



Hunt Institute for Botanical Documentation
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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.

When I came to Tulane in 1947 an Egyptian mummy reclined in the museum on the fourth floor of Gibson Hall. There were cadavers on the top floor of Richardson Memorial. A screech owl could be watched feeding its owlet from the third floor of Gibson. A Rhinoceros beetle, the genus Dynastes, might be seen at sundown ambling across the walks by the old chemistry building. Shrubs, for example, Pittosporum tobira, bloomed cheerily, untrimmed, as their florigens dictated. When I came for inspection-to-hire, Prof. Hathaway took me swamping on Fourth of July. That day he showed me how to lift leeches from one's legs. He assured me, too, that water moccasins always swim away from the observer. Two years before that I had been in a canoa at the headwaters of the Amazon, and so I felt that I was on my way back.

Wisdom may come with age but surely there may come your interest in history. Hopefully it will come as a "rational amusement"-- I like that phrase from the artist, dreamer, Charles Willson Peale: "rational amusement" - - to offset what Peale called the "pain of ennui."

Now history cannot be told as it really was. Causal connections between the infinity of events recede, and leave us only mementoes. Even with archives. Historical facts, just as scientific facts, are human creations. We ask "Are they wrong?" but we cannot ask "Are the facts complete?" Darwin wrote to Huxley in 1859 about  besetting inaccuracies: "The difficulty is to know what to trust." For example, Thomas Nuttall was one of the most important naturalists in 19th century America, he knew and collected shells, birds, plants, minerals. Audubon wrote to Richard Harlan in 1832 "Nuttall is a gem = a most worthy, agreeable man - quite after our heart, and I am

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G O P Y

G. K. HALL & CO.

97 Oliver Street
Boston 10, Massachusetts

March 7, 1960

Mr. Joseph Ewan
Professor of Botany
Tulane University
New Orleans 18, La.

Re: Index to Grass Species

Dear Professor Ewan:

Many thanks for your helpful letter of 29 February.

We included a sample half page of the Index to Grass Species to show the format of the cards and the information contained on them. We certainly should have checked the alphabetization more carefully, as you point out.

Of course, when Mrs. Chase has finished her revision, the cards will be strictly in the right order and this is how the Index will eventually be published.

Again, may we thank you for your interest and your constructive remarks.

Very sincerely yours,

G. K. HALL & CO.

Hubert W. Dean

HWD/sf
Enclosure

TULANE UNIVERSITY

College of Arts and Sciences

NEW ORLEANS 18

Department of Botany

23 March 1960

Dear George:

Pleased indeed to have the Humboldt Essai--nice copy and very interesting on many counts. Thanks, too, for the copy of the Kew circular of historic exhibits, incl. those prepared by my former student Gordon DeWolf, now on the Kew staff. I had provided some materials for him, re Francis Masson in Canada, but had not seen the brochure that you sent along.

Here's the reply from G. K. Hall & Co. relative to the grass index.

Mr. Mostert, Amaryllis grower from Transvaal, kin of mathematics professor on this faculty, Paul Mostert, tells me that he visited the MBG last week, and that the palms that might have been acclimatized in the climatron have perished. You would have been pleased to see the four students in paleobotany this morning handling the unreal Ginkgo leaves that once held conversation, so to speak, with dinosaurs. I refer to the immensely interesting flaccid lvs. of those stump sprouts harvested last summer and most kindly dispatched to N.O. after our departure. I asked Welden to put them in F.A.A. and they have kept very well.

Henry Huntington Library has awarded me a summer fellowship and so we shall be there for 6-7 weeks, then on to the Sutor Library at S.F., working of course on Banisters, their lives and times. Work on John Banister ms. is progressing nicely; 3/5 way to end of plant catalogue which is the slow job, identifying all the some 365 polynomials as we go. Tying them into Plukenet's plates, etc.

No chance of seeing you this Spring? WHEN do you expect to take that vacation? New Orleans is lovely, so lovely now. Unseasonable season has held back the blooms and now we have the crescendo.

With very best and my thanks in continuum,

Joe Swan

TULANE UNIVERSITY

NEW ORLEANS, LA. 70118

Department of Biology

26 October 1974

Dear George:

We are most encouraged to hear you are mending bodily!

Thanks so much for your letter of 16th and herewith is an exhibit of Hafner ads that you mentioned. The 1970 ad is prior to Quigley or in Harry Lubrecht's regime. It is essentially the same as earlier versions.

Actually "honored drawings from the first edition" is born of the Macm office, in any event not my language. But from the preface specimens my language was used freely. The price, \$42.50, is as announced in 1970 and before, ^{was} not increased.

I'm back from Phila where I conferred with Roderick Stinehour on the format of the Pa Hort Soc publ that I am writing on history of Phila horticulture for '76. Stinehour as you may imagine is a most genial pleasant soul. He designed the Wm Bartram APS volume, and the Morton Arbor catalogue.

Catesby is coming out in two forms, as noticed in the NYTIMES Book Rev ad xerox herewith. Roderick brought an advanced copy of the mini ed. of the Catesby with him to Phila and it is very attractive indeed.

All for now, with great good wishes from both of us,

Ter

HAFNER PRESS
A DIVISION OF MACMILLAN PUBLISHING CO., INC.
866 Third Avenue, New York, N. Y. 10022

November 26, 1974

Mr. George B. Van Schaack
1964 Harris Street
Eugene, Oregon 97405

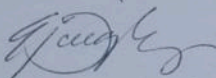
Dear Mr. Van Schaack:

Thank you very much for your letter of November 8. You are most generous in calling our attention to the serious omission in our advertisement for *Flora Boreali Americana* in the September issue of THE AMERICAN JOURNAL OF BOTANY.

Professor Ewan is a valued friend of this firm and the scholarly work he has done on this series is highly regarded, thus making our omission all the more disconcerting. I take responsibility because, although I did not write the copy, I did review it and approve the ad. But I assure you that the omission of his name and the failure to mention his fine introduction had its roots in simple error and not in any motive to slight either intellectualism or our valued friend, Professor Ewan.

I have asked our publicity person to send a release to the AJB explaining this omission so their readers may have a chance to learn of Professor Ewan's work which gives this facsimile reprint its chief value.

Sincerely,

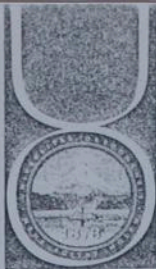


Edward J. Quigley
Director

EJQ/rp

cc: Professor Joseph Ewan
Mary Mazziotti

UNIVERSITY OF OREGON



Department of Botany
COLLEGE OF LIBERAL ARTS

EUGENE, OREGON 97401
telephone (code 401) 686-4402

Mailing address:
1964 Harris St.
Eugene, Or. 97405

November 3, 1974

Editor, Hafner Press
235 P Street, East
Riverdale, N. J. 08075

Dear Sir:

I am neither a publisher nor a writer, but I am interested in books; and in these latter days I am often perplexed by the treatment some publishers mete out to their authors and editors. I regret feeling the necessity of writing the Hafner Press to enquire about the inadequacy of one of its recent half-page advertisements, that in American Journal of Botany for September 1974, in which Flora boreali-Americana is announced.

In this your company is not offering a mere facsimile reprint of Michaux's classic, but this plus an extensive introduction by Joseph Ewan, of no less than forty pages (vide Paxon 23: 643; a.v.) Your advertisement errs not only in omitting any reference to this important introduction, but as well in giving your editor of Classica Botanica no mention at all. This is both a disservice to prospective purchasers, and a slight to Dr Ewan, from whose preface your announcement text borrows statements which no one at the Hafner Press could have made upon his own authority.

This sort of thing smacks too much, for my taste, of the anti-intellectualism which has been sweeping nearly the whole publishing world since World War II. Except for some of the university presses the humanistic character of the art of printing exhibited from the time of Aldus & Froben, through the years of Plantin, the Elseviers, & the Didota, to our own Rogers & Uppdike, is now so eroded that the dollar signs in the announcements are almost as prominent as the writers' names.

I remember with nostalgia the older days when I used to visit Stechert-Hafner on East 10th St, where not only personal attention was accorded a customer whose purchases might total only a few dollars, but where even some knowledge of the importance of the works sought was exhibited by the staff. The 'atomic age' has swept nearly all of this away, and for humanity that is a loss.

I regret I do not know you personally, nor even by name. Perhaps you, yourself, are suffering from this dehumanization of the printing and publishing industry--indeed you are if you have a real love of books and all that accompanies it. My commiseration.

