



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.

Interdepartmental Correspondence

TULANE UNIVERSITY

Biology Department

15 October 1975

To: Dean Joseph Gordon  
College of Arts and Sciences

From: Prof. Joseph Ewan  
Dept. of Biology

Subject: Suggestion for my Appointment as Research Professor of Biology and  
Disposition of my Personal Library.

It is my hope to complete for publication as books 1) a biography of Benjamin Smith Barton, Keystone in American Natural History, 2) the second edition of Rocky Mountain Naturalists, 3) a companion volume on Naturalists of the Old South, and 4) a biobibliography of travel narratives of naturalists of South America entitled Andes and Amazon. Materials for these have been assembled over the years, and are in varying stages of completion. In all of these efforts my wife, Nesta, is playing a critical part.

Essential to my progress are favorable facilities. I am hopeful that I may retain my Ida A. Richardson Professorship and that I retain my office in Dinwiddie Hall.

My continuing association with Tulane University is intimately connected with my personal library of over 4000 volumes. Through the years it has served a pivotal role in the writing of the 264 books, papers, and reviews (many essay reviews) I have published. Since May 20th, 1952 when the first inventory was filed, my library has been insured by me each year. My last renewal, dated February 3, 1975, is for \$31,067.40. The valuations represent purchase prices of the acquisitions and often do not reflect the true market values of today. My collection complements the University holdings, while I have served as book chairman for the Department, employing what has seemed a sensible use of restricted funds. Three areas are represented: plant systematics, Latin American and travel literature, and scientific biography. Though I recognize there are alternate possible actions, may I recommend that the University purchase my library in five installments, 1976-1980, that the collection be housed at its present location and that I have access to it for the duration of my active use of the books. The value of my library will be determined by an off-campus appraiser knowledgeable in these fields of literature.

Respectfully yours,

Joseph Ewan  
Ida A. Richardson Professor  
of Botany

JE/kll

cc: President Sheldon Hackney  
Dean David Deener  
Prof. E.P. Volpe

*Take Zeitlin  
if he will  
come to  
N.O. but he  
has had surgery  
attacks and must  
wait for Dr. Phillips  
to fly w/ him.*

TULANE UNIVERSITY

NEW ORLEANS, LA. 70118

AC 504 865-6226

Department of Biology

12 Nov 1975

Dear George,

Cool moonshiny evening and first respite from temperatures in 80's for weeks. Yesterday I heard the first myrtle warblers in the trees on campus so that means the winter visitors will be coming in now.

Nesta is in California visiting friends and her mother (who is cheery but not able to do much for herself in her 96th year) and sister and brother. She returns tomorrow evening.

Yours of 20th of October was good to see. You sound very busy, live and well as the coils will permit. As to a few points:

I imagine Tweeny has gone into something else by now. Jeremy Norman in SF must have a wad to spend for he has put out two or three posh catalogues but then he hopes to get a deal back from his prices! He had sent me a catalogue, thank you. I did not buy but merely ogled.

Do send me that list of demerits of microfilming vs the noble book! I am on the University Senate comm. on libraries this year again and I could put such refutations to certain misguided bodies who live in libraries. Of course I have some thoughts of my own which doubtless are on your codex.

I think you should try Sol Stein on your sewing a paperback question. By the way Dover has brought out the Thomas Johnson edition of Gerard, 1633, for \$42.50 and it is very satisfying indeed. I am sending his leaflet. If UOregon does not own the original the Library must order and even so it means we may read a herbal outside the RBR of the library since we no longer bother to put books costing up to \$100 in the RBR. I bought one to have it handy. The Koch (Tulane) Fund bought the 1597 edition and that, happily! is housed here in Dinwiddie by terms of the Donor's gift. Nice to have both editions close for comparison, as you know from MEG days.

Incidentally, Carla seems to be improving and that is good news!

I would appreciate few sentences to Dean Joseph Gordon re my staying on as Ida A Richardson Prof of Botany and the University entertaining the purchase of my library. I have kept a 2-column chart for some years now TO STAY/TO GO and in total it seems best to try to stay here. BIG advantage is I know the Tulane collection and can quickly find my needs (aside from the devilish moving of bibliog books acc to subject from dept to dept) Also to move would soak up my strength, a year of my productivity, and the loss of the oldshoe comfort of knowing more or less where things are on my shelves. Anyway, I have written a letter, copy herewith, and that is that. I imagine you agree? Of course if you think differently please do not imagine I wish you to write against your better judgment.

All for now, with very best from

Jos

TULANE UNIVERSITY

NEW ORLEANS, LA. 70118

AC 504 865-6226

Department of Biology

16 October 1975

Dear George:

We wonder how you are? Probably busy with the multitudinous sea of details anent the library, conservation, student activities, etc ?

As you see from the schedule for this Bicentennial year I am pretty much occupied: getting ready for lectures, keeping up with letters, and running two classes, one in syst bot and the other hist of biol. Now the AIBS meets in NO next May 30-June 4th and I am local chairman for the ASFT and TBC. Any chance of your coming then? Really it will be pretty warm, I am sure, and best time for you is winter months.

*old* Last month I was in Beltsville for the USDA Library meeting and my first visit to the new high rise library since I used to live in the Washington area and visit the USDA every week. It was a very successful meeting and I met some interesting people but, truth to tell, one just cannot keep meeting more people and get anything else done. Selectivity must be the action line.

Keith Roe was there and mentioned you fondly. He is now in Pa State College Library, State College, Pa. I wish he lived nearer; very genial person.

I am stuffing some items of some interest: the Univ Ill Press flyer is a pretty sad thing with authors' names misspelled and Banister likewise. With the book jacket on the same page of all things!

The loan exhibit from USSR at National Gallery was most interesting. I am pleased to be on its Dec program on the European vision of America.

Do you every hear anything from George Tweney the bookseller of Seattle?

Whit Bell does a fine job on the AFS Library Reports. You may have seen this. Do not return but pass along.

George Corner invited Richardson, the art historian now retired and his wife and Nesta and I to supper last summer at his clubhouse near Rittenhouse Square. He is not as steady on the feet as last we saw him but he goes to AFS regularly and works away on the committees for grants, etc. Most amazing person and such a rich background from a full life.

All for now  
our best wishes!

