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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.

Chicago 44 cash 43 ~~cash~~ 12

January 7th 1901

My darling sweet Daughters

I wrote a few lines
this morning to send the things
by your lake, & hope you will
receive it safely. It is not as nice
as I would like, but the gas fire
is so hot I could scarcely manage
the pen: & the scum is so bad.
"Papa" I hope will get the "Black
Rock" mission as Mr. Franklin
wished on Tuesday; then we can
live in Buffalo, Nellie getting
married in February and go
with my going south, which
I will not mind very much.

ed to take so much money to
travel, So my Darling take
great care of your self. & don't
let your heart slip away, too
soon. Has Mr. Suggs returned
to Lowell yet, or do you think
we will see him here? Write
when you can. & tell me how
the cake was. & also about your
visit to Alice & Dory & about
"Mr. Dick." I don't fancy him
for your house, one that is de-
formed can only excite ones
pity; Alice writes that he seems
gross after he was fourteen,
Aggie said she the it was from
well-suffering with inflammation
of the bladder; Well I trust you
at last I am at once your agent
Nathaniel

has not written to any what prevented, nor have we heard from Fred since he left us, I hope, none of the family are sick.

We have or at least I have not seen Uncle Waver since you saw him, he has been spending the time in Davenport until yesterday he went to Iowa, left us some bread at Galien which Mrs Powell kindly brought up. Your Father wanted to see Uncle Waver so he went in town Saturday to spend the night leaving only the girl Minnie (cook) to keep me company. I had her sleep in the house but it is any thing but pleasant to be left in that way.

Perhaps you remember hearing before you left that our depot agent (Mr Coluche) had 3 express orders taken from his book, they were filled out for 50 dollars each, consequently, 150.00 of express money was gone, a man pretending to be deaf & dumb was suspected of the robbery, he really was the man as was proved by a letter he wrote in Mrs Collins' store & accidentally left there, was arrested in Ga. I think it was, he had been playing similar pranks in other places.

I don't remember whether I sent Aunt Melville thanks for the photo frame, she requested me to do so, and she would value it highly. I think Lucy might make a success of that work if she were to try, she can do almost any thing she sees. She will continue her music with Miss Hoale the sister I think Lucy had learned all Miss Hoale taught her. I had a very affectionate note from Corine thanking me for a little present I sent her, she said she could not tell me how much she enjoyed the day she spent with us & was so sorry to

chimney. Yesterday Allen cleared out some ditches around the lot, that is the only work we have had done this year, wanted to plant peas & spinners but the ground is too wet.

I am so sorry the best bottle of honey was lost, did you come any just for them to taste? It occurred to me we did not take pains enough packing that bottle (it was rather thin) but I said nothing as you were 'boss'.

Looking back your visit seems almost like a dream, I am glad you enjoyed it, we did I am sure. I must enclose Paul's letter that you may see how the little ones enjoyed their 4 weeks. Henry wrote he dined with his friend Mrs Campbell next door to his "chuck" that his wife is an elegant little woman & gave them a fine dinner, he seldom mentions the names of any friend & I was glad to see that.

Mr Koteb is going into the dairy business in good earnest, so much so that he bought 4 of our cows, only leaving us Pel (the old dark cow) & her calf, the little yellow heifer, Tansho & one young male. Both of the latter your Father says he will still try to sell. Now if he could only part out Jack cow & Rockett for their feed we would feel still more relieved. The great draw back to a move for us is the office, if that & contents could be lifted off by a cyclone, then perhaps we could move. Uncle Ben says so much that he did not see you, wrote me he is advertising his place & the next time you come he may not "be in these parts." He did not say where he expects to go when he sell. Dr Green & a Mr Long bought out the Welsh business in
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May 27th 1861

My dear Mrs

I cannot just now be beyond 1000 to
thank you for your letter to your Father, also the
book, Souvenir from Paris & yourself, we have
found it very interesting & your Father says I
must tell you it kept me up until I was asleep.
He will try to send me about my early home, I am
up that hill, nearly every night. The clipping on
mistletoe, cut out was from the the brother
of my father, I am sure.