Sincerely yours,

Joseph Van Schneck
Joseph Van Schneck

- June 20 - Introductory remarks; biological events in their contemporary world-- thinking horizontally; "necklace of history" and principal themes
- 21 - Impact of man on his environment, inter-relationships of his activities; custom, symbolism, migrations of Man, his cultivars, domesticates
- 22 - Awareness of biol. concepts among primitive peoples, South Asia, Fertile Crescent, Egypt, races of Man and his domesticates, cereals, etc.
- 26 - Early Greek biology, Thales, Hippocrates, Pythagorean Doctrine of Opposites, etc.
- 27 - Aristotle as a biologist
- 28 - Theophrastus as the "Father of botany"
- 29 - Herophilus, School of Salerno, Galen; Roman contributions, Pliny, etc.
Near-East Period; role of Arabs in transmission of knowledge, Jewish merchants
- July 3 - Early Renascent Period: neo-Aristotelean biology; plagues of 1348, etc. scholasticism; founding of universities
- 5 - Introduction of printing by movable type; role of voyages, colonization; Chaucer and the sources of his biology.
- 6 - Biological illustration of Durer, Leonardo da Vinci, Botticelli, in the world of the herbalists
- 10 - Beginnings of plant classification as recorded in the herbals
- 11 - Elizabethan Period: biology of Shakespeare, Robert Bacon and anti-scholasticism
- 12 - Founding of scientific societies, botanic gardens, private cabinets, zoological collections, rise of patrons, role of "Companies" (E.I.C., etc.)
Role of voyages in rise of plant classification schemes; Royal Society, etc.
- 13 - Beginnings of differentiation in biol. sciences: microscope, histology, anatomy, physiology as a field of investigation.
Beginnings of paleontology: "testis diluviae" "formed stones" and impact of religious dogma on biology
- 17-18-19-20-24 Examination of important landmarks in biological literature, meet in Special Collections, University Library.
- 25 - Codified differentiation, importance of terminology in advance of sciences, rise of comparative anatomy, cytology from histology, embryology from anatomy, organic chemistry from inorganic chemistry, etc. Cell Theory; synthesis of urea, embryo sac concepts, alternation of generations, limited growth, etc.
- 26 - Humboldt and his coterie; biogeography
- 27 - Darwin and his associates: impact of Darwin on concepts of classification, etc. on the "uniqueness of Man," "Fixity of Species," etc.
- 31 - Rise of institutionalized research; university departments; museums, field stations, government sponsored expeditions, international exchanges of scholars, collections, etc.
- August 1 Mendelian papers; pangenesis; Organismal Theory; identification of chromosome; Pasteur; Claude Bernard
- 2 Improvement of the microscope, cameras, advances in chemistry; rise of graduate schools of biology--German universities; international congresses; state scientific societies; Land grant colleges and opening of the West
- 3 Birth of genetics; wedding of cytology and genetics; Drosophila and Zea mays
- 7 Team research; advances in microscopy; proliferation of journals
- 8 "Art of scientific investigation" --Fleming's "playing about"; Haldane, Julian Huxley, Russell, popularization of biology; role of the amateur
- 9 What of the future?

Jefferson the Taxalist

By Joseph A. Ewan
Professor of Botany,
Yale University

I rank botany with the most valuable of sciences," wrote Thomas Jefferson, "whether we consider its subjects as furnishing the principal subsistence of man, and best adapted to his genius; or for our tables, refreshments from our orchards, the adornments of our flower gardens, and best adapted to the eye, groves, materials for our buildings, or ornaments for our bodies."

When you question you will see that Jefferson was looking at botany not so much through the hands of a gardener with his spading knife and market basket. He did not do to the recreational view when he said, "The country gentleman should be without what amazes every step he takes into his fields."

It has often been called a Renaissance man, devoted to the antiquarian as well as the novel, and it was certainly the scientific soul for America. Of all the sides of Jefferson his botanical interests have been little noted. Millicent Sowerby, his biographer, summed up when she wrote, "Jefferson never ceased to grow, and to disseminate our knowledge, and can never be considered complete." Imagine receiving 120 letters in one's 77th year about the level of soil after the fact. If you would know a man's real interests, inspect his library. Jefferson's botanical interests were not only his agents and friends, he sought out Benjamin Franklin, and sought help from his overseas correspondents to keep him informed — he was a bibliophile.

And yet he did not buy antiquarian items for their own sake, but collected books to read and to collect. He did not use a bookplate, but initiated his books internally at the signature marked "J. E." It was in one of his letters, "I" — "I" — and so perhaps copies of Jefferson's books may still be overlooked.

His handwritten list of titles of 1780, and the printed catalogue prepared for President 1803 at the University of Virginia, are in the Library of Congress. In his letters we find his list, and from records of his agents, see, Miss Sowerby reconstructed a collection of nearly 800 volumes.

Another tragedy came in 1851 when Jefferson in the Library of Congress deposited two barrels of books.

Of all the botany books, Jefferson had saved, only one title, *Milneberg's Catalogue of 1811*, survived. When Miss Sowerby was compiling the inventory of Jefferson's library I talked with her about the history of his collection. She believed that those books burned in that 1851 fire were packed up and carried off, or were on a water wagon and so saved. This was the second library. Jefferson's first library was destroyed in 1776 — he was 27 then when his mother's mansion burned at Annapolis. Adams has commented, "I almost always had a catalogue of my private and public papers. My correspondence and his days."

He used his second library for library selecting 900 titles for his second university of Virginia. About 200 of these were lost in the burning of the Rotunda in 1805. This detail is in *Jefferson's Botanical Garden*, the book.

While the whole story of Jefferson's botany books cannot be told here — only some remarks on the 30 botanical titles, those printed books on large paper, the 1000 or 1500 Discourses in Milneberg's catalogue of American plants, the preservation copy that I mentioned, are being saved.

I purchased a 1844 Thompson's, a 1806 Oeder, a 1721 Bourneville, and the three-volume 1778 Tournefort "Institution de Botanique" — the best of the latest representation of Linnaeus's titles, including the 1000 Latin and French nomenclature, and the 1000 Latin names in Jefferson's library were the 1783 "Philosophia," 1764 "Genera," 1720 "Species plantarum," 1768 "Fundamenta," "Methodus," and two English-language titles, the 1783 "System" and 1785 "Seeds of plants," edited by James Edward Smith.

This exceptional collection of Linnaeus, surely the largest private collection in America by 1815, was due to his purchase of Dr. Samuel Hayden's books in 1795. Hayden taught at the College of William and Mary, but returned to England on the eve of the Revolution. His interest in Linnaeus may have been related to his studies of racial commentary.

Of the 11 books on botany written in English which Jefferson owned, nine were purchased, including Parkinson's "Theatrum" of 1646. Some owners may discover Jefferson's ownership recorded in this book still rather common today. He owned the New York imprint of Erasmus Darwin's "Botanic Garden" 1784, and Rousseau's "Lettres sur les elements de botanique" in 1785. On April 24, 1786, Jefferson visited James Lee's nursery at Hanoverbury, then outside London, and he evidently acquired the nursery catalogue of 1786 on that visit.

That Jefferson was not keenly aware of color values in plates of different editions is shown by the fact he owned the first edition of Catech's "Natural History," which carries the plate under Mark Catech's own supervision, and exchanged it for the second edition in 1788. Yet in "Notes on Virginia" Jefferson mentions that the "coloring (of the second edition) . . . is generally too high."

Jefferson gave his philosophy of botany collecting to the Baltimore bookseller, William Fisher. "My own collection furnishing things and my time not permitting me to read but what is good. The title will enable me to judge whether the subject interests me."

But was Jefferson's actual knowledge of botany? It was extensive in botanical detail. He included 128 plants in his "Notes on Virginia" published in Paris in 1784-85. He had based his understanding on Gronovius's "Flora Virginica," second edition, which had been based in turn on the research of Virginia's two pioneer botanists, John Banister and John Clayton.

There was a copy of "Flora Virginica" in his purchase of Rev. Hayden's library in Paris. That is to say that he must have used a library copy. He bought a second copy of "Flora Virginica" from his Paris bookseller in 1785.

Although we cannot gain firsthand answers from annotations that he first had made in his own copy, we do see that his interest moved him to purchase two-fifths of the botany books in his library.

Jefferson's understanding of botany and particularly plant classification may be seen in a persuasive letter he wrote to Dr. John Manners in 1814, evidently in reply to his corresponding query as to why Jefferson would cling to the Linnaean artificial scheme of classification over the natural system of Jussieu, which was then being talked about.

"I adhere to the Linnaean system," Jefferson wrote, "because it is sufficient as a groundwork, admits of supplementary insertions, as new productions are discovered, and mainly because it has got into so general use that it will not be easy to displace it."

He listed three advantages offered by the Linnaean system: First, of aiding the memory to retain a knowledge of plants; secondly, of rallying all to the same names for the same objects, so that (one) could communicate understanding in them; and, thirdly, of enabling the inquirer to trace an unknown by its characters "up to the conventional name" which it was agreed to be called.