Joe

NEWCOMB COLLEGE

Travel Reimbursement Projected  
for Newcomb Faculty

Department Biology

Academic Year 1975-76

Name and Rank	Name and Organization and Place of Meeting	Date of Meeting	<u>title of paper to be presented by me:</u> Nature of Participation on Program	Amount Assigned
Joseph Ewan, Prof.	National Agricultural Library, Beltsville, Maryland	Sept. 24, 1975	"John Banister: 17th century scholar, minister, farmer, artist, naturalist"	no funding required
"	Symposium Amer. Asso. Advancement of Sciences, annual meeting, Boston, Mass.	Feb. 24, 1976	Plant resources in colonial America	fare=\$226.
"	Morton Arboretum, Lisle, Ill.	May 3, 1976	The Bartrams and the Quiet Revolution on the Schuylkill	no funding required
"	Winterthur Museum, near Greenville, Delaware	May 8, 1976	Roots of our American horticulture	"
"	New York Botanical Garden, Bronx, N.Y.	May 10, 1976	Botanical Discovery of America	"
"	Garden Study Club, N.O.	Feb-17, 1976	How many botany books did Jefferson own?	"
"	Mo. Bot. Garden, St Louis	Feb 2, 1976	" " "	"
"	National Gallery of Art Washington, D.C.	Dec. 14, 1975	Botanical Discovery of Am. "European Vision of America"	"

Total \$ 226.73

College of Arts & Sciences, Projected \$ \_\_\_\_\_

University Department Allocation \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Signature of Department Head \_\_\_\_\_

J. Ewan  
Tulane University  
New Orleans, La. 70118



Dr. George B. Van Schaack  
1964 Harris Street  
Eugene, Oregon 97405  
U.S.A.

PAR ✳  
AVTON

6 July 1975

Dear George:

We both felt much better after that telephone chat the other night! Now for a sort of catching up on miscellany of matters:

Finally have the letter to Thatcher in the mails, carbon herewith.

Ruth Brown, Librarian at ANSP is retiring with burden of discouragement over Academy's unwillingness to put the library high on priorities. She has asked me to answer the question, what is a resource library? Head of systematics at the ANSP says there is no difference -- why is the ANSP Library a resource? I gave her some thoughts, as follows, a resource library has

- 1) comprehensive coverage (when you have an uncommon ref you will expect it to be there)
- 2) relatedness of the holdings (when you have a ref to a systematic problem, there will be background materials as well, e.g. travel narrative of the collector or expedition that tells about the colls., biographies of the persons involved, often with maps, photographs of what may be type locs. etc.)

- 3) physical accessibility (ANSP the books are in one place essentially, like MBG, and not as Harvard where you must seek them at AA, GH, Houghton, and MCZ, or wait for deliveries back to Herbarium) This feature means a great deal to an active worker who has several refs to check. (proof of pudding) GKHall, who publ a cat of the ANSP Library, is not going to invest in something less than a resource coll.! Royalties are coming in from the GKHall publ Ruth Brown tells me. Good sign.

Could you send me a copy of that list of reasons why the hardcopy should be kept alive and well against the microfilm, etc.? It should have wider circ.

Peter Raven has invited me to MBG on Feb 2 for a talk on TJeff and his bot interests-- "The Botanical side of a President of the United States" is my thought for an election year.

This Bicentennial fuss has brought a flurry of invitations to add to their programs; at least botany will have some support long overdue and the audience may include some persons to influence. USDA Library at Beltsville, NYBG, and Morton Arb, are all in the schedule.

Bookstores are disappearing--the antiquarian sort--and Phila has only two left, or  $1\frac{1}{2}$  -- George Allen is a wholly antiquarian shop and Sessler's is only a figment of a fragment in the line. ~~Mabel~~ Mabel Zahn, the remarkable woman who gave Sessler's its prestige, died last Jan. Oh yes, George MacManus is still going; I have not been over this visit yet. Leary's vent several years ago and since I was here in 1972 a shop one block from Benj Franklin Hotel has gone and building demolished for another parking lot. In 1960-62 when we were here for three summers in a row Phila had several second hand shops, with five floors at Leary's that used to be open Wed eves and always busy with browsers.

Harry Lubrecht tells me Hafner has merged with Free Press, also a Division of Macm and Stechert-Hafner Service Agency dissolved as of December 1974. Lubrecht is friendly with Mr. Cramer in Germany and there is still some cheer for the survival of botanical publishing acc to Harry.

We plan to drive to Mount Desert later this month via Providence and Cambridge and may have more to say later.

Best of fortune,  
cordially,

Jos

6 July 1975

Dear Prof. Thatcher:

Your letter of May 24th came on the eve of our departure for Phila and this is my first opportunity to write anent your questions about the botanical archives at the Univ of Oregon. I shall be back at Tulane in September. Of course I shall be happy to carry on with your problem in whatever way you may think worth while. I know the collections you speak of from the examination I made of them in 1969 on our visit to Botanical Congress that summer.

You are aware that the collection is described, briefly, in the National Manuscripts catalogue (approximate title--publ of LC or GPO)? In fact, that is how I learned about its content before visiting your University. It was mentioned, too, in the mimeo history of Oregon botany issued back about 1940, by an author who evidently did not reenter the subject. (I am handicapped by being away from my library, you see).

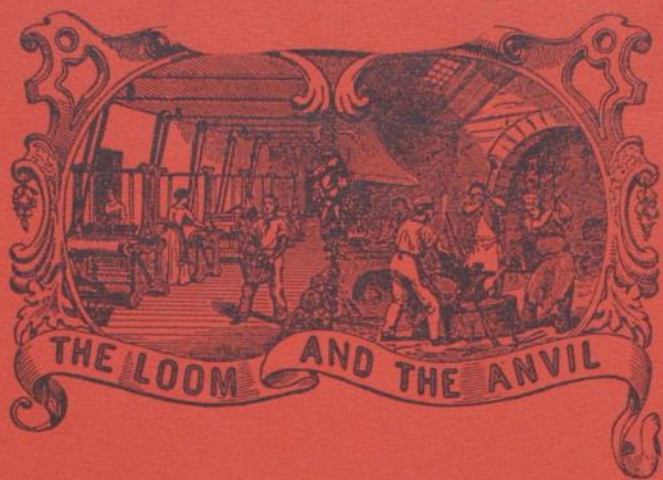
All that you have to say about the botanists of the Pacific Northwest underscores the fact that there is room for a comprehensive book on the Naturalists of the Pacific Northwest. "Naturalists" advisedly since they often had overlapping interests with other fields. Tucker Abbott's recent American Malacologists reinforces the fact of a botanist with a side line, e.g. N. L. Britton, who collected shells. In short, now that you have seen what archives offer about your Pac NW persons it would seem significant to include these materials beyond the riches of the U Ore materials. You will find some considerable materials on Piper and Beattie in the Washington (USNH, or Smithsonian, or USDA) collections. To be sure these Washington letters and notebooks will concern their later careers primarily.

