



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

The Hunt Institute is committed to making its collections accessible for research. We are pleased to offer this digitized item.

Usage guidelines

We have provided this low-resolution, digitized version for research purposes. To inquire about publishing any images from this item, please contact the Institute.

Statement on harmful and offensive content

The Hunt Institute Archives contains hundreds of thousands of pages of historical content, writing and images, created by thousands of individuals connected to the botanical sciences. Due to the wide range of time and social context in which these materials were created, some of the collections contain material that reflect outdated, biased, offensive and possibly violent views, opinions and actions. The Hunt Institute for Botanical Documentation does not endorse the views expressed in these materials, which are inconsistent with our dedication to creating an inclusive, accessible and anti-discriminatory research environment. Archival records are historical documents, and the Hunt Institute keeps such records unaltered to maintain their integrity and to foster accountability for the actions and views of the collections' creators.

Many of the historical collections in the Hunt Institute Archives contain personal correspondence, notes, recollections and opinions, which may contain language, ideas or stereotypes that are offensive or harmful to others. These collections are maintained as records of the individuals involved and do not reflect the views or values of the Hunt Institute for Botanical Documentation or those of Carnegie Mellon University.

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 them I reckon I have not heard from Fred since. I write last to you. Harry says
condemns to write
or even send an message
to any of us, well she only
knows what she is, &
spoil-pieces, she & John
are about on a par. if it
was it for Fred & the children
she might go. I would not
care a straw, I must send
my interesting letter to the
store to get it off this
evening. hope I can do
better next time, with
much love
Your devoted
Mother.

3rd 1898

The good ink is up stairs as I will
use pencil & sit close by the fire. I put off
writing yesterday because it was cold & disagreeable,
but today is worse, dark & gloomy, & a wind
that goes through one. I am truly glad I have
Remy for a month to do the work & I need not
be so much exposed to the cold, for rheuma-
tism has troubled me a good deal lately,
the joints of my left hand are becoming enlarged
& my knees keep up a dull aching but I
do not stop for it.

I was very glad to have your letter this
morning. We have braved the wind to get the
mail, the gentlemen are so anxious for the
news but I dread to hear it, wish those
people who talk so much about "fighting out"
the trouble with Spain could be made to do

all the fighting, if things should come to the
worse I bet none of them would be visible.
It is dreadful to think of war & with such
people as the Spaniards. I would be willing
for the Pope or any one else to settle it without
blood shed, the papers say the Pope wishes
to settle it. I don't know whether the trouble
will interfere with my trip or not, but I have
been getting some curing done in case I should
go, but for that, time would hang heavily on
my hands this bad weather.

Lewis seemed to enjoy the *Mesa de Gans* festivi-
ties, altho he said he would take no part in
them. Uncle Harris saw him only a minute
on the street, just before he left I think.
Aunt Melville says her folks had a delight-
ful visit, the Lucy did say she nearly froze
to death one night down on the river
watching the fire works. She lost her wrap.
I think I will put in her last note for
you to read. I am so troubled about Johnny
treating Reuben as he has done, all because
R - is getting his advances from Mrs Brown

MAR 3, 189A

3

who sells cheaper, he is a strange man, I
don't know what to think of him, I suppose
money & the love of it is at the bottom of it
all. He breaks on all the connections being
ungrateful & not appreciating what he has
gone for them. I want to know what he has
done so much, he employed ^{a man} R - for the smallest
wages he could possibly get, let him live in a
house not fit for any white man, got all the
work out of him he could & thinks we should
be unboundedly grateful for what he has done
for him!! It is enough to sour & discourage a young
man trying to make an honest living. I am sorry
the for Johnny, as well as Reuben, the former has
had much to worry & hear of him, can't rule his
own boys, but wants to rule every one else. If he
wants to drop us I suppose we can stand it -
I was over to see Mrs Darrin a few evenings ago,
they all had been vaccinated & were suffering

Digitized by the Hunt Institute for Botanical Documentation

with their arms, since the Maine disaster the
small boys are here armed in a measure.
Now would be a good time for me to be vaccinated
-ed while Perry is here.

I hear there was a great crowd in Mobile at
Mendi Grass, many westerners, they were delighted
with the climate, & charmed with the early
vegetables, went to the gardens, cut them themselves
& took home baskets to their families, some carried
home fired opiates to show.