Linnaeus's method was received, understood and conventionally taught among the learned and was even getting into common use. To disturb it then would be unnecessary, the new system attempted in botany by Jussieu (in a part of the same report . . . Wilderm and Perceux

have incorporated into Linnaeus the new discovered plants."

Jefferson's position in science may be called that of a cautious observer, "with an evident reluctance at times to break away from established beliefs."

Approved Linnaeus was the practical use that the scheme of counting stems and buds for identification could offer. Jefferson was always motivated by the pragmatic, the functional, in such matters. It is reasonable to think he would not have been so easily convinced and was impressed, as others of his contemporaries were, with the appeal of the actual system.

On botanical questions Jefferson most frequently consulted Philip Miller's "Gardeners Dictionary," eighth edition, which followed the Linnaean arrangement. Humphrey Marshall 20 years later also arranged his inventory of American trees by the Linnaean scheme. When writing to William Blandish in Boston on the plan for a botanic garden for a public school, Jefferson advised that any method for classifying plants "cannot and is artificial, that of Linné is the good rough and easy."

Nomenclature was not to be confused with the "true science" which groups plants by "different orders of affinity in which nature has distributed them." "It is incredible," he added, "what consequences this new study [Jussieu's natural system] has had in so short a time, as all the arts that depend upon the knowledge of vegetables."

It was just about the year of Jefferson's last death, 1826, that John Terry first used the Natural System in an American library book. It was not until 1830 that Terry sent me the letter which presented to Jefferson, Benjamin Smith Barton was the best known native American naturalist, a friend of Jefferson's, and associate in the American Philosophical Society in Philadelphia. He had borrowed Jefferson's copy of Persoon.

Jefferson selected Barton to prepare a natural history report for the Lewis and Clark expedition, but Barton died in 1815 at the age of 46 before succeeding. Barton shared Jefferson's interest in books, and like him, was a voluminous correspondent. He was the author of the first textbook of botany published in the United States. In 1796 Barton dedicated his "New Views" with the declaration "I know not any man who has paid so much attention to the subject [of this book] as I have."

"I am confident, from my personal acquaintance with you, that you are anxious for the discovery of the truth, and ready to embrace it, in whatever form it may present itself. It is the jewel which I have sought and the prize which I pursue of it is the punctum saliens of science."

When in 1793 Barton proposed the name Jefferson, he insisted he had no quarrel with his reputation for general science, and literature. My business is to be a naturalist, in the narrow sense of the word, and my main object is to give to the public a history of the natural history of the United States.

After the return of the Lewis and Clark party from the Pacific Northwest Barton asked Jefferson, in pursuit of his continuing interest in Indiana, "If possible, he could furnish a sample of 'vocables' which I know that Barton visited Monticello at least once. On Sep. 22, 1806, Robert Frazer wrote Jefferson from Philadelphia that he had written with the President there.

In August, 1808, when the President's Thomas Jefferson Randolph was to be sent to Philadelphia "to attend lectures in those branches of science which he had a mind to pursue, and to be taught anywhere else in America," he asked Doctors Wistar and Barton if "having received but few answers the day before, he had not been among the students during the lecture period."

Whether Dr. Barton ever replied we do not know, but Dr. Wistar wrote Jefferson that Charles Willson Peale would send Dr. Barton on a "wander."

For a 211 he the grounds owned in a natural history course with Barton as benefactor of actual dissection" with Dr. Wistar, Jefferson wrote Barton Oct. 12, 1795. Jefferson was always motivated by the pragmatic, the functional, in such matters. It is reasonable to think he would not have been so easily convinced and was impressed, as others of his contemporaries were, with the appeal of the actual system.

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It was just about the year of Jefferson's last death, 1826, that John Terry first used the Natural System in an American library book. It was not until 1830 that Terry sent me the letter which presented to Jefferson, Benjamin Smith Barton was the best known native American naturalist, a friend of Jefferson's, and associate in the American Philosophical Society in Philadelphia. He had borrowed Jefferson's copy of Persoon.

Jefferson selected Barton to prepare a natural history report for the Lewis and Clark expedition, but Barton died in 1815 at the age of 46 before succeeding. Barton shared Jefferson's interest in books, and like him, was a voluminous correspondent. He was the author of the first textbook of botany published in the United States. In 1796 Barton dedicated his "New Views" with the declaration "I know not any man who has paid so much attention to the subject [of this book] as I have."

"I am confident, from my personal acquaintance with you, that you are anxious for the discovery of the truth, and ready to embrace it, in whatever form it may present itself. It is the jewel which I have sought and the prize which I pursue of it is the punctum saliens of science."

When in 1793 Barton proposed the name Jefferson, he insisted he had no quarrel with his reputation for general science, and literature. My business is to be a naturalist, in the narrow sense of the word, and my main object is to give to the public a history of the natural history of the United States.

After the return of the Lewis and Clark party from the Pacific Northwest Barton asked Jefferson, in pursuit of his continuing interest in Indiana, "If possible, he could furnish a sample of 'vocables' which I know that Barton visited Monticello at least once. On Sep. 22, 1806, Robert Frazer wrote Jefferson from Philadelphia that he had written with the President there.

In August, 1808, when the President's Thomas Jefferson Randolph was to be sent to Philadelphia "to attend lectures in those branches of science which he had a mind to pursue, and to be taught anywhere else in America," he asked Doctors Wistar and Barton if "having received but few answers the day before, he had not been among the students during the lecture period."

Whether Dr. Barton ever replied we do not know, but Dr. Wistar wrote Jefferson that Charles Willson Peale would send Dr. Barton on a "wander."

For a 211 he the grounds owned in a natural history course with Barton as benefactor of actual dissection" with Dr. Wistar, Jefferson wrote Barton Oct. 12, 1795. Jefferson was always motivated by the pragmatic, the functional, in such matters. It is reasonable to think he would not have been so easily convinced and was impressed, as others of his contemporaries were, with the appeal of the actual system.

On botanical questions Jefferson most frequently consulted Philip Miller's "Gardeners Dictionary," eighth edition, which followed the Linnaean arrangement. Humphrey Marshall 20 years later also arranged his inventory of American trees by the Linnaean scheme. When writing to William Blandish in Boston on the plan for a botanic garden for a public school, Jefferson advised that any method for classifying plants "cannot and is artificial, that of Linné is the good rough and easy."

Nomenclature was not to be confused with the "true science" which groups plants by "different orders of affinity in which nature has distributed them." "It is incredible," he added, "what consequences this new study [Jussieu's natural system] has had in so short a time, as all the arts that depend upon the knowledge of vegetables."

In present-day Philadelphia, M'Mahon presented a copy of his "American Gardener's Calendar" (1806) to Jefferson. He had sent an apple orchard. "It will be found a useful aid to the friends of an art, too important to health and comfort and yet too much neglected in this country." Jefferson bought a second copy of the "Gardener's Calendar" two years later for \$1.50.

"I have never seen a reason why every farmer should not have a sugar-cane, as well as an apple orchard." Jefferson wrote in a correspondence in France in 1808. An advocate of maple syrup through his lifetimes, Jefferson joined with Dr. Benjamin Rush in stressing the advantages of its use in a

See NATURALIST, Page 133

Too Much Heat

Up The Chimney

Fireplaces were the main source of heat until 1742, when Benjamin Franklin invented the first "improved" heating device. The Franklin stove was the best on the market when it was used as the heat warming the pipes of an iron fireplug.

The Franklin stove cut fuel consumption about 30 per cent. Even so, bed-rooms filled with embers were welcome on cold nights.

An iron pot on a crane was the main cooking unit. A later model of the Franklin stove was designed to hold a pot or kettle on its top.

Tables were set with wooden bowls and trenchers. Iron plates or horn spoons in the country; in more sophisticated homes, salt-glazed, stoneware, imported china and silver knives and spoons (forks were not used until the Nineteenth Century). Drinking was from mugs and tankards of pottery, leather bound with metal, wood, or silver — depending on your social and financial status.

First Newspaper
The first American newspaper, Benjamin Franklin's "Public Occurrences" was published in Boston in 1766. It did not contain news and criticism of the authorities; was an blunt attack on the British and was quickly suppressed after the first issue.

The first newspaper published in the West was the Boston Star-Letter. It was issued weekly, printed on wooden type, and was called "the little white paper."

In 1721, when Ben Franklin was served as apprentice printer for his brother James, who had been a printer in the Boston Star-Letter. He issued weekly, printed on wooden type, and was called "the little white paper."