I suggest that you might follow my scheme of writing sketches of individual botanical explorers, Henderson, Piper, Suksdorf, as I did for the Colorado scene in the journal of the Colo Mt Club, later gathered and published as Rocky Mountain Naturalists. This arrangement has some real advantages, viz., it encourages you the author to see the material in print, it stakes out your interest in the topics and materials may come to your attention from interested persons along the way, as the sketches appear, it will make it easier to write that Nats of Pac NW., since the publisher will have a concrete exhibit to work with when the editors meet to consider the advisability of publishing your book. The sketches should be prepared as a brace of horses all pulling together toward that book. Gather materials on all the persons as you go along and write up the one that seems quite complete for number one in the series, and so on. Search the Pullman, Seattle, Berkeley (remember there are letters from these men at UC Berkeley, in Botany Dept. archives, and in the archives of the Calif Acad.--since 1906 fire of course).

I suggest you publish the series in Madrono, with its Pac Coast readership. Might be titled "Botanical explorers of Pacific Northwest. I. etc." You will find Huntia has died. The last gasp appeared in 1969, preprint of article for vol 3--no more published--on botanists of Pacific NW !! printed by Geo Lawrence for the Congress folk. I think it would be best to publish in a botanical rather than a general historical journal but there are points for the latter. Portrait for each sketch if you can arrange it.

All the best and cordially,

Joseph S. Sauer



*Bicentennial Symposium on*  
*“Agricultural Literature:*  
*Proud Heritage--Future Promise”*

*September 24-26, 1975*

Digitized by the Hunt Institute for Botanical Documentation

2101 Chestnut St. apt 1223  
Philadelphia, Pa. 19103  
13th Jul y 1975

Dear George,

Yours of June 25th, delayed mailing, arrived but it had visited ~~Gunn~~ Carlisle en route since you had used the zip code for Carlisle not Phila.

Deelighted to have the photo, which the undated is recent I presume? This spring?

I can see the Publishers Central Bureau Book Club needs another cateGORY, viz. "spoilsports and other diversions"

I am nearly taken aback (what ever that does to the constitution) to learn of the 'terrible swift sword' of remaindering that hit luckless Linnaeus.

Silvestre shall be pursued.

Willman Spawn is looking well and his sons are growing in wisdom and 'light' I am sure. My habitat at the Academy does not bring us together often because he is at the APS. We had George Corner as our guest at the restaurant the other evening and it was a real joy, as usual. He is just beginning, at 82, to show a little infirmity in the knees but nothing shaky about his mind. And how much he has to recall.

Ida and Oscar Langman have just moved to the Jersey shore from Phila -- which many of us think was not a good move, too expensive to get into city and the isolation will not be good for them. Sad to relate Oscar has lost the sight of one eye from what he believes was faulty treatment. But he drives their car in Phila traffic!

No, I did not know Catesby was selected as one of the best fifty of 1974! Mills Lane is not a correspondent and to date I have seen no review of the book, not surprising when it was out of the question to send out review copies. I did suggest he place a few selected copies of the volume of commentary, sold separately, otherwise it will want for publicity. He was at first refusing to allow commission to dealers who handled the \$500 item, and Jake Zeitlin, for instance, said he was unknowing to think that would work. He has since relented on the fee to dealers. Eric Lundberg said it would be impossible to handle the item with such outlays and no compensation. Shipping costs are not slight, as you well know.

Do you know Willamette Univ at Salem and its faculty? Prof. James C. Nelson taught there for many years, collected books on Brazil and other S Am countries, corresponded with Latin Americans but evidently did not write in that area. I wonder if the collection of books and his letters stayed there? Thatcher may know all this. I have just noted an obit. in Rhodora, 47:65-68. 1945, by Prof. Morton E. Peck on Nelson. I have no idea who may be carrying on there.

How interesting that a scholar should "stumble" across a rare book: I remember you mentioning that with periscopic sight you zoom on the errors in page typesetting; why cannot then the scholar apprehend, as a sidewinder sensing a warmblooded mouse in its desert burrow? Sensing is the word. "Scholar senses a rare book"!

Cheers, septugenarian, cheers,  
keep those senses sensing,

Jos

le n° 1126.

ouen. 1576—1618.

1561—1569.

imprim. à Paris. 1507—1544.

Paris. 1525—1531.

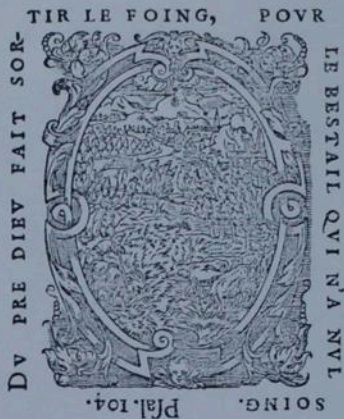
(mis). — Voyez le n° 538.



1127



1128

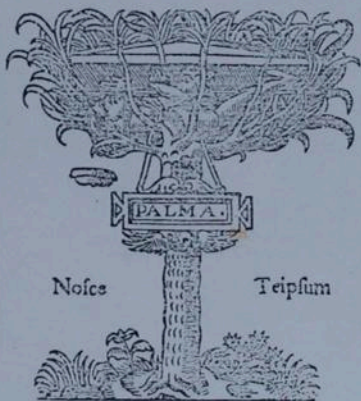


1129

From M L C  
Silvestre  
Marquer  
Typographique  
1867

± 1130

\* Bonnevière (Antoine)  
libraire et imprimer  
Paris 1525-31



1130



1131



1132

Harvard copy 2, 1971



HORTICULTURAL HALL

CARLTON B. LEES  
EXECUTIVE SECRETARY

# MASSACHUSETTS HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY

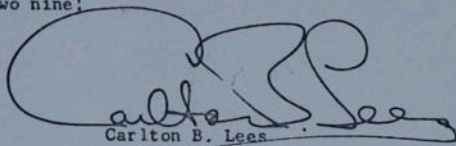
300 MASSACHUSETTS AVENUE • BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS, 02115

ODE TO JOE

OR

Calendarium botanicum erratum

There is a botanist bold called Ewan  
Whose History of B.'s a new one.  
From yucca and Ilex and Cornut's Canadensium  
to lupine and Hunt's Botanico-P.-Huntianum -  
A real good stunt  
In back and front.  
But lo!, his crime: M.H.S. time.  
Joe, do please fix  
Eighteen three six.  
Our birth was in two nine;

  
Carlton B. Lees  
May 19, 1970

cc: Dr. George H. M. Lawrence  
Emanuel D. Rudolph  
Miss Dorothy S. Manks  
Muriel C. Crossman

↓  
{now at NYBG.  
Nov. 1975}

TULANE UNIVERSITY

NEW ORLEANS, LA. 70118

Department of Biology

22 January 1974

John Chancellor  
Kew Books  
69 Kew Green, Richmond, Surrey TW9 3AH

Dear Friend:

This will serve two aims: acknowledge your CATALOGUE TWO, recently perused with pure pleasure (and, incidentally, checked against the Tulane collections) and your letter of 30th April last at the time we were corresponding re the Fomet. Indeed, a happy acquisition!

