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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.

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Anburn, Ala.

Jan 8, 1897

Dear Ben

I have requested Mr.
Duggan several times to write
and thank you for the Christ-
mas presents, but he has
been very busy of late, writing
bulletins and preparing for
several conventions to be held
in Montgomery.

The children were highly
delighted with the caps.

They all dressed up in them
at once, and it was with
considerable difficulty that
they could be persuaded to
take them off at all, especially
Margaret. We appreciate all
the presents both those for
ourselves and the children.

Christmas morning we had
a tree for the children. Mr.
Duggan arrayed himself in
red dressing gown and
cotton wig and beard. He
made an excellent Santa

Claus and we all had
a very joyous time. The
children pulled all day
in balls, books, boxes, dolls,
large wagons, a foot ball,
book shelves for their own use,
etc. Later in the morning, they
received more books and toys
from Father and these also
gave much pleasure. They
are a merry little crowd.
Margaret is talking quite
well now in sentences and
considers herself ~~as large as~~

one of them, taking part
in their plays. She is just
as gentle and affectionate
as she can be, and is so pretty
now that she is plump and
rosy.

We have another little son,
born Dec. 29th. He is quite
large and fine looking for
his age. We have named
him Ambrose Camp which
was my father's name.
I did not know of Miss
Ann and Miss Parlaye.

JAN. 8, 1897

being at Cornell till you
wrote me. I have heard
since from Miss Cor. She
was much pleased and
speaks as if she would
like to return.

I was much disappointed
in the poems we ordered,
some for ourselves & some
to send away. I found that
Whittier and Lowell's best
poems were left out. I did

not look through the
volume or sent you, but
as it was the same size
as those we ordered for
ourselves, I suspect it was
true of yours too.

Dinner is ready so I
must close.

Much love from us

all.

Affectionately your sister

Yvonne Duggan

1898
Ansburn, Ala.,

Jan. 10, 1898

Dear Mother;

I am glad that
you received the presents in
good order and especially
glad that the bonnet fitted
and pleased you. Yesterday
I took Frederick calling with
me. He wore his kilted suit.
He is very proud of it and it
is as becoming to him. We
also took him to the Bondurant
wedding. He behaved beautifully.

All the children are so good
now that I scarcely miss a
nurse though I have been
without one since Christmas.
Margaret is beautiful now. I
wish you could see her.
Her eyes are very bright and
dark and she is as white
as can be, with rosy cheeks.
I am still nursing her,
but she eats some bread
and drinks half a cup of milk
three times a day. She is the
fattest baby I have ever had
and the best baby I ever saw.
She goes to sleep by herself.
Last night she had a frolic
in the cradle about one
o'clock, cooing & crying.

all by herself in the dark. She
can say ^[if interpreted - Editor] several words.

The children have almost
fired out doors this winter. I
have them dressed warmly.

They also sleep without a fire
at night, and have kept
remarkably free from
cold. Can't you make us
a visit now? I am sure
we can make it pleasanter for
you than last winter and you
would enjoy seeing the children
especially your little namesake
while she is so pretty. I know
you would enjoy hearing Fred's
lecture on ~~Ante~~ Washington
with lantern slides on Mar. 5.
I know he will do well. He

pleased about
a trip to Berlin.
With much
love to father &
yourselves,
Yours affectionately,
Harriet Duggar.

read me his bulletin on
Cotton a few days ago. It is
excellent, also the one on corn
just published.

We had quite a gay Christ-
mas. Mr. Duggar looked so
handsome and I think
you would have been pleased
with his appearance.

Freddie wants several children
to eat a birthday dinner with him
on the 15th. I think we will
have several if all are well.
When you come over, we can

Gallion Ala.

Jan'y 13th 94

Dear Ben: -

Since I saw you we have
had a somewhat busy &
eventful time. Many
things have happened, some
very disagreeable ones.
Chiefest amongst which
was the sad death of
poor George Wilkins, such
a distress to his own im-
mediate family, and his
many friends. He was
highly appreciated & stood
amongst the first of the
rising young men of
the city. The breaking
up of the bank was
commercially & financially
a serious matter to many

embellishing her mind and acquitting
herself for music in the highest degree.
I think she must have had some
vague idea of what was eventually
coming. It is reported in Selma
that it will disrupt the family. An
earthquake occurring in Selma could
not have caused a sadder outlook
or greater panic.

Since the first of January, John
Bro. Ware has been at home, & amending
himself bird hunting - minus the birds,
one day only, bringing home seven. Has
two letters here at this time.

