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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.

1734 Cambridge St.

Cambridge 38, Mass.

September 19, 1929.

Dear Folks—

Well I think it's about time I
let you know my new address.
It is Thursday evening and I have
been here since yesterday morning
but have been too busy to write.
Tuesday morning I injured

before Sam arrived I made sure
just, however, that he could
get in as the fraternity if he
didn't like the room or if he let
out on it. I wrote him in detail
about it immediately and he
telephoned yesterday to reserve
the place at the fraternity.

We are thus separated after
all but not by far far
this place is only two doors
from the fraternity. Though
this makes it desirable, the

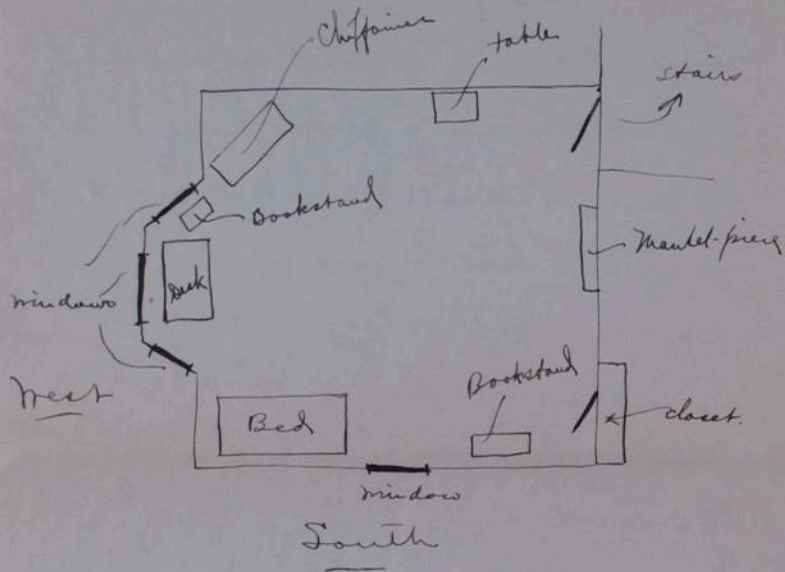
at both the Divinity School and
the graduate school and they
told me it was very unlikely
that we should be assigned
rooms - So, not having to see
Mr. Joyland again until Wednesday
I decided to look about for rooms.

I found the combination of
two single rooms rather difficult
to find. Finally when I found
this place I decided to take the
better of the two rooms and hope
that the other would not be let

room is desirable for other
vacants. I am on the third
floor with only ~~two~~ other fellows
and there is a bath ^{on the floor} for the
exclusive use of this floor. The
room has four windows, south-
west exposure and is twelve
feet square besides a bay
window. There is a fair-sized
closet. There is an adequate
amount of substantial furniture -
^{good}
a ^{cat}-bed, a seven-drawer chest,
a single-end desk, two book
stands, a small table and

three chairs - a good wicker chair,
a rocker and a desk chair. The
house is steam heated and
there is continuous hot-
water. Of course the price
is more than I have ever
paid but is not excessive -
\$6 a week and 25¢ a week for
lights.

The land lady seems very pleasant
and the house is well-kept. She
says her family has lived here
for thirty years. Her name is
L. M. Row.



Miss Hayes would have been glad to keep me ^{the week}, but she was relieved to have the room empty so that she could let it immediately.

She wouldn't take any money for the two days I was there.

The correcting work is nearly finished. We worked yesterday afternoon and evening, all today and this evening - fifteen hours. There were not as many taking the exam as had been expected. Our hour will finish the work. There are just two of us doing it. I have found out that I must pay \$110 on Oct 1 on which day I shall receive the first part

of my salary \$75 \$90 depending
on how I am to be paid. I shall
then need money to take me to
the next installment is that
if you can send me thirty five
dollars before Oct 1 I should
feel more secure. I should be
able to return it within six
weeks or less months.

Well I could write much more
but it is very late and I am
very tired. I go to the Tweedy's
tomorrow evening. Love to all
George.

P.S. The trunk has
come and I am
quite settled though I haven't seen the stuff

How the probability gets

Matthews 53

Cambridge 38.

September 26.
[1938]

Dear Mother,

This is the last night before the
campaign opens. First classes
met today but it so happens
that all of ^{my classes} ~~mine~~ came on
Tuesdays, Thursdays & Saturdays

any work for days. Besides
the class work of the other
three, however, I shall
have a considerable amount
of tutorial work to do.

My correcting work is
all "balled up" again. For
some reason or other I lose
the class in Radcliffe; and
the large class that I was

so that my first class will
meet tomorrow morning. I shall
have a class at 9 o'clock, 11
o'clock, 12 o'clock and 2 o'clock
on each of the above days with
the obvious exception of the
2 o'clock on Saturday. I am
only taking the lectures of one
of the above four so that I
shall have to prepare

As share with someone else
turns out to be so small
that half of it would
return a rather insignificant
amount of money. I have,
however, got in touch with
another professor and expect
to be able to arrange to have
a set of forty or fifty papers
all to myself, at the same time

2

giving up the "small" large
does. This arrangement
will give me plenty of work
and show the amount
of money I had calculated
on. I have already had
a small job. I happened
to be in the Employment
Office on Monday when a

no reason why I shouldn't
get some, at least.

I guess I made a mistake
in bringing back my laundry
bag. - I forgot about the
sheets. Since I will need them
before I shall get any laundry
back from home I'm afraid
you'll have to send them. I
also forgot to bring my
laundry bag which ^{you} can send

job of sealing, stamping and
addressing a large number of
envelops came in. Another
fellow and I took it right
away and five and a half
hours work gave me \$2.75. -
rather slow than tutoring. I
have my name in for some
of the latter again and see

with the sheets. And now
I'm afraid I shall have to
ask you to look up a ^{couple of} books
for me. I have offered to loan
the two following to a friend:

Norris: Organic Chemistry
Green cover

Moore: Outlines of Organic
Chemistry
Blue cover.

They are both in the same box,

the high narrow one that
stood in the front hall
all summer. You can also
send these with the sheets.
If you still have that
laundry case interior which
has been used to send things
so in before that would
do very well for this time.
I could afterwards put it

and still flourishes in Europe
and the U.S.; so named after
Thomas Simons (1492-1559), a leader
of the sect in the Netherlands. They
are opposed to taking oaths, to
military service, to theological
learning, and to infant baptism.

There is, as you said, a country,
"Quam", in Southeastern Asia.
Three of us spent last

in the canvas cover.

With regard to the
word "Quish": My dictionary
says: "Relating to a designation
the adherents of Jacob Aemman
(17th century); A sect of Mennonites."
In Mennonite: "A member of a
Protestant denomination that
grew out of the Anabaptist
movement in the 16th century,

evening in Bactan seeing
Thurstan, the magician. I had
seen one since Germain who
was with the Chantaguan.
This man gives a very elaborate
entertainment. He has a company
of twenty-five or more with
loads (literally) of apparatus.
Some of the old stack tricks
one could see them, but he

has severed that are very
 mistifying. In one he
 hypnotizes a woman, who
 after being placed on a
 couch, rises in the air
 and floats. He passes
 a hoop over her to show
 that she has no support.
 I can as yet think of no

He worked the usual stunt
of embarrassing as many
children and men as possible
though I think some of
them were accomplices.

I called up the Tweedy's
sample and have been asked
there for tomorrow evening.
My trunk came Monday

explanation. He next places
her on a tier, covers her
with a cloth, removes the
under support and after
fallowing her about the
stage for some time suddenly
whisks the cloth away to
show that all beneath it
has somehow disappeared.

afternoon and I am now
fairly well settled. I had
some difficulty getting in
Sunday afternoon - the janitor's
wasn't around and if Frank
hadn't already arrived I
should have had to go to Miss
Hayes' or elsewhere.

Well I guess this is
all for now. It seems hardly
possible that the summer is
behind us. Thank you all for the

Thank you all,
Love
Frank
Good-bye I had
Love

Catsackie, Ky

Sept. 27/28

Dear Geo.

I'm sorry you have had
no word from home before this,
but you know there has been so
much to do and the days seem to
fly very fast - every night I think "one
day nearer Christmas" - you know
what that means. The house has
seemed so lonesome since you left
and I do miss you so much. To-
day I dished out 4 dishes of desert
one for you - it was peach jello. I
ate you share for supper.

Sunday was a very dull day in
door & out - we did not go any where -
that is I didn't - Pa went as usual in the
AM. Monday we washed (not quite
as big as last time) - the machine held
out, thank goodness but Pa has sent for
the needed part. Must be orange as usual

I still have a few pieces to iron
though Pa ironed the towels & some
hats. I know you do not need
your knives, so may not send them
till next week - I'll try to get all of
them mended. Sent Harold's off today.
The last three days after an early
supper, Pa has given me a lesson in
dining, so I can honestly say I
know considerably more than I ever
did about it. This noon Jessie
& Berrie called - they had Miss
Pau's friend) with them. We had
tried to come tonight for the book
work, but because this afternoon in-
stead as they had planned to go out
this evening - It spoiled my afternoon
as I had intended to do more clean-
ing up stairs. Made papa fell this day.
It has been very cold & last night
we thought everything was going to freeze
stiff but this didn't. Pa picked some

grapes and covered others also
picked several large bouquets
& covered the Salvia.

