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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.

*The Story of the Royal Horticultural Society.* By Harold Fletcher

JOSEPH EWAN

(Tulane University, U.S.A.)

TO read this story of the world's leading horticultural Society with nearly 70,000 members today, is like a saunter through a great garden. Each reader will wander through its more than five hundred pages in his own way, hunting for old familiar names, smiling and admiring. When this book falls open it will not be on an orangery but more likely on a forcing house; serried pages of budgets, sums, wages of "labourers", and seed beds of promise. Specimen tubs stand in the corners, blooming beautifully, but mostly it will be aisles of green prose. FLETCHER'S tour opens with the private estate

TULANE UNIVERSITY

NEW ORLEANS, LA. 70118

Department of Biology

7 January 1975

Dear George:

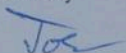
Great to have that talkfest with you! A treat. The three parcels came yesterday and all in fine shape: glass vase travelled beautifully -- nice to see it again -- first day covers and the paper back which certainly has high praise from the mags.

I shall mail the Michaux to you and of course whatever you wish to determine its destination is fine with me.

Julie Morris, librarian at Penna Hort Soc, came down last week to confer on Dibbling in history that is format, arrangement etc etc. Wonderful person to work with.

Nesta is laid down (more accurate than laid up) from a pinched nerve in her thigh with hope it will mend. It is hard for her to be out of the bustle. Dr. Berkett gave her vallium to make sure she was quiescent.

Best from us,



Did I send enough postage? I cannot recall I sent as much as \$4.26 and please let us meet that sum.

TULANE UNIVERSITY

College of Arts and Sciences

NEW ORLEANS 18

Department of Botany

27 July 1973

Dear George,

Yours, so full, so fresh, so fully packed, came the other day and we were on the verge of telephoning to check up on your status. This is a very full summer and over half over; Tulane classes begin on Aug 27th and we leave here 17th. Kathleen and her family arrive this evening and will be touring about for about a week, then the ICSEB meets here and I hear from local committeeman that over 1000 sci visitors are coming by registration, incl Hugh Iltis, if he keeps to his program. Frans Stafleu is the mc. and will have the first and last word, welcoming and plenary farewell.

Boulder is quite changed from 1937-44 when we lived here. Plususes: spruces are taller and some handsome, street trees, except for the sad elms that are doomed, are very fine now, and give the place an Old World look. The streets are still in good condition and homes well kept. BUT too many people, too many cars, and all attendant evils, noise and speed and all that. University is having a bad time with a very bad deal for a president who after everything else is pretty poorly informed (we are told he gave commencement address on 'copper-nickus' repeating that great name repeatedly until the audience squirmed, (unless, Heavens, it is the native tongue way of saying it!). Law and order ahead of caring for the books in the library and so on. Personally, we are enjoying the city very much, and this old house is like an old felt slipper on a cold floor, good to live in.

Colorado is having a verbal battle on to grow or to arrest growth. The way land is being opened up for condominiums and second homes for the too well off and way out in the forests and great distances from Denver and centers is I'm sure not generally known. The landscape, maountainscape, is being disturbed and recovery will be another world, of weeds and erosion, and lost biota. Really so sad to see. We were in the Gore Pass area a couple of weeks ago, in Middle Park, and there were new streets ready for homes, up and down the Artemisia slopes. Fortunately, there is a legal restriction here in Boulder County against any new developments. Only what has already been platted.

I shall surely look into Severin and Reid, bookplates, for it sounds very attractive. The RBR librarian here at the Univ is an oldtimer and seems full of info but I must say to see him smkking at his desk inside the glassbowl observation room in the RBR was a bit of a shock. I have sent a brochure from the Library, with Waltemade's contribution.

This Williamsburg folder is just to see what they do now to trap the garden clubbers into coming to these slip-digs (that will suffice to carry the dibble action). Seibert is getting quite snowy summited.

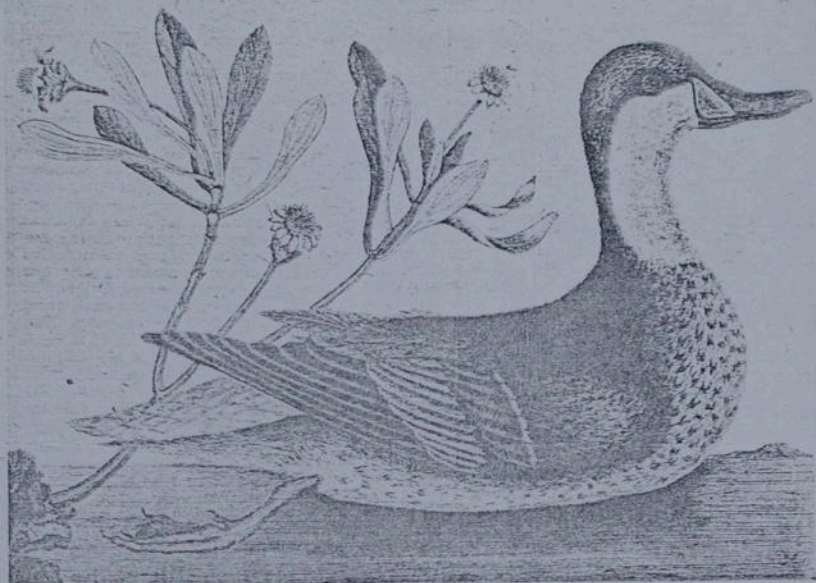
Mailed 93 typescript pp on Notes and indices for Catesby reprint. Have you heard about this coming out of Savannah? I'll send a brochure when I get back to N.O. Ed of 500 copies and sells for \$500 with 50 plates in fine reprod and all set by Steinhauer in rich typography. Frick is introducing the book and has done a good essay.

You would be interested to see the male students bound in half vellum about campus and girls in 3/4 limp binding or some nearly down to d.w. about a signature or two. Warm, sun worshippers they. Sex is only a phallacy.

Will report on 'ordu' etc etc

So long for now,

THE MOST IMPORTANT WORK  
ON THE NATURAL HISTORY OF NORTH AMERICA  
PUBLISHED BEFORE THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION.



## MARK CATESBY'S NATURAL HISTORY OF CAROLINA, FLORIDA AND THE BAHAMAS



A portfolio of fifty full-color plates, Birds, Fishes, Serpents, Insects and Plants, each presented in a separate folder with its description in French and English. An accompanying hard-bound catalogue volume contains Catesby's account of the American wilderness, a new introduction by George Frick, University of Delaware, scientific notes by Joseph Ewan, Tulane University, and black-and-white illustrations of all 220 plates. Produced by The Stinchour Press and The Meriden Gravure Company. This limited edition includes

500 numbered complete portfolios and 1,700 catalogue volumes, which may be purchased separately. Price until December 31: \$500 for the portfolio, \$45 for the catalogue volume alone. Price after December 31: \$575 for the portfolio, \$50 for the catalogue volume alone. Send \$5.00 for the prospectus, which contains a perfect sample plate suitable for framing.

THE BEEHIVE PRESS • 321 BARNARD STREET • SAVANNAH • GEORGIA 31401

The New York Times Book Review/October 6, 1974

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Some exceptions may be made concerning the author's translations, which are not so much erroneous as forced. The bibliography is extensive. However, there are omissions, in particular from the *Bulletin des Recherches Historiques*. Some documents, particularly those in the Archives Nationales in Paris, are skimpily noted. The C 11 A series and B series, letters sent and received in and from New France, are necessary to a better comprehension of the problems raised. These, however, are but carping criticism. The book, on the whole, is excellent.

Sir George Williams University

CAMERON NISH

*John Banister and His Natural History of Virginia, 1678-1692.* By JOSEPH and NESTA EWAN. (Urbana: University of Illinois Press, 1970. Pp. xxx, 487. \$15.00.)

The seventeenth century is replete with descriptions of the New World that were compiled by both talented amateurs and professional observers. Ranging widely in accuracy from bizarre reports of new species to sophisticated discussions of natural history phenomena, the publications piqued the imagination of the curious in Europe and precipitated a vast traffic in American specimens between the two continents. The resulting crosscurrent of information contributed much to the establishment of an international natural history circle which constituted one of the most dynamic intellectual forces of the eighteenth century.

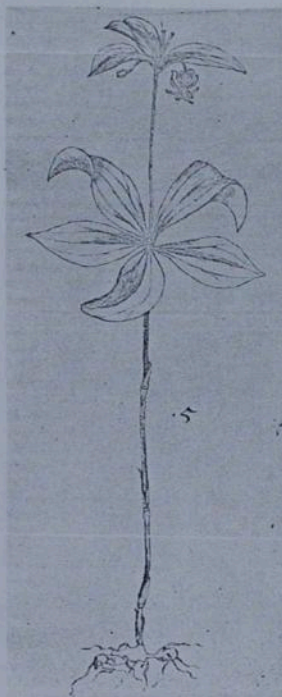
One of the earliest and best trained naturalists in colonial Virginia was John Banister. Arriving in the colony in 1673, the young minister eschewed activity not directly related to the study of natural history. Banister was particularly interested in the field of botany. Within the space of a few years he had compiled a catalogue of Virginia plants and published several reports which included his observations about mollusks and insects. In addition to these activities, Banister was also one of the first in the colonies to display an active interest in fossils. It is not surprising that the brilliant naturalist established an important and lasting friendship with William Byrd I, a man who shared his scientific interests. Equally important to Banister's work was the patronage of Henry Compton, bishop of London, who was an enthusiastic naturalist himself. Aided by the encouragement and financial help of these and other influential men, Banister diligently applied himself to the natural history of Virginia and the collecting of specimens until his accidental death in 1692.

The present volume is both a biography of the gifted naturalist, which includes his known writings, and an informative analysis of the

CÓRDOVA-RIOS, Manuel & F. Bruce Lamb. *Wizard of the Upper Amazon*. 224p. Atheneum. 1971. \$6.95. LC 73-139314.

PER NAR

A dramatic story, interestingly told, of a young rubber hunter captured by a party of Huni Kui Indians (a group apparently belonging to the Amahuaca people of the upper Amazon regions) early in this century. He was, after suffering some hardships, adopted into the tribe and taught the series of native medicine



From "John Banister and His Natural History of Virginia, 1678-1692"

EWAN, Joseph & Nesta Ewan. *John Banister and His Natural History of Virginia, 1678-1692*. 485p. illus. bibliog. index. Univ. of Illinois Pr. 1970. \$15. ISBN 0-252-00075-7. LC 77-94395.

NAT HIST/8100

Sound biography such as this is a delight to read, and this one is especially so because the authors, recognized authorities in the field of botany, have brought to light, through extensive research in this country and abroad, a little-known but most important individual who is called North America's first resident naturalist. In the preface we read that Banister's works "are a significant record of early Virginia, and had they been published even incomplete as they were at his death, they would fundamentally have altered the course of American botany, entomology, and malacology. He would have been credited by anthropologists with much of the Virginia Indian lore attributed to Robert Beverley." This volume not only contains a well-documented account of Banister's life and contributions, but also includes faithfully transcribed copies of his catalogs, correspondence, and drawings. Throughout the book are excellent notes on leading naturalists whose works or acquaintance influenced Banister, as well as important data on outstanding later scientists who benefited from his observations and evaluations. Highly recommended for reference collections and libraries with biology and Americana holdings.—Elizabeth C. Hall, *Horticultural Society of New York Library*

HARDING, James. *Massenet*. 229p. illus. bibliog. index. St. Martin's. 1971. \$8.95. LC 70-132189.