Of course we will take a visit from you &
Grandmother you can come & do this but
we are for the winter, while you are
in. Please I hope our roads & weather will be
good at that time, I would like her to say one
recently at, do, but the that will hardly be
until later, however you can form some idea of

it. We have begun our garden & if weather is favorable will have some vegetables
for you. I will try to have Wm make his visit about the same time if he can
in contact about it. Uncle Wm we hear is at last in Columbus, Ohio. Breasting
because their waiting for him to come home & wait up this morning to see him
it is strange to me the way he has run away from business, & don't think of
nothing else. Bob has gone to Liverpool to try to get change of a hotel, we can't
hear from the suit against the Insurance Co. Our petition for a P. O. here has
gone on, the name proposed is "Canebrake" or "Painesville", I hope they will
reject this latter. Joe Patton says he will write some other time. I told him my
letter must go this evening. I heard from Elmy yesterday, he mentioned having
received letters from Maria & yourself. I mention this because he is so slow to
write, he was quite well & fairly busy, has like all Dr's his trying times, hard
trips &c. Reuben did not come down to Church Sunday as I hoped he would
& I have not heard from Fred in two weeks. There is a letter from Fardine's writing
him for Uncle Wm, this little fellow writes with a pencil. I suppose has not
used pen & ink yet. Wm & Maria must excuse this writing without pen or ink
with this abominable paper. I must hurry to a close, with much love

Yours devoted
Mother.

P.S. I will address this to you, it will be all the same I reckon.

22
familiar to us. I wonder if her husband is
related to Mrs. Ben. Hatch, he had several brothers.
It cannot be quite a relief to you both to be settled
once more & as you say not leave it, but see it
through. Your aunt was a friend of Fanny's father
in Washington & remembered meeting Mrs. Sam.
D. (they called him) at Freed's last April,
what a spruce looking man he was, & so white &
cool.

Oh, I did not feel the same generous about
the Steamer not answering home that you
parents did for I had no 1/2 to prefer to wait
for arrivals, but I was truly glad to have the
telegram from them. I will have my fare about
ready & hope. How long I am always worrying
about some of you, not worrying, but I do feel
anxious about those so dear to me, which I think

March 2nd 1881

My dear Daughters

This very acceptable letter from
them & yourself came this evening my last was
received by them. I was glad to know of your being
firmly situated in a different family. I have
always thought a pleasant family family,
perfectable to a regular boarding house, and
better like. What an unpleasant & tiresome
task it must be to hunt a boarding place in
a large city & what a price!! One would have
good grounds to stand it & then does nearly
too, but housekeeping I suppose would be no
cheap. I wonder if Ben applied to Mrs. Helen
Larley Davis friend, he would not give me her
address for Ben. The name of Hatch is very

is perfectly natural. I had a letter from Maria yesterday, it appears her is digging
shores perfectly, & finding gold there, but if only for savings I suppose it matters little
what he makes. He is in fine health, does not mind the cold there. We are
still having pretty cold weather, the frost this morning was like snow; two days
ago we had heavy rain & but bright winds carried off the surface water in a
hurricane yesterday P. D. was sitting out first here in the garden, with them
the oldest one American Beauty, came to take this place of, now that died, &
put it out herself, it was so well rooted & so it will live. I am so fond of
flowers & desire my inability to work them, and would like to. I have only a
little place for them, the way to the north is blocking & yesterday I saw one
hedge. They will bloom if there are no leaves.

You say the days are so long while Tom is gone, I wish so, how do you amuse yourself
in his absence, reading & drawing? or do you ever try needle work? The ladies
don't have time or crop for basketry work, even your Mother has undertaken
a small piece. I like the work but it is so hard to keep when we visited with
coal dust, & ashes around. Sister Mary & I have worked a beautiful piece for a 9 once
present to one of our friends. She has told you that as my only sister & we are devoted
to each other, with so much my lived more enough to push & assist each other, I think
I would spend most of my time with her. Our minister, Mr. Phelps, liked with us
in Scotland, & told how much we liked him. He is a very good man, & I think
I expect, he knows him. I do not. Miss Smith has been visited a long time, she is about 31.
We are waiting for you this spring, looking forward with much pleasure to having you
with us, & getting well acquainted. I must write a few lines to Mary & try to send this
off this evening with haste.

Yours affly
Michael

on the
back
of the
card

Memphis Tenn.
Jan 28, 1901

Dear Friend:

As I will have
been "grippy" for a week
and am still in bed, I
have of necessity delayed
writing to you and telling
you how charmed we
were with the beautiful

remember and which came some
time ago and gave me great
pleasure.

We contemplate going to home-
keeping the first of March
and your gift will occupy
an honored place in our
new home. I have the quilt
just picked out for it and
am very anxious to get
it hung.
Anything for the house is

acceptable and when it
chances to be something so
choice as our Self piece
and from such friends,
we are delighted.
(Will would write if he was
able & express his pleasure
at receiving the beautiful
souvenir of your trip and
regrets sincerely that he is
not.

I hope the first part of
the week will find him
greatly improved and ready
to. Business in which I trust
all soon hear from him.
hear from both of
soon as we have a
keen interest in your plans
and a strong fellow feeling.

Wallion Ala.

