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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.

TULANE UNIVERSITY

NEW ORLEANS, LA. 70118

AC 504 865-7711

Department of Biology

24 January 1970

Dear George:

Pleased as always you know to have your last letter of Dec. 29th.

Dorothy and Stephen here for a visit -- Kathleen and family here at New Year's en route to Dick's new post at San Diego -- so we have had plenty to occupy with some relaxation. All are happily flourishing. D & S will be joining us next year for the Intern Congress Hist Sci in Moscow; we are paying their transport with a view to having some aid in Russian! you remember D has now finished 18 months of Russian and seems to have enjoyed it. Takes a solid hour a day practice to keep up on the language.

Tulane has the Don, General System, in the original four volume ed. and your dupl volume one would be very interesting indeed. I shall pass it along to HTM Library as gift from you. Our copy, shelved here in herbarium, is dupl from Harvard that I picked up on one of my visits with Lazella, and turned over to the Library. Interesting bibliog. item indeed. Rather different twist.

Yes, we had a very good trip all the way down to Cape Sable and on the Keys to Islamorada but not to Key West for the traffic was too thick for pleasure on that road. A fellow who is supposedly interested in Leitner was presumed to be at the Islamorada but did not appear. But we spent Xmas eve and Xmas day and part of ~~MEGA~~ the 26th at Flamingo, a motel out at the end of the road in the 'glades. Good birding there and really a place to see. Perhaps sometime we can planto meet down there, you would enjoy the tropical flora and fauna (spoonbills and ibises, etc.) We had parts of two days at Fairchild Trop Garden. Gillett is taxonomist there and a very good fellow, has a very good bot library of his own, genial person all around. We visited Mulford Foster on way down and Bob Long and Olga Lakela and a former MEG friend of yours who spoke warmly of you, bearded, Nordic type, monosyllabic name like Berg (?), at Tampa on way back. Dan Ward at Gainesville. I am writing the historical intro to Long and Lakela's Flora of so. Florida.

Did you have a chance to see Brunfels bearing on the 1506 Manlius title during your St Louis sojourn? I know you were fully occupied.

We are still thinking of seeing you this Spring on your way to West Coast . . .

With best for 1970 from Nesta and

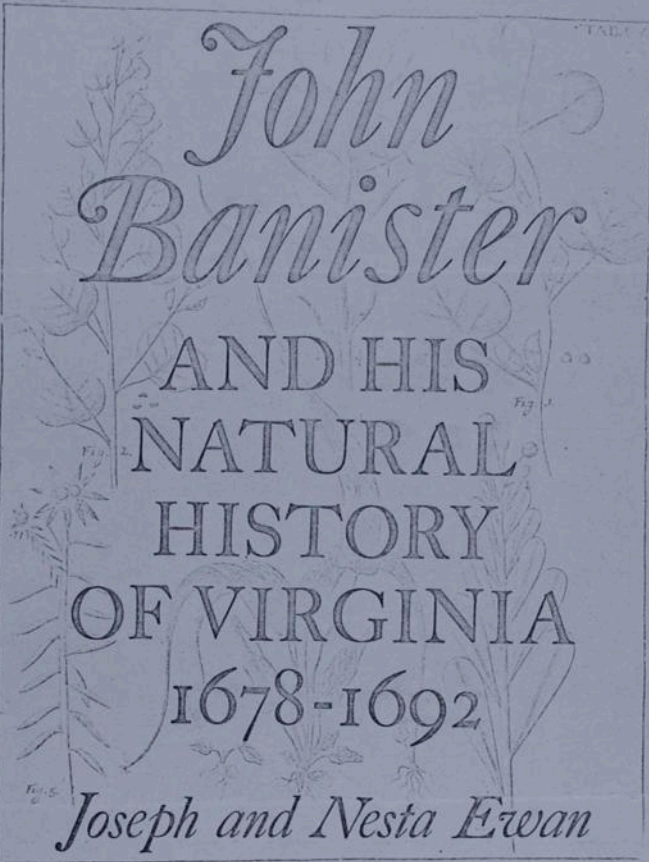
Joe ✓

THIS IS THE JACKET

announced for summer 1970. Jacket is in red cherry printing and looks refreshing and nice change from the botanical code of green printing. Flukenet selected by the Press which disturbed us a bit when all Banister might have been more expected but then it was Flukenet who took Banister into L and his Sp Fl. So we are converted to this theme.