MUSIC/8100

Massenet's stage works were fantastically popular during his lifetime, yet after his death many of them were forgotten. As might be expected with the current revival of interest in 19th-Century music, these works have lately been attracting fresh attention. Hence this new biography is timely. Harding, author of *Saint-Saëns and His Circle* (dist. by Fernhill, 1965), is obviously well versed in this period of French culture, and gives a sympathetic, though by no means uncritical, account of his subject. He shows us the clever man of the theater—the suave, adroit composer who often hid

in Snowy Egret (Williamsburg, Kentucky) Spring, 1971

NATURAL HISTORY  
BEFORE THE REVOLUTION

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reviews by Humphrey A. Olsen

- ✓ // SCIENCE IN THE BRITISH COLONIES OF AMERICA by Raymond Phineas Stearns. 760p. illus. University of Illinois Press, 1970. \$20
- ✓ JOHN BANISTER AND HIS NATURAL HISTORY OF VIRGINIA, 1678-1692 by Joseph and Nesta Ewan. 485p. illus. map University of Illinois Press, 1970. \$15
- DR. ALEXANDER GARDEN OF CHARLES TOWN by Edmund and Dorothy Smith Berkeley. 379p. illus. University of North Carolina Press, 1969. \$10

The first is a blockbuster of a book in its field--in terms of substance, number of pages, and price--which should go far toward establishing the University of Illinois Press as a leader in the burgeoning production of books on the history of natural history. Yet the price is not exorbitant considering inflation and the skilfulness of the writing and the value of its contents. Despite the title it is mostly devoted to natural history since the primary interest was in flora and fauna.

Stearns, professor of history at Illinois State University, presents eminently reasonable conclusions based on his own extensive research and that of others for the years 1520 to 1770. He has tied together in one volume material from scattered articles and books for the convenience of the general reader. In doing so he has steered a difficult course between Abbe Guillaume Keynal's dictum (1774), "It is astonishing that America has not yet produced a good poet, an able mathematician, a man of genius in a single art, or a single science" and Ezra Stiles' claim (1785) "that Americans had contributed to science as much in 'the last half century, as in all Europe!" In addition to the eastern British colonies in North America, Stearns treats Hudson's Bay and the West Indies.

He depends mostly on primary sources for his discussion of the patrons, the contributors (mostly amateurs), and the data and ideas they contributed. The emphasis in those years was on the collection and classification of materials, and naming broad groups and subdivisions of these groups down to species. Stearns does not hesitate to point out the weaknesses and strengths of the colonials as revealed in their dealings with each other and their patrons. For example on Dr. William Douglass:

Douglass himself might well have exerted a much wider influence than he did but for his stubborn independence of mind, his patronizing attitude toward New Englanders (to whom he obviously felt himself superior), his indiscreet assertion of unorthodox religious views, and his unpleasant

tendency to adopt partisan causes with uncompromising ardor and an occasional suggestion of malignancy in his strong expressions of partisanship. (p.478)

He also gives us the flavor of their thinking in capsule quotations, as this one showing Douglass by 1755 had reversed his views on inoculation for smallpox when he asserted that inoculation for smallpox "is a very considerable and most beneficial improvement in that article of medical practice." (p.480) Stearns is not afraid of disagreeing with traditional evaluations if he thinks the evidence warrants: "If until recently John Clayton of Virginia failed to win the public recognition as a scientist which was his due, Cadwallader Colden may have been accorded a reputation as a scientist beyond his true merits." (p.559)

The author agrees with I. B. Cohen that only Franklin did work "of such major importance that it is worthy of being recorded in every general history of scientific thought." He lists thirteen other American naturalists, along with their accomplishments, who by eighteenth century standards made worthwhile contributions to scientific knowledge: Cotton Mather, Zebdiel Boylston, Paul Dudley, Isaac Greenwood, Thomas Godfrey, James Logan, four doctors (William Douglass, John Lining, Lionel Chalmers, Alexander Garden), Ebenezer Kinnersley, the second John Clayton, and John Winthrop.

The Royal Society of London, after 1660, was a powerful force in stimulating and financing projects in North America. Nothing in this country like it appeared before the American Philosophical Society in 1768, too late to have much influence on this period but auguring well for the future.

By skilful summary, paraphrase, and excerpted quotations Stearns gives us the feel of the country and its natural history in those days:

The first John Clayton on Virginia: "North and northwest winds were very nitrous and piercing, cold and clear, or else stormy.' South and southeast winds were 'hazy and sultry hot.' The winter was fine, clear, dry, and pleasant, with short, sharp frosts which sometimes froze over the rivers. Snowfall rarely lasted more than a day or two. Spring was earlier than in England, with frequent rains in April...." (p.189)

And John Banister, also on Virginia: "He mentioned the huge flocks of carrier pigeons that sometimes 'darken the Sky,' wild turkeys--'I have heard some old men affirm they have known Cocks weigh 60 lb. but we commonly meet with those of 30-odd'--and waterfowl, such as 'Swans, geese, ducks, &c.'" "There were 'multitudes of Vegetables, many of them unknown to me,' peaches, 'more & better kinds than yo<sup>rs</sup>,' and Banister speculated that they may have been indigenous to the country." "There were both black and white mulberries, and the 'Pascimmon a sort of fruit between the Plum & Medlar,' pleasant enough when rotten...but green it is of an exceeding harsh Tast wch

draws the Mouth into a Purse'." (p.203)

In the seventh <sup>teen</sup> century the colonials were for the most part field agents and collectors for European scientists and patrons. So it was not until just before the American Revolution that some of their scientific work rose to levels "worthy of being classified alongside European scientific accomplishments."

Stearns is better than Outright\* in avoiding academic jargon ("societal" sticks out like a sore thumb in a number of places) and circumlocutions and his encyclopedia wealth of material is better organized.

Nitpickers will have a field day citing minor errors (I found no typos) and disagreeing with some of Stearns' judgments: although there are some errors, inevitable in a pioneering work of this kind, the overall effect is good. And to me most of his judgments are carefully thought out and spelled out and reasonable. This should be a standard work for years to come.

The illustrations are title pages of books, drawings of specimens, and some portraits. The appendixes include sample directions for collecting data and specimens and a list of the colonial fellows of the Royal Society of London, 1661-1783. There is no separate bibliography but a multitude of helpful references in the footnotes. However, some general readers will be confused by some of the abbreviations and Latin words in the Modern Language Association style footnotes.

Banister, the subject of the second book, deserves recognition, largely through the detective work of the Ewan husband and wife botany team, as "the first university-trained naturalist to send specimens, with drawings for some, and with descriptive Latin catalogues of insects, spiders, and molluscs as well as plants to leading naturalists in England."

Because Banister left few records of his life, the Ewans depend heavily on accounts of his friends and other contemporary records to bring him and his times into focus. They show that publication of his works--even in incomplete form as they existed at his accidental death at age 42--would have fundamentally altered the course of American botany, entomology, and malacology [molluscs]. He also would have received credit for much Indian lore plagiarized from him by Robert Beverley.

Each of the sections reproducing Banister's three catalogs--plants; insects and spiders; molluscs, fossils and stones--is preceded by an introduction noting the significance of the material, and its origin and fate. The final section deals with manuscripts on general natural history and the Indians in Virginia, accompanied by copious explanatory notes furnished by the Ewans.

\*Paul Russell Cutright. LEWIS AND CLARK: Pioneering Naturalists. University of Illinois Press, 1969. \$12.50. Reviewed in Snowy Egret, Autumn 1969, v.32; p.33

The illustrations are from Banister's drawings of plants, insects, fossils, and molluscs. Transcripts of his letters are set in italics, adding attractiveness to the pages but making them harder to read than roman type.

Although the book is the result of prolonged, brilliant detective work, it will only read like a detective story to professional botanists and naturalists acquainted with the circumstances of those times. Others will soon get bogged down in the detailed lists of Latin names, usually without English equivalents or any other explanation.

Of the three books under review, the last by the Berkeleys on Alexander Garden is the most attractive to the general reader because it does not aim to be comprehensive history and evaluation (Stearns) or at proving a thesis (the Ewans).

It is hard to disagree with Samuel Latham Mitchill that Dr. Garden was "one of the most valuable laborers in promoting the natural history of these eastern parts of North America." Perhaps his most notable achievement was standing up to and correcting Linnaeus several times in the classification of American flora and fauna.

The Berkeleys illuminate the intellectual, cultural and scientific atmosphere of Great Britain and South Carolina in the eighteenth century. They begin with Garden's birth (1730) and life in Scotland. After getting some medical training at Aberdeen, he spent several years as surgeon on His Majesty's Ships.

He completed his medical studies at the University of Glasgow. A tendency toward tuberculosis which made a mild climate desirable and rather limited opportunities in Scotland induced Garden to emigrate to South Carolina in 1752. "The balmy spring weather and the profusion of birds and spring flowers, which are so characteristic of South Carolina in April, would have been sufficient welcome for any naturalist and certainly for Alexander Garden." (p.28)

The readable, natural text, uncluttered by academic jargon and circumlocutions, is brightened by delightful line drawings of scenes where Garden lived and drawings of specimens. There are nearly twelve pages of bibliography plus appendixes listing fish and other zoological specimens sent to European scientists.

As a medical man, Garden showed willingness to explore new treatments and improve conditions under which people worked. His first scientific study in South Carolina investigated the use of the Indian pink for destroying intestinal worms. To sum up,

He made no landmark discoveries... His publications were few and limited in scope, but exhibit a facility for writing and expression as well as accuracy. He was, however, a serious scientist... He was one of that eighteenth-century international scientific circle whose members exchanged ideas, information, and specimens, and encouraged each other in the continuing pursuit of scientific enlightenment. (p.325)

Thévenot, Father Hamilton leads us through the works of some distinguished historians: Father Charlevoix, Benjamin Franklin French, Father Felix Martin, Edmund J. O'Callaghan, John Gilmary Shea, Father Fortuné M. de Montézon, Reuben G. Thwaites, Jean Delanglez, Pierre Margry, and Francis Parkman, among others. Yet none of these historians applied the rigorous tests of authenticating handwriting, paper, or historical context to the basic documents as Father Hamilton has done. The chief issue is a manuscript titled *Recit des voyages et des découvertes du P. Jaques Marquette*, which was left in the hands of some Montreal nuns by a dying priest in the eighteenth century, and another of a similar title that has migrated through half a dozen European archives.

In examining these and related documents Father Hamilton leaves nothing undone, exposes some less than admirable work by some of his predecessors, informs us richly of Jesuit history and publishing policies, and removes all doubts about the validity of the sources from which the story of the Marquette-Jolliet expedition has been told.

JOHN PARKER  
University of Minnesota,  
Minneapolis

JOSEPH and NESTA EWAN. *John Banister and His Natural History of Virginia, 1678-1692*. Urbana: University of Illinois Press. 1970. Pp. xxx, 485. \$15.00.

John Banister (1650-92) is best remembered as a late seventeenth-century Virginia parson who contributed some American plants to John Ray's *Historia Plantarum* (1680) and a few articles to the *Philosophical Transactions* (1693-94) before he met an untimely death, presumably from a fall. The Ewans show not only that the cause of his death was reported incorrectly, as is the case with most of the details of his life, but also that Banister was important for what others borrowed from him. Most significantly for historians, they demonstrate that he was the unacknowledged author of most of the natural history and ethnological sections of Robert Beverley's *History and Present State of Virginia* (1705).

This is not a biography, although the first section places Banister in the context of his English contemporaries in natural history and

gives what can be ascertained about the life of this Oxford don sent to Virginia by Henry Compton, bishop of London and botanist, apparently for the collection of rarities as much as for the cure of souls. The remainder of the book is devoted to a carefully edited compilation of Banister's unpublished writings, to the known contents of his library, and to the other sources that he used.

