



Hunt Institute for Botanical Documentation
5th Floor, Hunt Library
Carnegie Mellon University
4909 Frew Street
Pittsburgh, PA 15213-3890
Telephone: 412-268-2434
Email: huntinst@andrew.cmu.edu
Web site: www.huntbotanical.org

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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.

from that terrible drought, there must have been hail with it. I scrambled over a
thousand weeds as tall as I
am, this evening to reach the
garden (see on trees) the
first time I have been
there since red bugs came.

I found a good crop of
large saute, that reminds
me I intend making a
cube of brains for Fred
& I have a nice turkey
ready to be dressed tomorrow
evening for dinner. Friday

I wish you could be here
with me. I heard from
Beck Stewart again
last week, all our friends
were well, no yellow
fever within, with much
love. Yours devoted
Mother.

1898

James are about as dull as usual
with us, not much to write of, but I reckon
you will expect a home letter & you must not
be disappointed. I did not get either one I
expected this evening, that many have been
owing to the train being late & Wave did
not wait. Every day I fear we will hear
the trains are to be stopped as it was last
fall, trains on the M & P have been stopped.
Our state has guaranteed against Miss &
La. A good many cases have occurred in
Hattiesburg, one in some little place near
Merid now besides the many other towns in Miss
that have it, this morning we heard there
was a case in Columbus. I think I told
you of 4 cases at the A & M College, Dr. Bar-
row was the last we heard of, nothing from

These are the last two days. Fred passed
Gallons Monday evening, they had to take a
hack from Boutepou to Livingston as they could
not stop at York. Fred telephoned us today
from Demopolis on his way to Linden said he
would be here Friday on train but thought
best to stay only one day, did not know but
there might be some trouble getting back he
wanted one to return with him & Fanny actually
offered an apology for "whatever she said that
offended me" & asked me to go back with
Fred, I would like very much to see the little
ones but times & trains are too uncertain
now to be leaving home, I could not be content
there long.

Wave is getting ready to escort Miss Corrie
to the Casino Club, she is a rich girl "as
they say" from near Livingston, money is
the only attraction, she is under age & ugly,
is on a visit to the Browns, they will have
a cool time tonight, a cool change took place
last night, a blanket was comfortable, we
would be glad to see a frost, enough cotton

OCT 17, 1898

is already open, isn't worth anything as it would be well to have the crops shortened. Uncle Waver spent Sunday with us, on his way to Gassaboro he said, was to spend the night here & take an early start next morning, left here in the evening to meet a gentle man at Mrs Joe Collins' said he would be back in a little while. I fixed his room, made tea & waited supper until late but did not see him again until 11 o'clock next day, he came in saying "well, I am going this time sure" could sit stay to dinner now have his horse fed, but dinner time found him here still, he did manage to leave between 2 & 3 o'clock, it is a pity persons uncommon ways grow on them as -

Your Father reached home Saturday morning from Tunkaloosa, the jubilee was not much but he enjoyed seeing his friends, says

Bolling is doing as well, he & Ladies both like the change, their little girl is very bright & a great pet with Mrs Bayce, they board in the same house. Bolling will be housekeeping soon & Mrs Bayce's new house will soon be finished. I don't think he accomplished much in a business way, found the house much out of repair, Mr Somerville is to put out the present tenant, then repairs will be made & a new tenant found. Dr Little entertained your Father, already Lucy Melville has improved her days.

Yesterday Waver & myself started to Black John's, there was a dark cloud in the west but we have had so many clouds come to nothing we decided to venture, but before we reached Mr George Roberts the whole sky became overcast & the cloud was increasing so rapidly that we turned back thinking we would be in a storm before we reached home, it was right provoking, by the time Waver had put up the buggy the cloud had passed off without wind or rain, but some body must have had

Oct 26th 1898

Very dear Son

Your Father & myself
are having a quiet time tonight. Waver has
gone to the Enshie Club meeting at the
Pooles, & we have not even the evenings
proper to read the news. Your Father has
had one of his bad headaches last
night & today, & must be off
with nausea but is rather better tonight.
has taken only some tea today not a
mouth full to eat consequently tomorrow
he will feel quite weak. The night
is quite cool & the moon as bright as
can be so the Club will not have a
bad time getting there tho it is a right
long ride, about 8 miles. We have had
several frosts & feel that winter is coming
fast. Lennie writes they had a good frost
in Mobile about the 21st, all green
things had been saved & the city was

looking more lively. We saw by last night
proper that there were 4 new cases of fever
in Jackson. I suppose those persons had
it in their systems & felt that there
was good. Dr Murray said positively the
cases in Michigan were not yellow
fever. The Inspector General, was in
Mobile. I was rather dreading an
inspection of the Marine Hospital but
he did not make it. Lewis called on
him at the Battle House.

Uncle Waver dropped in this evening for a
little while. I wish you could have seen
him unload his cart. He wishes to
give Mrs Holton a dining, I offered to
assist in getting up the dinner & among
other things for him, but it may never
come off.

Monday Miss Lou Browder offered me a
seat on her carry to Tanna Lake, the

road was good & the afternoon very

pleasant so we enjoyed the drive, I sat
with Lucy while Miss Lou went to the
dress maker, while there Sister L. & Mrs
Harris stopped awhile on their way
from Uncle John's where they spent the
day, all went well. Lucy Lucy with her
14 boards. I intended spending a day &
night with Bessie this week but will not
be able to do so. Monday I stayed home to
have my potatoes dry but Lewis did not
come. Tuesday I sent for him & he dug &
barked the large crops, 2 barrels. I never
saw such a turn out but with dry
weather & little work could not expect
much. Today Waver was going to see
Annie & tomorrow or next day he has
some plans so there are many drawbacks
to my visiting. Saturday I will leave Mrs
Hatch & Minnie to spend the day.

There are a great many vehicles
passing tonight I think all the darkness

in the country must be dining up to
"Mrs Scotts" to see the wedding fixings, or
perhaps they are having a rehearsal at
Bethlehem this pretty night. I think I will
run over in the morning take my cake &
see their arrangements, they expect, or hope
some of their white friends will partake
of the wedding dinner, six turkeys other
meats in proportion, cakes in quantities
& ice too.

Your Father says did you receive a little
pills box with some bugs or insects in it,
he was anxious to know what that little
black fly or gnat was.

Thursday - I did not finish my letter
last thinking I might get over from
you this morning which I did. I was
very glad to hear from you. We
enjoyed the evening, the drive was not
so cool after all he said, refreshments
were nice, oysters & coffee, cake &

OCT. 26, 1898

School other. Mrs Scott sent for me this morning to see her preparations, the bridal dress on, the "white folds" are imitated to the smallest thing & it is surprising to see the taste displayed in the dresses, & the number of presents to the bride, a large table full. Flower girls & candles becoms come into the programme.

Tom & Alice is here this morning, has just taken his breakfast (12 1/2 o'clock) I expect to drive him this evening to see a very sick patient at the Wheeler place, I he will hitch up for us, Uncle Waver sent him up to work on the square. I hope you will be able to read this writing I used blue paper & pencil because it is easier on my eyes. Dinner will soon be ready so I had better stop, with much love

Your devoted Mother.