First, I would like, on a personal purchase,

378 SKYMOUR, R. A. Pioneering in the pampas. ed. 2. London, 1870.	£ 3.50
371 /anon/ Pictures of travel in far-off lands: South America. London, 1872.	4.00

That this Kew Two will be a collector's item for the knowing is a truism. Not all the best bibliophilia is to be found in hard covers!

I am sending a list of duplicates that have been accumulating over the years. I am always pleased to exchange. From your comment I believe you may be interested . . .

In addition to the items listed I have a oddment, what in the trade are called orphans, as represented by the clipping from a Belgian catalogue! I have volume one only; I succeeded in the pursuit after purchasing this volume (in New Orleans when there were books of this sort to be seen but no more!) of a set of the work so this was set aside. This dupl has been neatly repaired, and nicely bound, but was evidently badly treated in its two centuries! the folding plates are present, etc., altogether a worthwhile item which you might care to look at and judge then. I know it is hard to guesstimate about an orphan.

I am sending a copy of your Kew Two to a bibliophile, Dr. George Van Schaeck, 1964 Harris Street, Eugene, Oregon, 97405, and he would be happy to see Kew Three in the future I am sure. He was formerly with the Missouri Botanical Garden and Morton Arboretum libraries. This was a cat that you mailed to the Tulane Library and the management sanely passed it along for me to place.

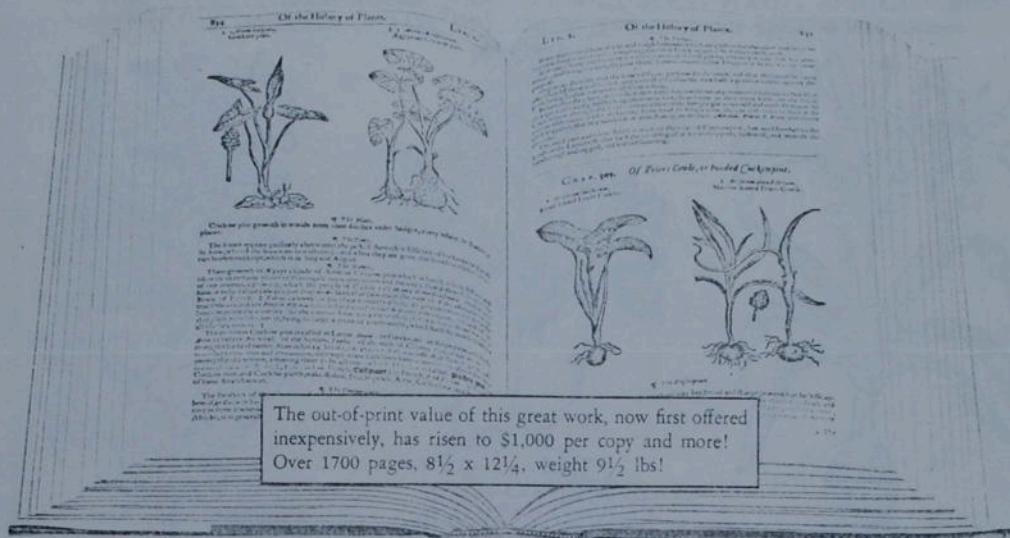
Cordially yours,

Joseph Ewan  
Ida A. Richardson  
Prof. of Botany

cc: G. B. VanSchaek

THE GREATEST HERBAL EVER PREPARED IN ENGLISH  
WITH MORE THAN 2700 FINE WOODCUT ILLUSTRATIONS OF THE PLANTS OF THE WORLD

*In rare books*



The out-of-print value of this great work, now first offered  
inexpensively, has risen to \$1,000 per copy and more!  
Over 1700 pages, 8½ x 12¼, weight 9½ lbs!

# THE HERBAL OR GENERAL HISTORY OF PLANTS

JOHN GERARD  
THE COMPLETE 1633 EDITION AS REVISED AND ENLARGED BY  
THOMAS JOHNSON

CLOTHBOUND \$42.50 (\$50 after Dec. 31, 1975)

### A Brief History of a Monumental Book

John Gerard (1545-1612) was a barber-surgeon in London, the superintendent of the gardens owned by Lord Burghley in London and Hertfordshire, tender of his own legendary garden said to include over 1000 varieties of plants, and eventually the herbarist to King James I. In 1590 he published his HERBAL. Then in 1633, Thomas Johnson brought out a revised and enlarged edition of Gerard's book to which he added more than 800 plant descriptions and 700 illustrations, making the new Gerard HERBAL the edition reproduced here in full, a conspectus and summation of Renaissance knowledge of plants, treating 2850 plants in all with the best available written accounts and graphics of the age. Far and away the greatest herbal ever prepared in the English language, it has served as the source or model (through abridgment or selection) of everything that has been prepared since.

Written in a lively Elizabethan style, brisk, concrete and colorful, it conveys a world of amusing contemporary folkways about plants; as Gerard says about the poplar for "made snuff".

The people of Toledo do eat them with great devotion being boiled with fat flesh, putting thereto some scraped cheese, which they do keep in vinegar, honie salt pickled all Winter to procure Lust. Pterus Bellonius and Hermolaus Barbarus, report that in Egypt and Barbary they use to eat the fruit of Mala insana boiled or roasted under ashes, with oile, vinegar and pepper, as people use to eat Mushrooms. But I rather wish Englishmen to content themselves with the meat and sauce of our own country, then with fruit and sauce eaten with such perill . . .

Gerard tried to combine several worlds of plant-value in this gigantic volume: descriptions (supplemented by accurate drawings), gardening experience, historical and geographical information, and, most important of all for him and his contemporaries, the traditional medical use of every plant known. As a result this is far and away the largest compendium of the herbal knowledge and beliefs of the Greek and Roman world, the Middle Ages, and the Renaissance.

P. O. Box 177  
390 Forge Road  
East Greenwich, R. I. 02818

12 November 1973

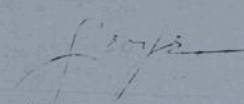
✓  
Mr. Leon H. Kelso  
1601 Argonne Place  
Washington, D.C. 20009

Dear Leon:

It has been a long time since our paths have crossed, when we both enjoyed the tutelage of Wright and of Wiegand. Each of us has reaped variously with the vicissitudes of time.