The result of all this is to show that Banister was a far better naturalist than any working in the mainland English colonies in the seventeenth century, or, for that matter, through most of the colonial period. This might have been an exercise in historical futility had not so many of his materials been used by others: Robert Morison and John Ray, among the major figures, but also by such minor ones as James Petiver, Leonard Plukenet, and William Sherard. Through them, sometimes at second or third hand, Banister's materials entered scientific literature. This is particularly evident in the Ewans' editing of Banister's "Plant Catalogue," where they have found their way with great skill through the thickets of pre-Linnaean nomenclature.

The major weakness of the book is that it is made up of many parts and does not really constitute a whole. This is evident in the typographical variety between the introductory materials and the edited section and is present, also in a mechanical sense, in the several kinds of annotations used. It is, of course, largely due to the nature of the problem; but the Ewans have contributed also in their cautious failure to go much beyond the bare results of their research into interpretation. They have, nonetheless, accomplished a major task of historical restoration.

GEORGE F. FRICK  
University of Delaware

JOHN C. CLARK. *New Orleans, 1718-1812: An Economic History*. Baton Rouge: Louisiana State University Press. 1970. Pp. xii, 395. \$10.00.

By 1812 New Orleans was the fifth largest American city, possessed a thriving export-import trade, and boasted a vast commercial hinterland. The Crescent City's first century, however, had been characterized by slow economic progress for long periods, with occasional advances set back by wars, floods, hurricanes, epidemics, scarcity of money and immigrants,

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THE JOURNAL OF AMERICAN HISTORY  
 Indiana University  
 Bloomington, Indiana  
 June, 1971

*John Banister and His Natural History of Virginia 1678-1692.* By Joseph and Nesta Ewan. (Urbana: University of Illinois Press, 1970. xxx + 485 pp. Map, chart, illustrations, notes, bibliography, and indexes. \$15.00.)

With this volume Joseph and Nesta Ewan have added another chapter to the fascinating story of the exploration of the natural history of the New World and the development of American science. With their usual thoroughness, they have given us not only a detailed account of the life of the clergyman-botanist John Banister but also annotated texts of his manuscript writings on natural history; biographical sketches of his English contemporaries; bibliographies of the works owned, used, or cited by Banister and of the authors who made use of his drawings, specimens, and descriptions; lists of the species described or mentioned; reproductions of his drawings, and chronologies and charts designed to aid the reader in placing Banister and his writings in the context of eighteenth-century science. The result is a work of scholarship that gives a vivid picture of pre-Linnaean and post-Linnaean natural history in England and, at the same time, demonstrates the hitherto unsuspected importance of Banister's contribution to the systematic study of the natural history of America. Scholars have long been aware of Banister's contribution to John Ray's *Historia Plantarum*, but the Ewans have shown by their laborious researches in European archives that Ray as well as Martin Lister, Leonard Plukenet, William Sherard, Johann Gronovius, and Carl Linnaeus drew on the specimens, drawings, and descriptions sent to England by Banister. Banister's contribution, the Ewans conclude, "far outshone those of the men sent after him . . . and . . . no one with his exceptional background, talent, and enthusiasm could be found to replace him until Mark Catesby more than a quarter century later recorded the natural history of 'Carolina and Florida.'"

Historians of early Virginia will be interested in the Ewans' conclusion that substantial parts of Robert Beverley's *History and Present State of Virginia* and not a few passages of John Oldmixon's *British Empire in America* are derived from Banister's unpublished "Some Querries After Matter Towards the Composure of a Natural History of Virginia" and "Of the Natives Their Habit, Customs & Manner of Living." The publication of these manuscripts is an important service to American historians.

John Banister could scarcely have wished for better biographers than the Ewans. Like him, they have unbounded enthusiasm for the natural history of the New World, especially its botany. Like him, they are well trained for their task. Like him, they have pursued their subject with unrelenting care and vigor. Their book is worthy of its hero.

UNIVERSITY OF CONNECTICUT

JOHN C. GREENE

John Banister and his Natural History of Virginia 1678-1692. By Joseph and Nesta Ewan. 485 pp., 70 figs. 1970. University of Illinois Press, Urbana, Ill. 61801. Price: \$15.00.

This book is a detailed and thoroughly documented account of the studies of natural history made by John Banister (1650-92), a young English clergyman who spent 14 years in Virginia. During his student years in England he had been an enthusiastic naturalist, especially in the collecting of plants. In Virginia he followed those interests actively, and regularly sent specimens, notes and illustrations of plants back to England. By 1680 he also had assembled a collection of insects with accompanying notes, and evidently made additions to it during the following 12 years; however, it is not clear whether any of the entomological material was returned prior to his accidental death by shooting in 1682. Then, his notes, comprising about 15 handwritten pages (of which 4 dealt with Mollusca, and several with spiders) and numerous specimens, were sent to England and were utilized by several naturalists in their writings. Their acknowledgement of his contributions, or even the original sources of specimens, often was scanty, however, so that the extent to which Banister's insect material was used is not fully known. Linnaeus may have based some Virginia insects on Banister specimens or drawings, but surviving labels are too uncertain to prove a connection. Although some of his plants are still preserved at Oxford University, and perhaps elsewhere, Banister's insect specimens have not been traced and probably were destroyed long ago. Nearly 100 years earlier, some notice had been given Virginia insects when John White, who came to Virginia in 1585 with Sir Walter Raleigh's second expedition, made drawings of various insects (see page 291, also Austin H. Clark, *Alumnae Bull. Randolph-Macon Woman's College* 30 (3): 1-9, 1937).

Dr. Joseph Ewan, professor of biology at Tulane University, is an eminent writer and lecturer on the lives and work of early American biologists, especially botanists. His 1950 book, "Rocky Mountain Naturalists," includes a fine biography of T. D. A. Cockerell as well as references to many entomologists among some 1200 naturalists mentioned. Now, he and Mrs. Ewan correlate Banister's career with important persons of the period in England and Virginia, noting, for instance, that Banister was one of the founders of the College of William and Mary. The Ewans write of Banister (p. xiii): "His works are a significant record of early Virginia, and had they been published even incomplete as they were at his death, they would fundamentally have altered the course of American botany, entomology, and malacology."

Though John Banister evidently did exceptionally advanced work for his time, and though his botanical contributions may warrant the above evaluation, I question whether it is true for entomology. From the "Insect and Arachnid Catalogue," published here with annotations, it is clear that Banister tried to equate the Virginia insects he found with those described (pre-Linnaean) by Thomas Mouffet, Martin Lister, and others in England. He enumerated a modest number of common Virginia insects, together with observations on their biology. His notes are fullest concerning Hymenoptera and Coleoptera. He noted the halteres of Diptera and likened them to the balancing poles of tight-rope walkers. If Banister had completed and published more on insects, early colonists would have had something

for reference, including habits and importance, and Thomas Say and other later resident writers would have had more guidance on their local fauna. However, from what is shown here, the entomology was rather fragmentary and clearly secondary to botanical work. In the Orthoptera, for example, he distinguished about 5 kinds of grasshoppers and katydids, 2 cockroaches, one cricket, and 2 mantids (one of which apparently was the hemipteron *Ranatra*).

The authors consulted several entomologists (O. L. Cartwright, Hugh Leech, Richard P. Mills, Harry B. Weiss) to interpret in current nomenclature the species and chronology of Banister's notes. To these editorial notes, two further clarifications may be added: The bee nesting in timber (p. 286) is plainly a carpenter bee, and the 8-legged creature creeping rapidly sideways, forward, and backward in musty books (p. 306) must have been a pseudoscorpion. Some of Banister's species designations are binomial, but most are not.

In summary, though a brief review can mention only a few aspects of this scholarly work, this is a splendid source book for many phases of early natural history. It is conveniently indexed and otherwise documented, as, for example, with a chronology, a time chart of other naturalists within Banister's general period, a map of early colonial Virginia, a diagram of pre-Linnaean roots in North America and Europe, and a bibliography. The book's preparation was surely a task to which the authors were long dedicated, and all readers with a bent toward

**JOHN BANISTER AND HIS NATURAL HISTORY OF VIRGINIA, 1678-1692.** By Joseph and Nesta Ewan. (Urbana: University of Illinois Press, 1970. 485 pp. Indexes, references, plates. \$15.00.)

For the past half century, it has been recognized that John Banister, (ca. 1650-1692), "America's first resident naturalist," played an important, if poorly defined, role in early American and English natural history. Now his role is amply confirmed and, more importantly, it is precisely defined on the basis of a meticulous examination of all the relevant archival and printed materials. Because of the unfinished state of Banister's notes and because he was, so to speak, the North American representative of several English natural history groups, his manuscripts, specimens, and drawings were widely dispersed following his accidental death. Many of Banister's friends and patrons preserved something that originally had been his, but often in fragmentary form and not easily attributed to its rightful author. Not until the present study have all the pieces been assembled and Banister's contributions fully assessed.

It is now clear that Banister's unfinished *Natural History* laid the foundations for a serious study of the flora and fauna of the southeastern United States. It would be a mistake, however, to suppose that he restricted his interests to biology. In keeping with the times, Banister understood "Natural History" *sensu lato*, as the titles of his manuscripts indicate. The context of seventeenth-century natural history is admirably delineated in the introductory chapter, "Banister's Colleagues in Science." Thumbnail sketches of the leading English and continental investigators provide the background for tracing Banister's short career and his influence.

Chapter Nine, "Mr. Banister's Works as Copies," sets the stage for one of the most valuable portions of the book. By assembling all the fragments, some of which were previously unrecognized or presumed lost, three of Banister's catalogs are reconstructed: "Plants," "Insects and Arachnids," and "Mollusca, Fossils, and Stones." In each case, the item in question is identified in modern scientific terms and by an elaborate apparatus the original Banisterian stratum in the writings of others is brought to light. Following these annotated transcriptions, two other surviving portions of Banister's projected *Natural History* are likewise edited: "Some Observations on Beasts, Birds, Fishes, Insects etc. Naturall to this Country" and "Of the Natives." The book is rounded out by a bibliography and seventy drawings, reproduced in actual size from the originals now preserved in the British Museum.

A sure command of the historical background plus complete control of the bibliographical and scientific data leave little room for improvement.

RED OAK. *Quercus rubra*.



PLATE LXXXIX.  
Fig. 1. A.M.C. Fig. 2. T.W.D.S.

Next to the gray oak this species is found in the highest latitude of all the American oaks, and is one of the most common species in the Northern States and Canada. Farther south, particularly in the lower part of New York, New Jersey, the upper districts of Pennsylvania, and along the whole range of the Alleghenies, it is nearly as abundant as the scarlet and black oaks; but it is much less common in Maryland, the lower part of Virginia, and the maritime parts of the Carolinas and Georgia. Its perfect development requires a cool climate and a fertile soil. It is universally known by the name of *Red Oak*, except in some parts of Pennsylvania,

D. J. Browne *Silva Americana* 1832

Seldom is a reviewer privileged to claim that a book is the definitive study. But unless new archival material is located, it is difficult to believe that John Banister will ever have two more conscientious biographers than the Ewans.

JERRY STANNARD

Mr. Stannard is professor of history of science, University of Kansas, Lawrence.

TULANE UNIVERSITY

NEW ORLEANS, LA. 70118

*Department of Biology*

14 February 1971

Dr. Marion T. Hall  
Director  
Morton Arboretum  
Lisle, Illinois 60532

Dear Dr. Hall:

Your invitation to come to the Arboretum and talk about the history of seedsman and nurserymen in early America came the other day and I am happy to accept your invitation.

As for the date, May 18th fits my schedule here and will surely be the most rewarding time to see the shrubs and trees in best spring dress.

I shall bring a carousel tray of 2x2 slides, some in color, some black and white photographs of title pages and handwriting and portraits, to vivify the remarks. I have found this Kodak carousel projector is very satisfying and with the slide trays that may be loaded ahead of time for projection the mechanics move along smoothly.