*John
Banister*
AND HIS
NATURAL
HISTORY
OF
VIRGINIA
1678-1692

ERWAN



*John
Banister*
AND HIS
NATURAL
HISTORY
OF VIRGINIA
1678-1692

Joseph and Nesta Erwan

UNIVERSITY
OF
ILLINOIS
PRESS

Mail Schedule for Joseph and Nasta Ewan

I shall pick up mail on the dates detailed on the left at addresses given:

<u>Date/:</u>	<u>Address:</u>
June 5, 1968, leaving New Orleans	
June 13-15	c/Horton Arboretum, Lisle, Illinois, 60532
June 17-20	Dept. Botany, 1735 Neil Ave., Ohio State Univ., Columbus, 43210
July 1-3,	Division of Plants, Smithsonian Institution, Washington, D.C. 20560
July 8-9	Harvard University Herbarium, 22 Divinity Ave., Cambridge, Mass., 02138
July 15	New York Botanical Garden, Bronx Park, N.Y., 10458
July 18-19	American Philosophical Society, 104 South Fifth St., Philadelphia, Pa., 19106
July 29	Charleston Museum, Charleston, S. C., 29401
August 5, arriving New Orleans	Tulane University, New Orleans, La., 70118

March 10th, 1967

Mr. Joe Ewan
Department of Botany
Tulane University
New Orleans, Louisiana

Dear Joe:

I am afraid its over a month since your last note came and I have not answered it. I am looking forward to your arriving here on the 22nd or 23rd of April (at your pleasure). If everything seems in order at that time I shall plan to drive to Columbus with you. It would be good if you to drive me back here after your talk, but that would be a long way out of your way--if I were to go with you at all I might better drive somewhere south with you and take the plane back from there.

No luck so far in finding any suitable person for our library position, although we have had about a half dozen anxious seekers who urgently present their claims. To date investigation has always revealed vague spots which would give one pause before he considered making an opinion. Well, I should say all but one, for we did have here for interview the science librarian at the University of Missouri. I was not impressed that he was the man of all possible candidates, but I believe he might do a good job, if not distinguished. However, he is not blind and turned down further consideration after a couple of days with the remark that the problems of financing here, of marginal benefits, of personnel, etc., made it impossible for him to think of the job any further. Have I told you that at the New York Botanical Garden Library now the staff numbers twelve and a half and that John Reed has asked and hopes to get two more members. Our staff numbers three. This did not jolt the director, but he hopes to jolt the board with it--I am not sure whether he is going to jolt them up or jolt them down, I am never sure which way they are going to take something--it is hard to believe that they can be jolted enough to find the extra \$2,000,000 endowment for the library alone which would be necessary to support a staff of proper size.

No answer to my review of Wild Flowers of the United States except acknowledgment of receipt at McGraw Hill. I guess they are tired of the whole business, too. Bill Steere has written a rather silly letter to Hugh Iltis protesting his remarks, pointing out that the book was written not for botanists but for laymen to re-establish their interest in botany--in other words, dear sir, please you are not a botanist we are going to write you an inaccurate, incomplete and unreliable book because you won't know the difference anyway; of course, after you get a real interest in botany then we will write you a good book! Stafleu and Cowan, who are both in Madison at the moment on some pre-Congress meeting, have made very strong protests to Hugh regarding his severity of criticism. All I can say is it must be

Mr. Joe Ewan

-2-

March 10th, 1967

a very happy life to be a nice guy. I can testify as to how it is to be the other kind.

Sorry, no more time, but what a spill-over we shall have when you and Nesta get here. Please don't get lost in Jefferson Barracks this time!

Cordially yours,

GEORGE B. VAN SCHAACK
Librarian

GEVS:VG

May 24th, 1966

Mr. Joe Ewan
Department of Botany
Tulane University
New Orleans, Louisiana

Dear Joe:

I was glad to find your miscellany in my mail when I returned here last Thursday afternoon. I am indeed sorry that Banister must have yet one more round. I agree with you that what the Harvard Press reader said certainly is high praise--just what the objection to printing a Banister archive instead of a Banister biography may be I fail to understand.

