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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.

interesting letter will put in
very last to make up for
delinquencies in mine. Because
a mistake about bathroom boy
I have intended to
write, Maringo, bathroom
is a town on the R. & B.
R. R. With much love
Yours devoted
Carter.

I have our kind regards
to Mrs. Binton, I suppose
he is hard at work by
this time.

January 11th 1898.

We are in the midst of a most unpleasant spell of weather,
have had quantities of rain, a cloudy, misty, day with an east wind, you
can imagine what it is, but I was so tired of the house I went out
this evening for a walk on the lots on the grass, tonight we have a
good fire & having everything closed up are quite comfortable tho' the wind
has a mournful sound & I fear will bring more rain, the plants will
have a time getting plowing done if this keeps up. Of course I keep
close at home see no one but the Boudiers occasionally, was over there
Monday evening, Miss Low has not returned from Birmingham, Mrs. Garber
came yesterday morning in a terrible rain, got off at Gulliver because the
road from Fannetts to her house is almost impassable, from her
mother's she will take a wagon home. Mrs. Boudier came very sad at
Fannetts' death but Louise Garber rattles on as usual, amusing herself very
much with Hattie Kings' catch, she advertised "for a man" Louise said,
correspondence began, pictures were exchanged & last week he came to see
her, a finely dressed, handsome bar keeper from Birmingham, of course the
rumor is they will soon be married. She must have been hard run
for some time I think, of course it began for free.

Sunday afternoon Uncle Waver dropped in for a few minutes but he

spent the night ^{last} not a soul in his yard. I he has gone to farming at
New Chapin's as the "Squire" as his own cook & hostler. I really think it
wrong for him to have no one in cell, suppose he should be sick what would
he do? "Waves" was with us Sunday, has made no permanent arrangement
with Bob yet, the latter wants to get a cheap man who will work for
10 or 15 dollars a month.

Did I write you that much to our satisfaction Lewis has given up the
idea of entering the U. S. Service? Will be home the last of the month for
a visit to us before settling down to work. The Surge & Boardman Infirmary
(in Mobile) is finished, I wish Dr B- would offer Lewis a place there, he
will be in charge, but I suppose one man will be sufficient for some time to
come. Fanny Sprague wrote to your Father a short time ago, she & a friend
have a dancing class, says it is harder work than working a garden & not
very remunerative. No recent news from Fred.

Now, is there any thing I can do to help you get ready for your trip? I know
you buy ready made underclothes, but would you like to have some night shirts
of flannel or outing? I know nothing of the climate of Germany but imagine
it is cold & you might have use for them, if you think so let me know &
give me some idea of the length from neck down. I have one of your
old day shirts that would be a guide for sleeves &c.

You did not say whether you read your paper before the meeting, I looked in
the Transcript of Jan 1st but there was no mention of the proceedings.
I hope you are entirely over your cold. I wrote this for last night, hoped
to have a letter this morning but the mail has not come, another cloudy,

We very much enjoyed the long fore for us about two
 days since very morning & was
 a very pleasant little fellow but
 too small to do any but light
 garden work. I don't think the
 one we have with stay long.
 I long to be out there where
 we will need only a couple of
 boys could be kept at a
 busy table & one might
 have a little more comfortable
 life. It is getting later & more
 dark; with much love
 Yours devoted
 Mother.

I am 12th 1898

Waiting time has come round
 again but really there is nothing to write, times
 are duller than ever with us. Wave keeps very
 well, has not been able to go to Gallon since
 his return home, your Father goes every day
 but if he hears anything keeps it to himself.
 I think Wave seems a little better today, has
 moved about more. We have had several warm
 days, first hard by needed night & morning I
 took advantage of the pleasant weather to
 work some in the grape, try my up, & then
 -ring, first many vines dead. A rain & quite
 a wind drove me in this evening, now I will
 have to wait until the ground dries off before
 I can do any more work, but ^{your} Wave did most
 of the trimming, some say we will not have
 any more cold weather, makes have been

seen out, & that is an unmistakable sign
of winter being over, I wish I could think so,
and not such a believed on signs. The planters
have had a "good time" breaking up their
land, they say it is an splendid order for work.
Rumbers was with us Sunday, says he is
comfortably fixed in the cabin on the Hoama
place, a porch back & front, Hoama Russell to
work for him. Sister Sally & Lucy went over to
grate up papers on the walls, (they were once
lined with news papers but had fallen off) they
carried some pictures which they tacked up &
of course a basket of eatables. Yesterday R - sent
his wagon for oats to Mrs Collins' Wahoo place,
I put on some preserves, butter, sausage & as
they passed back, they also went for the
table Mrs Wane gave him, extensions!!
won't he be set up!