Persons made of stone,
It is said there were a
good many widows
aged people who had
impaired health. Their
all in the "stock" of the
bank, Capt. Chalmers, was
however, settled with Chalmers
lost pretty much every
thing he had & his men-
relative proportionately.
His wife, Mrs. Peaslee
was formerly a Mrs. Peaslee
and one whom it took up
money alone to keep up
and their children are
brought up with the money
upward since. Their father
a daughter by a former lady
wife is a charming lady
& has recently returned from
Europe where she has been

My Brother Waverly was
with us for two or three
days last week, he was
sick & showed plainly
that he had suffered
with the "Grippe". Again
on Sunday he came
but still looks feeble.

I sent you some
papers which might
give the local news;
around about home
it has been exceedingly
dull. I was on a visit to
Selma one day & two days
in Decatur. Our relatives
asked after you. To day
we had an interesting
long letter from Alice
B. D. at Hall's Institute.
She inquired particularly after

So up she jumped & packed¹⁰ her trunk
 Away to March, — nor was she drunk;
 — With bahners, — decision full
 — The farm she left — nor thanked a soul.
 — From off her feet the dust she kicked;
 — For no one held — nor tried restrict
 — Such will of woman absolute, —
 But gave free leave. — Too took, too took.
 Hi Diddle, Ho Diddle, Hey Diddle dee,
 Ho Dick, Hi Dick — What Boy you be? —

We enjoyed the books you sent very
 much, — I have been reading with pleasure
 "Reveries in Clerical Life" by Geo Elliot —. Would it you
 have liked to have seen your Brother Rubea taking the
 Roverness to the train??? Good night. Yr affc. father. Wm.

5
 You need the other 1/2 of your
 wishing to know if you
 were married he or
 really polite letter, the
 seems to be fitting largely
 for a physician, and
 practice in several ab-
 bruciated, and is planned
 with her school and to
 advantage. I think the
 next thing we want
 hear from her is that
 she may marry one of
 the teachers. Her photograph
 she enclosed in a letter
 from Rochester. She certainly
 appears in fine health,
 and is almost afraid
 that some one is sick at
 Auburn in Grand's family,
 as my letter but we need
 your own come from them

J 37 She after pines Canal.

Hurrah for pines! Hurrah for green,
Mobile's Governor's race is run.
On business and for pleasure bent,
From City she - to Country, went.
On ducks and turks & geese she fed,
On nice fat hams and Cabbagehead;
Her taste to suit no one was able,
No matter what was placed on table.
Her brooding fancy soared afar,
And nothing pleased her as a far.
Quite off, she'd twang and sometimes bang
Some sales sweet; — (high tenor sang!) —
But young "Dede" had never what —
And she essayed to teach the cat!
Hi diddle, Ho diddle, — Hey diddle dee,
Ho dree! Hi dree! — What boy you see?

A letter from Newbury, Va.
May arrived as that he
is well & has shed a new
plumage. James is happy.
He has succeeded as parent
three times, and may be
your sweet father's daughter
is visiting the old house
and Bessie Stuart had
been at a frequent to her
sister's & evening. After
seeing to be attending to the
studies and noted good
often, a gentle reminder
convinced to see about and
every month.
But "the Catastrophe"
The reason, seemed at
your gentle spirit's to put
week, in the "cutting" of the
accomplished City Governor
and when the news came
to me last night — my heart
was floundering in the following lines:

boys she intends teaching
 music where she graduates.
 Well I must say good
 night, God bless you
 my dear boy, with
 love & devoted
 Father
 P.S. Wm says he will
 ride down as I will only get
 in Father's letter. That said
 they had been going to meet
 contact minute & make a good
 evening. Let's together, & visit
 Father & Wm were here in
 Father's great (top) table
 cent) stand my father with
 turned down tips, & white
 cover, they went down
 street, we about up to their
 the rest of the street. These
 evening continued about at their
 request, would let you like to see him

Your letter was gladly welcomed
 this evening & read with pleasure. I am sorry
 to hear of your indisposition but thankful it
 was not serious. I am glad you consulted
 a physician at once, it is much better to
 take proper remedies in the beginning than
 to let a complaint grow on. The trouble with
 us seems to be pneumonia, several negro
 boys died of it, each only a few days, probably
 your Father mentioned Dr Picketts death from
 the same cause. I am daily expecting to hear
 Benson has it, he takes so little care of
 himself, sleeps in a room without fire, the
 only one he ever gave fire in looks, as his
 bed is in the next room with door open
 between. I hoped to have seen Johnny & ask
 him to have the looks stopped. Now is the

times for your Father to go to Greensboro, if there was only some thing Waver could do around home & be with me at night, we might keep things going here & let your Father go & get into practice there, he might arrange enough to be willing to take a small piece for this place, or to put a good servant here & let him cultivate the lots & garden in return if he wanted to, if he doesn't go now, there is no hope of ever getting him off. Dr. Pickett had a large practice, the other old Dr. have pretty well given up practice, there are some young physicians there.