January 29th 1901

Dear Ben:

Your letter giving me an account of experiences with the late cold spell, shows what vast difference there is in the temperature here and where you get the freezes on Cornell Heights. I know a little of these freezing winters, having been accustomed to them in Western Penn^a. when I was at college. The snow was often 2 feet deep & we were in the habit of wearing boots altogether & I am sure the girls wore something akin to them, as they trudged to Church Sunday nights beside us, even then, you must know, we liked the Company of pretty girls - Sometimes after reaching their homes on the return we would be invited in to sit awhile - "Bess" & "Lall" & Lizzie & c: If one disappeared - we knew quite well there would be something hereafter - Tea & cakes & chess & crockery - over which we would discuss

the sermon, singing - and the other girls & students &c. - I was just now trying to recall the names of the "boys" & girls - but really the names have nearly passed from my mind; they were from many portions of West Pa. - Pittsburgh, Conn. - Washington, West & East Va. - Baltimore &c. - Some names still sound familiar - Dawsons - Austin, Hancock, Stewart (Adey), Hook, Stoner, Slater & numerous others. Only two of all my college mates have I seen in the after life. 'Tis strange also their faces & even their gaits are indelibly fixed in my mind but their names are so many blanks. There was one student with whom there was really an affinity - so to speak - named "Iglerhart" from Baltimore or Ellicott's Mills (near to the City) I was much interested in him & I always expected to hear of him in "Public" - that his name would become prominent. -

Now I must do better than dealing in recurrences - : All thro this month of Jan'y we have had first class weather for winter - good flowering seasons, - only one morning a little freeze. Frost quite often - but as often have we been able to sit out on the Verandah, & enjoy the outdoor atmosphere. We have planted English peas, & eating turnips & parsnips planted last season; my garden is quite green with Creole Mustard & turnips, and the vines on the front Verandah are still green & growing. The violets & white hyacinths are simply magnificent, wish we had "pneumatic tube" connection & could forward you a large bunch to decorate your Mantel or Centre table. - We fear to ship by mail ~~for~~ ^{as} they might suffer like your ears - or those of the Lady you mentioned. Sunday, we had intended - to be with the St Michael Congregation & listen to Bish Barrow,

JAN 29, 1901

but Saturday night it rained & put us out of our expected pleasure. It turned off cold tho by 12 o'clock Sunday - & we might have gone had we been bolder & more weatherwise. Recently the roads have been so good - immediately around us, that I have made several trips to Walling fast footed. The fact is however - "Annie" has been so polite, some & playful when let out, that she has lamed herself in the knee or shoulder in her gambols, & is still limping some. - Bro Warner spent two weeks or more in Selma, had a good time with Turner Vaughan, Watkins & Co; but has dropped from his high soaring & quietly seating ^{now} at Mattetown Farm - Van Dorn; - The afternoon passidly gives him ample scope & leisure to overlook the fortnight's letters & papers & recapitulate from the numerous eggs & Apple Toddlies & dictate his own menu.

An evening or two ago I walked around amongst the feathered tribes, - inhabiting this "Seat" (Bamboo as it is classically called) - I thought to count over my possessions - I saw in my rounds 136 - from fat old chubby gobblers (Turn back to 1st book - I & D. & D.)

to fryingsized chicks - amongst them
 are 32 guineas (after eating a dozen or more
 & selling 24 guineas in town @ 25^{cts} each) Now
 we know that these chiefly get their food in
 the weeds - grass &c - otherwise it would be
 a serious thing to have to feed them & buy
 the wherewithall. - Where else could one have
 such a crowd of eight toed stock and
 let it subsist on the abundance that might
 be wasted. Since selling my lot of Jerseys
 I have felt somewhat easy for the hard months
 which are to follow - Feb. March & April. In May
 we may expect grazing. "Lusk's" - Little Lady,
 "Pet" & her calf "Jennico" are here yet, &
 I would sell them too at a fair price. Altho
 your Mother wished so heartily I could ride my-
 self off of the "Pets" - We now and or miss very
 much the abundance of milk & butter
 which we have enjoyed for these many
 years. - Yesterday Gr Mother suffered from an
 rather of those attacks of acute indigestion,
 but it was measureably relieved by night.

20 to 30 drops of Chloroform in a spoon of

water generally is the speediest relief - in-
ternally administered. It is caused from
cold I think mostly. - surface getting
chilled & stopping secretion &c. We had
letters from Henry & Samuel lately.
all were well. Your Mother sends
best love & wishes you would see
to your ears being better protected.

We are always glad to hear
from you & know your daily
surroundings - Suppose you
had quite an unfolding of
your many little bundles &c &c
when you unpacked your
trunk & valise.

My cordial good wishes
to your household.

Your affectionate Father