We had a letter from Eva this
on Monday - I will recollect it if
I do not forget. On Sunday I went
to Harold & Miss Boyd & bought
when I opened my box to get paper
to write to you, I was astonished to
find these two letters which I had
had been mailed & at their destina-
tion. Very provoking but no body's
fault but my own.

Last evening we had the last piece
of corn - Grandpa found a few "nubbins"
when he cut the stalks. Today we
had the last pieces of beans.

How are you feeling? Do you eat
at the Fraternity house as expected?
I suppose you have been so busy
you have hardly felt homesick.

I trust you found all OK. and
will soon be settled in good
running order again.

Can't think of any more
how so I'll stop & pen a few
lines to Anna - I'm wondering if she
is planning to come down.

Lovingly,
Mother.

Mathews 53, Cambridge 38.

Sunday evening, Sept 30.
[1908]

Dear Mother,

My, but it's been dark a long time
and yet it's only a quarter before nine!
I think the change of time is always
more noticeable in the fall than
in the spring. It has been quite cool
here all week and not very pleasant.
Despite the cloudiness I decided to

will be here later, in October.

I spent a very nice evening with the Tweedys on Thursday. Mrs. Tweedy was in a fairly good mood, in which she isn't always. She did, however, annoy Mr. Tweedy very much when he read a long article out loud. It was "Yes," "Quite so," "My, she knows what she's talking about," etc., until at last he said, "Well, this is quite a Methodist prayer meeting isn't it?"

go to the Botanic Gardens (Hawaii's) this afternoon to see the crysanthe-mums which I expected would be out. It was mistaken, however, for they will need another week or less. There were, however, a great many things still in bloom which I had never seen before, so the expedition wasn't wholly unsuccessful.

Thank you for sending Eva's letter. I haven't had any word from her. Neither have I heard from Marjelle, which, I suppose, means that she

She appeared quite ^{at} a loss to understand him for a moment or so.

She was wearing a very full gown, skirted all over, which reached completely to the floor. In addition it had no sleeves, so that she presented quite a sight.

On this coming Thursday evening I shall hear the Rath String Quartet which is one of the organizations I should have heard at Pittsfield if I could.

have gone. It is brought here
by a Mrs J. S. Casledge who,
I suppose, is in some way connected
with Mrs E. S. Casledge of Pittsfield.

I have been having luncheons
and dinners at the fraternity
since Thursday but don't know
what I shall keep that up just
at present, though they are serving
rather good meals. On the other
hand I don't know whether I can

said most everything of importance
now. I'm glad I brought the rug
and quilt. The former is a great
comfort and the latter adds a
nice lot of color to my bedroom.

Dad's forget about the wash-balls
in the middle drawer of the dresser
in the middle room upstairs.

Love to all,

George.

Long endure the cafeteria to which
I went last year. It has been
decorated in red and is rather
unbearable.

The time of meeting of one of my
courses has been changed to Monday,
Wednesday and Friday at 11 o'clock so
that the other days will be less
hard.

Well, if I'm to get two other lectures
written before bedtime, as I planned,
I'll have to stop - anyhow I'm

Catsackie N.Y.

Oct. 7/20

Dear George

I am sorry you did not get a letter from home yesterday. I meant to write Friday but did not get as it. Anyway there is really not much to write about - days come & go, and all are full of something. Considerable time last week was spent on book work. We did not go out any evening but nearly every day before supper for practice. Wednesday I had Bessie here all day as the folks went to Albany for the celebration of the opening of the airport. She was very good, only of course I had to tend her most all the time. It was a nice warm day and she played out on the kitchen porch. On Thursday had Levent to Catsackie. On just a new hat & needed some other things - I also made a call on Dr. ^{Bennett}.

The men have picked the apples.
One day the cow disappeared and
Grandpa looked for her all morning.
We finally got her after dinner up in
Badgley's yard. I do not think grand-
pa had put the chain on the rod.
Have had letters from H & E.
He is rooming with Mike at 27 South
but he says he is on the best of terms
with Tom. Eva seems in good
spirits, tho' she has not been feeling
very well.

To-day we got some work from
D.D. & then took a long ride mostly
on country roads. I drove part way
but the road was so rough, I got
nervous & gave up till we struck
Medway - we had been south as far
as Prentiss & then out through Lome St.
Then I drove home but I guess I
keep pa on the anxious seat most
of the time.

I am wondering if Gracella was in Boston this week. I wrote W. more about the Hack rights but have had no answer.

I thank you for the pen - I am writing with it now - it is O.K. What's the bill? I did not mean for to pay so let me know & I'll send Pa is willing to wa & I must write now to H. - Had a card from Auntie - she spoke of coming up some week end with Mrs. Keau.

The foliage has changed very much in the last week - we went for a long ride last Sunday too. The ^{sumacs} ~~sumacs~~ are so pretty just now. Our flowers are still fine - I picked several bouquets today. Pa even found a last beautiful *Pastora*.

The grapes are nice now - wish you
had some - too bad we can't send
them safely.

I have put the wash falls in
the dresser drawer - have cleaned
the room but haven't fixed up
it.

I forgot to send you
white pajamas, ^{but} will do so this week.
I have put the wash to soak & can
only hope the machine will hold out.
Pa sent for the needed picture but
it is too small & must be returned.

I hope you keep well & happy - I
still miss you very much - I can't
get rid of that "all gone" feeling.

Love,
Mother.

P.S. I forgot - we were out Wednes-
day evening - went to Ashmun & Wells -
books on France business.

Matthews 53, Cambridge 38.

October 8, 1928.

Dear Maister,

Monday afternoon, and if you are
to get a letter tomorrow I must
write it now and mail it before
dark.

Today is another nice fall day, the
third in succession. Saturday I
had planned to go for the afternoon

Proper southward along a creek for
three or four miles. It varies in
width from a hundred feet to a
third or a half of mile. At the
south end there is Jamaica Pond,
a body of water a little larger
than Green's Lake, ^{entirely} surrounded by
trees which yesterday were in their
bright autumn colors. The arboretum
is not far beyond here I was
so fatigued by the time I had

with some friends to the Arboretum.
But when they didn't show up by
three o'clock I got "mad" and went
off alone. I walked down the Charles
away and then across into Boston
to across Braintree to the Fenway.
Braintree is still not a part of
Boston. It is where a great many
well-to-do people live. The houses
are old and the grounds nicely
kept up. The Fenway is a long
narrow park running from Boston

circled the Pond that I was glad to
get on a car for home.

Yesterday afternoon I took another
walk up to the Botanic Gardens
in the hope that the chrysanthemums
would be out but they seemed to
be no further forward blooming
than last week. I stopped as Miss
Hayes on the way back but she was out.

I was very much disappointed
Thursday evening not to hear the
Rath Market as I had told you

Intended. I have been at such
concerts before ^{when} ~~and~~ there was
scarcely a decent crowd, so that
I thought I should be in plenty of
time to insure getting in if I
left fifteen minutes before the
concert was to begin. But somehow
or other this one was well heralded
and as well attended. The place
had already been full quite a while

until the concert begins at 2:20.
Since, however, it's the only way
to get in unless you have a
prescription ticket (reason) it's the
best way, and well worth it. This
is the first fact I have been free
on Friday afternoons so that I
could do it.

I was unable to stay in the
English composition class because
it was so crowded that one of my

before I got there so that I, with
Acas or three hundred others, ~~were~~^{was}
turned away.

I somewhat appeared very disappointed
by "rusting" Symphony the next afternoon.
It was the first concert of the
season and I was very glad to be
there. "Rusting" means getting in line
by 12:30 or 1 o'clock, standing there
until 1:30 and then filing in like
a lot of cattle to sit and wait

Ability, or rather lack of ability, was
not wanted. I tried to get in the
only other such class but wasn't
allowed to enroll because ninety
four had already done so whereas
only sixty were wanted. I have
accordingly substituted a course
in German - reading in Schiller.

It will probably be as much or
more work, but more pleasant,
although perhaps not as beneficial.

Alarmed after I left. I did not
send it with the watch. The letter
is at the P. O. waiting & he called
for, and if I had the sleep I
could send them on to Eva. I
don't remember where I left it, but
perhaps I left it on the
dresser upstairs or in the
Lap drawer. You might look
if you have time. Also I
should like to have you send

it back with the laundry this
time and I'll have it changed
again. There will be no extra
charge. On the whole I thought
it was quite a good exchange,
but perhaps you want a slightly
different point. If you send it
back be sure to let me know
how different you want it.