My trip was of varied content. Phoenix was like Hades and we got out of it (with an air-conditioned car) as quickly as possible. The ride to Flagstaff was very memorable, although already most of the flowering was past. However, *Souquieria* and one of the palo verdes were in full bloom and I was very glad to see them. The Canyon South Rim did not show up very well in the one evening we had to look at it and none of us got up early enough to see it in the morning light. We drove from there to Needles (Hades squared) then to Barstow and on to Santa Barbara, where we finally cooled off and enjoyed a morning at the botanical garden. The ride up the coast was, as usual, very interesting, but there was no sun. We over-nighted in Palo Alto and for practical purposes there my holiday ended, for the next morning upon starting to drive to Santa Rosa I was taken with a severe chill, which accompanied me all the way on my mad dash to get to a hospital and doctor I knew about. I spent the next week in the Santa Rosa Hospital suffering from dehydration and associated infections, going directly from the hospital to the plane and back to St. Louis.

I feel fairly good again, but not very energetic and may have to return to the hospital for some sort of checkup in a few days. My mind seems to be a blank about what you are going to do this summer for I don't remember that we talked about it. I hope that whatever it is will be as absorbing as usual. More later.

With best greetings to you both.

Sincerely,

GEORGE B. VAN SCHAACK

GEVS:VG

TULANE UNIVERSITY

Department of Botany

Date 16 May 1966

To George

From Tor

Subject: Hope you had a really wonderful

Remarks: trip for you deserved a refreshing holiday in the Great West.

Howard said too much graphy and not enough biography. Poor old typescript is wearing out but cum spiro spero.

Roland Harper, aet. 87, died earlier this month. No details.

We are not dead. Only dying to get a few big jobs in print.

Bartram goes. — Kester joins in
 very best wishes

George

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NEW ACQUISITIONS

A. (ANGEL, MYRON) History of Placer County, California, with Illustrations and Biographical Sketches of its Prominent Men and Pioneers. Oakland, Cal.: Thompson & West, 1882. 8-3/4x12 in., illus., cloth with leather spine (rubbed), hinges strengthened. \$225.00
*Cowan, p. 493; Howes, No. P 403. One of the scarcest of the Thompson & West county histories.

B. (TWIN, MARK) "601," or Conversation at the Social Fireside as It Was in the Time of the Tudors. Introduction by Charles Erskine Scott Wood. San Francisco: Privately printed, 1924. 5x8 in., full leather. \$75.00
*Heller-Magee, No. 76. Limited to 100 copies (in various bindings) printed by the Grabhorn Press.

3 C. Webster's New International Dictionary of the English Language. Second edition, unabridged, with reference history. Springfield, Mass.: G. & Co. Merriam, 1936. 9x12-1/4 in., illus., thumb-indexed, fabricoid (edge of spine slightly rubbed). \$45.00
*A nice copy of the second edition, now out of print and becoming increasingly difficult to find. It is still preferred by many to the current third edition.

D. WHEAT, CARL I. Books of the California Gold Rush. San Francisco: The Colt Press, 1949. 6-3/4x10-1/4 in., illus., boards with linen spine. \$25.00
*G. B., No. 477; limited to 500 copies.

E. WHEAT, CARL I. The Pioneer Press of California. Oakland: Biobooks, 1948. 8x11-1/2 in., woodcuts by Mallette Dean, facsimiles, boards with linen spine. \$25.00
*G. B., No. 459; limited to 400 copies printed by the Grabhorn Press.

F. WOOD, HARVEY. Personal Recollections of... With an introduction and notes by John B. Goodman III. Pasadena: Privately printed, 1955. 6-1/2x9-1/2 in., illus. & facsimiles, hand-colored end-paper maps, boards with linen spine. \$35.00

*Limited to 200 copies of which only 100 were for sale; printed by Grant Dahlstrom at the Castle Press. But few copies have the hand-colored end-paper maps.

TULANE UNIVERSITY

College of Arts and Sciences

NEW ORLEANS 18

Department of Botany

Dr. Richard Beale Davis
543 Noelton Drive, S.W.
Knoxville, Tenn. 37919

16 May 1966

Dear Dick:

Well, Dick, you will have a chance to have a good look at Banister! for Harvard has returned the bookscript today. The summary of Harvard Press's reader is this:

"By ingenious detective work, Ewan has traced out every scrap of information relating in any way to Banister and has reconstructed the corpus of Banister's scientific writings. The result is a kind of Banister archive, with copious comment, rather than a biography in the conventional sense."