Thank you for this gesture and I look forward to seeing you, and George, and to having the pleasure of talking about a topic that has long interested me, without forgetting the enjoyment of your plantings and your garden of books.

Very sincerely,

Joseph Esau  
Prof. of Biology

cc: George B. VanSchaack

*Ewan*

George: Blind carbon for sad news of fourth paragraph. \*

9 January 1965

Dr. George H. M. Lawrence  
Hunt Botanical Library  
Pittsburgh

Dear George:

Pleased indeed to have yours of December 23rd and to know the xeroxed materials will be coming along shortly. Yes, I was happy to be able to send along the little Carpenter sketch for it is the kind of thing that will be more and more difficult to secure.

I was reluctant to send along too many microfilms for processing forgetting that it is cheaper to do them by the dozen! I have more on hand to have xeroxed and I shall send along the films Monday so you may include them with the next lot to be sent off for copying. Together with the items sent previously these will likely add up to enough to make an order of size to prove economical.

I am sending along a tear sheet from a Brussels book catalogue listing an item which you may wish to order: Loisel, Histoire des Menageries. Paris, 1912. 3 vols. 1500 Belg. frs.

Perhaps you have heard of A. C. Townsend's death on New Year's eve? Harold Vokes and his wife were in London working at the BM(NH) on Christmas and New Year's and in fact talking with ACT on Dec. 31st. He then glowed with plans for the Library and of course was not a little pleased with his citation to be awarded the next week (or very shortly) of O.B.E. He evidently stepped out of the compartment of the railway coach using the wrong door and on the tracks in front of an oncoming train! This was only a short time before midnight of 31st. No one was evidently in the coach at time and the circumstances surrounding his death will never be wholly documented, Vokes suggests, for the BBC asked the next day for persons to please report who may have seen the accident. I think Harold has as good an explanation as any: fatigue, perhaps coupled with a little liquid cheer of the evening, but again it may be something else. In any event, it is tragic indeed for Townsend was a rare avis in the aviary of natural history bibliographers! It is a real loss to British biology for his part, often silent and so thorough, came to play in so many important publications.

And now, take care, and  
Heta and I wish you  
and yours the very  
best of new years,  
sincerely,

*Joe*  
Joseph Ewan

(Vokes is chairman of Dept. Geology here at Tulane)

\* Ready to mail before  
phone conversation

TULANE UNIVERSITY

College of Arts and Sciences

NEW ORLEANS 18

Department of Botany

Sunday, 17 Jan. 1965

Dear George:

Saddened by your letter of 14th that came yesterday when I had lived all week in a glow of imminent success. Cum spiro spero! It is a kind of fearsome history that is being enacted before your eyes, when a single de(vil)man--never caught on to the etymology of that word before!--can swerve the destiny of a city, for such it will be. I wonder what the role of Went in hiding has been in all this! prompter of Barry with facts and figures? I suppose Hugh Cutler is practically non-existent in all these troubled times, waiting to jump. Poor George, you have been staying with the ship, deserted by those who could man the guns and fend off the pirates. Guts, you know, ~~the~~ vestigial organs are in some men.

Thanks so much for your trouble in wrapping and shipping the Bartram photostats, which are here quite safe. I am most grateful to you.

The Abrege Transact. Philos. (in French) will be mailed to you this week. I had it on top of a pile, plainly labelled to be returned to MBG, all the while I was off campus last spring. I have tried to do this routinely just in event of any accident for borrowed items for I have such a large and complex collection of books, stats, photos, etc. etc. that it would be woe to find anything.

Milne-Redhead is hyphenated in more ways than one. That he cannot tell when the next part of the Fl. Trop. West Africa is coming out next sounds as if he were working in the jungle and hardly at the world's leading botanical establishment. As for waiting for the Flora to be completed before he issues data on dates of publ. -- I wonder if he has noticed how many floras die an accidental death?

- 1) Gickhorn, Josef und Renee, Georg Joseph Kamel, S. J. 1661-1706, Intern. Soc. Hist. Pharm. (Eutin, Holstein) 1954. 123 pp. 14 pls. paperbd. about 15s 6d from W&W, Codicote.
- 2) McDermott, J.F. Western journals of Dr. George Hunter, 1796-1805. Trans. APS, n.s. vol. 53 pt. 4. 1963. \$3.00 has a good deal of botanical material.  
refs. of

These are the two/items which were once wanted for ordering.

This must come to an end here but I shall be writing again soon,

With very best from both of us,

Joe

We hope the British Museum calendar for 1965 mailed to your home address came to your hands? I sent it betw. Xmas and NY's.

Ida Langman's Mexican bib came yesterday. C.C.  
Robbins' David Hsueh, Mem. APS vol. 6v (1964)  
\$350 is another must for MBG.

TULANE UNIVERSITY  
College of Arts and Sciences  
NEW ORLEANS 18

Department of Botany

May 12, 1965

Dear George:

Well, I missed your phone call last week but I was happy that Nesta was home to chat with you. First, I am pleased that your assistant has accepted and I imagine that the strictures imposed will be eased when he grows to know you. I hope so. When does he arrive in bodily form to lend a hand and a mind to all the multifarious activities?

Now, DV, we shall see each other in bonny bally Britain? Fine! I saw Harold Hugo of the Meriden Gravure firm last Thursday; he is a very literate man and keen on books. MG did the plates for the Hunt Bot. Cat. volume two. They are to do the plates for the AFS William Bartram volume I am editing. Hugo will be in London betw. Aug. 10-21, and so things are about as set as may be expected. I am thinking of going on to Warsaw for the meetings; I think it will be worth while. You will be in Florence, etc. and perhaps back in London to return to USA.

Dorothy graduates MIS at Oklahoma this June. She will be married this summer, I presume Nesta told you, and likely will take the job open at U of Kansas as of July 1st. Marge has a "child care" job in Zurich for the summer and will be leaving on June 1st or soon thereafter.

You will see the answer to So Ill Univ. proposal on Koster's Brazil. I shall certainly not affiliate myself with any such dispenser of adulterants as this, rest assured. (return the letter from GHML when convenient; copy anything you wish of course).

I think John A. Moore's review in Science was so well shot that I am passing around rounds of more ammunition for esp. that last paragraph! not to mention all the buzz about bee's knees in para. three! Three copies to pass along and more on call.

Well, I had a very good trip to Wellesley. Miss French, RBR librarian there, is quite a person, and you must see her collection. Biology Library rare book coll. is good but not so well curated. Lazella Schwarten is looking very well. Willman Spawn has multiple sclerosis and it is creeping faster than usual. Sad, sad, indeed, for he is a rare worker in the bindery. Ida Langman is anxious to have addendae et corrigendae for her Mex. bib. and so send them along. USNH is moving and it will be a real advantage, except the room for expansion is filled before they are moved in: parking planned for basement has had to be dedicated to storage of colls. and no car park after all.

More later,

with all the best,

*JOC*  
Joseph Ewan

TULANE UNIVERSITY

College of Arts and Sciences

NEW ORLEANS 18

Department of Botany

11 June 1965

Dear George:

Returned from Norman Tues. evening with Dorothy. She took her MLS degree Sunday evening -- it was very pleasant in the stadium beneath a clear cool Oklahoma dome of heaven. She has a position as cataloguer at U Kansas, at a salary which it took me five years to reach at Tulane, so she is doing nicely. On the 19th June she will be wedded to Stephen Nemecek at 7508 Burthe with about 40 persons onlooking. I met him for first time last week in Norman; he is very likeable, very contemporary (i.e. not very clear what he will try to do in this life), and very happy he found Patsy. His father, Vivian N, prof math at Pittsburg, Kansas, and his mother are fine folk.

Tues. 22nd Nesta and I head for Calif. to collect class material for the new tax course beginning this Fall on gymnosperms; mostly picking up cult pls at various bot gardens from San Diego to SF, etc. Also will visit libraries (Huntington, etc.) and back here about July 25-26.

It is very likely Marge will fly to Zurich on Sunday 20th--this is a change from original plan and still awaits confirmation. Last job, taking care of the Countess' four children, got caught in crossfire arrangements and fell thru. This job will be in a Swiss chalet in the Oberland Alps.

I have written to London, see carbon herewith, but reply I suppose is coming by boat mail. I do not expect any difficulty on this reservation.

Phyllis Edwards, who is next to A. C. Townsend, the most valuable party in the BM(NH) Library, wrote me as of May 14 last:

"I expect I shall still be in the Museum in August although I am seeking another post. I shall be very sad to leave but there no future for me here. I have been in the Museum 15 years, had no promotion and can expect none!!" This is near tragedy, like some other things in this world, and I wonder if the possible-probable offer from Hunt or NYBG would bring any action? Perhaps not, for Dandy does not (quietly) support Miss Edwards but she has lost her bid for the future. George Taylor invited her to go with him to Kew (when he left the BM for Kew some years ago) but she declined in favor of staying with ACT, now, Lo! he is gone.

WCSteere wrote me asking if I would like to talk over coming to NYBG as Bibliographer; I said I would be pleased to talk but did not think he should hold the door too long. If I were granted faculty status at Columbia (and could have a say on the D phil candidates in tax bot) I would be a good listener. I still like the Tulane habitat.

I had a very pleasant visit at De Golyer Library last week. Marcia Goodman, George's wife, is quiet and well placed. Nesta and I found a

ready welcome and though the Library has rather few items of moment in natural sciences there are some exciting copies but no association file by which to locate the connections. I have, I think, convinced Marcia of the need for such a file.

DD wrâtes that Lloyd Shimmers suffered a mild stroke on 2nd June, leaving his left leg paralyzed, and thus/unable to walk. No other details but it does not sound good. /he is

I had a feeling I had mentioned some of the family news before this and now I notice I have but no matter these impressions are new in any event. Arranging for a house wedding does run a race with Banister and Bartram and keeping up with a really large correspondence. Plus some things like final orals for students hereabouts, melding departments, keeping a trio of girls who are mounting plants for ~~the~~ herbarium in supplies, and so on.

Hope things are ameliorating for you, George,  
and Nesta would wish me to add her warm  
good wishes,

Cordially

JOS

*Ewan*

TULANE UNIVERSITY  
College of Arts and Sciences  
NEW ORLEANS 18

Department of Botany

17 June 1963

Dear George:

You have been in my mind if I have not been in your mail--

Carbon (very blind) herewith carries my best idea: siphon off Went for climatronic purposes and thus relieve pressures in St Louis. Fair enough? I want you to stay there; you are in the best place, really, for though Hunt Library carries some rare challenges you are very knowledgeable and in truth will meet some ignorance at Hunt that will likely annoy if not amaze you--it is bound to--and at MBG you can carry on as a chief of library operations, albeit it frustrated. Remember most important is the COLLECTION. MBG's collection is superb. It is full of the richness of irreplaceable loving care and though Hunt has a measure ~~of~~ of it it is not the Surtevant cup that runneth over.

Now I assure you that if you feel you must leave, and there seems no easing of pressures there, I shall try in every way possible to aid you either to go to Hunt or elsewhere. In a sense Gray Herbarium--Arnold-Gray that is, would seem to offer some advantages: you would be more nearly chief of operations, the collection is in good order, with satisfying subject catalogues, etc. established. I have the impression that Reed Rollins would be friendly and cooperative, not obsessed with fantasies of library training over the mind-to-book heart-to-binding feel for the collection. Well, you have thought of this, mayhap. This may represent more administration than you wish to cope with but I am not sure this may be true. I would like to think of you as Barnhart to NYBG librarian, an ancillary party, free to roam and write. If you could get this type of position at Gray or elsewhere it would be fine. You will rest assured that I shall keep you much in mind as you ask in my moving about over the American scene. But, above all, I hope that matters will soften and sweeten to make MBG a healthy habitat very soon. . . . That the President of the Boff is on your side is exceedingly important.