I don't think I mentioned in my last letter
the fire in Laneville, New Dakota store house
with 800 bushels corn, 1000 of cotton seed &
3 1/2 bales of unginned cotton burned Saturday
night week. It was with difficulty the store

JAN 12/1898

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across the way (Bessie's) was kept from burning, it contained all Mrs Smart's corn & cotton seed. Bessie has returned from a pleasant visit to Minidocum to her aunt Mrs Dabney.

I had a letter from Lewis today sent me the enclosed clipping. I feel proud of the honor conferred on him but it will add greatly to his work, he seems very busy, has no time for anything but an occasional call on some friend. I had also a letter from Mary Jackson thanking me for a 4th miss remembrance & later a letter, said she was so glad to hear about you all, where you are &c. Temple is much pleased with Danopolis, wishes to make it his home she says.

I am trying my best to get your Father to try to sell this place to Mrs Davies for Jovina as he will take charge of the Gallion store in May. There is only one D of the old school as Lewis

says in Greenboro & I believe he would do well
there or in Tuckaloosa either. I believe I would
prefer going to Tuckaloosa for I think New House
will go back there.

Bob has not decided what he will do yet I
would be glad if he would take this place but
I don't think Susan encourages him to leave a
home, she doesn't want to leave her mother. The
idea of taking the "Florence" has exploded.

Mrs. Wren sent you such a long message I thought
I had better enclose her letter, hope you can read
it, some of it puzzled me.

Mrs. Low leaves tomorrow for a visit to Birmingham,
I will miss her very much. We have a sun-
house girl & boy about the lot & it keeps me as
busy to show them as it does the house work myself.
Did you read a piece in "Reith's Readings"
"Boys around the house"? It reminded me of
how you & Waver did when you were boys.
No more news from Fred since the arrival of
No. 4, poor fellow I reckon he is near to death, I
wonder how much time is left on his hand -
We want to get in some news now that we have

7.M. JAN 17, 1892

Columbia Institute.

My dear Mr. Duggan:

"Jolly
times in this old town"
are rare for a while.
at least, and you are
the first to profit⁽³⁾ by it.
I shall try to get some
excitement now by scripping
with you. it is such
fun.

It is so good of you to
keep me posted about
the weather, else I should
think this the only place
of clouds, we have such
a quantity of them. They
have one redeeming
feature, when they are
not sending down
torrents of water, they

are married in
wonderful groups.
Of wonderful forms,
I should be so happy to
be caught up and drift
along with them. Oh!
for just one good snow-
storm.

Happily you are now
in a more cheerful

mood with the weather
and life in general. To
meet a number of men
interested in the same
subject with you, is certainly
a rare treat, and I know
they found your paper very
interesting, if you think
the title would mean
anything to the uninitiated
I wish you would give
me the subject. I am

JAN. 17, 1890

curious to know, whether
you are really working
on your thesis or whether
you have given up
the idea of a doctorate,
for a time. To finish
up school subjects, our
half-yearly exams begin
to-morrow week. Some of
the girls are working
themselves into a nervous
fit. I don't see why they

should, I'm not at all
worried about them.

By the way, Mr. Shoups
said she hoped I should
be with them next year,
which does not seem
probable to me. To tell
the truth I want more
advanced work and
which is of importance
alas, an advanced
salary. Where there are
to be found is still
an unknown country to me.

Three days before Mrs.
Mr. Shoups married Miss
Howard. This was the
greatest excitement we
have had. The ceremony
was performed in our chapel
which was very prettily dec-
orated in white and green.
a banquet and dance
followed, the last you
may imagine I enjoyed.
The Southerners I find
are, as a rule, good
dancers, this before I

tell you what I don't like
about them - . The bridal
pair went to New Orleans
for the holidays. They left
in some confusion owing
to the choice of rice, ~~rice~~
and other things suitable
for such occasion. One
of the men very neatly loaded
Mr. Shou's umbrella, and
another tacked white
brows on the trunks after
they had been lifted into

JAN 17, 1892

The baggage car. Mr. and
wife have returned
and have taken up life
in a quiet, sensible manner
for which we are thankful.