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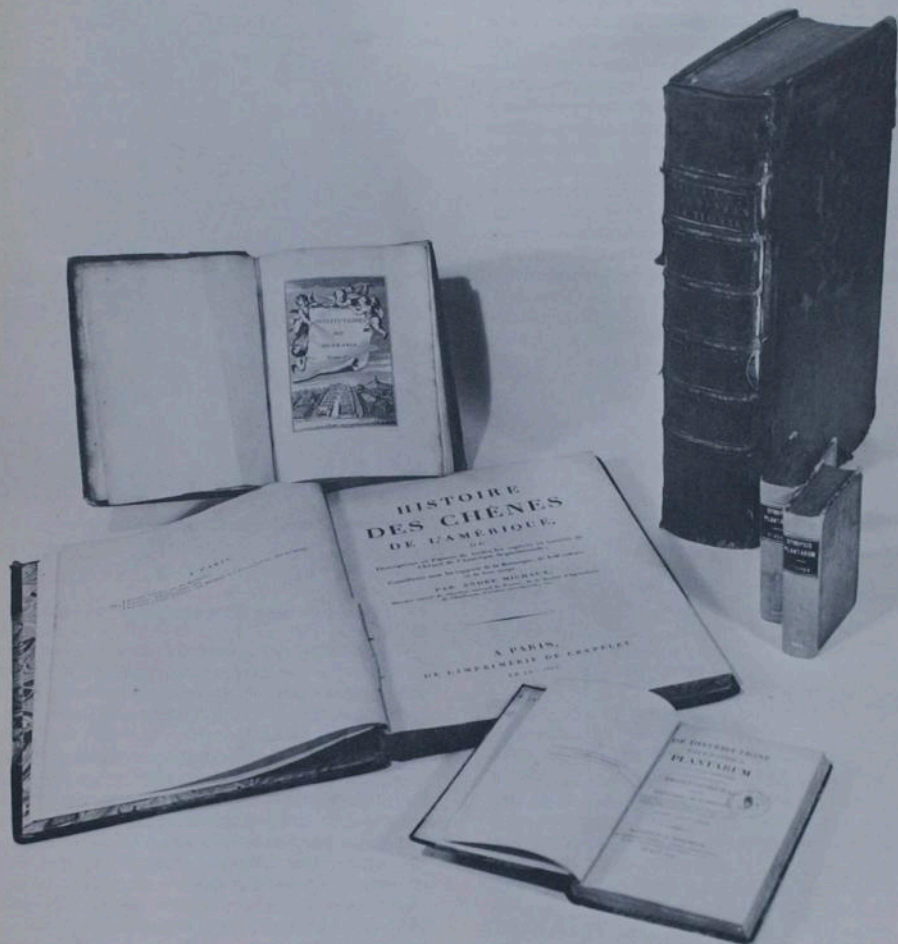
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Black line of the hand-painted illustrations in Catech's "Natural History of the Missouri Botanical Garden" has a copy of this prized volume.

for botanical documentation

How Many Botany Books Did Thomas Jefferson Own?

by Joseph Ewan



Five botany books that Jefferson owned shown here in matching copies. Humboldt's classic on plant geography in the foreground. Michaux's folio on American oaks and Tournetfort's *Institutions*,

opened at title pages. Persoon's *Enchiridium* in two volumes, topped by Miller's *Gardener's Dictionary*, eighth edition.

May 21, 1962

Professor Joseph Ewan
Dept. of Botany
Tulane University
New Orleans 18, Louisiana

Dear Joe:

Very pleased to hear that you will all be able to stay over next Monday night and be assured I shall do my best to try to persuade at least some of you to stay somewhat longer. By all means plan to spend some time at the zoo, but I am not at all sure you will get there in time to call me at the Garden (new number TO 5-0440, after 5 o'clock TO 5-0444) for Columbia is on standard time, one hour slower than St. Louis and you should not plan on being able to make the trip here any at all before 4:30. If I do not hear from you by 5 o'clock, I shall go home where the number is HU 1-3588, where I shall expect to hear from you.

I think I have determined the grass correctly and only wonder if anything can be done about its control.

I hope the slides have reached you safely by this time. Your copy of Hort. Bles. arrived safely and I can imagine with what reluctance you parted with it. I hope the one I sent you has reached you and will not pain you too much. Don't forget to let us take this matter up when you are here.

By the way, you did not indicate whether the baby would be coming or not, not that it makes any particular difference from the standpoint of my arrangements.

With anticipation of seeing all of you -

Sincerely,

George B. Van Schaack
Librarian

GBVS:nr

Encl. (1)

May 21, 1962

Mr. Robert Shoop
Dept. of Zoology
Tulane University
New Orleans 18, Louisiana

Dear Mr. Shoop:

weed

The troublesome pond/about which you talked to Joseph Ewan seems to be *Hydrochloa caroliensis* Beauv. This is native to all the states along the coast from North Carolina to Texas, in ponds and slow flowing streams and is frequently considered to be a real nuisance.

Our local agronomy student, Mr. Raymond Freeborg says that control of such weeds is by no means simple. He has had no experience with this particular one himself but suggests the use of Telvar or Karmox (different names for the same DuPont product). This is not inexpensive and, while probably the best for removing the weed, may have undesirable side effects. In particular, it would probably kill a considerable amount of water fauna and if there is any drainage, it will kill plants below the pond. It may also kill or seriously injure desirable plants growing along the shores, even including trees. Sodium arsenite is another product which can be used, but its application is "touchy" and should only be used in the hands of a professional.

I should think that, since this seems to be a troublesome weed in several of the southern states, one of them at least must have published a fairly extensive manual on it.

I trust the above information will be helpful in controlling the grass.

Sincerely yours,

George B. Van Schaack
Librarian

GBV:snr

cc: Prof. Joseph Ewan

TULANE UNIVERSITY
College of Arts and Sciences
NEW ORLEANS 18

Department of Botany

Sat. 19 May 1962

Dear George:

Yes, Dorothy is travelling to Columbia with K & D in their Olds stationwagon--which will permit her to stretch out on occasion--leaving on Friday next, 25th. Nesta and I plan to leave on morning of 23rd and stop to see Caroline Dorman at Saline, and Leonard Hall at Caledonia, Mo., and arrive at Columbia Sat. morning in time to chat with one or two of M's professors. Commencement is Monday a.m. and we hope to leave Columbia at noon and drive on to St Louis in time to visit the zoo. K and D and J all like zoos and I suggest that we phone you at the garden (PR 6-5567) when we arrive in town. Nesta and I will have sleeping bags--(4 I think) and if we may chink in with the minimum arrangements on your part(!) we shall plan to lodge with you Monday, 28th, and depart on Tues. But you must not plan on feeding all the troop! Rather let us take you out to some place of your suggestion Monday evening. I'm not positive but M will likely be returning with us, and ~~we should depart~~ later than K, D, and Dick, on Tuesday, so we may have some chance to do a little conferring on bibliog. matters, as you see ~~from~~ fit. We shall not be under pressure to return to N.O. but shall have to get back without too much delay for many domestic reasons. I'm not teaching summer session.

I'm really pleased to have the Eicones et commentarii, copies of last received. Slides not heret. It was most thoughtful of you to send this material! It will be used with enthusiasm in my course. I've long thought of having 2x2 slides made of several items in Army Med. Library (Vesalius, Coiter, etc.) for such use but time never seems to permit the arrangements. So far the class has been small enough to circle 'round rbr room table to see the items, but then the student would profit from some preliminary instruction. I thotoughly agree with the matter of copying and distr. the materials. Jack Sharp wrote asking for my hist. of biol. syllabus and I'm having to make the same remark to him.

Webb writes that the first reader's report is in, copy sent me, and most favorable for publ. --this is Wisc. Press-- that the decision will come after the second reader's report is in hopefully next month.

This grass identification is one of those requests hanging on commonweal of the university--person sufferring from the grass in his pond is a sort of important benefactor of the university. Otherwise I would not confront you with it. And, too, if this is not very obvious--Glyceria or such--let me put it up to Jason or someone you suggest.*

Hastily but most cordially,

Joe

* If convenient please reply to Mr. Robert Hoop

Dept. Bot. directly.

TULANE UNIVERSITY

The College of Arts and Sciences

NEW ORLEANS 18

Department of Botany

19 May 1962

Dr. George B. VanSchaack
Missouri Botanical Garden
St Louis 10

Dear George:

four/

This grass is 'taking' an artificial lake in Grant Parish, 4 miles e. of Pollock, used for ornamental purposes and fishing (bass-bluegill). The stems have remarkable ability to elongate so that they adjust to varying depths of water from 0 to ~~12~~ feet. It is stoloniferous and in a sense stands on its own shoulders to fill the lake. Soil = clay-sandy.