Well, books have been dropping in lately: Jane Colden's botanic ms. is a sad spectacle (selected ppp. from the original, the original handwriting misread, etc. when A. M. Vail's paper on Jane Colden actually more useful for info than this production); Berkeleys' John Clayton (U NC Press) has some interesting facets, but is marred by language that is out of keeping with Calyton's day, and many slips of proof reading that might have been avoided by a botanist reading the typescript before setting type; we were lucky in picking up ed. 6 (1752) of Miller's Gard. Dict. --fine copy; also Pluk, Amaltheum (1705), which was wanting for text in our personal copy--the plates in this 1705 copy for "subscribers" are on much heavier paper than that used for Phytographia copy. Watermark is distinctive. Will be a subject for investigation!

With all kinds of good wishes for ameliorating environment!

Will write about summer plans soon.

Most heartily,

TULANE UNIVERSITY

*College of Arts and Sciences*

NEW ORLEANS 18

*Department of Botany*

15 June 1963

Wilson Callender  
806 Queen and Crescent Bldg.  
p.o. box 492, New Orleans 1

Dear Wilson:

You may have had this thought even repeatedly; if so, then this will only lend support. The idea of pressing Dr. Fritz Went to consider coming down to direct the establishment of a climatron here in New Orleans? Though, as you may recall I have never been an enthusiast for the climatron spectacular, I can see that it has merit for this city at this time. First, a climatron offers an independence from vagaries of weather; something that will appeal to the public right now. Second, it will mean a display of bloom as early (almost) as the completion of the structure (with purchase of some advanced items just as the Audubon Park conservatory has achieved a crash program of bloom). This has appeal from those in city who would like to see a "tourist attraction" as soon as possible. Third, there are many who will give lavishly for something like this, astronomical in character, that will give niggardly for a botanic garden as such. It carries a flair, a theatrical touch, that catches the imagination. There is money in this city and this may shake it out of the best pockets.

As for Dr. Went: he has made a success at St Louis in his climatron, now on a going basis, and it may well be that he would consider the challenge of doing it again, here, as a sort of new city to conquer.

Anyway, think it over. Talk it over with some of the steering committee when you have a chance.

Very sincerely,

Joseph Ewan  
Prof. of Botany

c: Dr. T. T. Earle

Enon

Park House Hotel  
176 Queen's Gate  
South Kensington, London, S.W.7

Dear George;

We came in last Thurs. OK via BOAC "economy jet" via Montreal - that night's rest so we took day off to catch up on sleep. London seems very familiar but the traffic is faster & more many more, cars on streets. BM(NH) very natural and nice to be warmly greeted. This hotel is very convenient, good breakfasts, and we have top floor w/ good air and song of stabling on chimney pot now across the avenue. Yesterday we walked the paths at Kew & today we were over at BM(NH) working on Wm. Bartram. Find I have done a good deal on his job back in 1955 so we should finish and get the book out. W.T. Stearn looks forward to Kansas & seeing you and America in the mid section. He is finishing up Sapotaceae from library approach - his attack (as Satchell would say) is from book standpoint heavily over best. basis. That is, Sapotaceae for H. Tam. He will tell you about his domestic difficulties, I imagine w/ illnesses in family, etc. but he seems to be in vanguard again - they now have a new home by study of his own for first time. Have you heard of the plush ed. of John White's Va. drawings via UN Can. Press selling in Ltd. ed. at 70 guineas? This to me - and yet to see it but no advertisement because, says W.T.S., almost sold out! He had a hand in naming pls. (ca. 14 in all). Phyllis Edwards looks well & has an overflowing library to manage - more books than room to decently shelve - envious from everywhere to answer -

She had a query this morning from Germany relative to an edition of Sprengel's letters, etc. Miss Alston from former visit - he was so eager on library matters. Dandy is evidently carrying on to satisfaction. He had operation for cataract last year but was able, he said, to save his good eye for pubescence. I'm sent away until Fri. no basis, I guess, for thinking he may move to Hunt. Esti WTS (of course no give away from me just quiet query as to his future at Bm(NH)), Carroll Wood here - just of Am. contingent - but he goes on to Paris in few days. We shall be pleased to hear how the Kansas symp comes off & all the best to you from Alston and Joe

← First fold here →

BY AIR MAIL  
PAR AVION  
AIR LETTER  
ABROUARD  
NOV 1 1964



Dr. Gery B. Van Schoek  
Missouri Botanical Garden  
Tommy Grove Avenue  
ST Louis 10, Mo.  
USA

Sender's name and address:  
Evan — Park Ave Hotel  
The Queen's Gate, London S.1

AN AIR LETTER SHOULD NOT CONTAIN ANY  
ENCLOSURE; IF IT DOES IT WILL BE SURCHARGED  
OR SENT BY ORDINARY MAIL.

→ To open cut here →

TULANE UNIVERSITY

Department of Botany

Sunday eve

March 14

1965

Date

George

To

From Joe

Subject: Your several recent letters are so welcome!  
I shall say now only you should plan to come  
to Europe in August with me, 2 weeks in England  
Remarks: and the 3rd week perhaps Holland? France? for  
tho I shall be likely going to Warsaw and Cracow  
for Intern. Cong. Hist. Sci. (where Stearn and  
Verdoorn are to speak) you may not wish to make  
that leg of the journey? 21-day excursion fare  
return London: \$484.50--Paris: 526.30. I shall  
be working mostly at BM(NH) but then there will  
be some time for touring about, I am sure.

I am leaving NY about 10-11 Aug. and returning 31st  
probably; I had thought of possibly flying from SF  
over the pole via KLM but I think I should come back  
to La. (if we do go to Calif. in June) and spend July  
here, where now there is air-conditioning and a good  
place to work. Dord finishes at Norman and we shall  
certainly be going there for her commence. and may  
continue on to see bot. stuff and family fluff in  
LA and SF areas. If you cannot see your way to go  
to Europe in Aug. perhaps we could see each other,  
en route/in Calif./or whatever doth please you?

Nesta and I think you are very wise to stand by for  
station identification at MBG, for, honestly, there is  
a chance that matters may be more tolerable than you  
can foresee. After that, really you should give Hunt  
an ear for I think George would find you very much to  
his liking and surely his needs! and that you would  
have a cosy antiquarian spot in his heart of the Hunt.

With all the best!

TP110-47

Joe

Ewan

TULANE UNIVERSITY  
College of Arts and Sciences  
NEW ORLEANS 18

Department of Botany

March 20, 1965

Dear George:

Yours of 16th was its usual welcome packet of news and views. First last: No rush about deciding on Europe; the tickets and reservations will be OK for another two months I would say. Better and less expensive (in combination) rooms in London will be gone after about May 20th for August bookings. I think you would be happy you went for it is a great thrill to meet the chaps over there. The Meriden Gravure folks have written there is no doubt about the company representative being ready at the launching pad betw. August 10-21. So the London dates are set in any event for me. You may decide to make it an English trip this time in which event we might arrange to fly back together after I return from Warsaw about 30/31st.

I absolutely agree with you about the dates keeping off title pages--Why don't you write a good strong short article, with examples, for TAXON? You should, you know. This will enlist the support of others, some, anyhow. You have mine!

That the Theleporaceae papers are in demand is witness of the booming library business! I marvel I succeed in getting any books I need on antiquarian market in the face of all this seething activity!

I appreciate your helping Lubricht for the very good reason that if I join forces with them for this reprinting of American bot. classics I shall need firm support from all the Georges!

Most interesting account of Du Pinet in 1st and 2nd editions! You must do an illustrated story of all this for some bibliog. journal; Huntia of course would be fine. As for vagaries in prices I am sure it is just what the bloke who does the prices decides to ask at the brink of printing the cat. There are too many enormous differences in cat prices these days to be explained in any logical way. Old Heller, for example, is preying on those who just don't rub down with BM dressing and believe the old bookbag.

You will be interested in Waldo Schmitt's nice letter which please send back at your convenience. My reply in blind carbon is yours of course.

I have just rec'd nice 4-volume set of T. Martyn ed. of Miller, Gard. Dict. which has a very good intro. on bot. lit up to that date. Only Marshall's Arb. amer. 1785 seems to be included for American spp.!

With all the best!

Tob

Ewan

TULANE UNIVERSITY  
College of Arts and Sciences  
NEW ORLEANS 18

Department of Botany

19 March 1965

Dr. Jerry Stannard  
Rutgers--the State University  
Newark 2, N.J.

Dear Jerry:

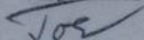
It was a pleasure to hear from you the other day and your kind words of my evangelism on behalf of the history of botany among the botanick tribe are generous indeed and I can only hope modestly deserved.

Well, Jerry, I shall not be in Urbana in August for the meetings, nor if plans materialize in the country. I expect to be in London from about August 10/11th for about two weeks, assisting the Meriden Gravure folks in the copying of the Willaim Bartram drawings at the BM(NH). Then, D.V., I shall be in Warsaw/Cracow for the International Congress of the History of Science after that. I am sorry about this conflict of schedules for it would be a pleasure to give a paper on your program, and I should surely relish the occasion, not to mention the opportunity of talking over many matters biohistorical with you.

Mrs. Ewan will not be going to Europe this summer, I am sorry to say for she is a great source of fun and profit -- like David Starr Jordan's taxonomy of biologists' wives as critics on the hearth -- and I wish she might fill the spot on the program, as you imaginatively suggest, but she things she must not attempt it with matters still very lively (or deadly, as matters may prove) in seeing Banister to the Press.

However, keep us informed of the proceedings for though I resigned from the Society many years ago when their physiological fare was too steady for my taxonomic palate, I am keen about the history of botany!

Very sincerely,

  
Joseph Ewan

cc: G. B. VanSchaack

Ewan

TULANE UNIVERSITY

College of Arts and Sciences

NEW ORLEANS 18

Department of Botany

20 March 1965

Dr. Waldo L. Schmitt  
Smithsonian Institution  
Washington, D. C. 20560

Dear Waldo:

Your letter of 12th was a very heart-warming experience for both of us. We think it will be an important book and almost certainly not a book to be rewritten very soon after its publication. Perhaps this is the most comforting angle to the annoyances that the University of Wisconsin Press have raised. Last summer's work in England was most rewarding for it gave us a chance to reexamine some of the materials which look different when you know more about the subject--strange to realize the filtering processes of the human mind. The book has metamorphosed from many pressures; the first being the demand that the original prose was too telegraphic. Of course our first thought was cost of printing but they thought (the Press) that we should expand the text, and this has been a wise decision but a very tedious job peppered with the risks of making errors in the process.

We are delighted that you would like to peruse the invertebrate material. Shortly we shall have the ribbon copy in hand and can send along the text for molluscs and insects.

For the fate of the Missouri Botanical Garden there is only sad sad news I am afraid. George Van Schaack has been so whipped with the long battle over the directorship fought between the few competent members of the Board and a few incompetent persons at the Washington University Department of Botany that he has doubtless not had the opportunity to write you about recent events. A biophysicist by the name of Gates who has for the past twenty years worked at a physical institute, wholly unknown in the botanical world, has been appointed Director! It is too unreal to believe but must be accepted as a fact! You are quite right when you remark that the MBG has one of the greatest potential roles to play in this country! Harvard has a brain separated from its living body now with the Arnold Arboretum coils, and books in Cambridge, the living plants at Jamaica Plain, and the dear old Gray Herbarium Botanic Garden sacrificed to a housing project. Yes, the MBG still has a brain and a body but the library of the MBG is I believe richer in the priceless pre-Linnaean works than any institution save Harvard. And, importantly! the materials are together, side by side, with pitiful crowding but what riches!