I am glad your boarding house continues satis-
-factory & that you enjoy a dance occasionally,
such a thing has not been heard of in these
parts for many a day, there is nothing to break
the dull monotony for young or old. I think I
will go over when the weather improves & have a
talk with Louise Garber, she has returned from a
long visit to Mobile & is with Mrs Browder.
Miss Lou has not returned, is staying out her
ticket. Round trip tickets from St. Louis were
only \$7.00 on a certain road, no wonder the
western people come down, Alice had come
with her, but no need of my giving any news.
Digitized by the Hunt Institute for Botanical Documentation

says it is the best likeness he has seen of me. Uncle Thomas heard every one
talking of you & I am very sorry to hear you have been suffering
from chicken pox, it is considered a very
mild disease with children I know, & I wonder
you suffered so much with it, are you sure it
was it small pox? I reckon as it is nearly
over with you would be glad if it was, that
disease has been the dread around here, &
in other places. The Montecalle school has
been entirely broken up by a case occurring
in one of the boarding places, Mr Reynolds
house, 80 girls were sent from that house
& all the others left, a perfect panic I
suppose, one of the washer women for Mr
R's house had it in her family & it was
close your devoted mother.

carried in the clothes. I hope you will continue to improve & be well by the time this reaches you. I expect times hang heavily on your hands in a darkened room. I hope your friends visit you, but then perhaps they are afraid of the disease.

Our Father went to Sam. Bethens late yesterday evening to see as he thought the baby but when he reached the house he found the servant made a mistake in coming for him. Dr. Mosely was the Dr. they wanted so your Father kept on to Uncle Johns to spend the night, reached home after our dinner. Mary reached home last night, we heard before she came that she had caught a Va. bean. Elvira is still on her visit of nearly 4 months. Bessie wrote her she must come home next week.

Most truly yours, Father & Mother and our infant

and aunt Melville's, we found all well, Mr. & Mrs. C. & Lucy enjoyed their trips very much. I am trying to persuade aunt Melville to take a trip now, go down with me, if I go. I think if she would go, I would be sure to go, but to go alone so much & it is so hard to get fixed up to go to a city. After dinner that day we drove down to Reuben's, they say it is a mile but it seemed three, the road was rough & we had to go slow. He was with the hands planting corn, Hannah invited me in showed me his room, nice table & he makes from one little cow more than he can use on table & in cooking. He has every thing in that one room, still it was clean & looked, not devoid of comfort, Hannah takes a grade in caring for him. I think, you know she is an old woman, about 60. She says "Miss Ann she is sure does

take care of your child." Reuben thinks
perhaps he can overlook the Somerville place
adjoining him, Mr. Telman who rented it is
in the last stages of consumption & some one
will have to look after things. R - says he is
glad to be rid of the Koolcroft place, too
much extra work for 200 dollars. He can
pay more attention now to things at home.
Miss Lou Barnard returned after a delightful
stay in Mobile, wants her Mother to go down
now but I have no idea she will.

I had a letter from Fred today he had
just returned from an institute at
Monroeville, Frederick had some fever but
he hoped it would be nothing serious, the
youngest is quite an owl & keeps them
awake a good deal at night.

I have at last received three photos
from Oranica will send you one. I want
to know exactly what you think of it,

spring. No letter from Fred since I wrote you last. Dinner is coming in as I will close. Since the pleasant weather my observation is better, with much love
Your devoted
Mother.

March 17th 1898

dear Son

We were very glad to have your letter this morning & to know you were getting on so well with your recovery from chicken pox, hope you will soon feel as well as ever in every respect, I was thinking if you went to microscopic work your eyes would show some weakness the you said they had not troubled you.

Of course we were glad to hear of the letter from Maryland & I hope they will make you a good offer, suppose your friend Mr Johnson can give you full particulars of the place, faculty & all, & you would be able to judge whether the change would be a pleasant one or not, when one is well situated there is doubt as to whether to let well enough alone or not. I understand that. We too are having pleasant

weather, yesterday & today the sun has been hot,
all yesterday your Father was in the garden
having vegetables worked & seed planted, things
begin to make a very good show now, today he
has the same men to work but having a call
this morning the man was sent to 'mine acres'
to fix the fence that we may get rid of the
colt & some young stock here, as usual hay is
getting scarce. Your Father rents the lot in front
of us & has planted some corn there will put
in sorghum & other things to eat for cows but
we might as well sell all but one, can't
sell the butter