This, we think, is pretty high praise. The title of the book is "John Banister and his Natural History of Virginia" which amounts to it being classified in the 500's in the Dewey Decimal Classification and not in the 900's with the biographies. It is a commentary on botany, entomology, malacology, "general natural history," and Indian lore. Our book is a reference work, a tool for the systematist in several fields, but with the chapter organization, and the indices (which have not been included in this parcel as being sent at this time), historians will find a good deal to widen their studies and deepen their understanding of the growth of the natural sciences in the seventeenth century.

One of the reader's comments indicates that he has scant awareness of the botanical implications of the book:

"The documents to be reprinted could be of some interest to those concerned the local flora and fauna of Virginia. But because Banister's career preceded the institution of binomial nomenclature by Linnaeus, none of the material here would bear on current nomenclature or taxonomy." That the Linnaean names are richly documented by this unpublished (not "reprinted!") commentary from Banister is the very heart of its contribution.

We feel that the materials relate to each other. The scant notes of Banister in one section of his manuscript bear on a few significant words in another section; to have them in the covers of one book would bring the material in juxtaposition for cross-reference value. When the reader says,

"In short, the reader feels that in its present form, this manuscript represents really a very large collection of material, but not a book.

A number of more technical articles on Banister's work in botany, entomology, zoology, and observations of the Indians could also be produced," we can only reply that we do not believe this would serve scholars but only send them scurrying through the literature, a disservice indeed.

Well, Dick, we have been quite frank because this is fitting and proper. To publish the book will be tedious and costly, but we still believe most rewarding. We certainly appreciate your willingness to have a look at it for the University of Tennessee Press.

Cordially yours,

Joseph Ewan

Ewan

TULANE UNIVERSITY
College of Arts and Sciences
NEW ORLEANS 18

Department of Botany Biology

April 22, 1966

Dr. George B. Van Schaack
Librarian
Missouri Botanical Garden
2315 Tower Grove Avenue
St. Louis 10, Missouri

Dear George:

An interesting item has appeared. In Charles W. Traylen's Catalogue no. 65, The Illustrated Book, item 378 is Philip Miller, Figures of the Most Beautiful . . . Plants (1771), and the statement that the plates were engraved by from drawings, among others, of "J. Bartram." [see pl. 272! p. 278]

Nissen 1378 does not indicate any difference between the first and 1771 ed. in content, and does not list a Bartram, ^{in this context.} The catalogue of the MO. Bot. Gard. (Sturtevant books) does not indicate the number of plates in the 1771 ed.: whether there was an increase over the 300 in the first. Should you happen to be browsing through the 1771 edition, you might make a mental note whether there are more than 300 plates, and whether any are labeled and recognizable as drawings of J? or W. !
Bartram. ≡

Joe is so snowed under with correspondence and department problems like rain pouring into "my" office and MARI, and complaints on the lack of care of the building (he is "custodian" this year), that I am thinking Bartram will never get that final touch necessary to get it off to press. If it were the only manuscript he were working on, I would still be concerned. How glad I am that he had the Kansas ^{you} break and that/were an important part in it.

P.S. The enclosed reprint is for the young graduate student we met interested in Legumes.

Most sincerely,
Nesta Ewan
Nesta Ewan

L. Ewan

TULANE UNIVERSITY
College of Arts and Sciences
NEW ORLEANS 18

Department of Botany

18 April 1966

Dear George:

Nesta and I returned last Monday evening after a very full two weeks. After we left Lawrence Tues. afternoon, of 5th, with a most worthwhile check up in the RBR and getting to know Tom Buckman and admiring him immensely, we set off for Chanute to pay a call on Floyd Hall who has been writing me about once a month long and engaging letters about bio-historical matters. He is slowly gaining strength from serious operations and I am sorry we shall not have a book from him for he has real balance in the history of exploration. His book on the history of Kew and British explorers would have been a real contribution. Well, we stayed about 45 minutes and chatted (with difficulty for he is quite deaf) but I am glad we made the trip to his out-of-the-way house. Then we went to Pittsburgh to visit Stephen's parents, a most pleasant visit, and the next day on to Norman. We arrived in midafternoon and went at once to DeGelyer to see what the holiday schedule might be and found Marcia Goodman happy to let us work in off hours. George was there and we enjoyed visits with them, worked in the DeGL until afternoon of the next day, and off to Dallas. Sat. am we browsed for couple of hours in the Texas Research Foundation Library--Donevan Correll was away but the librarian was there (we had met her last year when we stopped very briefly on way back from Calif.). Cakes Ames and S.F. Blake's libraries are there en bloc. Then we drove on to see Shimmers and found him about to leave for Raleigh for se. flora conference. He had had a plethora of spring visitors and left, after doing his income tax, with all the Sida figures, on Sunday morning, before we departed. He is much better than he was and of course trying to do an array of tasks, driving himself as usual. Saw S. W. Geiser and Bessie for a few minutes; they were both very well. He is always a big barrel of cheer. I went over all the titles at all these loci for GEA titles scheduled to see variants in copies, etc. Elliot, Sketch is seldom complete, most copies lack the glossary, etc. It has been very profitable to check these copies; little known points of interest came up.