Speaking of like subjects, I
am surprised to learn that
Mr. Pillsbury and Miss Nichols
are engaged. Who ever would
have thought it! How progresses
the engagement of Mr. M. &
Miss R.? Mr. Austin's seems
just as far away to me as ever.

During Xmas week I attended
my first German. It was
given by the Club at the Club-
house which is not as
large as the Town & Town,
and is carpeted, or rather
the floors are, so we danced
on ~~crack~~, nevertheless I
manage to enjoy the evening
very much. Since then
I have attended a second
German at the same place.
In this way I have seen

a number of the town
people, especially the younger
people, and I must tell
you that I am not very
much taken with the
masculine gender. ~~half~~
This is probably due to
the superior society of the
Graduate Club and the
T & T. to which I have been
accustomed. But really
Mr. Duggan, when the
fellow saw I did not care

for compliments or love-making
they had nothing to say. This
with two or three exceptions.
My escort was a Princeton
man so he understood me
better than the others. I like
him as well as anyone
I have met here, and Laura
had the opportunity to see
more of him. He drives a
beautiful little horse, whose
acquaintance I have made.
You would be amused to

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know of what interest I have
become to "society," and
that the girls have explain
the meaning of the word
"sweet-heart" to me. It is all
very amusing to me, but I
fear it may become embarrassing.

Last night Mr. Baskell of
Lewance gave a musical
at the Institute. He had
a beautiful violin and
played prettily well. It is
quite a treat to hear some

really good music. at
the theatre we have had
nothing to speak of since
Otis Skinner played Prince
Rudolph. The Bostonian
was in Nashville last week
but alas, Columbia is not
Nashville.

This week "Hugh Wynne" comes
to me, and I anticipate some
delightful evenings. "Two
Vadis" was charming, you
have read it I suppose? "The

"Story of an Untold Love" by Ford
I liked very much. Last week
I read "The Descendants", do
you know who the author is?
The story was a very painful
one so I didn't care much
for it. Does this leave
you any time for reading?
Our "Browning Club" is not
very enjoyable to me. I
don't like to have my
favorite poems picked to
pieces and analyzed. do

you?

Curiosity made me fear
the "Duck" picture at table,
where I almost disgraced
myself. I don't half believe
it was a really truly duck
at all, but how interested Mr.
Durand is in the fore bird.
That is a very good likeness
of the duck I think. Please
accept my thanks for the
picture and will you
thank Mr. Reed for me.

I have a curiosity in

JAN 17, 1898

another direction, which makes
me write a fifth sheet. Do
you mind telling me of the
reputation you have received
at the hands of a "girl at Sage"?
One of your reputations amused
me exceedingly, and will
amuse you. Did you ever
know Mr. Duggan that you were
a "clever flirt"?

Miss Green, isn't it strange
that thinking of Mr. Reed should
suggest her name - wrote me

It is not too late, I wish
to give you greeting in the
new year, and thank you
very much for your kind
letter.

Very sincerely

Anna L. Wagnerschnitz

Sunday Jan. 14, 1895.
11. 1. 2. M.

a delightful letter from
St. Augustine, where she spent
her vacation. She seems to
be enjoying herself as much
as usual, although she
complains sometimes of
"Comelbschmerz". She wrote
of returning home via
Sarasota. If I return home
immediately after school, we
shall probably travel part
of the way together.

yourself for as you say you have
lived a very independent
life when you feel the
need of sympathy, & when
I tell where, we are always
ready to support. We hope
of very much understanding
you, the great trials & say
family seem not to worry
about me.

While I am writing there is
a storm coming, thunder &
lightning, winds and
rain. I think we
may look for a cold change
after this. We are pretty
well at present with accounts
now. I have a girl in the
house, 1898 & I have a son but no
have one of his little boys is
just & his height, for it

This is a dark, dreary afternoon, a
high east wind, & a fine rain, not conducive to
good spirits at all as I fear my letter will be
dull. We have had so little of our real sunny,
winter weather, that I am afraid we are afloat
as little real cold weather I can't realize the winter
is half over.