We were quite disappointed Sunday at having no services & no company, the roads were so good we expected sister Sally's family, Mr. Cobb, Mr. Waver & Pauline, I had a splendid turkey killed to cook Sunday, but Saturday night a rain set in that came down steadily until Sunday night, so not even Mr. Cobb could come, & you can imagine what the road is after another heavy rain last night, no

more trouble about water now, the lot well is up to the surface & pools all full, but we have not been out of water, only the orchard well was very low. Since the rain the wind from the west has been very cold & tomorrow the ground will be frozen I think. I expect all the chrysanthemums will be killed, they have put up their new shoots already. The white wax hyacinths are so pretty I feel like sending you some, but think they would hardly stand the trip, there are very few violets, nearly all died the long dry spell last summer.

I suppose your Father mentioned the departure of aunt Melville's governess, those children stand a poor chance of getting a good education. I had letters from Fred & Fanny a few days ago, think I must enclose them. I am glad they are becoming more like "other folks", in several respects. I don't think I can make them a visit this winter, don't feel like sleeping in that way off some up stairs, would feel further off than ever.

so nicely for all night?

as they sleep in the back room now. Last
winter I could hear the children in the
night, & Fanny poking the fire.

A new cook, she calls herself Marie Monday
but I don't see that she is an improvement
on Remy, if I leave her alone we have
several times getting meals, eat down to break
fast this morning at 20 minutes to nine,
fortunately we have had the turkey to
live on & it will last a day or so yet.

I am sorry to send such a dull letter but
there is nothing of interest to write, oh yes!
there was a fire in town Monday night,
Mrs. Morrison's house. I had a very nice
letter from Alice Duggan, she sent much
pleasure, when Fred returns it I will send
for you to see, Mrs. Lurie's 4 children live with
him & she has a little girl as with Alice
there are six in the family. She inquired

Millionella, Jan. 2, '97.

Dear Ben,

It has been
some time since Xmas. This I
have not forgotten your present
to me, which up until now
I have not thanked you
for.

I would hardly dare to
make use of it by putting
letters in it which I did
not care for others to read
while Sam is here, as he
has no scruples about
such things.

The last time I was over at
the station was just a
short time before Xmas.
Benton was going on 'a

visit home for about a week.
The Misses White were going
to leave this same day -
so he told it about town
that he was going to accompany
the young ladies to New York.

Loplace thinking it was true
of course put it in the Herald.
Miss Menona told me to let
you know when I wrote that
she and her sister would
be there to spend the
winter.

They thought possibly that
Miss Mary Brown might come
over to spend the holidays
with them - she as of our
Brown is in Boston.

Mary Prince is in Portland visiting
Miss Willa Maupin having been
there since before the holidays.
I suppose Mr. Lee written you

that Miss Collin Luzzier has gone
on a visit to Shire report to visit
Miss Fannie tho it looks like to
catch a bear as her admirer
have dropped off. Val has married
the other girl.

Walter best man I think in the
second one Fletcher. after the
marriage he stayed at Mr
Collins for a week or more.

I thought it better to make
the patent cover a larger
space, as the first papers are
being corrected the other will
be forwarded to Canada
soon if possible.

The change is a plain bottle
having cap or flaps which
when melted would fall
over on the glass circular
stopper fitting in the mouth of the
bottle upon the cork.

This last I think is simple
and easily made as many bottles
now, we could be sealed by the
process.

We are trying to get Hutton
to go to Tibet and start
to practicing as Dr. Bickel
is dead, then being a fine
opening for him. Suppose
in your next letter to Father
you say something to
him about it.