Tomorrow your Father will attempt the drive to
Demopolis, I am sure it will be a tiresome one
as travelling over the road after the last rain
made it very rough. I must go to do some little
shopping if I am to go to Mobile, it's a hard
matter to get ready for anything here & I
never saw a duller time than the present.
Yesterday I received a note from Mrs Foreman
saying Bishop Jackson will preach in Demopolis
Sunday & asking your Father & myself to go in
Digitized by the Hunt Institute for Botanical Documentation

MAR 17, 1890

& dine with her. We would be glad to do so but Sunday is Mrs Colbbs day at St Andrews & we cant leave, especially as we have had no cures since December.

I was much surprised last Thursday I think it was, to have a short call from Myron Sprague, brother Waver brought him up, they hurried back expecting the boat that night but I heard it did not come for two days, the river was very shallow in places. Boston Waver has not been here since, sometimes he is very sociable, then does not come for a long time. Waver started to Reubens last Thursday, was to spend the night & go on to Vintonia to have a nice chod he met Reuben going to spend the night with sister Sally as they went on together, Mrs Harris had been summoned to U. I court in Birmingham, did not know how long he might be gone. Reuben a few nights

before had one of his attacks, but did not send
for a doctor, only aunt Melville, had taken medicine
& was much relieved by the time she reached
there, the attacks leave him with that course
in his side.

I am feeling very anxious to know what Lewis
thinks of doing after his graduation, I am very much
afraid he will apply for such a place as he
had last summer, but he has not said a word
about it. I will wait his time to tell us, the
thought of that, the war & other things makes me
feel so nervous at times I scarcely know what to
do. I had a letter from a man in Birmingham,
writing to know if I would sell one of my
lots, seemed to think I would take 50 dollars
for it, as the two cost me over 900 I thanked
him, no, he must be some speculator or a
negro perhaps. The papers say the city is
growing in that direction (West End) so I
hope the lots may some time bring more than
I gave for them, your Father will have a chance
to enquire into the state of affairs when he
goes to the Medical Convention there this

Grallion Ala. Mch 24/98.
My Dear Son:-

We hope by this time that you have entirely recovered from your indisposition, & that it has left no mark or disfigurement. The best remedy I know of which is possibly convenient for you to get from Drug store is a preparation or Salve - "Resinol" (Resinol) This can be easily & safely applied day or night. Would recommend you to keep a little on hand, a lead-colored salve or ointment good for almost any abrasion or itching of the skin and

mucous membranes -

Just at this time, after an excessively dry & hot spell of a week or more, real summer weather; - We have now a wind from the North west & makes us feel the effects of it more acutely.

Mr Mother and Ware went into town, Decmopolis, this morning, as she had some preparations to attend to & a little shopping to do.

Sunday last was Mr Cobbs' day with us, & after dinner, he & I went to Decmopolis to hear the Bishop at night, & I came out next morning on the

train.

We have a fine garden & if this wind abates for the night I fear frost. My 1st & 2nd crop of Irish potatoes is up about 8 inches, and my Cucumbers & Squash are growing off nicely. The Eng Peas are in bloom, Turnip plants ready to be set out into their permanent quarters.

We have pears on trees as large as end of my thumb.

I had a pleasant letter from Dr. Lech. Mohr of Mobile, desiring twigs of the red cedar with blooms on & past year's berries. He always inquires after you.

Lewy seems to be coming
out Sat at the New
bellege, & yr Mother I
hope will be with ^{him} soon,
if I do not go, perhaps
I may run down on
the special dog for
a short trip.

Corn is well up in the
fields & cotton is being
planted pretty generally.

They are at work on the
Pensacola & Demopolis
R R.

The fruit crop without
accident will be large.
Nothing new.

Yours Affectionate Father
J. D. Myer.

Auburn, Ala., Mar. 27, '98.

Dear Ben:-

Your recent letter came duly to hand. I have heard absolutely nothing as to conditions in Ind. I have never looked with much partiality on the agricultural institution there as offering either a specially desirable place to live or special opportunities for good work. I fear the location is malarial although not sure of this. I know nothing of financial matters there and know the president only by sight. I have no idea of his qualities.

Proximity to Washington has some advantages, but socially the advantage is probably less than might be supposed.