I was glad to have your letter the day mine was
mailed, and every your duties are added to for
you seemed already busy enough. I don't know
which has most to do, Lavinia or yourself, but says
he can't see how he is to get through with his
studies, & the Valedictory too. If I had been in
his place I would have prepared for the Valedictory
last summer when he had as little to do. He
expected to get it. I am sure from what he said

to me. He will pray deeply for this honor, this paper
seems to think it quite an honor, I have seen a
notice of it in four different New papers.
Bessie Stewart said she wanted to write & ask
me down to Commencement, Lucia said "but
don't make your arrangements until you know I
will get through," I have no fears on that subject.
I had a letter from Fred this morning, the "new
baby" as the children call him is named for one of
his grand parents Fred said, Ambrose Camp, as
they show great fondness for long names I
suppose he will be called Ambrose. He is larger
than the other babies, as I hope he will be healthy
& strong if they give him enough fresh air & food
to sustain him. The other children are well, Fred
has attained the great weight of $34\frac{1}{2}$ lbs, Mary
24 lbs, he says they have enjoyed playing out all
the mild weather with their wagons & foot ball.
Fred & several Profs went to Prussia to revive
the New Age Society but it was crushed by the
politicians, he said he felt quite out of place as
there was no specific talk about Age matters.
Just here I had to stop & strain some land

JAN. 19, 1890

smaller than those but seems very fruitful to her work & is sweet & good. I wish I could
 have been in the
 during some. We had
 a boy of 16, but I got
 one day. I am quite
 well again but I
 don't think can do
 much travelling now
 on account of bad
 cold. I don't
 think there is any
 virus is good right.
 with much love
 Your devoted
 Mother

that would not get done with the dinner fire.
 I may as well tell you how I came by it. Day
 before yesterday I had just fixed my self up with
 inches rubbers, strings & clippers, to finish my
 tying up & trimming in the grapeyard worked about
 5 minutes & I heard some one say, here is a
 hog. Mrs John brings sent you. I looked up & there
 was a boy on John's horse with a fine fat
 hog already dressed. I came in to have it put
 up & write a note of thanks, your Father happened
 to be here, so he turned in & cut it up & we
 sent Lewis to salt it. I cut up head & sausage,
 & today ground the sausage & put most of it
 up, it is as nice I wish you had some, as you
 see the grapes will have to wait for another
 good spell. I made a mistake it was yesterday.
 he sent the hog from the Boddie place. I felt
 right badly to accept such a valuable present
 but am enjoying it very much. fat hog must

is so much better that the three little things
are killed. It is too dark to write I cannot finish
after supper.

Last week & this week there is court in Chambers
a good many cases from around here were on the
jury or had some cases to look after. Rainbow had to
go up Monday. Uncle Waver spent ^{night} Tuesday
of Monday with us he seems to like to drop in at
night now as I keep the chamber bed ready for
him.

About the last part of your letter Ben, I meant
no harm in the world by the remark I made, which
you thought as ridiculous, of course I did not
expect it to reach you & as we knew why it
should have been repeated, and easy it was for
two reasons, it worried you I wish & Louise may
have thought hard of it too. I must have been
thoughtless that you heard it. I ~~do not~~ ^{do not} wish to
wound not intentionally any any thing to hurt her for
I have always thought she had some fondness for
me & I thought more of her than any of the
family. Now every I wrote this letter, she that I
made the remark so please try & forget both.

JAN. 1, 1888
P.S. I could not get my
letter off in time this
morning so I add a little.
It is now new night.
Uncle Wm., Louise & Fred
came up to dinner. Louise
Garber left an invitation
here for Louise to dine with
her at Mrs Browder's as she
went over, has not returned.
We drank the health of
our absent boys and some
of Mr Benton's wine. It is
very cloudy & a raw east
wind blowing, I am afraid

we will have food
weather for the reception
I believe I told you what
I am to make, with the
provisions, large glass bowl,
sautéed &c I will have a
tongue of beef. With love

Your affectionate
Mother

Thanksgiving evening.

A letter from Lennie today
says the College did not
open Monday & the dean
says he can't ask the young
men to come until a killing
froze so that may come any
time I - thinks it best to
remain in Boston but I

two studies

Jan 26th 1898

My dear Son

We have just finished dinner (not simple enough to suit you, a tender cornish chicken, cold chicken, rice & sweet potatoes) & I will begin my letter hoping to get it off tonight that it may reach you before your usual time for writing, maybe I can send some violet too, have been wanting to send but there were few certain chances to the office in the afternoon & that is the best time to send as they go straight on.

Your letter came this morning, I was glad to have it, also one from Lavinia, am glad to know one bulletin is off your hands & that you have spent some pleasant evenings in recreation. I think you are wise to say another year you will ask certain limitations to your work, as nothing worse will always be called on unless some such agreement is made. When do you expect to finish your Harvard course? is it that one thing

that helps to keep you busy? Miss Warr was willing
for you to answer her questions in a letter to me &
save you the time & trouble of writing to her.