Yes, owner is anxious to learn if herbicides will curb should phenomenal growth though the first errand is identification and with the identity corrective measures may be pursued later.

Many thanks!

Joe

Joseph Ewan
Prof. of Botany

c: Robt. Shoop

*/ lake is 12 ft. deep.

Doesn't seem to flower.

April 23, 1962

Professor Joseph Ewan
Dept. of Botany
Tulane University
New Orleans, Louisiana

Dear Joe:

Tempus fugit and I haven't answered your last letter. I was very glad to hear that you thought well of my Hort. bles. idea. I only hope that you have not long since sent your copy to us because it hasn't arrived. I can suspect you haven't for I can imagine the number of things you have to do.

I suppose you already have a copy of Cameron's 'Sir Joseph Banks' published in 1952 for 25 shillings. It has recently been, and perhaps still is, available at Francis Edwards, 83 Marylebone High Street, London, W.1, England for 8 shillings/6 pence. With postage, etc., our bill came to 10 shillings.

I am hoping to get down to stop over a night or two with you in mid-June or just a little later. I am to go to Miami for the Rare Book Conference June 15 and 16 and very probably to stay over until June 19 to hang out our shingle at the ALA Conference. The likely time for my coming would be the evening of the 19th, probably to return on the 21st. I still would like also to go to the Ithaca meeting and we shall talk about that when I get to see you.

Last Friday was Mrs. Chase's 93rd birthday. I wrote her a letter, not really expecting to have any answer, but this morning I found a postcard with a picture of Franklinia on it and appropriate remarks on the back. When I saw her at Christmas time, she seemed somewhat diminished but this card shows somewhat renewed vigor.

The director of Biological Abstracts, G. Miles Conrad, did not take umbrage at my letter and did take the trouble to write me two pages in answer. Unfortunately, I find his thinking fuzzy and don't feel that he takes the matter culturally seriously, only administratively seriously. More about that when I see you.

I hope that everything is going much better and that you are having an encouraging spring. With best wishes to all

Sincerely yours,

George B. Van Schaack
Librarian

GBVS:mr

May 10, 1962

Professor Joseph Ewan
Dept. of Botany
Tulane University
New Orleans, Louisiana

Dear Joe:

Many thanks for your letter of ten days ago. I am glad to hear that Dorothy is getting along so well. It can't be, however, that you are expecting to bring her all the way up to Columbia the end of the month, can it? I can't imagine that you would find it convenient to go through St. Louis or that you would have time to stop. However, as I hope you know, I should be very happy to see any and all of you and do for you what I could, so to whatever extent you may find it convenient, please count on my assistance.

I shall not be able to stop with you on my way south to Miami but I am planning to stay with you on return over Saturday night, currently at least expecting to get to New Orleans Wednesday night. The young man, who had applied for the position here, has taken employment elsewhere, so I shall probably want to stay at Miami three full days in the hope of running into some other candidate.

I don't understand your remark about Mrs. Eisendrath's paper but we will go into that when I see you. I recently gave a talk to her class on the early herbals, for which I made some fifty or sixty slides. In doing so I made a duplicate for you and am sending them to you this week, together with (I mean separately from) the substance of my remarks (enclosed) and in yet another package some copies of the mimeographed sheets I passed out. The numbers in the parentheses of the manuscript refer to the numbers on the slides which I sent you in the order of use, not numerically arranged. The manuscript is certainly of no monetary value but represents a considerable amount of work and I am just hard-headed enough to feel that it shouldn't be passed around or copied. Naturally, however I should be very pleased to have you make any personal or class use of it which you might care to.

Best greetings to everybody.

Sincerely yours,

George B. Van Schaack
Librarian

GBVS:nr

Encl. (4)

P.S.

We have turned up a duplicate of *Plantarum Cuzcorum Herrerarianum*, estudios sobre la flora del departamento del Cuzco por el Dr. Fortunato L. Herrera, Lima 1930 (this is the first part only, a second part being published in 1933.) The duplicate is on rather fragile paper but it is bound with some interleaving to strengthen it and should last a long time with minimum use. You are doubtfully interested in it yourself, but because of the Spanish American Library, I think it should be in the library at Tulane. Since the other copy is unbound and must be bound, I should suggest selling this for the binding price - \$3.50.

January 23, 1962

Professor Joseph Ewan
Botany Department
Tulane University
New Orleans, Louisiana

Dear Joe:

I hope the long time since I have heard from you does not mean that there has been a serious setback in Dorothy's recovery and I am hoping only that it means you are finding time to work at getting caught up.

I had a most interesting trip in the East, which I wish you were here to talk about for there is entirely too much to write about. Nothing special in Cambridge except to find Mrs. Swarten in the hospital with what was variously reported as exhaustion, high blood pressure and shock. All of these could well be correct for what she has tried to do in the Gray Herbarium Library all by herself is enough for at least three people. In New York Miss Hall gave me a rollicking day, showing me many reasons why she should be in the hospital also, but I guess she is more rugged. That library finally has about five and one-half members. I spent one afternoon at the Morgan Library, first admiring the beautiful display in the public room and then examining their various copies of *Macer Floridus*. In Philadelphia I spent the evening with Ida Langman and her husband. The next morning I spent with Mrs. Phillips and Mr. Olson, the while impressed by their really wonderful collection in pretty good shape and thoroughly catalogued. Most of the afternoon was taken up by a visit to the new A. P. S. Library where Mrs. Hess was very cordial and where Mr. Smith, the new documents librarian, showed me their five story vault and William Spawn, their restoring activities. Washington was scarcely a letdown for I went out to Dumbarton Oaks to see Mrs. Bliss's Library, which I wonder whether you have visited. It is, as you know, devoted to garden design but contains many strictly floral works usually in most sumptuous binding. It was another period of droll!

The last stop was Pittsburgh, where I spent a day with George Lawrence. Right here and now I say I must hand it to Mrs. Hunt for knowledge of what she was about and taste in execution. She has made a fabulous collection, obviously always with conscious direction, and has now provided adequate and very comfortable quarters for its use and study, clearly expensive but in such extremely good taste that one simply can not feel money was wasted, although very few could ever hope to do the same kind of thing. Many of the 180 bindings she has herself done are on display and each is such a fine piece of work, it would be difficult to pick a favorite. George Lawrence has taken to his new activities like a duck to water. Added to his natural charm, the bibliophilic overlay makes the experience of being with him a real delight. I do hope you will soon have an opportunity to spend some time in Pittsburgh.

Professor Joseph Ewan
Tulane University
New Orleans, Louisiana

January 23, 1962

The enclosed copy of a letter is pretty nearly self-explanatory. I will only add to refresh your mind that about a year or so ago I took the same matter up with Turrill, only to receive a brush-off. When I mentioned this to Lawrence, he remarked, "OH, Turrill wouldn't know anything about books."

People asked about you along the way, having especially missed the current issue of the Delta News and being ignorant of the probable reason. I missed it too, but I think you are wise not to push it through. We all hope you will have plenty of time and energy for the 1962 issue and lots of good news to report.

As ever -

Sincerely yours,

George B. Van Schaack
Librarian

GBVS:nr

Encl. (1)

March 29, 1962

Professor Joseph Ewan
Botany Department
Tulane University
New Orleans, Louisiana

Dear Joe:

I hope the enclosed copy of my letter to Biological Abstracts will divert you more than depress you, certainly divert you more than it depressed me, for I think it is a moderately serious matter when an enterprise sponsored by scientists hooks on to the grocer misrepresentations of commercial advertising.

I have a small proposition to make to you which may not interest you at all, on the other hand it may. Perhaps you recall our copy of Morrison's Hort. Bles. We have discussed it before and decided we might have it completely laminated and then bound. So the other night I took it all apart trying to figure out what to do with it and it now lies in its naked gatherings, all the leaves in tact but most of the folds broken. Considering its purely reference character, even in this condition it is eminently useful by a single individual who would have its preservation at heart. My proposition is to present it to you in return for the privilege of purchasing from you, at whatever price you consider the present market to be, your own copy which I believe you acquired a couple of years ago (assuming, of course, that that copy would be in a good shape, which a library copy ought to be). This would solve our problem much more cheaply than I see any other way of solving it. It would give you a usable copy for the reference you would need to make in it and would provide you some funds to purchase something else you don't have at all.

I hope the box of miscellanea reached you safely. I shall soon send you the Francé.

I am glad to hear that Dorothy is progressing and hope that she may soon look forward to being up again. Your spring must be with you and be helping to raise your spirits, ours is just starting, one of my Forsythia bushes coming into bloom yesterday.

Lots more later. Best wishes to all.