I write to ask if you have a spare copy of your Biological Leaflet Nos. 88, 89, and 90. If so, I would welcome one of each. Nos. 91 and 92 are before me, and I have appreciated both. Like you, I believe that biographical accounts should "tell it like it is," to use the vernacular, and seldom do I read one of a botanist I have known without thinking that the account in hand rarely gives the reader any degree of comprehension of the man as he really was. Obviously, you could write a gem of an account of Coville - and perhaps of Maxson - if only you would. Should you be moved to do so, I would invite you to let me place them on deposit in the archives of the Hunt Botanical Library for benefit of the more perspicacious scholars of tomorrow. Does the idea appeal to you?

Very cordially yours,

  
George H. M. Lawrence



CENTRAL STATE UNIVERSITY / EDMOND, OKLAHOMA 73034

Office of the Dean  
SCHOOL OF MATHEMATICS AND SCIENCE

Nov 14 1973

Dear Mr. Kelso,

The mistakes you found in *LAND ABOVE THE TREES* seem to be symptomatic of the times. I see the same sort of things in treatments of violets. In Rickett's wild flower book he had several violets misnamed - ditto in other treatments. And they are often ignorant mistakes, hardly excusable. There seems to be a real breakdown in the publishing business, a dismissal of standards, that has reached in "scientific" publishing now. It fits the Nixon philosophy that he, Agnew, and their bunch, have gotten into the American consciousness. Accuracy can now be sacrificed.

About a month ago I stopped getting the local newspapers and subscribed, by mail, to the Washington Post. My wife and I have been genuinely enjoying it, seeing a world that is kept hidden here by the 100 year old king of communication, E.K. Gaylord.

Temperature will be 80 here today - you have had a good freeze, but we still await ours. The oaks are turning color anyway, red and purple one day, brown the next in the dry wind, gone the third day. Heard juncos in my trees this morning, so it must be cold and short-dayed to the north. Couple-three weeks ago a magnificent flock of hundreds of white pelicans flew over and dipped down above me - it was a thrilling experience. I had stopped by a country road to watch them - when they were gone I looked up and saw many other cars stopped.

Very Best Wishes,

William Suedde

Evon

### Michaux's *Flora* in American Botany

"The Paris group of botanists of the period 1798-1808 was a fascinating one. France was on the way to new glories after the years of the aftermath of the great revolution. The consulate and later the empire saw French arts and sciences emerge spectacularly from a chaotic past. The world was a small one; Paris was its name" (Stafleu, 1967, 65). The elegant Milet-Mureau edition of the Voyage of La Peyrouse in four volumes and a folio atlas was published at this time, a high point in French publishing art. The illustrated folio of Ventenat describing new or little known plants cultivated at the garden of J. M. Cels and illustrated with Redouté plates, brought to the public notice the novelties of William Bartram through Michaux.

The first north American flora was based on the personal observations and collections of the author, André Michaux, left unfinished and prepared for publication by his son, François André Michaux, aged thirty-three. François admitted having been aided in the writing of the *Flora*, but did not name his collaborator, and it is only in distinctly surmised, even today, that he was assisted by Louis Claude Marie Richard, then nearly fifty, who had actively during this decade edited and prefaced works of other botanists, Pursh, whose continental flora appeared nine years later, and Nuttall, fifteen years later, extensively employed collateral collections. André Michaux included only species he himself had examined in his travels. Pursh used 41 primary and secondary sources in his *Flora* (1812); Nuttall, fourteen contributors in addition to his own collections in his *Genera* (1818).

A notable feature of Michaux's *Flora* is the breadth of its geographic coverage: from the Bahamas and Florida's Indian River to Hudsons Bay, from the Atlantic Coast to the Mississippi River at Illinois. Though the coverage is incomplete, this *Flora* is our first inventory of weeds. That privet (*Ligustrum vulgare*) was naturalized in the woods of New England and Pennsylvania, *Heliotropium indicum*, *Veronica peregrina* and the grass, *Elymus*

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Evon

[ansor de] Beauvois having called Richard the author of the Flora B[oreal] A[mericana]. He answered that Richard had laboured at it in concurrence with his father." In any event, "Michaux must be cited as the author of the new taxa. The author-citation is anyhow a bibliographical reference and not an award of merit" (Stafleu, *loc. cit.*).

According to Schubert (1942) the *Flora* "must have been published before March 19, 1803" although Stafleu (1967) provides contemporary record of an alternate 20th April 1803 for date of publication. The book was reissued with the same letterpress on May 20, 1820, the title page differing only in reading "Aeditio nova / Tomus primus / Parisiis / Bibliopola Jouanaux Junior / via Scholae medicae / MDCCCXX."

The instances when lines of the specific descriptions have been lost in typesetting, and other lapses noted<sup>24</sup>, suggest evidence of haste in getting the book to the booksellers.

The announced price of the *Flora* is not known but Thomas Jefferson purchased a copy in January, 1805, for \$8.64 from Reibelt (Sowerby, 1952). A copy which may have belonged to Francis Boott, now in Southern Methodist University Library, is annotated "Purchased for me by Mr. Lyman, Paris, Decr 1817, cost 27 fr." The condition of binding and whether the two-volume work was bound as a single volume evidently importantly determined the price. The Covent Garden bookseller, William Wood, issued a Natural History Catalogue in 1832. The *Flora* is offered, two volumes, for a guinea, or "half-bound, russia, stained," two volumes bound as one, for 10s 6d. Obadiah Rich issued a *Catalogue of ancient and modern Botanical Books; comprising part of the Library of Ortega, the Spanish Botanist*, in 1833, that listed 358 items. The *Flora* in two volumes is offered for 18s. Another large paper copy is listed for 1 10s. Henry G. Bohn, the London bookseller, offered three sets of the *Flora* in 1847: a large paper copy, half-morocco, with one missing plate, for 1, 10s.; a second complete copy, large paper, russia extra, marbled edges, for 2, 8s.; and a third large paper copy, complete, morocco extra, a.e.g., for 3, 3s. The frequency of copies being

[xxv]

from  
preface of 1974 reprint ed.

