian
connections. Gee! think of
waiting there until 6 A.M.
tomorrow. Anyway we shall
hope. Boycie slept well

last night, although he a-
wakes early. I also rested
fairly well. I could not keep
my mind off my little
family left alone in St. Louis.
I love them all so much that
I want all with me when
any trip is made; but
especially Sweetheart, I can't
afford to leave Ma Mie, Ma
Bunah.

When Boycie awoke he
talked about Grandma's
enthusiastically, but he
could not help saying in

of importance, however. Popsie sends a "million" kisses to all the girls, and besides, sweetest, and the best of your old, Bing.

his affectionate way that "next time if we could not take all, we would at least leave one boy to look after the girls who were left!" He is busy with his crayons now, and is showing his workmanship to two or three in the car who have become interested in him.

Spring is far advanced hereabout. Dogwood, buckeye, and such things are in full bloom, and the 'incedage' is almost as if it were summer.

Do take care of your sweet self, my own Madie, and don't do - much less overdo. Don't worry about us, for we just going to have as good a time as can be imagined under the circumstances.

If you wish to look over my letter mail about the middle of the week you could phone and have Henry bring it out. Expect nothing

5236^a Watrous Cr.
St. Louis. Monday.

My dear precious Benjⁿ -
Your two dear

letters in my mind this morning
and we are all so happy to have
them. I am too sorry, though, that
you had the wait-over in San Diego.
Perhaps, as you suggest, a hang-over
would be worse, but I am happy
that at least you didn't have
both those experiences at once!

I miss you all the time, old
Peregrine, young Peregrine, & Smart!
and am looking forward happily
to your return when we can, if
not start the New Year together,
meet near its beginning & hand
in hand go forth together. I love
you more & more each year with a
deeper love and stronger and I hope
to become each year worthier of your
sweet love for me. — But then
if I become so divinely perfect I
wouldn't be worth while loving, would
I? I think I'll stay just like Sam!

Last night I sat up reading "If Next Year We
to be the Last Year of your Life" what would you
do? And you see how exalted my good
thoughts are! But then I stayed awake
almost all the rest of the night as Babykins
was now restless as perhaps its natural that
repentance cometh with the dawning!

Nancy didn't have fers, but her teeth
mourned her a great deal. Rapsie is much
better and I took him out for a quick walk
this morning.

This afternoon I want to pay some calls.
I see in the paper that Mrs. David (related
to Wilhelm Miller) father died yesterday.

Mrs. Bellman called up last night to ask
us to dinner Tuesday evening. It seems every-
body is going parties on Tuesday.

I had a nice long letter from Mrs.
Shilly this morning. She didn't say a
word about going abroad, but said Dr. Shilly
hoped to have his book finished by the first
of February & she hoped it would bring him
much fame & some fortune!

Do, darling, take good care of yourself and

Auburn. Monday morning

My dear Son

You will be surprised at the date of this, We came up Saturday on very short notice. Fred was with us last Thursday night & insisted on our coming home with him, we thought it impossible to make arrangements in so short a time but we went to work to do it, sent a note to Syd altho' we had no idea he would come. Fred spent Friday at Allen'sville planning for some experiments on Mrs Allen's place, stock feeding I think. A man will be put there to attend to the work. Fred returned to our house Friday night, left on the train for Uniontown Saturday morning, he insisted on our getting John Olley if Syd could not come, when your Father returned from taking Fred to the depot he saw John &

he consented to sleep on the place & feed horse & dog, at that late hour I had to straighten up, pack suit case, look up & be ready to leave for the 12.30 train. There never was such a rush & if the train had not been 20 minutes late we would have been left, we could not take time for a lunch even. I picked up some remnants of breakfast wrapped them up to eat on train. Fred joined us at Uniontown, we had only a short wait at Schuyl, but at Montgomery our train was more than an hour late so we reached Auburn at 7, instead of 8, quite an improvement on the old schedule!! Fanny gave me a very cordial reception, she had written to ask us to come. I thought I would let "by gones be by gones" & see the children once more. All of them are at home & all taking some summer work at the college. Frederick, Frances, &

Margaret will go to the Uni^{of} Wisconsin. Fanny expects to take them on & spend some time, hoping to miss her hay fever. I am sorry so many of the family will winter in such a cold climate.

The boys & Dorothy have grown a great deal, it is certainly a fine family of children to have been raised in such a "haphazard" way. Yesterday we went to the Baptist church as there were no services in the Episcop. parl., coming home a sudden rain came up & we had no umbrellas. Fanny made poor Father & myself get out at Mr Anderson's (where you boarded once) & she drove on to get wraps & umbrellas & come back for us, we thought it was only a shower & would soon be over but the rain poured down for about an hour & there we were thinking we were interfering with Mrs A's dinner hour, they were both very pleasant, she asked me several times to take off my hat & take

reach home.
I am better up
now we must
leave in the
morning of we
do will reach
home on the
4 P M train.
I must close this
to be ready for
the first chance
to the office.
With much
love to you &
yours
I am devoted
Mother.
P.S. - your last
writing.

dinner with them but I declined saying
"Fanny" would keep dinner waiting for us & fortunately
Mrs A's dinner was not ready. When the
sinner held up a little fire came for us.
After dinner we were entertained with
music, hymns after hymns, Fanny on the
piano, Frances & Ambrose on violins, Frederick
on mandolins, & Gwendolyn on cornet until
he was tired, & then he would take the
flute. It was very sweet music & we enjoyed
it very much. Mrs Camp, Ambrose & ourselves
did not go to union night services as it
was held on the campus & we thought the
ground too damp for us to be on so long,
sit with our feet on it. Breakfast is
ready -

As we are to stay so short a time I
did not request my letters forwarded,
hope I will find one from you when I

The effect transcended the means.
It was like a star suspended
from the sky.

To-day I have worked a little
on my box - relief from photos
played on the piano with Lennie,
+ took a walk with Babykins up
to the Herriek house. These girls

have not for summer school
and they say they had a
scene last night. They just
heard something, but I am
glad I have a Protector!

Wish you could come back
for the dance Saturday night.
But of course I know it is

impossible.

The Kundsens came & call them
afternoon and we had a nice
long visit. They are crazy & go to Sweden
what a glorious time we had there!

Oh do you remember only the expenditures?

Miss Kundersen is taking summer lessons
in Dage Lyng. It costs \$10 for 15 lessons.

See! everything costs, doesn't it! But this
is a place full of opportunities for
summer people. Some you'd like
to take fencing. Wouldn't you? Prof
Selas teaches it during summer

school - special lessons.

The girls in the "German House" are
singing & at various very sweetly at
this distance.

Along for the time when you will
be here. So get lots of work done now
so you will be willing to do nothing but
play tennis & golf with me & take long
walks & do all the things we are

crazy to do with you. Work hard now,
only don't make too hard and do take good
care of yourself. Thanks you so much for the
check & money for Mabel. You are a dear
prompt thing - person! Miss Emma Wellman
came & see us & begged me to come back & stay
to live. But I was obstinate. Told her they had