We drove on to Saline and had a supper with Caroline Dorman. She has wrenched her back and is pretty much confined to her log cabin, working on two children's books on La. Indians, based on her knowledge of Caddo and Choctaw tribes. It will be a good thing I think. She is writing a weekly column for Shreveport newspaper on birdlore, and plans to gather the articles for bookform. Were fan mail on these bird articles than anything she has ever written, she says. On to Hatcher and Fort Gibson where we visited the Morgans. Betty Berry M was a student in my botany class many years ago, now HMifflin award winner and her novel, "Pursuit," due in June (which we saw in galley) should be v.g. reading. Monday we stopped to visit Harold Leisure at his Plantation Book Shop in Hatcher. Found some interesting items there and stayed about three hours, Nesta pasturing one room while I browsed the other. Leisures had a shop in the Quarter and decided they would rather take the more leisurely life and moved about five years ago, bought an old house (built 1795) and redecorated it most charmingly. You would find Harold to your taste.

Yes, I have the xerox copies of the Engelmann letters you list, plus one of Josiah Hale, made in October 1963. I think you must have brought them back from the xerox job and left them together (perhaps at first of the volumes?) unfiled? You did them after I left and mailed the prints to me some days after my return to N.O.

After my return there was a small hill of mail from which I barely peaking ever the to tonight. Lubrecht sent 2 copies of printed folder on the CBA which looks attractive. There are a few small but annoying errors, the more pesky being misquote from Engelmann re TN under the descr. of TN's Genera. You would recognize it at once. But I think the items will sell, some pretty well, and I am happy to do the introductions which will indeed aid the student, so ignorant of the books. One of Channell's students was visiting SMU and exhibited so forcefully the absence of awareness of these "Classics".

Do let me know, if only approximately, when the Garden Clubs of America will be here. I am conducting field trips for pl. tax. on T and Th afternoons, and first and second Sundays, of May.

Thanks again, George, for all the nice things you did for us! and all of us, and it was good fun to see you. Wish you might have come along of course but know it was better that you return just then. You must plan to see Renner and the Ames books. They are terrific and so bipolar from the full use at SMU under Lloyd's hearty hand. At Renner the shelves are in computer perfection each book waiting for the future; at SMU the books are jostling in the living present.

With all the best, as always,

April 14th, 1966

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

Dear Joe and Nesta:

I must think of you as back in New Orleans, your steed at the hitching post and your nose to the grindstone again. I hope it was a very profitable trip from Lawrence to New Orleans.

I am most grateful to you for having made the round-about this way with your generous contribution of time and travel. I wish I might have gone on with you, but return here shows that I made it back none too soon!

Day before yesterday we had our first meeting with the architectural firm and preliminaries at least were very pleasant and somewhat helpful. My own homework consists of planning a library of two floors completely unrelated to any juxtapositions or conditions except my own fancy. Presumably from such a plan the architect can gather what it is I feel of importance in scheme and try to incorporate it into the general plan.

I regret I cannot write at greater length at this moment, but must make one query. I have just had to refer to the Engelmann letters and find eight unaccounted for except by white slips of paper at their previous positions bearing the following legends in pencil:

Clary, R. E. 3
Carpenter ○
Frank, F.
Gordon 2
Ridell ○

The only identification I can make of the hand is yours, Joe, and the only connection a very faint recollection that you asked me to copy such letters some long time ago. Do the names mean anything to you, did I copy the letters, and do you have any idea of the date if I did? I doubt they are lost, but I must say I don't know where they are at the moment. With all good wishes,

Sincerely yours,

GEORGE B. VAN SCHAACK
Librarian

GBVS:VG

March 10th, 1966

Mr. Joseph Ewan
Department of Botany
Tulane University
New Orleans, Louisiana

Dear Joe:

Your letter of February 6th is still unanswered, I am sorry to say, but not because I have been ill, merely over-engaged.