Well I guess this will do for
now. I have a set of eighty-five
pages waiting to be corrected so
that I have my next few hours work

Cur that you me few to all George

Contrary to what I wrote I
have continued to take my
meals at the fraternity - i.e.
dinner everyday and lunch on
week-days except Friday. I get
these twelve meals for seven dollars
which is quite reasonable for
such good food as they are serving
this year.

Do you remember I seeing the
sheep of Co's with watch legs

a couple more books. They will
be easy to find for they are in
the middle drawer of the dresser
by my bed upstairs. They are:

1. Students' History of England
vol. 1. Gardiner - brown
book, small.
2. Engineering Drawing - French
brown book, large but was
thick.

Did you receive your pen all right?
If it doesn't satisfy you send

Friday morning Oct. 26.
[1928]

Dear Mother,

I'm afraid this can't be much of a letter, though I want you to have something before Sunday. I slept until eight-thirty so that now it's nine-thirty and nothing done yet. I have a class at eleven and at twelve I rush over to Boston to stand in line for Symphony-

rid of it yet.

Before I forget it again, let me congratulate you on your success with the 'wheel'. I'm glad you're getting along so well.

My ballot came the other day. I shall send it off either tomorrow or Monday. Hancock conducted a straw vote the last two days with the results appearing this morning. Hoover won by about 250 in a total vote of four thousand.

"and thus the day is utterly ruined."

For Lohain's got back here until after five and shall be so tired that I'll be glad for nothing until tomorrow.

I was glad to find your letter in the box when I went down this morning. Too bad grandpa had to have such a bad cold. I hope he will be quite recovered in a few days. I had quite a cold a couple of weeks ago and in fact haven't got entirely

Mr. Tweedy's book is at last out.
I received a copy from him a
couple of days ago. The printing
etc. is most attractive, even better
than I had hoped. As for the
contents I can only say that I
believe it to be a very good piece
of work, and important in its line.
I'm now convinced however that
it will receive a very warm reception
outside of Rochester, on the whole,
so that it will have a very large sale.

Thank you for enclosing Miss Boyd's
letter. I shall return it with this.

She has certainly been an angel to Eva.

I hope the clinic doctor will have at
least some measure of success, ~~or~~
^{anyhow,}
~~best~~ enough, so that Eva can
graduate, for I fear that if she
failed in that she might become
much worse.

Why don't you and father plan to
go out there next June? Of course

to stand this noon than for the
past two Fridays which have been
very warm.

Love to all
George.

I should be very sorry to have
neither of you here in Cambridge
but both Eva and the Bayds would
enjoy having you so much that
I think you should go if possible.

Well I believe I ought to
stay if I am to get anything
done or all this morning. I hope
you're having as fine a day as we are.
It's quite cool, but nice and
sunny. Somewhat more pleasant

Wednesday Morning -

Sept - Dec 1928

Dear George -

Received your letter yesterday - Sorry we did not send a large enough check but the enclosed will make up the balance + I trust you will receive it in time. Hope you have a pleasant Holiday season - Wish you could be home, but perhaps with fear you can. Everything as usual here. Went to Catskill yesterday to dentist - Found I have quite a job fixing some crown teeth or else soon lose them - I am undecided -

Pa is going so good bye.
Lovingly, Mother

Cassackie, W.V.,
Nov. 2/28

Dear George-

It is now 11.30 but I'll try to get this written before dinner time. Not much to write about but I know even a letter with no news is well come. Winter is here - our beautiful flowers are all gone now - the last house bouquet is faded. Pa has a few plants in the dining room and maybe they will blossom some time.

Grandpa says the animals on this place are "Loodoord" - The pig got so lame she couldn't walk so Pa sold it to Tom Browne - now we are looking for another little one. The chickens continue to pass out occasionally - the best of the remain dead in the big hen house - time will tell how they will perform. The Cuckoo is dead and looking since the last

falling frost - no more gold & red
foliage - all is near & brown.
Wilbur is not back yet tho' he
said they expected to be back by
Wed. night. He talked to Jessie on
phone Monday night from Warren-
burg but the connection was so poor
she could not understand much.
This morning I called up Mrs. Wain
& she said she had a card from
Ray mailed in Trenton yesterday
on their way home. Business has been
very dull nothing doing at all - it
really is tragic for M. to leave every-
thing the way he does & so much
at stake. Last evening & this morn-
ing I made out the bills over 50
involving hundreds of dollars -
He stopped in twice this week to
see Pessie - she talks a good deal
now and is busy every minute.
We are going to Catskill this after-
noon - On Sunday I broke a back
with, so got an appointment for today

I suppose you do not get a chance
to listen on radio - one can hardly
listen in without getting a political
speech of some kind from somewhere.
I have listened several times but
seldom all thro' a talk. Last night
we heard Hughes - he is a fine speaker
& he was thoroughly woke up, but
I was too busy to listen long. Frankly
I will be glad when it is all over and
I feel confident the American
people will choose the best.

Jessie told me last night
Etta Sherman had come home and
is almost a wreck. She had to work
so hard for her room & board & then
study late at night she found she
could not stand it. Too bad some
of the money that is spent foolishly
could not be used to keep an
ambitious girl like her - Mrs. Kelly
could & would not miss it.

Wonder if you have heard from Eva.
She had rather a hard time last
week - no classes after Tues. but
was feeling better on Thursday when
she wrote. Dr. wants her to go out
more & she is going to follow his
advice. She was to make one
more visit this week & then none
for some time. Have not yet heard
what the treatment for cure is, if any.
Have not had a word from
Harold this week but I saw in the
paper that he had been several inches
of snow up there on Tuesday.
Wouldn't you be surprised to see me
back out of the Wagon house, turn to
the north drive, turn around & drive
up to kitchen door all alone - Well I
did this morning. My only fear now
is I'll get rattled when I take the test -
I'm all right if everything else is, but
seem lost when an emergency comes.
Pa is encouraging & says I'll be all right.
Hope all is O.K. - Lovingly Mother

Sunday evening.
[5 Nov. 1928]

Dear Mother,

Your letter yesterday was most welcome, as I suppose this will be when it arrives. Last week went so quickly I

Monday noon - Well that's as far as I got last night - Someone was in here relating his week-end experiences

glad when it is over - I'm so
tired of seeing cars heading toward
the election. Boston Republicanism
brake our Friday night with one of
the largest parades in the history
of Boston - thirty thousand in line.
I did not attend, however, for
lack of particular interest in such
demonstrations and because of other
duties.

I guess you forgot that you didn't
feel me Wilbur had gone away.

and he stayed so long and talked
so much that I had to give up
and go to bed. And now another
week has started with all its ^{work} ~~the~~
Of the first things I have to do
is to make my first set of exam-
inations - fortunately the instructor
gave an easy exam so that the
task won't be very arduous.

Well, tomorrow is the big day,
isn't it; my! but I shall be

He surely is some trial

Tell grandpa Jim sorry his
animals are acting up so, but
that I don't worry so long
as the human animals don't become
'hoodooed'. Paai Saa, however,
seems to be living under an evil
spell, but I don't believe she'd
be any better off, or as well off,
in any other place, so we must
feel thankful things are so good
as they are. I have heard from

her only since this fault but that's
partly my fault for I owe her
a letter. I wrote her one last
night, though, which I shall
mail with this one.

Last week, though it passed
quickly, was not uneventful.
There was an interesting organ-
nital on Tuesday afternoon but
outside of that I was near out at
all. I had three leaves surviving
which I was glad to get, the

the "Back Cantata Club": They plan to give two informal recitals in local churches this winter. The other ~~source~~ here is the usual informal "sing". Friday night is the worst night of the week for me so that I haven't been able to go as yet but I shall try to go a few times, at least next term when I shall be able to go to the Friday concerts.

Just this year. There was no Friday afternoon concert so that I had that extra time to work. There will be one this week and I hope to be able to go. The "Sings" have been reorganized. Meetings are held every Friday night for two hours. The Junior Hour is devoted to serious work there taking part being so regular. They constitute what is known as

Congratulations on your further
success with the car. Please don't
have any relapses.

Well I'm afraid I'm out of news
and alas that I never get to walk
Lane to all.

George

Matthews 53, November 18, 1928.

Dear Nathan,

I had a letter from Harold today in which he said the folks were disgusted with him for not writing - I hope you don't feel that way about me. We had a double week ~~but~~ this week because of the holiday yesterday so that one

members of the Bach Cantata Club
She and a friend have an apartment
near here. There were a couple of
others present neither of whom I
had met before nor care much
about meeting again though I shall
have to. The occasion was only
mildly successful but from no fault
of Julia's. After supper we set
went over to the "sing" which
due to the new leader was the
most successful I had ever
attended.

might have thought I could write
but I studied so much of the time
that I was too tired to write.