If convenient, please have the announcement of summer courses sent to me. I ask this without having any hope that I can get to Ithaca this summer. I suppose your eyes will require you to postpone your examinations for a doctorate. Is it D. Sc. or Ph.D. which you contemplate?

I suppose you will not go to Europe until you have finished the work of your present course. ~~He~~ I shall be glad to hear what are your plans, as soon as they are matured.

Col. B. returned from Australia a week or two ago, nominally on a 6-months leave of absence, but I think he will never return. I have no apprehensions under existing order of things.

I have not yet heard whether Henry received one of the appointments in the quarantine service.

Auburn has a genuine case of small pox, discovered yesterday, but present for about a week before. I had Mrs. Camp, myself and the servants vaccinated yesterday. The virus used was the liquid virus preserved by a new process and stronger than that on ivory points. Fannie and the children will be vaccinated as soon as ivory points come.

Yours aff. brother
J. H. D.

Institute

March 25, 1895.

My dear Mr. Duggar:

Now this
comes, I am sure, of your
writing on that unlucky
thirteenth day. I had
quite forgotten that
I had not acknowledged
your letter nor your
business note. For
which latter (the former
I do not exclude) I
thank you very much

indeed, and for your
Offered assistance.

I did indeed write to
Columbus but there will
be no vacancies, The
President wrote me a
very nice note.

In rereading your letter
I am wondering if you
are still "rubber-necking"
over Cascadilla bridge -
I dread to think what the
effect might be on the
neck - and whether old
Triphammer is still so
frisky in his new

atlas. By the way just where the
new bridge been built?

he has had several delightful botanics
trips and Saturday a week ago, a congenial
few had a regular Aristocratic picnic,
with the good things to eat, but alas,
no coffee! The duck is very pretty
right here. The big cliffs are there. The
banks are very steep and I miss soft,
yellow earth. We discovered three

Spring, and such a time as we
had getting down to them.

Last Sunday we enjoyed and truly
appreciated the southern hospitality.
Miss Schuler and I spent the day
with the Poyts, some most charming
people. Mr. Poyt took us all over
the farm, and showed us his
sheds and a fine herd of Jersey.

MAR 28, 1890

I saw some very fine
horses too, at the training
stables. The superintendent
very courteously had them
brought out for us. One
of the horses is a perfect
beauty, Hal Parker - half-
brother to Star Pointer -
you would have smiled
Mr. Duggan, had you
heard me talk horses.
I was quite in my
element, and gained
the respect of the
superintendent and

the heart of Hal Parker, which
either pleased me not a
little.

So glad you have found
one southern girl who
is really nice before
she came north, I, lately.
Have discovered two,
one of them a Jewess
who is one of the most
liberal and well-read
people I have met for
some time. We meet
occasionally and have
nice talks.

I am glad to that you like it at
Sage, and have pleasant apples at
your table. Rain Bruckner always amused
me, yet I should prefer to have the
length of the table between us, and only out
of consideration for my ear. This
is not intended to be malicious, I
am really fond of rain B.

As the picture of the Aristocrats -
me of the such picture - some power

time ago, I know not who sent it.

The Council Robin letter has finally been
started, has it reached you yet? I wonder
how many I will be in between
this summer. I hoped to be there for
summerment but that is hardly
probable.

It has been decided that my sister
is to go home before it grows very

MAR 28, 1891

warm, her physician
advises it, so I think
she will go next week.
She has improved very
much the last month,
at which I am greatly
pleased. I am sorry
she must go, I shall
miss her very much.

The past weeks have
been good for reading.
I know Annie would
feel greatly honored to
know that I like "When
a Man's Single" and

the "Lily of the Desert", the
former especially. In the
latter he seems to be
making fun of his character
all the time. Then too I
do not enjoy dialect much.
Peter Halbit, by Olive Schreiner,
was a very painful story.
How she does hate Cecil
Rhodes. Did you read her
parable, at the time of his
death? She thought he was
too big for Hell, but that
was where he really belonged.
Most of all I have enjoyed
Ruskin, and Browning.

Miss S. like many of the things I like,
and really seemed to enjoy having me
read them to her, and in my independent
will me.