Sincerely yours,

George B. Van Schaack
Librarian

GBVS:nr

TULANE UNIVERSITY
College of Arts and Sciences
NEW ORLEANS 18

Department of Botany

22 November 1961

Dear George:

Yours of October 31st excited my interest, not to mention my appreciation for your kind words and good wishes. Dorothy is finally gaining ground against the infection, it would seem from the fact that for first time yesterday there was no drainage from the site. We hope she will be home by December 1st. She is looking, feeling, and talking better, with setbacks from a third infection spot that came to light about two weeks, just when we were thinking how well she looked. But now it adds up to we think substantial recovery. We shall all be grateful to have her home.

We hope you are having some fun with Banister and that it is not distressing to make out what we have written. I've not heard from Hugh, so I presume he too is going at the problem with a lancer's spirit.

I'm writing to Bob Hecht re the *Matthiolum*. Thank you for the detailed memorandum.

I like your plan for a guide to the Sturtevant Collection as per your sample pp. and list of heads, all returned herewith. I've made comments on the nine list of heads but find nothing to disagree with on the four sample citations which I've labelled I-IV. I've made xerox copies of these five pp. and so we may refer back and forth to points raised by either of us in the shaping of policy. Xerox is a wonderful tool! Just to show you how useful it may be, I'm sending my xerox copy of the page of heads, to show how the handwriting comes out along with typing. ten cents per page.

I've also sent a page from Moraes since it illustrates some points rather well. These may bear on points in the future development of your guide to the Collection but no harm in thinking about the modus operandi early.

Yes, I was invited to Hunt Library opening but had to decline. I frankly looked upon the whole affair, perhaps mistakenly, as social rather than serious and I just could not see making the several arrangements necessary to go with this pervading sense. I do feel that the MBG Library should have been represented! I should be most interested to know who was invited; I shall know in due time but I'm curious today.

Mrs. Mangum Weeks of Alexandria, Va., and her husband, interested in Catesby, were here about a week ago. They said that George Lawrence was/has been in hospital--no details.

The puff that came as 'keepsake' was *Pomposia huntiae huntiae*, alias typica!

Now, my dear George, volume Two has arrived, as with you, no doubt. I'm rather impressed with this second volume, and it does have high interest. I must concede Nests's antidotal thought to my own impulse: you are fortunate that there is a Rachel Hunt. I don't know, but I somehow just like Diane better. If Stevenson wrote this second volume text I'd say he is a sharp bihistorian! Where's he been all these years? He has put a lot of interesting background matter in the commentary; your "Specail Notes" section.

All for now, with warm regards,

Sincerely,
Joseph Ewan
Joseph Ewan

October 31, 1961

Professor Joseph Ewan
Dept. of Botany
Tulane University
New Orleans 18, La.

Dear Joe:

I was glad to get your letter last week with the news that Dorothy is definitely improving. But I hope that your next letter will report that her improvement is more rapid.

I am pleased also to receive the Banister Biography which I shall be interested to read. I am making my perusal of it an official matter, so its return to you should be covered at this end and accordingly I herewith return your postage stamps.

I finally got down to Bob Hecht's last evening and, after having dinner with him, we brought out here the two volume which you had seen but had not completely identified. One of them consists of two Scandinavian works bound together, Pritzel 2453 and 5310, neither of which we had in the library so I am pleased to add them to our collection.

The other item, *Thestrum Botanicum* (the folio size volume) is Pritzel 10532 (1696). As indicated under the latter number, it stems from Matthioli and the work would seem to be the next to last edition of his *Commentarii* (the last in the Zwinger line). The same item is listed in Nissen 1311. We have a copy of the work and Bob's copy is accordingly for sale and, because of its incompleteness, he is ready to part with it for a very reasonable amount. Although I had first told him \$25.00 might be that, I am inclined to think that \$15.00 or \$18.00 is enough and that he would take it (perhaps even less; he said he would let you set the price if you wanted the book). The book lacks its initial leaf containing a half title on a full page cut, and it also lacks the first leaf of the preface. In the text, itself, it lacks pages 285-288, 291-294, 545-546 and a large portion of 535-536. The other missing parts belong to the various Register of which, I believe, there are four in German, Latin, Greek and French covering 53 pages in all, of which 34 are lacking.

I am sorry that I neglected to talk to you in Minnesota about the 15th and 16th century catalogue I had earlier spoken of. Your initial reaction that the elaborate catalogue I proposed was inadvisable, coupled with essays in a few titles à la Jane Quinby dissuaded me from my initial course. But by the time I saw you in Minnesota I had not had time to formulate another. With this letter I enclose four sets containing compromise solutions between the earlier listing (copied at the bottom of each sheet) and the Quinby type. For three of them there is a direct comparison because the titles are also in the Hunt Catalogue. Enclosed also is a list of the items at least to be considered for each title. If you think it is worth going ahead with such a catalogue, it would be most helpful of you to be as critical as you can of this outline and its working out in the four instances presented.

Professor Joseph Ewan
Tulane University
New Orleans, La.

-2-

October 31, 1961

The overall object would be to get a list in which the items are unequivocally, but not exhaustively, identified as bibliographic items and then "personalized" as parts of this particular collection. Further I wonder whether there should be any such category as I have labeled 'special notes'. For a large number of people who may use such a catalogue these latter remarks would be wholly gratuitous; for quite a number of others they might be informative. (I am supported in this view by having a scientific staff member, who has been connected with this institution for over 30 years, remark the other day that our oldest book was the Hortus Sanitatis (of 1511) wholly ignoring our five incunabula.) There would be no question here of a revision, merely a simple reporting of a few of the high spots as might be found in Nissen, Meyer, Blunt, etc. If you find time to make any criticisms, please feel free to write directly on the sheets I have sent you.

I am wondering if you were one of those to be invited to the opening of the Hunt Library. Perhaps Dr. Went was invited but so far as I know, no invitation was sent to the Garden. I suspect that whether you were invited or not you received a copy of the blurb that went with the opening and if you did, you must have been charmed again by the frontispiece. Since the brochure was printed, two more have been added to the staff so that the group in the penthouse now numbers eleven.

Now I must get back to work.

As ever - best wishes.

Sincerely yours,

George B. Van Schaack
Librarian

GBVS:nr

October 9, 1961

Professor Joseph Ewan
Department of Botany
Tulane University
New Orleans, La.

Dear Joe:

Thank you for your letters of last Friday and today. I am sorry to hear that Dorothy has been delayed in her recovery but hope that one of the many modern miracle drugs will soon deal with the infection. I am sure you were glad to have both her and Nesta back again and I know Nesta must be glad to get home. Many thanks also for the copy of the syllabus for your history course. But it has made my face red to read it for my ignorance is colossal. I can only repeat that I should like to be able to take the course with you.

The enclosure is very interesting and in spots a bit amusing. The plans seem very large and yet more or less justly so. But whether we live in a world where funds for this sort of thing are forthcoming when it seems we need to build underground shelters is a question.

Thanks too for your words about the Botany Subject Index, especially Verdoorn's remark. We shall, of course, purchase the work with all of this support. I heard from Hall last week that only five copies of this printing remain. I hope you will be able to get your order in very soon.

As ever -

Cordially,

George B. Van Schaack
Librarian

GBVS:nr

Enclosure

7/16
TULANE UNIVERSITY

The College of Arts and Sciences
NEW ORLEANS 18

Department of Botany

23 August 1961

Dear George:

I suggest you write me *
c/o Dr. John H. Moe
416 Marquette Bank Bldg. =
Minneapolis 2

PHONE
FEDERAL
9-8976

as to your September plans and where and when we shall meet you. We are due to arrive there Friday morning, Sept. 8th. Conference with Dr. Moe is for one o'clock. At the moment we have no idea where we shall be lodging.

Raining for second time today with full sun in between. Exceptional summer for rain this.

We have just acquired the delightful Helen Maria Williams' ed. of Humboldt's Travels. to complete my set. Very interesting. Two volumes were evidently sturdy sellers then slump set in and though five more vols. were published, to 1827, these later vols. are not common. UC Berkeley has an incompl. set--incl. Bancroft so you can see. W&W have been in corresp. with me about this item, with view to reprint plan but decided against it. In follow up they remembered that I mentioned lacking these vols. and they came along. It is wonderful to have partners in zeal.

In haste,
with best regards,

Joe

* if you will not know
until that week for example.

March 14, 1962

Professor Joseph Ewan
Botany Department
Tulane University
New Orleans, Louisiana

Dear Joe:

I was very glad to get your letter the other day with the good news that Dorothy is making such excellent progress. I hope that Dr. Woe found everything in order and that he was able to make the changes which you anticipated.

I am sure you will want a copy of the enclosed clipping for your files and may not have obtained one in any other way. I am indeed very sorry I never got around to meeting Mr. Palmer, for he must have been a very interesting man. I am glad he had the good sense to leave his herbarium to the university and suspect it was not wholly accidental that he didn't leave it to the garden. I think you can extrapolate from here.