Friday evening Julia Bryant had
me to supper. I presume you know
who she is for I must have spoken
of her before. She was a student at
Vassar when Mr Tweedy sang
there before the war, and has
since been active in musical affairs
in Cambridge and vicinity. She is the
accompanist and one of the prime

Saturday afternoon I called on Miss Hayes. She seemed quite tickled to see me and had as much or more than can be said about. She is a most ardent Republican and had got very much excited over the campaign. She said that just after election she was so tired that she was afraid she would have a shock.

Sunday morning, Rev. Soares of Chicago Univ. who is my most favorite preacher conducted the service at

Chapel. Being Armistice Day the
sermon had to be on war; but he
gave a refreshingly non-marched sermon
making clear that humanity has got
over fighting in families, tribes and
nations, and can be expected to get
over fighting among nations.

Well its supper-time and I don't
think of anything to say now, but I
guess I won't close this yet for I
doubt if you will get it tomorrow
anyway. Guess I shall stop though

for you might get it tomorrow if
I mail it right away. I'm sorry it's
so long since I wrote, I never
try to be better.

Love to all

George.

Carsackie, N.S.

Nov. 18/28

Dear George,

I'm sorry you did not get a letter last week but hope you received the apples yesterday. Pa meant to write Friday but did not get at it. The weeks go so quickly & the days are so full that we do not accomplish all we want to. Last Monday we moved out of the kitchen so it could be cleaned. Lane floor vanished so we were up all week. Got to rights yesterday just in time to welcome Harold home. The big football game between Union & Hamilton took place yesterday & as he was down as far as Schuersady he came home - he did ask consent - We were glad to have him. I would have had Melvin's folks yesterday to try but N. had to work & Jessie had planned

to go to Langanties with her father. As I
had them all to supper last night
Harold got home about 7. We
went to church this morning. Had
the same young fellows we had
four weeks ago - Lewis very good.
By the way Mr Ballard has resigned.
This afternoon we, that is H & I -
went out a little while - Mr. Deane
Went to see ^{but} they were all out, so we
called on Uabell. H. left on Dec. 23
Hain this evening & everything is
so quiet again - he plans to come
home for Thanksgiving & will proba-
bly have to help pa get some wood.

What warm weather we have had -
here we sit to - night with not a
sign of a fire in the house.

Had a letter yesterday from
Eva - she was still at Miss Bueg's
resting - hadn't had a spell since
Oct. 17 - & was going out some.

Not much news to write. Every
thing runs along about the same.
This past week had some business
troubles that rather upset us all -
but it has blown over for the present.
Pa went to another funeral this
week - thru Spoor died Tues. the
result of being overcome with
coal gas in his home.

We do not remember her ever
mentioning Julia Bryant.

Harold was looking among the books
for "King Lear" - He has to have it to study -
I found a copy among your books &
let him take it - Was that alright?

Another thing - He must have gymnasium
shoes - classes begin to - tomorrow - I
see you have a pair here but I would
not let him take them without your con-
sent - What do you say - if you will use
them again - all right - pay \$5. & I'll tell
him to buy a pair - I'm sure when

You write again
Can't think of anything else
just now - I am rather nervous
to night - quite tired out - & my back
has been very troublesome again -
also that lower tooth has been jerking
to-day off & on - that is the first I has
loosened that way - I'm going to
paint the gum now with codine &
go to bed.

Just you keep well & do not
work too hard.

Loveingly
Mother.



May all your dreams
and hopes be realized
during the coming year.



George B. Van Schaack,
 Matthews 53
 Cambridge 38
 Mass.

POST CARD

Nov. 22/28

Dear George -
 Just a line to con-
 gratulate you on your
 latest honor to election
 in Phi Beta Kappa - you
 certainly have earned it,
 and we trust it will
 prove an asset to your
 success. Lovingly,
 Mother

[Nov. 26, 1928]

Mauley afternoon.

Dear Mother,

Just a few lines before dinner.
I'll write more fully in a couple
of days. I suppose you have
been having a snow storm from
what I saw in the papers this
morning. We had an inch or ^{snow} two of
yesterday but I'm afraid it won't

sixty dollars right away, (if you
haven't already done so). I shan't
need any more then until after
New Year and possibly not then
if I should get enough ~~to~~ ^{to} do.

The laundry came today; thank
you for the raisins.

Well it's supper time and after
supper I have a long essay to
write so I'd close this and mail
it now. I hope you'd all have

last until Thursday, though I
wish it would.

I haven't heard from you
yet in regard to the money but
I must write before I hear because
my bill must be paid Friday before
two o'clock. I have had a letter
from Mr Tweedy in which he
promised ^{me} a hundred dollars the
first of the month but that
will be too late to pay the bill.
So, if you can, please send

a very pleasant Thanksgiving.
I wish I could be with you.

Love to all,

George.

Matthews 53

Monday afternoon, 12/3/29

[Enclosure stamped 1928]

Dear Heather,

In less than three weeks I shall be
back in Coxsackie again. It scarcely
seems Christmas is so near but now
that Thanksgiving is past I suppose
we must expect it to come along
right soon. I hope you will had a
pleasant holiday. I spent the

miles and came home by Sealey. That evening I felt rather disinclined to study so I made my first visit to the local movie theatre. I hadn't been to the movies for over a year so thought I might stand them over again. I had an amusing, if not profitable, evening but had enough to keep me away again for a year or two.

Saturday afternoon the fraternity held its fall initiation at which I had to assist. They had the usual haugus in the evening but I didn't

stay in quite an ordinary sort of way. I studied in the morning until one o'clock. At that time several of us went to the cafeteria for our dinner. There was no dinner served at the fraternity that day. They were serving a very palatable dinner at the cafeteria, however, so I didn't have to fidget it was Thanksgiving. As a matter of fact we all had to meet to eat that on coming over we went for a walk. The day was quite pleasant. We waded up the river a couple of

go this time. In fact the affair
tired me so that I lay down
right after supper, fell asleep and
didn't wake up until after ten o'clock.

A week ago Thursday I had a telephone
call from Cohasset (a suburb on the
South Shore) waiting for me when I
came in from class. I knew there
was a girl living there who had
been at Eastman when I was.
But I didn't know her very well and
hadn't heard of ^{her} or seen her since I
met her on the street here when I
first came to Cambridge so I

2

could hardly imagine what she
should want. I went down stairs
and called her, and found that
she had staying with her for
a few days Irving MacArthur, the
blind fellow whom we met when
we first went to Rochester. He
had given an organ rental there
the night before and was staying
over in the hope of getting other
engagements. He arranged for them
to come over that afternoon and
look about Harvard. When they got

classes in reading, in which the children
read almost as easily as if they had
not been blind; we also ^{saw} them playing
games, dancing, roller skating, etc.
One almost forgets they were blind.
When we left we drove into Boston
to get Edmund Stanley, another
former student at Eastman, and
then over to Colosseum for dinner.
You can imagine there was quite
a lot of talk about Eastman in
Colosseum that night.

Saturday afternoon they came

here, however, they had planned
to go instead to the Perkins Institute
^(for the blind)
so I went along with them. The
institute is nicely located on a
hill overlooking the Charles. It
has not been there many years so
that all the buildings are quite new.
The grounds are very nicely laid out
and the buildings are very attractive.
We saw quite a bit of the place,
spending part of the time going
about with a party, who were
^{gummers}
there inspecting the place. We saw

see again, this time to see Harvard. It's
rather a task to show a blind
person about a place of this kind
and size but we got on very well. We
fortunately met one of the organists
whom I asked to let us in the chapel
to see the organ. It happened that
he had met MacArthur years ago
so that he was glad to let him
go in and play. After that we
went around to look at some of
the museum where there is
sculpture which Mac could handle.

I have just been down to the
 mailbox to see if there was a letter
 from Mr. Tweedy. He promised me
 some money for last Saturday but
 the letter ^{came} then without the check.
 It has stopped his mind and he
 may not think of it for several
 days, perhaps not even then. I
 shall, however, remind him in a
 few days for it is possible he
 sent it and it was lost. But
 in the meantime I am quite out
 of money. Both of your checks

I hope I shall be more comfortable
in this one than I was before.

I had a letter the other day
from Miss Bisher congratulating
me. She had seen ~~the~~ notice
in the Boston Herald. She is
still teaching at Greenfield. She
wishes to be kindly remembered to
all of you.

In this afternoon's mail there
was a ^{very sweet} letter from Mrs Tweedy,
Donald's mother. I shall enclose it.
Please return it when you write.

came ok. and in plenty of time, and
I send you thanks. But Sir afraid
I must ask you for another seventy
dollars to keep me until Mr. Tweedy's
check comes. If you can't send it
otherwise take it out of the savings
bank. I'd send it back as ^{soon as} the check
does come.

The cake arrived on Friday. Many
thanks. It is very good and a nice touch
of home.

Tomorrow night is the big night.
Tomorrow afternoon I shall have to
go in to Boston and hire a box.

Well its fine indeed, and if you
are to get this tomorrow, as I hope,
I must go out and mail this
right away.

Special love to grandpa. I'm
glad hes feeling so well. Tell
him it wait be long till Christmas
now.