I hope you will enjoy the meeting at Rochester today
& tomorrow, & that the day is bright as with us.

After the heavy rains Monday & yesterday a cool change
has come but not really cold, as first we have had
only a few cold days this winter, not enough to kill
out yellow fever. The Miner's Herald a few days ago
reported 5 cases at Edmunds, we heard from other
sources that there is still some fever in N. O. & Mobile.
Lewis doesn't say so. I think he is going to work on
the Caladistoy & be through with it before examination
times come on. He dined Sunday at Mrs Kirkbride's
by Bessie's invitation, she had much to say of her trip.
I think this is Evelyn Gazequet's wedding day. Mr
Gazequet wrote begging Uncle Warr to go down & spend
some time, said "you know Warr I will feel bad & I
want your company". Boston said he could not go it
would be too expensive, the trip, as now suit to
appear in, & a bridal present would be more than
his purse would stand. He has had to come forward
& pay up Mary & others to keep Mary as long as

JAN. 26, 1898

creditor from administering on the estate. Miss Garguet is to marry Judge Ferris's son of N. C. I expect the they sent you an invitation. I don't hear of any marriages in these parts, nor any news at all except that Mrs Stewart's side won the case, which means, the will, can't be contested, & they will soon get their legacies, Mrs De Boer I suppose will get her 2000 which should be a great help to her. We are all so glad for Mrs Stewart & Miss Mary, they have had hard times struggling for a living, now with good management they can be comfortable the rest of their lives.

The Capt is improving still, Mrs Lewis Foster has charge of the office, says the Capt can go down & help all he wants to when able to be out.

We had a dressed hog, & 20 live chickens sent us this morning by Mr Adams in payment of last year's medical bill, said he could not get any money out of Mr Charles Collins & that was all he had to pay.

Your Father took Colman (our little brother) & the house
girl, sent out & killed the hog, & we will sell the
chickens if we can, this makes 10 small hogs we have
put up.

I hoped to have spent a day this week with Sister
Fally but the recent rains have made the road too
bad for a single buggy. Mrs. Leach went up after the
cows yesterday but her horses are as large & strong.
The farmers have done a good deal of plowing, with
rich winds as we are having the ground soon done
off. I have not seen Benbow for some time except he
is watching his plow, with the business of the two
places he is kept pretty busy.

Waver is right well again, waiting for good roads
to start out tomorrow, I would take the R.R. & leave
places now, the buggy, & small places later if I was
kind, but he is so very busy to make money it seems,
of course I am very glad he is satisfied to be here, he
is company for me. There is nothing of interest to write
so I will say good bye, with much love.

Your devoted

Mother.

Dear Ben! - You can imagine how we
have suffered from the excessive rain
when to get to Omphakia every one has
to go by way of Spring Hill. - Mr. Gault
came down from Tacoma one yesterday
all the way high up on Prairie Creek.
The bridge at French Creek on the Omphakia
road is so dismounted by the floods &
back water - no one can pass. I had
the large Prairie Creek bridge washed
up & carried out of its foundations. I had
smaller bridges this side washed
down into Mrs. Orlin's field. From
Bob McEadden's house on the roadside
looking towards the west (back of his
house) there appears an extensive lake.
His fields under water. He thinks of
48 hours rain & 9 inches of rain fall
then for 2 nights afterwards hard
down pour - Negro Cabins & small
stables & corn cids floated away.
All this will come heavily upon the
Cattons, planters & merchants who do the
advancing. Over the River from Tukaloosa
(Northport) destruction was never seen
before as it is now - a perfect Venice.
The canoes were made to fly between
houses - People moved to the upper stories.

The water backed up almost into the houses & at
Tuckaloosa. Horses, mules & cattle have drowned
in numbers. - We have passed thro much tribulation
politically. - Dor Johnston spent with an overwhelming
defeat for Senator. - Singularly enough one County was
named formerly for Gen Morgan & this County alone
went for Johnston by only 45 majority. For almost
Dor - instead of Charles Waller of Greensboro - Chas
Samford of Opelika was nominated. (a good man).

We will try & give up some newspaper clippings to send
you the comments &c - No man ever had such a set back
as the present Dor. We are delighted to know that you are
so fortunate in times & places, it is surely a year of trials.
May I direct to me to close at this sheet - You know Gustave
Pope is in Paris for Brossers. The locomotive is dead -
your affectionate father. RFD-