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Lyman B. Smith and Robert Jack Downs  
(Flora Neotropica Monograph No. 14)

Oct. 1974 illustrated maps 704 pp.  
paperbound 85249 \$39.95

### HAFNER PRESS

A Division of Macmillan Publishing Co., Inc.  
235P Brown Street, Riverside, N.J. 08075

advertisement in AMERICAN JOURNAL OF BOTANY, Sept., 1974

10 October 1974

Dear George:

Could you write a note to Mr. Edward J. Quigley  
Hafner Press  
866 Third Avenue  
New York, N.Y. 10022

and suggest that the Editor's introduction, in this Michaux as in other Hafner reprints of this series, deserves notice? Perhaps I am unduly sensitive about this slight but twice now Hafner has run ads for the Michaux without a whisper of my name and I wonder why I am so poisonous to sales?

Cheers, twice,

and greetings from both of us,

Joe

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24: 435-578.

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CON VOLUME 23

300 copies printed, [i], [i]-iv, [1]-36, [1 p. err.], paper cover, 23 x 15 cm, price H.fl. 21.50 [The first of a series reprints of Dutch historical floras. Reduced prices on pre-subscription to the entire series as well as to individual items. Next to appear: *Rombouts en Merkus Doornik, Flora amstelredamentis*, Utrecht, Amsterdam 1852, pre-subscription H.fl. 24.50].

KITAMURA, SIRO and GEN MURATA, *Coloured illustrations of woody plants of Japan*, vol. 1. Coloured illustrations by Osamu Watanabe. Hoikusha Publishing Co., Ltd., 20, 1-chome, Uchikyochoji-machi, Higashi-ku, Osaka, 540 Japan. 1973 - 401 p., 72 coloured plates, 14 1/2 x 21 cm, buckram, originally published 1971, reprinted 1973 and [second reprint] 1973. Price Y. 3000. [The 72 coloured plates bring illustrations of 446 species of woody plants of the series Caprifoliaceae-Clethraceae and Araliaceae-Leguminosae. The printed text (in Japanese) contains synonymy, vernacular names, descriptive details and, frequently, line drawings of diagnostic details.]

KORLING, TORREL, *Wild Plants in flower. II. The boreal forest and borders*. With notes on the species and their distribution by EDWARD G. VOSS. Dundee, Illinois 1973 [Torkel Korling, Botanical Illustrations and Prints, Dundee, Illinois, U.S.A. 60118], 72 p., 32 colour photographs, 12 x 17 1/2 cm, hard cover, price not quoted.

KROMBEIN, K. V., J. M. MELLO and J. J. CROCKETT, The North American Hymenoptera Catalog: a pioneering effort in computerized publication. *Bulletin of the Entomological Society of America* 20(1): 24-29, March 1974.

McVAUGH, ROGERS, *Flora novo-galiciana*. Contributions from the University of Michigan herbarium, volume 12, part 1, number 3. University Herbarium, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, Michigan 1974, 93 p., 44 figs. 17 1/2 x 25 1/2 cm, price US \$ 3.50. [The first part of a new *Flora* of the old Spanish province of Nueva Galicia in Mexico, now including the states Aguascalientes, Jalisco and Colima and parts of neighbouring states. The *Flora* is proposed to be completed in 15 parts of which 14 will be devoted to the flowering plants and the last part to the Pteridophyta. This first part contains the treatment of the genus *Quercus*. Review to follow.]

*Memoirs of The New York Botanical Garden*. Volume 25, number 1, issued 27 November 1973, p. 1-152, DUANE ISELY, Leguminosae of the United States: I. Subfamily Mimusoideae, obtainable from The New York Botanical Garden, Publications Office, Bronx, New York 10458, U.S.A., price US \$ 7.00.

MICHAUX, ANDRÉ, *Flora boreali-americana*. Facsimile of the 1803 edition. Introduction by Joseph Ewan, Tulane University. Hafner Press, a division of Macmillan Publishing Co., Inc. New York, Collier Macmillan Publishers London [Hafner Press: 866 Third Avenue, New York 10022, U.S.A.], *Classica botanica Americana* volume 3. Published in two volumes: volume 1: xlvii p. new preface and introduction, facsimile of *Flora bor.-am.* vol. 1: p. [i]-x, [1 p. err.], [1]-330, pl. 1-29, volume 2: [iv] p. new preface material, facsimile of *Flora bor.-am.* vol. 2: p. [i], [1]-340, pl. 30-51, ISBN 0-02-849230-7, 15 x 22 1/2 cm, 2 vols. buckram, price US \$ 42.50 [A long awaited reprint of one of the most important floristic American classics with an extensive introduction by Joseph Ewan, as always scholarly written and refined to the last detail, with a brief historical introduction and evaluation of the book as a document for American botany, followed by a translation of the introduction to the original work by the younger Michaux, a review of the plant collections on which the book was based, an explanation of the references and abbreviations, the story of the publication of the *Flora*, a translation of Michaux's earlier publication on the subject in the *Journal d'Histoire naturelle*, a note on Michaux's Charleston Garden, his Catalogue of seeds sent from that garden to Paris in 1802 and a chronology of André Michaux's life. The quality of the reprint is a match to that of the previous issues in this series: excellent.]

AUGUST 1974

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Ewan

Tom. Hist. Biol. 7(1974)176

The J. H. B. Bookshelf

Joseph and Nesta Ewan, *John Banister and His Natural History of Virginia, 1678-1692*, Univ. of Illinois Press, Urbana Ill., 1970. xxx + 485 pp., \$15.00.

John Banister (1650-1692), an Oxford-educated cleric and emigrant minister to Virginia, was North America's first trained naturalist-in-residence. In their exhaustively detailed study of Banister's activities and milieu, the Ewans describe how his specimens and descriptions of plants, insects, and molluscs found their way back to naturalists' collections in London, Oxford, and on the continent, often to reemerge a half century later as type specimens in Linnaeus' great taxonomic works. The Ewans reprint, with numerous annotations, all of Banister's manuscript descriptions of Virginia's flora, fauna, and the habits and customs of the natives, including seventy reproductions of Banister's original drawings of plants, animals, and fossils.

by Richard P. Winters  
Some Noteworthy Floras

Recently, several noteworthy, new, reprinted, or translated floras have become available and are reviewed here. The first of these is a reprint of the important classic work of Andre Michaux's *Flora Boreali-Americana* while the others comprise a broad spectrum of Old World floras.

MICHAUX, ANDRE *Flora Boreali-Americana*. Paris, 1803. Facsimile edition with introduction by Joseph Ewan, Hafner Press, New York, 1974. 2 volumes, cloth. Price \$42.50.

Andre Michaux's two volume work, North America's first flora, first appeared nearly 175 years ago and is now reprinted in a facsimile edition with a fine introduction by Joseph Ewan. The availability of the *Flora* is in itself important, but is enhanced by Ewan's discussion of the work which puts it into its proper perspective. Several important points are well made by Ewan: the role of Francois Andre Michaux and others in the preparation for publication of the uncompleted manuscript after Andre Michaux's death; the intent of Michaux to make the work equally of interest to horticulturalists as well as to systematists; the deposition of herbarium material and the reliability of the label data which served as a basis for the *Flora*. Of special interest are a gazetteer for locality names used in the *Flora* and a chronology of documented events in Michaux's life and shortly after his death.