I suspect you got Lundberg's Catalogue 108 this week but call your attention to three items in it just in case you haven't had time to look at it. No. 293, Kew Bulletin for 1933, at \$5.00 is a buy if you don't have a copy and think you should. 305a perhaps is something which should be in your Tulane library although it is somewhat incomplete. This is LAMARCH and POIRET. Encyclopedie Methodique. Botanique, Supplement, and Illustrations des Genres, with 900 Plates. in 24 volumes, 4to and small folio, original boards, uncut. Paris, 1789-1816. at \$125.00. Encyclopedie Methodique, vols. 1-8, 1789-1808. Supplement, vols. 1-4, part 1 (of 5), 1810-1816. Illustrations des Genres I (496pp.), 1791 and II (136pp.), 1793. Plates 1-900 (of 1000) in 9 vols. 1791-1793. The "Illustrations des Genres" is distributed through the Plate volumes. It doesn't seem to me that the price is too high and I can't remember that I have seen any copy for sale. Finally, I think No. 393 is a very definite buy. This is SARGENT, C. S. The Silva of North America. 14 volumes, 740 plates. original boards, uncut. Boston, 1891-1903. An ex-library set, with embossed stamp on title-pages. Fine internally but most of the bindings are soiled -- \$250.00. The offset reprint is \$200.00 and here are all the plates in Riocreux's magnificent roulette engravings.

By the way, could you use a set of Francé Das Leben der Pflanzen. It is in seven or eight volumes you know and very well illustrated, and I think you would find it most useful for your class. If you want it, it can be sent as a donate.

Many thanks for the copy of the symposium proceedings, which I should be very glad to have if for no other reason than to have it remind me from time to time of the really pleasant occasion that the symposium was.

Thank you also for sending along the Coe bibliography and associated notes. Just at the moment I haven't time to remark on any of them but found them very interesting and shall have something to say later.

Professor Joseph Ewan
Tulane University
New Orleans, La.

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March 14, 1962

The virus has worked itself into a real seizure and I think it can be said to have a serious case of bibliomania. I find myself over here practically every night and although I am trying at the moment just to make a preliminary catalogue up to 1700, so that I have the whole thing in a single list, nearly every evening finds me puzzling over some odd item or other for more than half my time. The other night, for example, I found we have two copies of Ray's European Plants of 1694, both incomplete, but as a pair giving the complete work. Keynes did not entirely understand the copies he saw and made a mistake in the description. This is obviously not important but somehow or other fascinating. Immediately thereafter, I found a copy of Ray's Brief Dissertation of 1696 bound in the back of a long work, I forget it at the moment. Keynes could account for only eight copies, two in the British Museum. Then tipped in behind this was the announcement blurb of Tournefort's 1700th edition of Institutiones, and so it goes. Grubbing around in another place last night, I found our two copies of Linnaeus' Orbis Eruditi. Marked in one of them, it says only four copies known. We have two. Actually there are several others but probably less than ten all told. Pritzel saw one. This matter of owning duplicates of very rare books puzzles me a little. Do you think we really should keep both of these copies? Neither one is annotated; one completely unmarked is beautifully bound, while the other is unbound and a little dilapidated but complete and has a deleted signature on the title page, the imprint written in old brown ink and on the last page Somnus Plantarum Brehm. This doesn't seem to me to be a terribly important association copy and it almost seems to me it would be better to have it deposited somewhere else. In fact it could be cleaned up very nicely and bound but, of course, at the moment there is no sense in thinking of such a thing, because whatever we might get for it, from \$100.00 to \$125.00, would go to finance an Indonesian dinner, which seems to be our latest publicity stunt.

I should certainly like to go to the History of Science Congress and have asked to be kept informed of the plans, but I am not too hopeful of being able to get away. On the other hand, twenty years from now I won't be able to go at all, so maybe I shall try to go anyhow. I'll keep thinking about it. Right now, I have to stop writing and get upstairs to see my volunteer grass herbarium assistants, so more at another time.

Lots of luck with the botanical garden and best greetings to all.

Sincerely yours,

George B. Van Schaack
Librarian

GBVS:nr
Encl. (1)

December 12, 1961

Professor Joseph Ewan
Tulane University
Dept. of Botany
New Orleans, Louisiana

Dear Joe:

I was indeed sorry to hear from you a week ago that you, Nesta and Dorothy had to all be disappointed again on the date of her leaving the hospital. This has been a very long siege for all of you and I am distressed that you have had to go through it. If only you can get Dorothy home, the relief from hospital visiting will be enough to make you feel so vastly less frustrated, although having Dorothy five months in bed after she gets home is certainly not going to be a picnic. Just how she can amuse herself during all that time I wonder.

I hope that in your more thorough perusal of my comments in the Bennister manuscript your feelings have not been hurt, for I know only too well how blunt my comments sometime are. Your own comments on the sheets I had sent you were so mild and generous that I blushed at the thought of how much less so mine had been. I am grateful to you for your having looked at those sheets and for the helpful suggestions, but quite frankly I had expected you might be much more critical. Apparently ~~you~~ too believe not only that a catalogue of the books in question would be desirable, but that the entries should be as extensive as I indicated. This doesn't particularly surprise me, considering your most obvious interests, but I do wonder how many would agree with you. I should find it most interesting to do the catalogue and should not grudge the rather considerable effort it would be. Nor would there be any particular difficulty about getting it published in the Annals, but I should not like to appear ostentatious in the use of publishing space. More of this after the holidays.

No, I have not seen Mrs. Hunt's second volume, although upon hearing of its appearance, I wrote at once to ask whether per chance our copy had been lost in the mail. Slightly embarrassed, I received the reply that our copy was to be of the deluxe edition with gold edges, which edition would not be distributed until sometime latter this month.

Thanks for the notes about Philadelphia. I am obviously going to be there much to briefly, only about twenty-four hours, but I shall try to get A.B.S. as well as to the A.N.S.P. which I am particularly anxious to visit to discuss the problem of recataloguing. I should indeed like to get to Leary's but it is doubtful that I shall have time, though I would like to check for you there if I could. By the way, is there anything I can check for you in New York or Boston or Washington? Please send any matters along that you think of.

Professor Joseph Ewan
Tulane University
New Orleans, La.

-2-

December 12, 1961

Thanks for sending a copy of the expanded Catesby Review which I liked very much. What a background and knowledge you must have to be able to do that sort of thing, but how many I wonder realize that.

John Francis was in the other day looking for the name of correspondents about three frontier botanists, Smith, Drummond and a third whose name I have forgotten. Recalling your tips about the Liverpool Museum of about a year ago, I was able to direct him to Stansfield for one.

I hope I shall have good word from you soon.

Sincerely yours,

George B. Van Schaack
Librarian

GBVS:nr

PS. I wonder if you have two publications of the Linnean Society of London. One of these is Lectures on the Development of Taxonomy delivered in the Rooms of the Linnean Society during the Session 1948-49 and is I think a very good short account from Aristotle to the present. The other is Lectures on the Practice of Botanical and Zoological Classification delivered in the Rooms of the Linnean Society during the Session 1949-1950. This I have not looked at very carefully but suggest that you would find it also useful. Each of them comes for about four or five shillings. I believe though they run to nearly one hundred pages.

November 21, 1961

Professor Joseph Ewan
Tulane University
Department of Botany
New Orleans, Louisiana

Dear Joe:

I have been hoping to hear from you that Dorothy had made the progress which you seemed to think was to be expected when I talked to you now several weeks ago. I trust that she has done so and that neither she nor you and Nesta will have more disappointment in the speed of her recovery.

I am just about to send your manuscript back to you. I am sorry to have been so long about it and hope that it has not delayed you. I have made quite a number of notes in some places, mostly regarding specific expressions but some regarding consistency. In one place I have indicated that I think the whole tone of several pages is too much "perhaps", "possibly", "may", "surely", etc. I get a fair idea of the picture which is in your mind supported by all kinds of evidence which you can not put into the manuscript but I feel the effect on the reader is finally to begin to ask, "Just how much of this is being made up?", and that, of course, is to be avoided. For some reason or other which I can't put my finger on I took a dislike to William Buird II, probably quite unreasonably, but there are times when it seems to me that he presents himself without sufficient reason. I reread the part we all worked over in Minnesota and think that it now reads well indeed, although I have marked one or two places where I think a minor change would improve it. I am very glad to have read this manuscript for you and only hope that I have not been too critical.

I wonder if you still have any copies of your "Botanical Explorer's of Colorado" No. 4 (Patterson). We have Nos. 1-3, 5, 6 but I find no trace of No. 4.