Must close

Yours aff. bro.
H. H. Hutton

Feb 8th 1897

My dear Son

Tomorrow (Thursday) is my usual day for writing but I must write tonight as my days are so fully occupied there is no time for writing, especially charming day. I suppose your Father wrote that we had no servants, are still in the same fix. Waver feeds, House milks, brings in coal & water, I cook & do as much house work as I can, a good deal goes on down. To economise in steps, Waver sleeps in the chamber & we take our meals in the kitchen, that is dinner & breakfast, it saves a good deal extra trouble in setting the table, carrying in meals & taking out the dishes besides an extra fire in dining room which we never could have made as warm as the kitchen in that bitter cold weather, oh, it was

terrible, I think I am tough to have stood it, and left with very sore heels, chilblains. I thought so much of you, indeed all my boys, so much afraid they would expose themselves & be sick. Have you had any more walks in as snow storm? better take care you might lose your way & freeze to death, we send of such things. The weather today is in striking contrast to that of a week ago, little fire needed, & the sun warm & bright but as the wind is east I suppose there will soon be some snow & then cold again.

Waver is having some sport hunting, was out till dinner time & brought 9 birds, One Mrs Fadden's dog he found him is young, but hunts well. We stuff & take the partridges & they are very nice.

I had a letter from Fred today, the children had been troubled with colds, with that exception were doing well, Mary Ann improving in talking & as lively as a cricket, he says she is the prettiest of the three. I wish I

could see her. He is very busy with his bulletins &c, your Father sends thanks for those you sent him. I will send two of them to Rebecca. I have not heard from him since & am except through sister Sally. We heard some how, that old Ben Schneider is very low, I should think Beebe would go to see him. I have not heard of Mary's return from Mobile yet. No letter from Lewis this week, I hope he is not sick, but am afraid he is, he will not put on thick outside clothes & take care of himself.

Aunt Waver dined with us on Sunday, we were much affected. Mrs Gibbs but he did not come, we thought as it was a 5th Sunday he might make up that one he had lost.

The Baptist church has been painted & has the windows in, the more they put on it the more it looks, not at all like a church. I had a long letter from Mary Jackson

200
I am glad to hear you are
well & hope you are
happy & contented. I am
very much interested in you & hope
you are well & happy.

yesterday she desired to be remembered to
all my boys. She sees it to have decided to
be an old maid & take care of the
family, I don't think they could get along
without her. She is teaching a small school
also, with that, & her house-keeping, she is
very much occupied. I see no one & hear
no news as this is a dull letter. Mrs
Bowler came home this morning did not
stay out the month in Birmingham. I
have not seen Miss Low since she left.
I must say good night, with much love

Your devoted

Mother.

My dear Tom
Dinner is coming in a smart clow,
expensive as short letter, with
love from us all.

Your devoted
father.

I am interested with
you, have 22 eggs
already.

Did Dad mention that
Mr James Ed. Will of
Birmingham & Mr W G
Clerke of Mobile are on
the University Board?
Mr Will is a particular
friend of Uncle Wm &
your father.

March 18th 1897.

When I left home Monday I asked your Father to
write to you, as I thought you would be anxious to hear from them
but he did not, as I must scratch off a short letter. I hired
Ed Scott, his vehicle & team, to take me Monday to Aunt Melville's.
I felt I must see Reuben if I had to run some risk in getting there,
the creek had gone down from the Saturday night snow & we got on
very well indeed, made the trip in little over two hours. To my
surprise I found R - sitting up a short while at a time that
day, Tuesday he sat up more, & yesterday a good deal, is improving
very fast I think, but we will not bring him home yet because
the mud is getting hard now & rough. When I last wrote your
Father had gone to bring him home on a couch but R - was
unwilling to try it, thought the move from his home to Aunt
Melville's was enough until he was able to sit up in a buggy.
They are doing for him as they would for an orphan child & we can never
be too grateful to them for their kindness. Sister I has two little girls
as help, one in the kitchen & one in the house as her time is much
occupied looking after & reminding them, she does wonders I think.
We went up for one yesterday evening in the cart with Annie

we came all through the Manning place, coming in near Lewis
Conways woods, we avoided much bad road & could trot most
of the way through there, so I am feeling rather tired. Cloudy weather
continues, we rather expected to be caught in a rain this morning,
but had none. Fred wrote us of the chair of biology at Tuckalee
& that he had written you about it, I certainly would be glad
if you could get the place. I am very glad you hope to make us a
visit this summer & I hope Fred & family will come at the same
time, it would be a real treat to us. Ruben asked your Father
to send the cotton, I hope you received it, I reminded him to fix
it up. I know the flowers all dropped their petals but he would
put them in. The snow falls today, it is as mild I think we will
escape the frost, but may have it next morn, the frost by that
time may be large enough not to be beat by a frost. We have bought
some fine tomato plants from Mobile but the crickets are playing
the wild with them.