Love to all

George.

Cassachie W.V.
Dec. 14/28

Dear Geo-

I want to thank you for
your nice birthday letter - It was
good of you to think of me when
you are so busy. As usual we
had a "pig party" as I have had
so many years on Dec. 1st - Pa
bought a pig already butchered &
Melba took half of it - It is not as
large as we usually have but
there is just about as much grease
and truly-utensils to contend with.
Made the sausage yesterday &
will sample it this noon.

We are having beautiful weather
On Wednesday we went to Albans
I had very little time there - At
noon pa received a flat tire and he
fussed with it at home - again
Downtown & then had to go to the shop
so we did not get started till 2:30.
I drove up in 50 minutes - So I forgot

to say I really have my disease -
probably now I will not get out
much this the winter. - It was
rather like going thro' purgatory for
me and feel relieved it is over. I'll
tell you about it when you get home.
Albany is arranged in Holiday attire
I think I never looked prettier -
that is the store decorations. It
was after 17 when we got home as
usual grandpa was worried.
Pa got a pair of leave pants for
route & I bought a new hat and
very little else - the crowds were
awful. I will not trouble you to
get me any thing except one thing for
pa as it is hard to purchase with
him around. I must go to dentist
on Tue. at Catskill, but as I will
probably have to travel via bus - I
will have scarcely any time to shop.
So if you go to the stores at all you
might try buy a prophylactic hair brush

or any other good hair brush for pa-
dout go especially so we can get one
down town probably tho' it would cost
more no doubt. You can also get
the calendar for grandpa - & I'll
pay you for it - I don't get in Albany
but also that you might already
have purchased one.

Next week will be a rushy one here
as pa expects to work in p. d. - Harold
is to go on route, he comes either Tues
or Wed; - When do you come - oh,
I'll be so glad to see you.

That was a very nice letter of Mrs
Wredy's - I'll return it. - Yes, I'll
look for that book for Eva & send it -
I meant to buy her a book but
will send her the money to do so -
It's hard for me to do the ~~house~~
shopping - I'd like plenty of time to
go into the stores & look around &
find what I want & then have the

Cash to pay for it -

Sunday we were all invited up to Jessie's for dinner - Swall's day off, but he spent all day working on a car at shop - no use trying to visit him - The store is a continual source of worry & annoyance - Pa gets up every day then for several hours - he does not work there to do all the time - I don't know how ~~to~~ they manage to work when he is m.f.d. all day -

Jack has had an immense bunch on his neck hanging right down under his jaw - but he did not seem ill, acted as usual. This morning - a few minutes ago - he came in all blood - the bunch had broken - maybe it will heal now.

Mockwood so I'll stop. Hope you are ok. & will look forward to your home coming next week.
Love, Mother

P. J. - Noon -

Your letter to Pa came this
noon - I am enclosing bus
time table - You can get a bus
at Albany on Sat. at 9 + 11.15
if you are too late for the 5 or 5.30
Should you ever get stranded in
Albany go to U.M.C.A. I wonder
why you do not come till Sat.
I hoped you'd get here Thurs
& Friday - Can't be College
doesn't close till Friday -

The package of Stationers &
candy also came this AM -
They are just too pretty to untie -
Thank you very, very much.
Had a ^{burkhan} card from Miss Boyd
but nothing yet from Eva - Hop
He is no worse. Lovingly
written

[Dec. 29, 1937]

Friday noon

Dear Mother,

I've a few lines to say when
I expect to reach home. I must
attend an eleven o'clock class tomorrow
so that I can't leave Boston
until three o'clock. I should be
in Albany by half past eight

I hope you'll get this letter
before I get home but it is so
late perhaps you won't.

Love to all

George

which will be plenty of time
to catch the bus which gets into
Cassock at 10:10.

Now I must address the list of
my Christmas cards and go out and
mail them. I must also get a
package ready to mail early
tomorrow morning - I had to
wait half an hour the other
day to mail one.

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Cassachie W. Va.

Oct. 24/28

Dear George -

Perhaps you think it is a long time since I wrote to you but I think of you about all the time and frequently write you a letter usually. I just got that the week is slipping away & to-morrow we go to Letchville to attend the Co. S. S. Convention. Not much news to write - everything moving a long about the same. Cooler to-day so we are enjoying a wood fire in the heater. I was up street this afternoon to see Mrs Moore & then called on Fannie. Pa had some work done on the car in the meantime. My dress is about finished & I think will be very satisfactory. Yesterday was the first day I had not been

out somewhere since you went away. The
meant to go, but the afternoons are so short
now & we had so much to do, it got dark
before we could get started. To-day
Dad's truck & will have guns ready to trail
to-morrow. Pa takes the N. Y. Times now
every day and if one would defect even a
part of it, takes considerable time. Then
we occasionally listen in to some political
talks, generally only part of a speech - really
one gets tired of being fed up on quite so much
as is being passed around this year - I'll
be heartily glad when election is over.

We are still picking bouquets of Calandulias
Zinnias and Cosmos but I fear to-morrow may
quench them up. To-day Pa started putting
the tulips in but did not finish.

Grandpa has had a very bad cold but
the mucus over tho he still coughs. Heard
to-day that Elias Galt passed away last night.
Also heard that Nick's Spool's Barn burned
down but no particulars.

Harvey was away over the week end - he
went with his Illinois friends to Stamford, in an
old Ford - it must have been a mild & woolly
drive. - Pa saw Walter Freeman last week
up street - He asked about you.

Have not done any real house
cleaning lately - have been going out too
much. On Sat. I lost my permit but the
time is about up anyway and Pa wants me to
get another.

If I don't forget, I'll enclose Miss Boyd's
letter received to-day. Poor Eva had a hard
time last week but was all right on Sunday. They

Have been to the specialists in C. P. the
last two Saturdays & go again Friday. I
judge from what she & Eva write that
he thinks he has discovered the cause of
Eva's trouble (apparently some special
thing that is on her mind) and claims
he can cure her for he told Eva by Tues
Fall she could hold down a job. I
do not know what nature the cure will
be but he said she would have a hard time
but she was equal to it. She seems very
much encouraged and we will all hope
& trust she will be entirely cured.

Now it is noon tea time - I have been
doing book work all evening & my head
is tired. I hope you are busy - do you
keep warm? Pa says he'll send the apples
soon, they are just getting fit to eat. - Went
down to Church Sunday - Had a young man a student
from N. B. Theol. Seminary - He looked so much like you
that Mrs Case whispered it to me during the service.
Pardon Mother.

Loosackie W.V.
Dec. 19, 1928

Dear George -

I suppose you are pushing around pretty lively so as to get all your work done up before leaving. If you do not get a chance to finish your shopping, you can go to Coatskill with me on Monday afternoon. I was down yesterday to Dr. Bennett's & went to again on the 24th.

Pa started working in poor office today, & Harold & Grandpa went on route - I am mailing now (now 2) for Pa to come to dinner - regular hotel miles (not rates) this week. I forgot to say H. came home Sunday - surprised us before breakfast - we did not expect him till 5 - or 6. The flu

Epidemic struck Hamilton and Harold was
more scared than hurt, I guess. He went to the
infirmary on Monday & took medicine all week then
the nurse gave him - she wanted to put him to bed,
but he balked. On Saturday he went again & this
time the doctor was there & also suggested his getting
to bed. Instead he interviewed the Dean & got per-
mission to come home. He staid in bed all day
Sunday & till Monday noon - has been out ever
since. Weather is very mild & the roads
dry as summer time. - Here came Pa' -

Now I'll finish up while he is eating - He
says the rush in P.D. is not very lively yet.
I got package ready & sent to Eva today -
Did not have much time yesterday in
store, so must go down town to-morrow.

Am cooking pig's head today & must
make the head cheese this afternoon.

Dressed a little this morning - will not
try to finish it all this week for I can
do it next week after Christmas. Monday
was stormy & Tuesday very windy, so I had
what work with wash this week. Quite a
few things blew off the line & had to be
quised over - I finally dried most of
the things over heater.

Harold received your letter today.
Pa & I. made wreaths last evening -
Nothing of importance to write - Will look for
you Sat. - I'm wandering if you'll be here
to supper - Hope you have a safe trip.
Loveingly,
Mother

[3 Jan 1929]

Thursday morning

Dear Mother

I arrived Oct. last evening
slightly after ten o'clock. The train
left Albany about a half an hour
late but made up a few minutes
of time before reaching Boston.
There was only one coach and it
was dreadfully crowded. There

notes on the back of each. There was also a check from Radcliffe for \$8.75 so that I didn't need any money for quite a while, if at all.

Thank you all for giving us such a nice vacation. I enjoyed it even as much.

The hunt was fine, but more than I could see - I brought the "refreshments" along.

Love to all
George

were many Harvard fellows on board but no one whom I knew. The fellow who sat with me from Springfield is a freshman here, and I had a nice talk with him. Harold's train was on time, 3:53, so that he left shortly before I did.