I hope Thursday will be a real occasion for Thanksgiving and that it will be a happy day for all of you.

Best wishes

Sincerely,

George B. Van Schaack
Librarian

GBYS:nr

TULANE UNIVERSITY
College of Arts and Sciences
NEW ORLEANS 18

Department of Botany

3 April 1962

Dear George:

Que lastima! Wish I were coming to St Louis soon but such is not to be, and my phrase in Bob Hecht's letter "will have to await my next trip which will be very soon," following reference to needs of University Library, meant only the trip across the campus! When you live on one edge of an old sugar plantation and the library is on the other you tend to think of distances, I guess. Sorry, wish I were!

I'm planning on Ithaca, and on to Montreal in August, and no prospect of including St Louis at this point. I'll be in New York City to confer with Ronald Press editors on Rocky Mountain Vegetation. In Montreal on Joseph Banks's Newfoundland-Labrador Diary. I'm talking on J. Banister at Hist. of Sci. Congress. Hope to see you there!

The Mitchell Society edition of Banks's Endeavour journal arrived today and I think it is a fine monument to Beaglehole and all who helped in its production. I'm pleased to have/a part, precisely over 200 botanical fns. There are inadequacies with the color plates, done in Holland, but altogether it is a fine publication. /had

Yours of yesterday came. I'm taking up your offer of Hort Bles. It is a nice copy, I think you will concur. I really hate to give it up from my bibliophilic pleasure that rubs off every time I pick it up but your proposition is sound and generous. I shall mail it off shortly, so keep your copy and check the two copies before you post the MEC copy. Be sure to stamp the official release please. My wants will be nicely served by the loose copy, since my reference use will be very occasional. I have a copy of Cornut in somewhat similar shape; missing pp. in photostat and all in a slip case to keep the pp. from sagging on the shelf if tied in a folder. Also protects from dust.

I do not have your letter here at moment--came in and found yours and sat down to set the schedule straight. So other matters will come up again, I'm sure.

It is wonderful to hear from you, George, and thanks, too, for the books and pamphlets that came the other day. "Goodies" as a zoologist calls them when he sees my parade of parcels.

Incidentally, D is progressing nicely; a little stronger every day with more time in the wheelchair. Tonight her friends come over and J&I go over to the Tulane Theatre to ~~them~~ see "The Play's the Thing."

Cordially yours,

Joe Ewan

Joseph Ewan

April 2, 1961

Professor Joseph Ewan
Dept. of Botany
Tulane University
New Orleans, Louisiana

Dear Joe:

Talking to Bob Hecht this morning he mentioned that you had indicated to him you would shortly be in St. Louis. This is most good news and I only hope it is true. I hasten to write you to tell you that there is a bare possibility I may have to go to New York for two or three or four days on moderately short notice sometime during the next several weeks and, accordingly, should hope that I would know definitely the time of your coming early enough to let you know when I would be away for I should not wish to be absent while you were here. The date in New York will be set by the court so I should not be able to change it, so should only be able to let you know so that you might change your date if possible.

Please don't let us down. Just be sure to come for as long as you can.

Best greetings to all. In haste -

Sincerely yours,

George B. Van Schaack
Librarian

GBVS:nr

August 1, 1961

Professor Joseph Ewan
Tulane University
Dept. of Botany
New Orleans 18, La.

Dear Joe:

I was very glad to receive your long letter with its many paragraphs of advice and information. I shall not take any time now to discuss most of this because I hope to meet you in Minneapolis. It is my present intention to be in Duluth from about the 25th of August for some three weeks and I should be happy to drive down from there for a meeting with you, Nesta and Dorothy. I am sorry, however, for the occasion and hope that Dr. Moe will not have to advise surgery. Unless you stay in Minneapolis for some time, I regretfully will not be in St. Louis when you pass through here.

I am sorry to hear that you have had the Banister returned again. When I think of all the half-baked drivel that I drop into the waste basket every day, it seems a shame that you have so much trouble with this manuscript. I hope G.H.M.L. will be able to persuade Cornell to do it for you. But then, he has some really important matters to attend to these days. A recent visitor from Pittsburg (Mathematics Staff Carnegie) says here Royal Highness has stipulated yellow toilet tissue, Delsey brand, and he may be having quite a job seeing that this stipulation is carried out. See what you missed! (No pun intended!) But they say her idea was an afterthought. (Pun intended!)

No, my secretary did not make a mistake in writing 1500 for 1600! The dip is in the first decade of the 16th century, but I should certainly like to know what you have in mind about the middle of the 17th century.

Until now, since just after my return in May, I have been without a secretary, but as of yesterday morning I am again doing business. My new secretary comes to me with high recommendations, and I have every reason to believe she will get on well here, but she is extremely expensive for I have been able to have her only because Fred Sadler surrendered her to me; the reason being that he and his family are moving to São Paulo some time in September. Since I am with them on the average of at least twice a week, you can imagine how I feel about this.

I am glad to hear that you are receiving new cases and finding help to get them installed. By the way, I wonder whether you would want to add my own herbarium to the one at Tulane. It now contains very little from Alaska, consisting mostly of what I have collected since I came back from there. It would, therefore, somewhat duplicate your own because I have collected so much in the West, but there is quite a lot of stuff from the East too and Florida. Much of it is undetermined and all of it unticketed but there are field books. There are probably some 1500 or 2000 numbers and I should suspect at least 5000 sheets. Perhaps I should throw it in the waste basket because

Prof. Joseph Ewan
Tulane University
New Orleans 18, La.

August 1, 1961

it is so unprocessed, if for no other reason. I am surely never going to have time to look at it again and do not wish to move it again. We might talk about it when I see you in Minneapolis.

We have lately been enjoying some New Orleans weather. Hope all of you are enjoying your specimen. With best greetings and some anticipation -

Sincerely yours,

George B. Van Schaack
Librarian

GBVS:nr

TULANE UNIVERSITY
College of Arts and Sciences
NEW ORLEANS 18

Department of Botany

23 July 1961

Dear George:

Yours of the 17th was wonderfully newsy and so welcome. We have been doing a variety of jobs this summer: teaching summer session, for first time in 8 years, one class in freshman botany, now over; moving herb. cases and goods and chattels preparatory to receiving 23 cases from Lane to replace old Navy lockers that I had painted up and renovated for use as herb. substitutes when I arrived in 1947. One room has now been painted and this looks well; new cases due this week and I'm glad we do have a student here who is intelligent and can help with the onerous task of refiling the bundles of plants, etc. etc. that strew the rooms.

Banister came back from North Carolina Press, with comment too costly to print as is, and too limited a public, also too much documentation--in short, carbon copy comments of Cappon's notes you may recall. Yes, NC says, worth publishing and perhaps after a reorganization NCP will undertake it. NCP rightly suggest that we try another press. I've written to G.H.M. Lawrence on the general score that he might be in a position to recommend, precisely to Cornell U Press, who have done rather similar items in past. I sent a batch of sample pp. and pertinent info but have not heard from George HIS MAJESTY as yet. Meanwhile there is the matter of getting the photocopies of the Banister ill. ready; this, indeed, might better have been done before we sent the ms. off at all, because the drawings will surely add to the interest of the book.

Now I'm going thru the hundreds of Contoura copies of letters, etc. brought back from Europe and this country anent the preparation of the Fursh commentary, and Naturalists of the Old South, etc. These have been roughly sorted before this but now I'm labelling each print with subject, source, etc. since all this material bears on the NSF project that Nests is working away on currently. She has been lately organizing the info on the 41 collectors, etc. who were involved with the collecting of the types of n spp. described by Fursh. Such persons as Fraser, John, and his son, John Fraser, present some real difficulties! Nests is gaining a real proficiency in this historical field and knows a fund of info about the chaps now.

I certainly recommend Willman Spawm for his talents in repair and restoration of books and manuscripts. He has had long experience with the most precious of mss. and is thoroughly qualified in every way to recommend action toward the preservation of your materials, in all categories. He works deftly and effectively, knows the history of the materials he works with, and is unusual for his considerable knowledge of botanical history and literature. The only Achilles heel I've found might be writing up conclusions arrived at from his examination of materials; this is not a hopeless lack, I'm sure, but you might well bear this in mind and be prepared to have to remind him of the report due. Again, you may have no lapse on this score and I hope not. His fee, \$50 and expenses, is the same as it was 3-4 years ago when Tulane considered bringing him here then Garland Taylor left us and the whole matter was indefinitely postponed. Personally, I think you will find Willman a remarkable chap. I think your idea is a capital one; may even lead to his helping you find an assistant. That in itself would be worth the price!

Mrs. Shafer of the Free Library is very knowledgeable. She was formerly with Dawson's of Los Angeles.