If you like grass (induced by the very in-
teresting and delightful at times), I
have a delicious bit for you. Maria
Barnes is to be at the Alaska for the Easter
vacation, likewise Mr. Hicks.
You must Mr. Steghead last summer
did you not? He and Miss South are

to be married in June. Miss George has
recommended me as her successor in
the botanical lab. for 1890. And it
may be I shall accept that position,
which has several advantages over the
one, but it is a Breckinridge school,
and I am rather afraid of it.

I might see some service in church
and I shall probably go. I enjoy the
service, but prefer to have the scholar left
out, usually. If you will keep awake & take in
my argument here, I think it is better worth your
consideration. Yours, Anna & Mary Anne Cook.

every few days, the popples are blossoming too, but I hope will soon be open. Most of the
strut bridges between the
popples & "strips" has been
broken, from the old stalks
to the 1898 line, it

breaks quite an opening,
we hope some time to
complete the job & leave
the roots planted up, it
will give us a good deal
more space for grass to grow.

I am trying very hard on
trunking again, have 2 sitting
will soon have another ready
for sale eggs. I must stop
now, wrap up & cover the
tomatoes, the wind is
cold, with much love

to all
from 1898

Your devoted
Mother.

We were very glad to have your
letter this morning, 15th seems a right good
time to refuse, but then I don't know exactly
what you are getting now, & you of course know
best as to the advantages where you are, a
money value cannot always be put upon them.
I hope you may find you have acted wisely
in remaining at Gosnell. With your letter came
one from Fred, they are alarmed about small
pox, a negro from Montgomerie came to Auburn
with it & was there a week before it was known
what was the matter with him. Fred Ann's &
servants were to be vaccinated right away &
the children later, they will have a time if
all have sore arms about the same time.
Fred said his farm work was well ahead,
but office work behind, had had no time

to devote to his garden as it was the project
he ever had but if this spell ends as we fear
it may, he will be no worse off than the
rest of us. Monday evening a rain began & we
have had rain enough to saturate the ground
thoroughly, it is still cloudy & a cold wind from
the west, should it clear off tonight there will
be frost & then good bye to fruit, vegetables, &
every thing, it is such a pity, we put out just
before the rain 5 or 6 dozen tomatoe plants but
will cover them with time, cukes & asparagus are
too large to cover. I think we will have peas
for Easter but I will not be here, have decided
to leave here Tuesday the 5th for Mobile, so if
you receive this before your Sunday letter is
written you can send it to Mobile, care of
your aunt Alice. I will not remain over a
week, will spend the first two days at cousin
Wm. Minge's, then go to Alice's & lastly to Mr
Kirkbrides because that is nearer Lewis, when
examinations are over he will be getting ready
to leave on short notice. He has been appointed
Quarantine officer but his post not yet

MAR 30 1898

assigned, he hopes to be sent to Progreso
Mexico. Livingston would be his second choice,
that is I think in Spanish Honduras. I would
like him to be out of the way of the Spaniards.
How mentioned if sent to Progreso the exconsul
would give him recommendations. How do you
feel about the war? We are constantly hearing all
kinds of reports but put little confidence in any.
Reuben surprised us by spending Saturday night
with us, went to Tannedale to church Sunday,
he was not looking quite as well, had been
stepping off land too much I reckon, had it all
to do with off to the different squads, is well up
with his work, had not planted cotton because
he did not want to lay seed to plant over, should
the first planting be killed, expected to begin
planting this week but he had only one day for
it. The country will be drained of cattle, swarms
are being shipped, & every one who can is buying

up either young ones to grow, or cows to raise
from, of course beef meat is higher, steak goes
up from 10 to 12 $\frac{1}{2}$ ^{cts} in the little towns around us,
& higher in Auburn Fred says. Country people
should turn their attention to chicken raising,
might realize something.

Wave is busy today putting out little frames that
came from the seed, under the Kiefer tree, also
grape seedlings from the Iowa Seedling, & the
large purple grape are like as much; he is as
much interested in fruit culture I think he
would do well in a nursery. The only grade
jerry we have, has a beautiful little heifer calf.
I think we had better raise common stock now
for the butchers, jerseys are not worth much &
butter is worth nothing. I have 10 beautiful prints
in the cage waiting for some chance to get rid of
them.

Our large Le Conte pear tree has black leaves
about on it, Wave thinks it blight, but your Father
says not, will put in a twig for your inspection.
The roses are lovely, if you could get them in
any thing like good order would send some