I found quite a pile of mail awaiting me. There were cards from several people with short

Coisackie, N.H.

Jan. 7/29

Dear George-

I meant to write to you yesterday but after writing three (three) letters last night, I felt I could not do more. Have not yet acknowledged all my gifts from friends.

Was glad to receive word from you of your safe arrival - it was nice to meet the other Harvard boys en route. The same mail brought a card from H. As usual the house seemed very empty & lonesome after you both left in fact more so than ever. For Pat & I agree that we never enjoyed your visit home any more than this time. I missed your helping hand and your company & advice. I tried not to collapse too much so buckled right in to dismantle the tree & clean up the Christmas upset, so when you came home all trace of greens &

Presents were gone. We went to
Coatskill Friday as per schedule
and now I am thro for the present.
Lawrence Lane a date for Feb. 28 for
your treatment & hope nothing else
in my mouth will call me down
there before that. On our way home
we stopped at Tompkins but found
only Florence & Virginia at home.
Mrs. Tompkins is spending the winter
in Coatskill caring for an old lady.
Pa must go down this afternoon to
that meeting with Supervisors on the
Hallock road subject & he wants me
to ride along, so probably I'll see
Mrs. T. for a while.

Saturday was quite cold - Pa's
radiator kept freezing & he had
to go up to store after leaving Uncle
Geo's to get alcohol. But Sunday
morning was as balmy as Spring time.
High winds are blowing today but it is
not very cold. We heard another
very fine sermon by Hinkamp - even
better than last Sunday.

Did not go out after dinner but
rested, read & listened to Cadman.
Radio quit working on Saturday
night in the middle of "Cheerio" so
I got another battery. Intercom not
that we couldn't get anything plain
yesterday but W.M.

Grandpa went to the woods
every day and again this morning
tho' pa told him not to do that
thing before he went to P.D. I tried
my best to stop him but no use.
He has one more load after today.
I think at times he is about as con-
trary as Milburn. He & Jessie went to
N.Y. yesterday in spite of the fact
he can neither afford the time
nor money - said they would be
back Wed. night and this is the 10th.
Pa was just about sick over it Sat.
night but got over it.

Had a letter from Miss Bay & which I

will enclose if possible tho' it is
rather bulky. If you write to my
letter not say anything about school
probably the least said, the better
for we cannot any of us help
matters nor give advice. It is
too bad but matters might be
worse and I am not surprised
for I knew she was in no shape
last Sept. to tackle hard studying.
Write when you can for she needs
cheering up.

I found Mrs. Tweedy's letter &
will enclose - keep it for it is worth it.
Now I must write to Auntie. What
a grand & glorious feeling it is not
to have to wash today - but I still
have part of the last evening to finish.
Now I hope you will keep well &
enjoy the mending up of your college career
and until next time "Cheerio!"
Louise
Mother.

Matthews 53

January 14, 1929.

Dear Mother

I'm afraid you'll be thinking I've caught the 'flu'. I have successfully steered clear of it so far and hope I can for a couple of more weeks at least. Quite a few about here have it but none very seriously. It's a wonder there haven't been many more cases for we have had such

thing ever since I came back - sitting
at my desk writing up notes. I
have got quite a lot done but have
a good way to go yet. Last Wednesday
evening I was at the annual of the
Hungary Quartet vocalists, and last
Friday at Sanders Theatre, here in
Cambridge, to hear the Prague
Teacher Chorus, brought here by
Mrs F. S. Coolidge. The chorus is
composed of fifty Gypsies, all men,
ranging in age from twenty-five
to sixty. They sing unaccompanied

fluctuating weather. Today we are
having some real winter - the
thermometer down to zero this
morning, and four or five inches
of snow on the ground.

I had a box of candy from Eva
a few days ago, and on Saturday a
letter. She was back in Voorhees Hall
to try another week of school. She
wants to finish some of her subjects
this term although she does plan
to go back next semester.

I have been doing pretty much one

fellows worked on my tooth all
afternoon only to have the
instructor ^{finally} refuse to let him
prepare another inlay without
the approval of a doctor who is
there only on Thursdays! So I
must go back on Jan. 31. They
want to fix it with gold &
porcelain but say that if I have
it fixed that way I can't have
the gold taken off later without
possibly breaking the tooth. The
only ^{other} alternative to putting another
inlay of porcelain is a jacket crown

time but I didn't tell it then because
I wasn't sure enough. I have been
granted a part-time instructor-
ship here for next year, i.e. I
will teach two courses and take
two courses, in mathematics of
course. The pay is not magnificent
but I can exist on it. I shall
receive nine hundred dollars in cash
and free tuition in the two courses.
I am quite indebted to my tutor for the
job. I mentioned to him quite casually
last fall that I should like to stay

of porcelain. That is, they file most
of the tooth away and derive an
the peg thus formed a porcelain
tooth specially made to match my
teeth. This would be considerably
more painful and more expensive
so that if I can get them to put
another inlay on I shall do so,
although it may come off
before I get home.

Well, I have a bit of news for
you. I'll have to confess to
practically knowing it at Christmas

here but didn't see how I could. In December when I told him that I had been over to the Appointment Office he said he didn't think I needed to for he was planning on getting me an instructorship. I didn't have even to make out a formal application. He championed my cause and in due time the Department voted in favor.

I have, of course, yet to be "officially" appointed, that is the "President & Fellows" must yet confirm the appointment but that is a matter of form and time only.

I'm afraid I shall have to ask
you to send another check if you can.
I haven't yet been paid for the
kissing I did before Christmas and
I am about out of money. Twenty-
five dollars would be quite enough,
I think and hope.

Well, it's getting along toward
five o'clock so I'll stop and go out
to mail this. It's so cold outside
I hate to go out but perhaps it
will give me some 'pep'.

I shall enclose Miss Boyd's letter.

Thank you for sending it.

Love to all,

George.

P.S. Better keep quiet about the
instantaneous for the time being.

[11 Feb 1929

Monday afternoon -

Dear Mother -

I was very sorry to hear that you have been sick. Jessie's sickness must have been contagious. I hope this will find you around again and feeling much better. But please don't go as it has had again too soon. I manage to keep very well myself. I believe the danger of "flu"

from Mr. Tweedy's mother a beautiful
grandfather-clock built in France in
1689. It still has the original works
and runs perfectly! It is about eight
feet high - in fact just clears the
ceiling. It is built of some dark red
wood, possibly mahogany, and inlaid
with lighter woods.

On Wednesday evening I shall hear the
Hayzley Quartet again - and for the
last time ever, which is a great pity
for they are a group of most excellent
musicians.

The weather has been quite spring -

is practically over. I haven't heard
anything about it in quite a while.

Last week passed quite without
event except for the usual mathematics
club on Wednesday evening. This week,
will partly make up for it, however. Mr.
Tweedy called here yesterday afternoon
to ask me to go up there to dinner
tonight. I am going but shall have
to run right off after dinner because
I had planned to go to Symphony
tonight. I forgot to mention in
my last letter that they have invited

like of late. We had a big rain last week
which took off all the snow. Since
then it has been wet and soft under
foot about all the time.

Well, my times up as well as my
news. I must close now and get dressed.

I send you all my love as a Valentine.

George.

Catsackie, W.V.
Feb. 18/29

Dear George I fear you must think
I have sadly neglected you of late
but I think of you about all the
time. Since I have been about
the house again, so many things
have claimed my attention and
considerable time was consumed
in catching up with the book work.
Then, too, I had to rest often as first
but feel quite normal again and
able to keep going most of the
time. Today we did our washing.
I had accumulated for 3 wks.
but we were hit by 11.30 & it has
been a wonderful day to have clothes
out.

Yesterday we all went to church.
In the afternoon found for army spots
call on Mr. Hood - He is about the same.

Mr. Went once to call on Uabel & then
for a little while as Coopers - had not
been there since early in the fall.
It was the first I had driven in a long
time - was wet around the back roads
some ice & mud but not very bad.

Have not heard from Eva in
most 2 weeks but had some news
from her for Valentine's Day. I do
hope she will be able to take a journey
& see this this year tho' I try not to let
my heart on it, for I know any day
may bring word of a change of plans
for her.

The 2nd Church have sent a call
to a young man at the Western Theo.
Seminary, Holland - A. H. H. graduate.
He preached here the Sunday I was sick,
so I did not hear him, but those who
did speak highly of his preaching & manner.
Poor fellow, I feel sorry for him to start
in here for I consider it a hard field
especially with ties so near.

The rail crossing business is evidently coming to a close as before long. Today we had a notice served by the Public Service Commission to appear at a hearing on the elimination of both these crossings here on Mar. 5 in Albany. Pa thinks it is cut & dried & is resigned to being totally isolated - it has made use of other blue all day.

The village has been notified to remove the up street hose house as it stands on R.R. land, so they are up a tree & don't know what to do. They had 30 days, but half that time is gone & they are no nearer a solution than at first. To my mind this ought to have been attended to long ago - somebody is to blame for having back.