Thanks! Waldo for the kind words about my possibly tackling the Directorship. I should dearly love to try on my next reincarnation. Who knows?

Cordially yours,

Jo h Ewan

TULANE UNIVERSITY  
College of Arts and Sciences  
NEW ORLEANS 18

Department of Botany

Tues. 8 August 1961

Dear George:

Pritzel evidently considers Fuchs, 3139, quite distinct from 3138 but Wilhelm Junk (50 Jahre Antiquar, 's-Grevenhage, 1949, 175--a work which you should have at MBG, sells for c. \$4.25) considers the 1543 a transl. of the 1542 work. It is interesting to note that Junk votes them the finest woodcuts of the 16th century.

Here's the Dunal, Monographie . . . des Anonacees (Paris, 1817), Pritzel 2505, in a rather poor Contoura print. Fantasy, yes, but none-the-less a most interesting graphic if incipient phylogeny and I think worthy of a little note for annals of botanical historical commentary. Would easily make up into a zinco cut. I did not check Bradley, Bib. to see if AA has copy--if, indeed, MBG does not--but AA could supply a good photoprint at reasonable price. Done at Fogg Museum down from the Botany Bldg. on Divinity Street, for all Harvard's divisions. This Conoura print made from copy at Conserv. bot. at Geneve.

I presume you have a copy of

Scudder, Samuel H. Catalogue of Scientific Serials. . . . 1633-1876.  
(Cambridge, 1879)

which if you have among your wants I would communicate to you.

At moment I think we should stop at Newberry on the way south in Sept. so we may yet see you in St Louis en route. Also Madison could claim a little eddy in our course; I've not met Stauffer there tho I've corresp. with him. He could be helpful in placing the Banister ms.

Head of McGill U Press is now in London town conferring with Averil Lysaght, co-author of the Banks Newfld. Lab. diary under their consideration. I hope they decide to do it for they 1) should by regional interest and by 2) Library holdings in Banksiana. So far they have warmly nuzzled the idea and cum spiro spero.

Incidentally, the ill. for Banister made up from BM(~~XX~~) Sloane mss. microfilm look fine and should help in thumping for its acceptance among the eye-minded editors. We are hoping, incidentally, to see McDermott in St. Louis--I'm writing him now to see how the European hegira came off.

Hastily but heartily,

Joe Swan

Sept. 8th

We plan to arr. in Minneapolis Friday am/ and see Dr. Moe at 1 p.m. and will be in city over that week-end at least.

Linn. H. J. *Phycogonites equata*,  
Jussieu. Acta Bot. Hort.  
2: 153-194. 1936.

MONOGRAPHIE

DE LA FAMILLE

DES ANONACÉES;

PAR

MICHEL-FRANÇOIS DE

D. M. M.

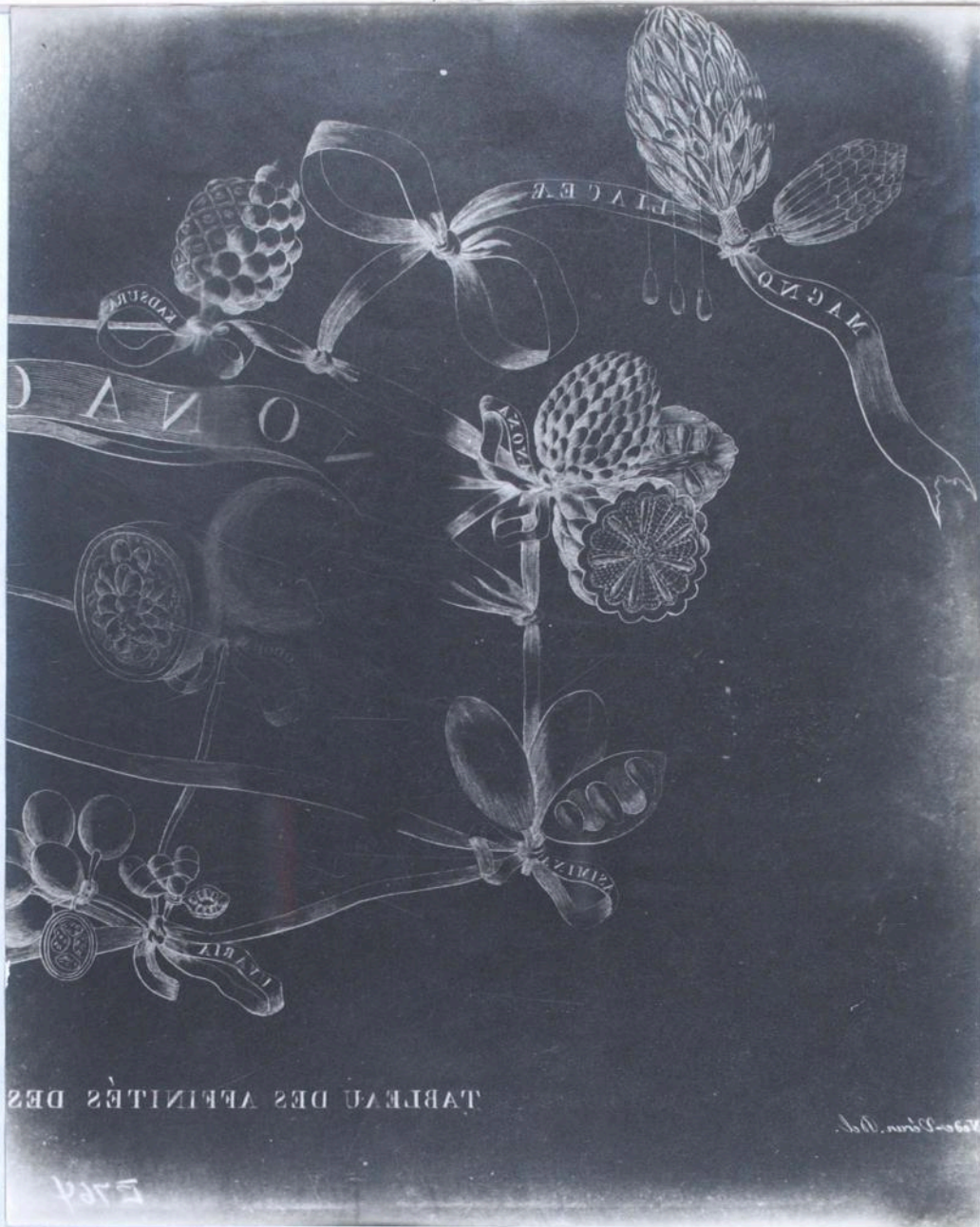
UN VOLUME IN-4. AVEC TRENTE-CINQ PLANCHES.

A PARIS, chez TREUTTEL ET WURTE, rue de Bourbon, n. 17.  
A LONDRES, même Maison de Commerce, 30, rue de la Harpe.  
A STRASBOURG, même Maison de Commerce, rue des Serronniers, n. 30.  
A BRUXELLES, chez RENAUD, Libraire, à la Grand' rue.

1817.

F 262





Zaluzanský, Adam.

Methodi Herbariae ... Prague, 1592.

v. Prag.

1555 v. M. 1613

Hradisti  
- 8. XII. 1613

Flora 1831: 225-236.

TULANE UNIVERSITY

NEW ORLEANS, LA. 70118

Department of Biology

February 6, 1966

Dear George:

Regret I did not have a chance to get this off before this. Do let me know if I have missed supplying what you had in mind. I shall rewrite and post at once.

We are in pursuit of a cytogeneticist, and this all takes time. As the senior ranking fac. member who is participating in the search I naturally am rather more involved than the others. As you know Gene Newcomb, who is an ace teacher! fails to meet the 'image' of the research fac. member and has not been retained. If you should hear of an opening, say at Oberlin or somewhere where a fine person and excellent teacher who happens not to be nor care to be a research man, do let me know or have the party write here directly to him. PhD, Calif., in genetic population study of Pinus. Tomorrow Nesta and I take Dr. Marvin Alvarez, from Fla. to supper and back here for a seminar afterwards, and this of course goes on.

Thanks, so much, for yours of Dec. 23rd, re Lex. Gesch. der Naturw.

Did you see L. C. Harper cat. 25? 28, Ger. ed. P. Miller Figures for \$750. sounds very interesting. Does MEG have it? 30. Trew, you may wish to make note of. 7 of the 10 decuriae only; at \$750.

19. Colonna, Phytobasanos, 1592, for \$585 is surely a high figure for the book is really not rare. FWPennell had a copy--I am sure it was not the second ed.--which was consumed in the fire that burned his home to the ground after his death but while Anne was still living there. I had priced the books for her prior to her putting them up for sale and they were all wiped out. Their life was full of tragedies.

Sargent letters in Jörn Arbor. in 4 install. was put into a paper cover for distr. to Friends of the Arboretum. My parcel was divided into 2 lots and one is lost in REA delivery--a grave disappointment. Now I must screen the recipients with real stringency.

Lawrence meeting of the Midwest Junto, Hist. of Sci. Soc. meets April 1-2 and we shall be leaving here either Tues. night, March 29th, or perhaps Th. 24th and make a more extended stay en route. I have never been to the U K campus and there should be much there to interest us. Quite apart from D&S etc. etc. Hope you can plan to come over for the meetings. I plan to review Arb. Amer. of Marshall, in hist. of Amer. bot.

Hafner is to announce the Classica Botanica Americana series soon. I think it should be good sport. So far I have found Lubrecht very congenial spirit. Inter. Doc. Inst. announced Michaux and Nuttall reprints but Frans Stafleu ~~steps~~ steps down on these; he will go ahead with paper on Fr. colls. of Michaux but not the reprint of his Flora.

Still no decision from HUF on Banister but Elder wrote a warm letter welcoming the ms. Probably it will be some months yet. Who can Elder find to read the blessed thing?

Mrs. Verdoorn writes us that she and the committee like my paper on American sources of Linnaeus, that Frans is still quite unaware of what is going on, and that Brill in Leiden is going to publish the book. I am pleased with that.

GHML is back from S Am. but he has been too occupied to write about my Lobb for Huntia 3. It took a lot of work.

I am so pleased with your note of last December anent my sparking your attention to the content of your books and what it has meant to you! That is fine. I am tremendously/that you took my suggestion. /happy

That old hand press sounds wonderful! Imagine doing Banister in a limited ed.?

I hate to bother you for anything so trivial but the Abrege des Trans. Phil. missed pp. 100-01 and I would be grateful to have that settled.

I wonder if there is a copy of Zaluziansky, Methodi (Prague, 1592)= Pritzel 10439 in USA? One of my students in Hist. Biol. class reported A. Dürer drew for him but the ref. cannot now be recovered. Nissen says nothing on this point.

Here is a copy of the Hafner News with my little essay. If you have one pass it on.

Marjorie is in SFState College, hurrah! Nesta is fine and would want to be remembered, with warm affection as always,

Joe ✓

CRITICAL NOTES ON RIPLEY COE BIRD BIBLIOG

1) Introd. says notes on reprints of voyages & travels, e.g. Hakluyt Soc. publs., omitted. Though this is usual I feel we may be making a mistake to do so since the reprints are tools, more modern tools, of the research worker and will themselves become sought for & easily overlooked.

cf Solon Buck, Travel & Desc. 1765-1865, Cochs. Ill. State Hist. Lib. IX. Bibliog. Ser. II, 1914. Where such reprints are noted under appropriate entries.

2) Introd. also says children's books omitted. Here I think discretion should be used - selective judgment & some titles included for their worth. Mayne Reid, for example, wrote novels on base of historical materials; one on life of John Lyon as collector, etc. In 1821 appeared a children's story book, w/ 7 beautiful ill. based on travel narratives, incl. Kussenstein, Kotzebue, Wied Neu-Wied, Prince Maximilian, etc. almost year the originals appeared! Just this interest in the

original works reflected in another area is of real interest to us as historians.