The text of this classic of North American botany follows the Sexual System of Linnaeus rather than the Natural System of Jussieu, although Michaux has been schooled in the latter. The reason for Michaux adopting Linnaeus' system is briefly discussed by Ewan. The *Flora* is a nearly complete one in the sense that vascular and nonvascular cryptogams (excluding algae) are treated.

This edition is unquestionably a valuable addition to the library of every botanist interested in North American botany.

Handwritten notes on the right margin: *Flora Boreali-Americana* Bull. 20(4) 57, Dec 1974

*Finan*

TULANE UNIVERSITY

NEW ORLEANS, LA. 70118

Department of Biology

29 Dec 1974

Dear George:

Nesta joins in a very good New Year! with health and fortune lightened with good friends . . .

We plod along on typewriter and scratch pad, with Dibbling in History for the Fa Hort Soc '76 Centennial book, and Nesta with ed. 2 of Rocky Mt Mats -- she has reached the "s"s in the roster which will be much enlarged, and I should think far more useful. So far it is the only one of my publs that has gone o.p. with Billy Bartram's Drawings and Banister less than half sold of their 2000-copy printings.

Joh J Finan, Maize in the great herbas, 1950, page 186, in xerox herewith, mentions "many of the large cuts in Fuchs' herbal of 1542 were reduced by pantograph in later editions . . ." my query: I had no idea pantograph was used in the 16th century? or was so simple in its mechanics that it easily dates back to classic times?

Banister is still being reviewed, witness this 1974 review in the Jour Hist Biol, which is purely descriptive.

Eric Lundberg still buying and bidding and thwarted by Mills Lane IV in handling Catesby. I am afraid that Mills will not be able to recoup his investment in that enterprise--the 50 plate boxed ed = \$250,000 market value. I think I sent this NYTimes Book Rev ad of Oct. 6th. I met Roderick Stinehour last Oct in Phila and he is a fine person, fine grain, alert to real values.

Must get along with some other notes ere the year is spent and gone,

Cheers, George, cheers!

*Finan*

ated tools such as improved peel methods, the electron microscope for spore and pollen studies, cuticular and micro-vein pattern determinations, and the use of computers where feasible. A greater taxonomic validity is thus achieved by improved techniques and the proverbial ability and tenacity of Japanese investigators. Their advantage lies, of course, in the relatively small size of the country and fewer but eminent researchers who achieve a great deal of success as a voluntarily cooperating unit. It is to the advantage of the American paleobotanical community to have complete access to all Japanese publications in that field.

To comment on each paper of this volume separately lies outside the scope of this review. Increasing consideration of megafossil correlation with Japanese material, relating to North American Paleogene and Neogene floras, is suggested to result in more accurate contemporary Tertiary conditions in the northern Pacific Basin—HERMAN F. BECKER, Honorary Curator, Paleobotany, The New York Botanical Garden, Bronx, N.Y. 10458.

*Flora Boreali-Americana* (facsimile of the 1803 edition). By André Michaux. Introduction by Joseph Ewan. Vol. I, i-xlvi + 330 pages, vol. II, 340 pages, illus. *Classica Botanica Americana* vol. 3. Hafner Press, New York, 1974. \$42.50.

It seems odd to review a book which was published over 170 years ago, yet the work is of great and lasting historical importance as the first North American flora. Even during the years immediately following its publication in France in 1803, it was not commonly available in the United States. The Hafner reprint edition, with introductory notes by the inimitable Joseph Ewan, returns this classic to the shores of the New World.

*Flora Boreali-Americana* is too well known itself to warrant comment here, for the circumstances surrounding its publication by André Michaux's son, François André, and the intricacies of its taxonomy, have been subjects for critical comment by those more able men than I. What makes this particular edition unique, is the introduction text provided by Professor Ewan. His comments, notes, interpretations, and bibliographies bring to the

modern reader a feeling for André's travels, his frenetic perambulations in search of new plants for France's gardens with his young son, his insatiable urge to garner new products of the bounty of flora, and his personal love for the objects of his labors. In these days of "flying off to the moon," one is apt to minimize the trudging of the early explorers, but to me Michaux and his ilk in North America and elsewhere were as much to be admired—more so—than our astronauts with their "back-up systems," their "fail-safes," and multitudes of technicians looking out for their welfare. To trek by land to the Illinois prairies in 1795, to the frozen shores of Hudson's Bay in 1792, and to the steamy banks of Florida's St. John's River in 1788, constitutes greater daring than a closely guided trip to Luna in the 1970's.

Professor Ewan's introduction brings to this classical flora the friends, colleagues, and correspondents of the elder Michaux. There is a translation from the Latin of André François's introduction to the *Flora* in which he tells that his father entrusted its publication to him. The locations of Michaux's dried specimens are noted as are the botanical references which Michaux cited in his work. Although Michaux's localities of collection are not listed in detail in the *Flora*, Professor Ewan tells the places Michaux visited insofar as known. There are notes of contemporary reactions to Michaux's work. In French we read Lamarek's comments on Michaux's correspondence to the French Society of Natural History in which he enlivens the rare and unusual plants he has seen on the other side of the Atlantic Ocean. The French gardens in New Jersey and Charleston, South Carolina, which Michaux established to test out his American plant collections before shipment to France, are noted, as are some of the shipments of seeds and living plants Michaux arranged to send to his homeland. The chronology of Michaux's life reveals his intensity of purpose. Barely had he returned to France in 1796, after a disastrous shipwreck off the coast of Holland, then he set off a few years later for another expedition to south Asia. It was during pursuit of these travels that the elder Michaux died on the island of Madagascar, far from home in 1802, a few months before the publication of his *Flora*.

Michaux will never be known for his

TULANE UNIVERSITY

NEW ORLEANS, LA. 70118

AC 504 865-6226

Department of Biology

4 Jan 1977

Dear George,

We hope you had a good holiday in every way.

I have been to talk with IRS here in N.O. and find no basis for deductions for memberships, book purchases or travel unless "actively engaged" so as an emeritus prof I must qualify by keeping records of expenses for all these items pertinent to publishing, then after copyright is issued deduct for past expenses. Advised to teach as visiting prof wherever possible!