Grandpa is enjoying the radio (car phone) & pa is reading after some strenuous book work - we spent about an hour settling up quilts & cleaning files. - Jessie is going to lose her boarder this

Mark - going to N.Y. - About 35 men or there
have recently been laid off in Superior
Proprietor & Valve works - business is very
dry dull. I wish J. would consent to
do this book work & help W. in the store -
She told me she wanted to get a job in some
store but probably W. wouldnt have her.
Filtour is building a shed addition to
the rear of store for the repair work -
means to enlarge the front room by re-
moving a partition. Covers she would like
the cement work on foundation to - last -
Maybe its all right, I dont know.

When you write tell me when your
earlier vacation takes place - I think H's
will be the first week of April & so is Auntie's.
Also tell me again what day commence-
ment is - did you say the 3rd Wed in June?
It will be out of the question for any of us to
go to Hall and even if E. sees good. But we may
be able to go to one or two other places nearer.
Grandpa seems to feel very good now but every
day shows signs of his advancing age. - Well
I guess this is all now - Hope you are keeping
well and having some pleasures in between
Love very much,
Louise

[25 Feb 1929

Sunday evening.

Dear Mother,

Oh dear, Oh dear, how the time do fly! I was glad to see you letter in the middle of the week and find that you are back on your feet again.

I have received the official notice of my appointment. I have the long and imposing title of "Instructor in Mathematics and Tutor in the Division of Mathematics"!!

If Mrs Pray were in need I would
to come in and sit down. But
instead of Mrs Pray a strange woman
came into the room. I was yet quite
unsuspecting. I asked ^{again} for Mrs Pray.

The woman hesitated, scarcely
knowing whether I knew I was.
She answered at last asking me if
I had heard that Mrs Pray had
died on Friday morning. You may
imagine my confusion for such
a thing can hardly form my mind.
He had died very suddenly, from

My name - wrongly spelled of course -
appears in the war news list of
causes

I had quite a shock yesterday. I
met Mr. & Mrs. Pray at the Langley
rental on the 13th. Mrs Pray gave
me a very cordial invitation to
drop in and see her sometime so
I promised I would within four weeks.
Yesterday afternoon was so nice I
thought I would walk up that way
and call on her. I rang the bell
and the maid answered it. I asked

what cause I don't know. He was
not an old man and I had never
heard that he was anything but
quite well. His death will be a
shock to Mr. & Mrs. Tweedy, to Downes
especially, for he used to spend
countless Sunday afternoons there
when he lived in Cambridge.

I spent last Monday afternoon at
the Dental School again. They haven't
done anything with my front tooth
yet and won't for a month or
less. They dug out most of the
interior of one of my molars and

took an impression of it. They are
making a gold casting to fix it.
The student beg for an hour and
a half straight. He finally hurt me
so much that I could scarcely
feel the drill towards the end.

Washington's Birthday has come
and gone. It was a rather
unsatisfactory day, all holidays
are here. I seem to think I can
get up later and do, and that
rather ruins the day.

We have a large amount of
snow on the ground now. I suppose

week in April (7-14). That is only
six weeks away. It will go like
the wind for I have a lot to do
in that time. The general exams in
mathematics come shortly after
it. Commencement is the third
Thursday in June, June 20th. I hope
some of you can be here, all three
of you if possible. The ceremony
itself will be short and over
and soon over, but if you could
spend a couple of days here we
could have such a good time going
about.

you had a storm since we had one.
The weather is most uncertain this
winter. We have a day every now and
then when we go around without
coats or hats as in late April.

It's so bad about the crossing.
I should make as big a haul as
possible on Mar. 5th. Aren't the
New Cassockie merchants interested
in the South road? They will probably
do as they please anyway but I should
make a noise about it and let them
know what I thought of it.

Each variation comes the second

Well it's ten o'clock. I must stop
and correct some papers and
do a little with work before
going to bed.

Thank you for getting the laundry
back so soon the week you were
sick.

Love to all,

George

[5 Mar 1929]

March 4, 1929.

Dear Mathew,

No better way to start a new administration than by writing a letter. It's rather late, but if I don't write now I may not get around to it for a couple of days. By the way, I haven't had any

we should know. Moreover we
must write a thesis on something
or other. I got my subject today.
It is, "The motion of the gyroscope
and its more important applications".
It had to be something in mechanics
for that's all I have been studying
in tutorial this year. I'd as soon
it were the gyroscope as anything
else, and more so I believe, for
the gyroscope has always intrigued
me.

letter from home in quite a while.
But I realize the fier of the month
has just passed and that you have
been very busy.

The time is going dreadfully fast.
Only several more weeks of study,
and only about nine more before
general exams. The ^{winter} exams themselves
won't be so bad, for they cover only
the first three years of mathematics.
But the oral exam covers anything
in mathematics the examiners think

Winter is passing rather reluctantly. We have had a considerable amount of snow since I last wrote, and about an equal amount of rain, so that we have been in a considerable slush for some time.

I was at the Dental School again today. They had the cast gold-filling prepared but had to prepare another flask for filling before putting it in. Consequently it isn't in yet. It's

quite expensive - the gold alone,
which is all I have to pay for,
cost six dollars.

Has to be real about. I wonder
if you are planning on card shower
for grandpa. I hope so

The funeral of Prof. Pray was
held last Monday afternoon in the
college chapel. It was very largely
attended. The coffin was completely
covered with flowers. Although
he was little known among the

Love to all and good night
George.

Students, he was nevertheless a
great servant of Harvard, and probably
the leader of his profession, landscape
gardening and city-planning. It
seems quite incredible that he is
dead - in fact I haven't brought
myself to believe it yet.

Now it is late and I must go
to bed. Many things await on the
morrow. Thank you for the raisins.
I have just been regaling myself
with some of them.

M. B. VAN SCHAACK
COXSACKIE, N. Y.

Mar. 7/29

Dear George-

Was glad to get your letter yesterday - did not realize it was very long since I wrote, that we sent you a letter last week, but may be not - time flies so! Did I ever tell you how happy I am at your appointment because it seems to be just exactly what you wanted and tho' it may not pay very well, it surely will be an opening wedge to something better. I congratulate you - we are all proud of you.

We too have been having very stormy weather, but now it is clear & windy, quite like March as it should be. We went to Albany Tuesday to the crossing hearing - I found hard all day & was not a very pleasant trip. We used Oscar's taking care to

the neighbor below. It was not as exciting as we anticipated, as the idea was to eliminate only one crossing, not both. This was the impression the notice gave us. But Pa was glad he had Lawyer Smith from Catchell & he will probably see the whole thing thro'. The conclusion was to close up the plank road crossing & make a connecting road thro' our land this side of the railroad - it will go thro' the orchard & across the straw berry & asparagus beds.

Well, the Berhinspers have returned for the summer - quite a surprise to us - we think the kids have grown very much. Have not seen the woman yet, but perhaps I'll try to get her to help with the rowing as she did last summer. There does seem to be so much to do here all the time we are always in a commotion. If we could only cut out "crowd pigs" but that does not meet with favor. They butchered one pig yesterday. The other seems well but cannot use its front legs & the men really

do not know what to do with it. Yesterday
the baby was sick - colic. I did not
know it till about four o'clock p.m. old me.
He woke me up at 5 & I staid till about 10.
She had quite a fever but seems some-
better to-day - I am waiting to hear what
the doctor says. Mr. Cooley does not im-
prove at all, in fact is worse & liable to pass
away any minute. Mr. had planned
to start for the Adirondacks with 2 other
fellows last night but we persuaded him
not to go & he didn't. It seems there is
always something to be a problem & an-
noyance.

While we were gone Tuesday grandpa
had company - Mary, Earl, Dow, & Jean.
I have been looking for them for 2 years
& then I was away. Oh, by the way,
we are planning a surprise for the
17th rather than the 16th Saturday. Pa seemed
to want something & I said if he'd Mary
would help, I'd consent. But they are going

Good to get your letter - Did you find this letter
Wed - I think of you & wish I were a person nearby.

M. B. VAN SCHAACK
COXSACKIE, N. Y.

May 10/29

Dear George - Don't forget Operation's Succession
Most time for Pa to go but
maybe I can get a few pieces written -
The men are white-washing the little
Chicken House - expect some chicks
from over the river on Monday
Had quite a hard frost last night -
Maybe now it will be warmer. The
frost has lit up & ground begins to
dry out. Yesterday Pa set out
some bedding plants & bushes he had
sent away for. The holly hocks are
set out back of the house. There
is so much to do I cannot possi-
bly do it all - Yesterday he said he
wished you were here to help him

Grandpa keeps moaning about all
the time but does not seem pleased
very much. He is really childish
about some things and very
obstinate. However we let him
have his way as far as possible.
I am "enjoying" a peachy cold -
it began with a sore throat
& I did not reflect to doctor it -
that is better, but the cold went up
head & down on chest - however
I keep moaning - would probably
get better sooner if I gave up &
went to bed. I was disappointed
this week in not having Mrs B.
to help me - I had planned to
make good headway with the clean-
ing after the packing was out of the way.