If you wish to try for that place in Tuckalee perhaps Uncle
Harris's friends would help you - Omand Somerville is Prof or
assistant Prof, in the law department at the University. Support
Dr Little, Mr John Harris & others have a good deal of influence
with the board & I am sure would help you, perhaps Judge Somerville
too, I know the you understand how to work for a place if you
want it. Aunt Beebe is just out of a little spell of grip she
says & yesterday Ned will was in bed. Oliver will prolong here

Where land was sold of going but there were no special sales or special times & seats were from 3 dollars down to 1, he indicated the very popular would be too much for his prices. I was very anxious to know that Susan's little boy is very sick. Mrs. Love Brewster has been very thoughtful of Rebekah sends over so many nice things for her to eat, just over this evening to ask about him. Easter coming on the 3rd Sunday, Mrs. Goble will give us the 1st part of the 3rd Sunday, he will be next Sunday. I hardly think the Board family will come down, sends too much. This is a very interesting letter, there is no news. Nothing from Fred or Susan this week. With love from us all. I have devoted
 1897.

I enjoyed your last week's letter very much, it came after mine was sent to the office, now while the horse is quiet I will begin a reply. Wave is overcast of the road, is working it this week, we have dined at 12 o'clock & the afternoons are very long. Rebekah is taking a nap & your Father is out some where, perhaps having his horse shod. Rebekah improves very slowly I think, was not so well yesterday, & today seems to feel very weak, does not feel like walking about & it is hard to amuse him. I think he is low spirited about himself & I don't wonder at it, I am very anxious about him, fear he will never be strong again. I wish some of the neighbors would come to see him perhaps he would be cheered up a little.

I am so glad you feel as you do about the Tuckaloo place & do hope you may get it, your Father intended trying to get a bit of the trustees to send you but I expect by this time you have found out who they all are, you mentioned a good many. Your Father says he will do all he can to help you, he knows Gov. Johnson very well, if he has any thing to do with the minority. He will not mind writing to any one in your behalf. I know

Uncle Harris will do what he can for you. Just here I had to stop to give Reuben his lunch, I gave him one in the afternoon to keep him from getting too hungry for supper, then other things had to be attended to, in the mean time Harris came with your letter which I was very glad to have. The early strawberries at Mrs. Atherton's must have been quite a treat, I suppose they were sparingly doled out costing as much as they did. The few vines we have left have been blooming sometimes & I wish you could see my Malmaison roses, so large & pretty I want to send you some but have been waiting for the Marchial Veil to open, the first buds were imperfect. It seems strange to think of your having snow when every thing is so green & pretty with us. Your letter came so much grackled this time, I must try to find out the short route to send the flowers.

I am glad Dr. Mohr was so kind, if it is the old Dr I am sure he will help you all he can, it seems a change has come over Dr. Brown, I am glad of it, am also glad you are ^{at} enjoying such good cooking. I would like to secure such a good cook, down here all the old ones have "retired" & we are at the mercy of unlearned & unlearning youngsters, mine does pretty well the in cooking but is constantly talking of leaving & is so ill behaved it requires much patience to put up with her, it is now nearly dark & she has not come to milk & I may not see her tonight.

After supper - you see I am writing by candlelight, a very unsatisfactory way but the best I can do, I don't believe any one has as many

MAR 31, 1897

interruptions as I have. The cook did come back at dusk as I am
relieved on that score for awhile at any rate.

If we hear anything from the University we will let you know.
Tom Father says Bolling Duggan could find out anything you want to
know about the University & would do it quietly. He will write to
D. Little & find out who are the trustees & get their addresses. If his
friend Col Brook of Jacksonville is still one of the trustees he
can write to him for you.

I am much interested at present in getting up turkey eggs, have
three turkeys sitting & will soon have 2 more, and not doing so well
with chickens have only 5 hens sitting & get very few eggs, as many
of our fowl have been stolen. Rembert is troubled that he can't
be attending to his, & planting his garden, it is right bad. I
tell him to write to Mrs. Dollins, the young man staying there,
& ask him to direct the cook in such matters.

Did Fred send you a picture of Fredine & Frances taken in the
yard? It is a sweet little picture, their cheeks are as fat as can
be, I am very anxious to see them, I only come some time to look
forward to. I would like to go up in June if I could arrange it
in any way, badly as how I can.

None of us went to Selma to see Joe Jefferson in Rip Van Winkle,