- 3) Introd. says rather than leader's name of expedition the name of author of each section is key word. I should vote to do this but with extreme care to enter by X-ref. name of expedition as for example, both Macloskey, George, & Princeton Patagonian Expedition, see Macloskey, G.
- 4) Biographical works about a botanist: place at end of botanist's works as well as by author of biog. in regular sequence.
- 5) Introd. says when "single notable contrib. item appeared in a serial, such as in the reports of geological surveys," item entered under author. But F.M. Chapman's "Bio-life of Colombia" Bull. Am. Mus. N. H. surely should have been listed. Seems to me to add such items is most desirable. Both-length and wholly as important as his other whole-titles given.
- 6) p. 185 LEE, IDA appears on t.p. but not so entered but only under MARRIOTT. I think this is unfortunate. Use of bibliog. by

experienced & unexperienced is good to be sought.  
I think parts of entry are good. I would use Whittell, 95 and omit cumbersome ref. to Whittell title for quotation.

p. 304 WALLACE, A.R. Island life ed. 2 was considerably amplified by T.D.A. Cocheull and should be listed separately apart from inclusive phrase "various other editions." Some editions merit special notice and no part decision to lump all subsequent editions makes sense to me.

p. 314 A.L.S. entered under books in chron. position but I'm not sure this is best way to handle ms. materials - Better to enter separately apart from printed items

p. 314 Commentary on WOLF, JOHANN - "A remarkable work - etc." should be indulged more often, I think. I have impression you intend to indulge (?).

p. 148 Sparrman's ownership of T. J.'s Notes by presentation points up need for indexing provenance by name e.g. Sparrman, A -

In short, index of names mentioned in the annotations should be planned for

GENERAL REMARKS

- a) Items should be numbered thru-out. This aids quick reference of any series of titles - as Pritzel, the value of guide for citations is very real.
- b) Commentary printed in same type size is not as good as when contrasting. I realize when typed as lithoprint job this is not possible - all more reason why items should be numbered.
- c) Two-column format is not as good for bibliographies as full page width! This is very real in quick use. Compare any bibliog. so printed (e.g. Mazzeo catalogues, etc.) w) two-column jobs for this format.

J. Swann 5/11/62

ANDREW ALVERSON (1845-1916) OF CALIFORNIA  
AND HIS *CACTUS CATALOGUE*

(With 2 plates and 2 figures)

BY  
JOSEPH EWAN

*Reprinted from the Journal of the Society for the Bibliography of Natural  
History, Volume 4, Part 3, November 1963. Pp. 170-177*

## TULANE UNIVERSITY

Department of Botany

Date October 6, 1965To GeorgeFrom JoeSubject: Sugelmann in New Mexico in 1835

Remarks: Dillon writes asking about GE in NM in 1835 & I am fascinated by his ignorance in this regard - or has this year been put on record? Really a terra incognita awaits the biographer who will do Sugelmann. A good biog. might highlight St. Louis & its real destiny as seat of one of great brain gardens of the world. I wish I knew who could be encouraged to discover GE.

Dr. Wislizenus came into GE's life after 1835, I presume, but he would have been excited to hear about the trip to Santa Fe.

xerox for  
George

Altamont  
Mill Valley

9 25 65

Joe Ewan  
Tulane

Dear Joe:

Could the man who signed himself simply "E" in articles in the *Anzeiger des Westens*, Dec 17 and 24, 1835 have been George Engelmann? He ("E") was on the trip to Santa Fe with John Sutter in the spring-summer of 1835. I'd sure like identify "E". Josiah Gregg is no help, nor Susan McKelvey. The articles were titled "Ein Handelszug nach Santa Fe."

Zollinger, in his biography of Sutter, guesses that "E" might be Engelmann. All correspondence of Engelmann which I have seen, with Gregg, &c, is much later--the '40's.

Any ideas?

Thanks!

cordially



Dick Dillon

Carlson for George

TULANE UNIVERSITY  
College of Arts and Sciences  
NEW ORLEANS 18

30 September 1965

Department of Botany

Richard Dillon  
3 Altamont  
Mill Valley, California

Dear Dick:

I wish I might be more helpful with your query re the "E" who accompanied John Sutter in 1835 to Santa Fe. George T. Moore, who wrote the Engelmann sketch for the DAB, remarks in vague language of a trip to the Southwest in 1835, which gives credence to the "E" being Engelmann. I have no hint of this Santa Fe trip in any other connection. It has never come to my prior notice. Susan Delano McKelvey would surely have noticed it; see her Bot. Explor. of the Trans-Miss. West, 1790-1850. (You should acquire a copy for the Sutter Library if you do not have a copy). E. P. Bornsheim, who is not to be taken very seriously I may say, mentions this 1835 trip and rules out Santa Fe (New Eng. Jour. Med. 266:1293-1295. June 6, 1963.)

I shall keep at this knotty query and write a little later.

Returned just after Detsy--Nesta was in the house alone that night-- from a month's trip to Poland and England. Very profitable indeed.

In haste, with all  
good wishes!

Joseph Ewan

Against the "E" being Engelmann is the fact that no letter from John Sutter appears in the large corresp. of Englemann preserved at the Mo. Bot. Garden. If he had travelled with him, or known him, I would think he might have kept in touch, ever so lightly. Esp. after the gold strikes?

*Dupl for George*  
SOCIEDAD MEXICANA DE HISTORIA DE LA CIENCIA Y DE LA TECNOLOGIA

DR. VERTIZ 724

TEL. 19-16-33

MEXICO 12, D. F.

MEXICO

27 de septiembre de 1965

Dr. Joseph Ewan,  
Tulane University  
New Orleans, La. - U.S.A.

El mes de septiembre de 1963 por iniciativa de la Sociedad Mexicana de Historia Natural, y con la cooperación de la Asociación Mexicana de Historiadores, se reunió en la ciudad de México el PRIMER COLOQUIO MEXICANO DE HISTORIA DE LA CIENCIA donde se presentaron un total de 56 trabajos relacionados con la historia de la ciencia y la tecnología en América Latina que se publicaron -con ilustraciones- en las MEMORIAS DEL PRIMER COLOQUIO MEXICANO DE HISTORIA DE LAS CIENCIAS 1964, 2 volúmenes (1)

Dado el éxito alcanzado en el COLOQUIO, se tomó la determinación de formar una agrupación permanente, la cual quedó constituida con el nombre de SOCIEDAD MEXICANA DE HISTORIA DE LA CIENCIA Y DE LA TECNOLOGIA, cuya primera Mesa Directiva, para el trienio 1965-68 se integró en la siguiente forma: Presidente, Dr. Enrique Beltrán, Director del Instituto Mexicano de Recursos Naturales Renovables, Secretario Perpetuo de la Sociedad Mexicana de Historia Natural; Vicepresidente, - Dr. J. Joaquín Izquierdo, Profesor Emérito de la Universidad de México, miembro de la Academie International d'Histoire des Sciences: -- Secretario General, Dr. Germán Somolinos d'Ardois, de la Academia Nacional de Medicina; Secretario de Actas, Dr. Francisco Martínez Cortés, Presidente de la Sociedad Mexicana de Historia de la Medicina; Tesorero, Dr. Samuel Fastlicht, Presidente de la Academia Mexicana de Estomatología.

La SOCIEDAD MEXICANA DE HISTORIA DE LA CIENCIA Y DE LA TECNOLOGIA celebra dos períodos anuales de sesiones en primavera y otoño, - respectivamente, cuyos resultados se publicarán en sus ANALES. La primera reunión se llevó a cabo el mes de marzo de 1965 alrededor -- del tema "Instituciones Científicas de México. I Centros de Investigación" estando actualmente en prensa el número de los ANALES en que aparecerán los trabajos relativos.

La SOCIEDAD MEXICANA DE HISTORIA DE LA CIENCIA Y DE LA TECNOLOGIA se complace en dar a conocer su constitución a las personas interesadas en el campo que cultiva, con quienes espera mantener estrechas relaciones, ofreciendo el envío de los anuncios de sus actividades a todos aquellos que deseen recibirlos y que contesten a la presente enviando su dirección postal correcta. La SOCIEDAD agradecería también el donativo de obras o separatas para la Biblioteca - que pretende establecer; igualmente consideraría la posibilidad de incluir en sus sesiones, y publicar luego en sus ANALES los trabajos

SOCIEDAD MEXICANA DE HISTORIA DE LA CIENCIA Y DE LA TECNOLOGIA

DR. VERTIZ 724

TEL. 19-16-33

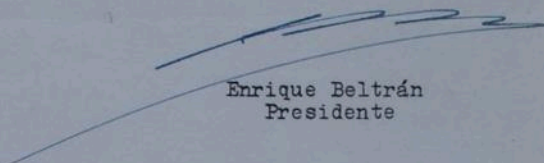
MEXICO 12, D. F.

MEXICO

-2-

que sobre temas de historia de la ciencia y tecnología se le remitan, preferentemente los que se refieran a temas hispano-americanos.

Esperando contar a usted entre el número de personas relacionadas con nuestra corporación -y agradeciendo de antemano el eventual obsequio de sus publicaciones- aprovecho la oportunidad para enviarle nuestros más cordiales y atentos saludos



Enrique Beltrán  
Presidente

(1)

"Memorias del Primer Coloquio Mexicano de Historia de la Ciencia" 1965 dos volúmenes ilustrados, I, VI-406, II, V-434. Precio: en México, \$ 100.00 moneda nacional; en el extranjero Dlls. 10.00 moneda norteamericana. Los pedidos que lleguen acompañados de su importe se remiten libres de porte, por correo certificado a cualquier parte del mundo.

## TULANE UNIVERSITY

Department of Botany

New Orleans

70118

Date October 25, 1965

To George

From Joe

Subject: ET SAT HERE A—long enough

Remarks: 1) This from his Grace belongs to you of course. I made a careful verbal insistence on down but I felt sure it would probably not be noticed

2) Have sent Brinster off to Yale UP Cera spiro spero!  
Cancelled contract w/ Wisc UP.

3) George HML & wife coming down just after Xmas En route to West Indies by ship.

4) Working to get Verdorn Chap. for Feetschneifs done but so hard to work w/out being stopped

- 5) Have heard nothing from Iltis but I shall do my best.
- 6) I read Guatemala TN bookscript & returned it w/ many notes. She is much overcome by HERO worship for TN (he never quite makes TNT)
- 7) I have been asked to read the Lawrence Symposium of 1964 papers by KUPress.
- 8) 22 students taking Hist. Biol. and closed enrollment there.
- 9) Will write re Iltis' encyclical soon.
- 10) Would you look for me, please in Gerard, Herball, 1597, for Morus rubra, Red mulberry, which must be an introd. before Fuchsian. Need the info for his Verdone chapter

Gerard's Catalogus (1599) mentions  
"Panicum rubrum Americium  
Red Panicke"

What grass would this likely be?  
Johnson Grass? It is the only  
grass in the Catalogus of American  
origin and as such is interesting.  
Perhaps Sturtevant annotated  
entry in MBG copy?

"1) you may have rec'd Beltrán  
letter - I have two so do not  
return.

Hope you are  
feeling fine,  
Cordially,  
Joe

TULANE UNIVERSITY

NEW ORLEANS, LA. 70118

Department of Biology

23 March 1970

Oscar H. Soule  
Missouri Botanical Garden  
St Louis 63110

Dear Dr. Soule:

> In reply to your call for info on George Engelmann and esp his possible visit to the Gila River in period betw 1832-35, I have taken the trouble to review my notes and the published accounts of several authors -- largely repetitive -- and I cannot find any support for such a visit. It seems hard to account for the time necessary for such a trip at that decade in American history, with his arrival ind U S and setting up practice squeezing the years at both ends. I would appreciate a xerox of the pertinent pp of Edgar Anderson's statement in the Washington U Bulletin that you mention.