I suppose one of these years it would be fun to teach history of biology and botany of Cook's voyages at some univ along the Pac Coast. I would like to plan to pick up a bid for spring of 1978 or summer of 1978 for we shall be at Simon Fraser Univ in April 1978 for Cook NW Pacific Celebration, bearing on his 3rd voyage.

I am stuffing a xerox of Marion Viccars letter since I feel sure you will be interested in her report. Also the Knas letter from the Spawns, again known to you.

With all for moment,  
cheers! cheers!

*Joe*  
Joseph Ewan

Thanks again for all your efforts about Hulten. I take it that your Librarian is getting back the copy sending me a check, all in due course.

For  
Cook celebration, Simon Fraser Univ. April, 1978

Joseph EWAN, Ida A. Richardson Prof. of Botany

Tulane University, New Orleans, La. 70118

Russian scientific explorations in the North Pacific  
and their relation to Cook's Third Voyage

The founding of the Royal Society in the late 17th century set off its counterparts on the Continent. One of these was the Academy of Sciences of St. Petersburg, founded in 1725. This stimulated Russo-American exploration beginning in 1741 and continued for the next 126 years. For a century following Vitus Bering's expedition, Russia and England alternated in their searches and the mapping of the resources of the region. Peter Simon Pallas, who incidentally wrote seventeen letters to Joseph Banks, played a decisive role in Russian enterprizes, and spurred Russia to match British endeavors. After Cook's Third Voyage Joseph Billings, an English officer in Russian service, commanded the first expedition of the Blossom, 1785-1794, to Alaska. Dr. C. H. Merck, who accompanied Billings as naturalist, observed a Wilson's Warbler on June 29, 1790, far north of its usual range, twelve years after the bird had first been encountered in Bering Strait on Cook's Third Voyage. That the Russian and English competitively charted the North Pacific waters is shown by Steller's visit to Kayak Island on July 15, 1741, and Capt. Cook's landing there May 11, 1778, and renaming the island Kayes Island. Further testimony of the rivalry between Russia and England are seen in the interest of Empress Catherine in acquiring in 1786, the Laverian Museum for the valued specimens it contained which had been brought back from Cook's voyages. In the wake of Vancouver the Russian expedition under Krusenstern and Lisiansky circumnavigated the globe in the Neva, the first Russian sponsored ship to do so. The Neva reached Sitka in 1804. About this time "two paternal, New World mercantile, paragonovernmental giants confronted each other--the Russian-American Company and the Hudson's Bay Company." Though expansion of trade primarily motivated the scientific investigation was fostered. The natural history discoveries of Cook's Third Voyage were also verified and supplemented by the important Russian expeditions of Kotze in the Rurik, of Lutke in the Senyavin, and mercantile voyages, with surgeon-naturalists aboard, sponsored by the Russian American Company.

Fw  
XV<sup>th</sup> Intern. Cong. Hist. Sci., Edinburgh, Aug. 1977

Prof. Joseph Ewan

WILLIAM SMELLIE'S PHILOSOPHY OF NATURAL HISTORY (1790-1799) AND ITS  
IMPACT ON AMERICAN ACADEMIES

The Philosophy of Natural History by the Scottish printer, naturalist, and antiquary William Smellie (1740-1795) was the first biology text to be used in American academies. First published in Edinburgh in 1790 the first American edition appeared in Philadelphia the next year. Fourteen editions were published including those in Dublin and Berlin with the ninth American printing in 1863. The 22 chapters of the original work stressed the life relations of animals and man including ontogeny, feeding habits, sexual and seasonal changes, gregariousness, effects of domestication, longevity, and the "progressive scale of animals." Smellie asks "why animals prey upon one another, but seldom on their own species--advantages derived from this seemingly destructive institution of Nature." The Boston physician John Ware issued eight editions of Smellie extensively adapting Smellie's text to the American scene. The influential North American Review fostered the 1824 Ware edition, finding the principal defect to be the unsatisfactory classification of animals. At Harvard lessons in natural history were recited in drill-master form from Smellie in Thomas Nuttall's, and later Asa Gray's classes. The principal competitor in American academies was William Paley whose Natural Theology stressed the design in nature as evidence of God's direct intervention in earthly affairs. Paley was struck by the care bestowed by the Creator on the most trifling part of the organism. Paley's Natural Theology published in 1802 was patterned on Smellie to which he referred relative to sensitivity and the Venus fly-trap. Smellie's mild opposition to the Sexual System of Linnaeus, earlier raised in the first edition of the Encyclopedia Britannica which he edited, must have contributed to the rise of the Natural System in Britain that gained acceptance in the early Nineteenth Century.

Bernard Woodward mentions the many misfortunes that beset Smellie including his unsuccessful bid for the post of professor of natural history at the University of Edinburgh over Rev. John Walker, whose scientific qualifications were inferior to Smellie's in the opinion of Jardine and others. Did Smellie's defeat in Edinburgh provoke the publication of his Philosophy of Natural History the influence of which in American classrooms, even when diluted with alterations made by Ware, was so prominent?

*If you have any suggestions do let me know -  
I have yet to write the paper for presentation.*



13

MBG

Sunday evening 1 Feb 1976

Dear George:

Very full day, as you may imagine, tho I arrived yesterday morn and Tim Reed met me at airport and we have many conversations together. This noon Peter and Tamra Raven took me to lunch on the river. We all had a good time and the yield was we agreed to wait and see what Fulmer will do. (Two Fulmer deems had me to lunch Friday last and from my discussion will have something "to say" "hey say")

Peter's questions centered on what should MBG do (if anything) to build ~~the~~ its library to leading position in US in botany. I told him <sup>if</sup> he really had that in mind (to equal Kew or BM (NH) collection) he would have to employ a book scout w/ a

detailed knowledge of rare books to live and move about Europe (Vicims, Marseilles, Anague, Casow, Madrid, Milan) where the Paris and English dealers find their good items that they list in their catalogues. Book scout would work w/ a list of WANTS but would have to be in touch, like Deane Rolla who selects for De Jolyer Library at Harman, and even so it will be ± impossible because source is so depleted to ever accumulate the collections matching How or BUNN. Raven wants American and African titles in botany, travel narratives w/ botanical content, to get the last 15% MBE does not now own - probably nearest 20-22% of all printed works for those continents.

Peter is really a remarkable person, 39! and driving a fast train w/ observation car going round the coast. All seats are taken, crack schedule and no time to check hot box.

Library is full of newly bound vols and only hard to believe component is struggle to find call numbers on even bound vols. let alone the multitude of pms -

More in due course but George lives on at MBE no doubt of that. Those who would seek his

monument look about you! So sincerely Jos

THE  
AMERICAN PHILOSOPHICAL SOCIETY

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REPORT FOR 1974



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