Yes, I did see Harper's Catalogue and noted the items you mentioned. We have two copies of Miller's Figures of the original English edition and a sort of first fascicle of the German edition, which I think is enough for this. The price for the Trew is rather large, but I am reluctant yet to give up either of our two extra copies since all three are somewhat different, in particular in the execution of the coloring.

I enclose the missing pages from the Abrégé. As for Dürer drawing for Zeluziansky all I can say is that Z. was born in 1555 in a Bohemian town named Mnichhradisti and died on the 8th of December, 1613, at Prague. Albrecht had already been dead many years by 1555.

Last week we were informed that the planning grant of \$14,000.00 had been granted and that we might begin to spend it. It will send me on the 19th to Pittsburgh to see George and get space ideas by taking another look at the Hunt Library; on the 21st to Philadelphia to look at APS and Wolf's new building (if he does not bark too loudly); on the 22nd to New York for two days and on the 24th to Cambridge for a day and a half--I hope to stop in Bethel for the weekend on my way back.

We have some preliminary plans that we have been working on for a couple of months. For arrangement I think many of the library problems have been well-solved in these, but I am inclined to feel that the amount of use space is greatly underestimated. I have yet to hear of a library recently built that did not find itself filling up more rapidly than it had expected, either with material or users.

I think this grant will also send me to Kansas City to look at Linda Hall's new addition. I am thinking that perhaps this trip could be combined with attendance at the History of Science Society on April 1st and 2nd. I don't know anything about the registration for it, nor the plans for accommodating visitors. I think I could go on the 31st to Kansas City and still reach Lawrence late that night or early the next morning. If you are going to leave as early as the 24th, how about coming around this way? Or are you making it far to the west and then north? Perhaps you could come back here for a day or two after the conference. In any case, it is too long since you and Nesta have been here.

Mr. Joseph Ewan

-2-

March 10th, 1966

I hope you have had the lost package of Sargent letters recovered. Many thanks for the copy which you sent me--you are engaged in so many things I had not even known of this, since, of course, I don't get to read the current literature any more. I trust with your approval I shall place this copy in the library for it is much more needed there than in my own library.

I was pleased to have the Library Journal publish the enclosed letter smack in the middle of the first page of a recent issue. The remarks about oversewing will probably be noted, but I think that they are already old stuff to a few librarians who are organizing to combat it--my principle pleasure comes from getting the first paragraph so prominently displayed, I hope you will feel it is a good statement of an important fact.

Do you, by the way, think of any libraries I should visit other than those I have indicated--of course, in New York I shall go to N.Y.B.G., to the new Metropolitan Museum Library; I don't really know of any others with any particular help there. In Boston I shall go to the Gray and hope to have a conference hour with Keyes Metcalf, former librarian of Harvard and long-time most important library consultant in the United States on the matter of building. In making our plans to date I have found that a botanical library to service a herbarium has a very special problem. In a more common special scientific library devoted to industrial or even non-industrial research the actual body of material which has to be easily accessible is largely restricted to publications of the last ten or fifteen years. In our problem practically all of the collection has to be more or less easily and quickly accessible. This means a large hunk of space has to be put very close to the heart of the herbarium which itself, of course, is occupying an even more vast space with cases. So few places have this problem that it does not seem to me there are many chances of running into good ideas for a solution since the conditions having to be faced in most other places are so different. Unless they have made some major change in the arrangement of herbarium activities at N.Y.B.G., I think the new library must be very much more remote than we have succeeded in planning. Of course, we have yet to deal with the architect and all of the building code regulations--more of that orally when I see you.

I hope you are both well and not grinding it too hard--I happen to know quite a lot about the latter operation and do not recommend it for too many years on end. However, I have been feeling very well for several months now, as much I think because Gates is so rewarding to work for as for any other reason.

Please think about the possibility of coming through here late in March or early in April.

Best wishes,

Sincerely yours,

GEORGE B. VAN SCHAACK
Librarian

GEVS:VG
Enc.