I regret that my copy of G. K. Farris, Channology, mentioned on p. 158 of Short History, is not at hand but I feel sure you will find the ref to the 1861 plant pathology paper of GE mentioned therein. Presumably it concerned the Downy mildew of grapes, as you suggest.

No, I am not preparing an itinerary of GE's travels, as Hugh Cutler thought, but I am trying to recheck the info in the several accounts of Rocky Mountain Naturalists (1950) toward a second edition. To that end I shall be indeed glad to have your corrigenda et addenda as they may come to your notice. There is a real need for a full length biography of Engelmann and his associates, Wislizenus and the many many persons he befriended. Your contribution on his interest in cacti should be a useful chapter if not more.

I am sure you have noticed the anonymous article in the MBC Bulletin for May, 1962? "Formative Days of Mr. Shaw's Garden," and L. E. Newton's, in Nat. Cactus & Succ Jour 17(3): 43-45. 1962?

Very sincerely,

Joseph Ewan  
Prof. of Biology

✓ be: George Van Schaack

TULANE UNIVERSITY

NEW ORLEANS, LA. 70118

AC 504 865-6226

Department of Biology

9 October 1973

Dear George,

American Scientist sept-oct, 61:544-547. 1973, has an article on Möbius Band in Roman Mosaics which as you see from my letter to the author has caught my attention. My question to you is this sentence:

"Although the torus, another structure associated with modern topology and commonly illustrated with the inner tube, was known and described, interest in it did not go beyond the plane of Euclidean geometry" p. 547.

Now I have commented, with certain pleasure, on the use of torus as used by Linnaeus and his times as the marriage bed where stamens and pistils sported themselves, as genitalia were wont to do. Have I been conjuring up this image all these happy years? I do not see the any reference to this use in the Random House Dict at hand but have not checked in the OED on this head or bed. As a retired topologist what do you say to Lorraine, as a biologist -- she teaches at Univ Mass at Boston, dept biology.

Does she have more than an inner tube to lie on?

Cheers!!

Joe  
Joseph Ewan

TULANE UNIVERSITY

College of Arts and Sciences

NEW ORLEANS 18

Department of Botany

9 October 1973

Dr. Lorraine L. Larison  
Dept of Biology  
University of Massachusetts  
Boston 02116

Dear Dr. Larison:

Your article in the recent American Scientist on "The Möbius Band in Roman Mosaics" struck a note for me. I have long been interested in the history of biological concepts as reflected in contemporary art as well as written or printed texts. So your report reminded me of Roman mosaics in Kent, England, which I visited some years ago in company with a botanist at the BM(NH), John Cannon. I am sending herewith two postcards purchased at the villa. On card "P.2" I think I recognize your Möbius Band. I have made 2x2 kodachromes from these postcards and you may wish to follow my use of this example of Roman biology in transit. Of course you are most welcome to use these in any printed report you may desire.

If you should/reprints for distribution I would be pleased to have a copy to circulate in my History of Biology class to supplement my copy of the journal.

/have

Please convey my greetings to Garrison Wilkes,

Sincerely yours,

Joseph Evan  
Ida A. Richardson  
Prof. of Botany

## TULANE UNIVERSITY

College of Arts and Sciences

NEW ORLEANS 18

Department of Botany

15 September 1973

Dear Carla:

We wished several times that we might have lingered longer in your precincts last June! In any event, I have a query:

First orchid from foreign parts grown in England, according to W. Blunt, is Blattia variegata (see p. 133 of his Art Bot III) Now this was a plant grown from herbarium collection sent from New Providence, Bahamas, by \_\_\_\_\_ y/? Mark Catesby? or collected by MC and sent by someone for him ?? Admiral Sir Charles Wager (1666-1743) was a friend of Peter Collinson, patron of MC, and Wager evidently had a garden at Fulham. From what I make of it Wager removed the carnosus (testiculeid) root from the specimen and wagered it would grow and lo! it did. Now comes my query: please look at John Martyn, HISTORIA PLANTARUM RARIORUM, 1728, in your libr. and examine for me pl. 48, captioned Galleberine americana. Can you tell from the text what was the source of that drawing? Was it a plant sent from Bahamas by MC and grown in English garden and drawn from the fresh flower? As far as I put bits together there is no record it was Catesby; I am about to suggest, in print, that it may very well have been his prize. He does not include it, however, in his Natural History, so far as I can detect.

As you may recall I am drawing up the finding index of all the plant and animal names for the reprint of Catesby, as commented on in this NOTES notice. Steinhauer Press is doing the press work and it is beautiful. Fricke has brought forth a good intro which I have read in galley. You have the orig Catesby but there could be a real value in having a copy around town. Cheers!

Very grateful to you for this favor,

Cordially,

Joseph Ewan  
Ida A Richardson  
Prof. of Botany

bc: GBVanSchaack

When I said Steinhauer is doing the presswork, I refer to the intro by Fricke, my index, or the packing to accompany the reprint of the original pages. Four pp. to be grouped as a page after the fifty plates in color have been selected from the 220 pls. So the text of the original will be complete and handy to read.

TULANE UNIVERSITY

NEW ORLEANS, LA. 70118

Department of Biology

17 April 1974

Dear George:

Yours of March 16th was read and reread -- delighted to hear from you. I imagine you rec'd Wm Lobb paper that I sent some time ago? I hope it arrived. My note for the Nissen Festschrift 'tastefully bound' referred to the attractive green cover for its kind, and should not have been hooked to (nicely oversewn)-- which must be edition sewing. I shall be interested to know what technically it proves to be when you see it.

Can you clarify this order slip inclosed? Surely a 1972 book is not o.p.?? Could you without extreme unction(or somewhat less)determine what is so strange about this Ashland imprint?

We are not sure what the Calironia schedule may be. I surely hope we may be able to see you but the week between N.O. and Honolulu is obviously going to be a fast week, and if we can come to Eugene it will be on the weekend of May 18th, and we now plan to fly from S.F. on 20th. Air schedules are being altered, too, and this may confound. Cum spiro spero.

vale!

Joe

The last six articles deal with man in the tropical forests. Especially absorbing is Megger's recounting of distinct social organizations of two Amazonian Indian tribes.

From these diverse papers, several important facts emerge. One is the accentuated richness of species in the rainforests of South America compared to Africa. A second is the importance of historical factors in determining the present complexity of an ecosystem.

The proposed purpose of the symposium was to point out convergences in tropical forests in the two continents and to emphasize problems of adaptations which the constituent plants and animals face. Stated in this way, most of the papers fail to achieve these aims. In part this failure is due to the fact that most of the contributors are systematists and not ecologists. It is in the comprehensiveness of the taxonomic and biogeographical data and that volume excels. The editors perhaps could have found a more appropriate title for the book.

Except for this one drawback there are a few other minor detractions. Nowhere, except perhaps in Amaden's paper on birds, is there a map of the areas treated nor is the "tropical forest" ever defined. Moreover, especially for one not schooled in geography, it is difficult to visualize the localities mentioned in the different papers. Also, several terms such as "white water," "black water," "terre ferme," etc., are mentioned long before they are explained. A good, general introductory chapter would have been useful.

All in all, the collection is interesting and most of the articles are well written and presented. Because of the comprehensiveness of the reviews, the volume is a necessity for any evolutionary biologist interested in the flora and fauna of the lowland forested areas of tropical South America and Africa. The reasonable price of the paperback copy should, moreover, put it well within everyone's reach.

Beryl B. Simpson  
Smithsonian Institution

MORWOOD, WILLIAM. *Traveler in a Vanished Landscape. The Life & Times of David Douglas, Botanical Explorer.* Clarkson N. Potter, Inc., New York, 1973. 244 pp. \$7.95.

To most Americans Douglas suggests a "fir", to the Scot, a pungent red currant blooming in city squares, to the Briton, gay yellow lupines coloring gardens along the Thames. Actually Douglas was the answer of the hour: a Scot who discovered for botany and horticulture hundreds of plants in many a "vanished landscape" of the Pacific Northwest and California, who zealously collected seeds and plant specimens, tramped, canoed, and voyaged with his dog Billy, braved bears and arrows, until on the slopes of Mauna Kea he "expired in the arms of victory."

The power of the Douglas story has been tremendous. From a partial journal of his travels — that for the most significant period was lost in British Columbia's Red Rock Rapids — a few surviving letters to his mentor Hooker and his encourager Joseph Sabine, and a single portrait, have come books and accounts about Douglas by Barnston (1860), Alice Coats (1970), Eifer (1965), Harvey (1947), W. J. Hooker (1836), J. T. Howell (1937), Jepson (1933), Murray (1931), Rogers (1949) and others not mentioned in Morwood's "selected bibliography." Where does Morwood fit on this bookshelf? None of these authors

history. He tells as the jacket promises, "a good adventure story which, in effect, Douglas's life was." With many a felicitous turn of phrase the life and times of David Douglas are related in twelve chapters, with no documentation, but with a familiarity born of the author's residence in California.

It is when Morwood strays from Douglas's path that he stumbles historically. Thomas Nuttall was not the first botanist to collect west of the Mississippi. The Lewis and Clark expedition lost a collection made on the westward journey, but on the return recollected specimens classic in American botany and described by Pursh. To say that the Lewis collections had been "spirited away through neglect and larceny" is a journalistic breeze. Professor Barton's neglect and the opportunism of Pursh — who departed for England, not Germany, and certainly was not destined for a "niche in the pantheon of infamy" — involved relationships clearly not comprehended by Morwood. That the publication of English plant descriptions in Nuttall's *Genera* "shocked conventional botanist," or that Old Curious "never minded shocking people" anyway, sounds odd indeed. The naming of the legume *Hosackia* brought dubious immortality to the gentle generous New York physician since it is now but an obscure synonym of the genus *Lotus*. Wild oats (*Avena fatua*), as a Mediterranean weed was introduced into California during the early mission period, according to Samuel Bonsall Parish, quite full fifty years before Douglas noted it near Mission Santa Clara in 1832.

Morwood laces the story with probabilities: "again we must deal in probabilities" (p. 115), "if Douglas ever saw a bull-and bear fight, it was that summer at Mission San Jose" (p. 168), etc. Chief of these probabilities is that of Douglas's falling in love with the "dark lady of the Chinook," fathering a child by her and her early death and burial at sea, events not heretofore vouchsafed by any of Douglas's biographers.

California botanists will notice Morwood's oversight of *Paeonia californica*, a second endemic peony of the North American continent (cf. p. 84). Incidentally, anyone wishing to sidestep strictures on the reproduction of any part of the book may find that most of the line drawings illustrating this Douglas story were published at the turn of the century by Mary Elizabeth Parsons in her highly successful *Wild Flowers of California*; for example, the peony of p. 83 is from Parsons, p. 347. The easy style of Margaret Warriner Buck, the artist, which meant so much to the public young and old for so long, has not been acknowledged. Line drawings from the *Field Book of Western Wild Flowers* by Margaret (Neilson) Armstrong were also used, without notice. (Morwood, p. 55, orphaned the wintergreen included with salal by Armstrong, p. 343). The writings of Professor Jepson predicated the route of Douglas (cf. p. 171) by means of the ranges of endemic species of California, for example those in the Mt. Diablo region.

Don David El Botanico journeys down the El Camino Real in Chapter Nine at least as far as Santa Barbara. If Morwood's maps interest you, compare it with Susan Delano McKelvey's classic on the Transmississippi West for the travels of Douglas and, importantly, of those who followed him up and down California.

Joseph Ewan  
Tulane University