But the poor woman has been very
sick - I was one this several times
but it is not ^{M. B. VAN SCHAACK} ^{COBRACKIE HOK} one can do with
the man home. He had a pen in
with Dr. John night before met sent
him flying - they he got Dr. Van-
& sent a telegram for Marie, is?
Have not been well since I've had
my cold. I did the ironing with
Eva's electric iron & found it so
much easier. I'm sorry I for-
got to send the rest of your tuckin
books - do you want me to send
them separate now or wait till next
laundry time?

You were mistaken about
Mother's Day - it is May 12th.

Last night after we were in bed
we heard a dirigible go by & foolishly

got up to see - Pa saw it as a dark
object going North east but only
heard it - funny it was not lit up.
Wonder if you knew that Harvard
Junior that was murdered this
week - What an awful tragedy.
Pa says to tell you all your plants look
good - He is going to try to get some of
the new seeds soon today. Got Ford's
plants yesterday & must put them in
the cold frame! - We are still debating
on the new car question - I guess about
imperative that we never have one for
several reasons but the money will have
to come from either Albany bank or
Grand Pa. - My new coat was not so nice
when it came & I had Berlin fix it for \$2.50
He had to fix shoulders the same time. Still
there is one spot not just right. - Did I tell you
we went to Albany Apr. 30 with J & B. in the car.
I got dress goods (silk) coat, shirt & new best stockings.
So I'm getting ready for the big events next month.
Pa's ready - Wood - bye - Lovingly - Mother.

[14 Mar 1929

Wednesday evening,

Dear Walter,

How in heaven's did it get to be
Wednesday evening. I've been acting
all day under the assumption
that it was Tuesday and that
you would get this on Thursday.
The discrepancy is partly explained
by the fact that yesterday was
more or less a loss day. Early

Candles and some St. Patrick's Day
napkins which I thought you
might be able to use Saturday
night. The one addressed to father
is some candy for grandpa. I
suggest you give it to him Saturday
night after the guests have arrived.
It's mostly green! in honor of the
occasion. I wish I could be
with you then but it can't be.
I hope you all have a jolly time
and that you don't get too
tired out.

Yesterday afternoon someone
gave me a ticket for the symphony
concert at three o'clock so that
the afternoon passed away quickly.
The evening was consumed in
correcting one of those infernal
sets of papers. There will be an
exam on Friday morning and
that means another set of blue
books to correct.

Don't read aloud. I have sent
you a couple of packages. The one
addressed to you has some green

We had quite a lively time here Monday evening. The derumtary let loose for once and had a real battle. It started with a tennis ball fight but degenerated into a water fight with moth-balls & boots. (?) The approved method of throwing water is to fill a paper bag and let fly. The plan was an awful sight the next morning but no serious damage was done. The "ruins" were viewed by a couple of officials but I guess they decided to pass is over. Well its past bed-time so good night everybody. Love, George.

Calsackie, Ill.

Mar. 20/29

Dear Geo-

It is just about eleven and nearly had
can get this written before time to get dinner.
I know you want to hear about the Van Schaack
re-union so I'll start in there. It was a bloom-
ing success, the only flaw in it being that
John & three children were not here. There were
24 in all and that was about as many as
we could have table room for at one time.
We had a long table in sitting room, Geo-
Wells & Jeannette helped me serve & Mary &
Mabel cleared up the dishes. I made jello
& baked beans, double portion each and
Geo bought boiled Lamb & biscuits, the rest
of food the other folks brought except coffee
butter etc. And it was a regular feast with
enough left to feed us several days. I gave
Jessie large biscuits & cake & salad.
I want to thank you for your part in the
thing. You sent added much to the table
decorations. Aunt Berna opened all the cards
& read them to Grandpa. I think Jeannette
enjoyed the affair the most. She said she

was so proud to attend a great family re-union. In fact they all were enthusiastic & I did not have a clear idea of a great success. I was tired, but I spent all day Sunday to get out and am not hurting much this week. Pa helped me clean & we looked quite presentably, tho' most of it was on the surface as everything really needs a good housecleaning. Can you stand a real shock? We are actually going to have electric lights - expect Ray Smith this week to wire the house. The Company have agreed to bring the current to our door without any expense to us for a flat rate of \$2.50 - Ma could hardly believe it. Perhaps sometime I may have some electric devices to make house work easier for me. I was fortunate last week to get Mrs. Bieluskys to iron and I think probably she will do some time next week - it means a big lift for that is really harder than the washing for me.

The weather has been very Spring like; robins & blue birds are in evidence and the frost going out of the ground. Grandpa has gone up street to stay to help clear up after the building up there - both men were up there yesterday afternoon. Monday Jessie came down to help pa address some Subverting Advert. matter. I tho't she could do it as well as me but as I had to look after the baby, I did not save me any time. I had to hustle an early supper for M. came soon after 5.

I have not driven the car only once since New Year's - as soon as the roads get in better shape I'll have to go out to practice. It looks as if maybe our fourth road to the mill will be put in better shape - let's hope so.

I suppose you have heard that Auntie is coming up for early vacation. I think it plans to go down to the town by way of Ontario

and Western R.R. changing to N. K. W. &
drive Auntie back - She will bring
some of the goods, so I guess it is defi-
nitely settled she is going to move up
this way. They will probably be gone
before you get here, tho' I don't know
yet what day she returns - What day do
you expect to come home?

I want to tell you how pleased I am
with your photo - It could not be better
every time I look at it, it almost seems
as if you were speaking. My curiosity led
me to open the package for I just un-
opened what was in it - I hope you don't
mind well, I guess there's nothing more -
Eva sent a big box candy which came
Monday - Pa said it was lucky it was
late or it would have been all eaten up
on Sat. evening. I am looking forward
to your coming home.
Lovingly,
Mother.

M. B. VAN SCHAACK
COXSACKIE, N. Y.

May 23/29

Dear George -

I forgot to send you
the license blank so I will
enclose you one now. I got your
check yesterday, also the remainder
of the music you asked me to for-
ward. I hope you are not study-
ing too hard here say - I don't be-
lieve the average senior puts
in 6 or 8 hrs-per day the last
few weeks - You have seem-
ed us what that scholarship
means - I'll enclose the slip
but don't destroy it as I want to join.

I want to thank you for the nice
card for Mother's Day - pa re-
marked - 'He never forgot his
father'. It was very appropriate.
To-day we clean the parlor and
it is a bright day for it. Mrs B.
cannot help me for some time
so we must pay along to get thro.
now I must write a few lines
to E. so pa can take it to mail -
she want a check & we have
not had time get this week to
write to her.

Lovingly,
Mother.

[25 Mar 1929]

Tuesday afternoon.

Dear Mother,

Sorry to have kept you waiting so long for a letter. I am dreadfully busy. My thesis is due May 1st and I have a tremendous amount of work to do on it. You asked when I should be coming home. I am planning to come although I really should stay here and work. As it is I'm afraid I'll have to ask you to let me spend most of my

that someone will meet me.

I'm glad you are had such a good time on the 16th. Your description was quite full but you didn't say anything about grandpa's reaction.

I'm very much tickled that you are going to have electricity at last. I hope Smith won't keep you waiting too long. As a matter of detail may I suggest that you have at least one floor (base) plug in both the parlor and sitting-^{room} and a wall-plug in the kitchen. Also let me say that I think, where possible,

daylight time at home studying. I hope to get enough done in the next few days so that I can get my thesis fairly well started at home. I expect to leave here Saturday afternoon the 6th of April on that dirty line known as the Boston and Maine. I shall arrive in Albany at 9 P.M. I suppose there will be a late bus at 9:30 or 11:30 that night, will there not? I must be ^{that is, at least the very late one} sure either that there are both buses, ^{as} for my train is very likely to be an hour late as it was in December, or

you should have wall lights in
the bedrooms rather than ceiling
lights. Also, if possible, have the
upper front hall light workable
from both upstairs and downstairs
without the use of an unsightly
string. Well, then, you'll probably
do as you please anyhow.

Mr. and Mrs. Tweedy are coming to
Cambridge for this week end.
They leave Rochester on Wednesday
and will probably reach here
Thursday. They will go to Danbury
on either Monday or Tuesday.

I had a letter from Harold yesterday
in which he said he was going to
Newton on Thursday or Friday, and from
there he didn't know where. I had
also a note from Eva. She had
just made up her three incomplete
courses of last semester. She didn't
say how she was or how she
was getting along but from the
tone of the letter I should say she
expects all to go well. I do hope
so.

Well it is supper-time so I must
stop. Love to all
George

(over)

The package of photos was, of course, to be
opened. One of them is for Jessie and
Milby. I don't know whether ^{you} gathered
that fact or not.

J.