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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.

as from The School of Rural Economy,
University of Oxford.

21. vii. 28.

Dear Prof. Lames

I should be very grateful indeed if you would let me have a copy of your interesting paper on Carpel Polymorphism. A colleague of mine, Captain A. H. Batten-Pool, & I, are attempting similar work in the Caryophyllaceae & Primulaceae, & we found your paper with Mr. Wilson much more illuminating & clear & reasonable than Miss Saunders' papers. Have you investigated the carpels of the Violaceae? We noted that you figure the conventional three in one of your diagrams; while Miss Saunders claims that there are 6.

Also, I believe you have a paper on "The Vascular Supply to Stamens", but I cannot find the reference to it; I should be very glad if you would let me have it.

Copies of your publications would be very

welcome in my department. Unfortunately,
with teaching, garden work & organisation, I
have very little time for research now, &
cannot promise you many reprints in return,
but I am always ^{very} interested in "keeping up"
with anatomical work.

I hope I am not bothering you too much,
or trespassing on your time.

Yours sincerely,

Helen Bancroft

from Bagnall
The School of Rural Economy
University of Oxford

20. ix. 28.

Dear Prof. Eames

Thank you very much indeed
for your very helpful letter & for Dr. Fisher's
reprint of your own.

I am afraid that our work is going
very slowly; Captain Batten-Pool is
handicapped by war-wounds & ill-health, &
I have a very great deal of teaching,
preparation & essay-correction to do, along
with the many odd jobs which are inevit-
able in a botanical laboratory however
small, if it is to be well-ordered.

I also, have discovered that it is
impossible to interpret floral morphology as a
whole without first understanding the anatomy
of the several kinds of floral organs. I have
read a good deal of the work on this
subject, but feel the necessity of doing a little
investigation for myself.

I have just returned from the British Association Meeting in Glasgow, where I heard Prof. McLean Thompson, speak about the fallacy of attempting to interpret the composition of the gynoecium on its vascular structure, which, he said, meant nothing, at all morphologically & phylogenetically. Miss Saunders replied from her point of view, & attempted to show that the gynoecium of the Leguminosae was composed of two carpels, Prof. McLean Thompson having demonstrated, from a developmental series of sections, that there was one - he disregarded the vascular structure. I couldn't help thinking that a combination of Prof. McLean Thompson's developmental series & Miss Saunders' anatomical investigations were what was needed. Dr. Hamshaw Thomas agreed with Miss Saunders that vascular anatomy of carpels did count for very much; he also agreed with Prof. McLean Thompson that there were not 2 carpels involved in the structure of the legume; his opinion was that there were more likely 3!

I agree — with all respect to Miss Saunders' Seniority; She was my Science "don" at Newnham! — But She has been carried away by her discoveries in the Cruciferae; I cannot see the need for complicating matters in almost every other family because they behave in an unusual manner — it is, as you say, absurd. She now sees a complicated structure in the Spiraeas & maintains that in Filipendula, each of the 5-15 "carpels" is really a whole carpel, one fertile & the other sterile; in other genera of the Spiraea group, — & in the Pomoidae ^{generally} she maintains that the ovaries are composed of 1 sterile, & two $\frac{1}{2}$ fertile, carpels. I revolt at her interpretation of the Primulas as having

G 575

Thank you so much for your offer of help; I hope we shall be able to meet for discussion when you come to England. I greatly look forward to it.

Yours Sincerely,
Helen Bancroft

TELEPHONE OXFORD 3322.

SCHOOL OF RURAL ECONOMY,
UNIVERSITY OF OXFORD.
15. X. 30.

Send
Prof. 1
syllabus
also to
Godfrey

Dear Professor James

I enclose a copy of my elementary syllabus - it is a tremendous amount to have to put into 25 hours lecture & 25 hours practical, but before I made a firm stand about it, there was even more!

Miss Dickson & I were very interested in your paper in the American Journal of Botany; we should be very grateful for copies! We think you may be interested in the enclosed diagrams which Miss Dickson has made of Maucler's theory of no spongy "Septum" until the fruit is well on in its development; then it seems to grow from the placental edges of the inner carpels, as the diagram indicates. The two inner carpels are typically well marked-off from the others & much enclosed.

Miss Dickson is doing the Papaveraceae for her thesis. Mrs. Arber is working at the Rhodadales generally, also. but I think her interpretations are likely to be a little different from Miss Dickson's.

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we should be very grateful for some of that
little plant Sanguinaria, if you can send us
some - we can't get any here.

We have adopted your method of using balsam
in benzol - it certainly does dry more quickly, &
the slides are very satisfactory.

I have an almost free film, so we are
getting as much research as possible done.

With kind regards.

Yours sincerely,

Helen Barcroft

TELEPHONE: OXFORD 3322.

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UNIVERSITY OF OXFORD.

28. X. 31.

from Bancroft

Dear Professor Lames

Very many thanks for your letter
the material of Sanguinaria - it all arrived in
excellent condition; the rhizomes have been planted
in the School Garden & in Miss Dickson's garden;
Some of the flower buds have been embedded & have
cut very well indeed. We are both most
grateful to you for all the trouble you have
taken.

Thank you also very much for looking
after my small manuscript. I feel that if it
is to go into a specifically botanical journal, its
title ought to be "A puzzling discovery of a
capsule of Martynia proboscidea". When I wrote
just "A puzzling discovery," I had in mind
"The Scientific American" or "The Scientific Monthly"
as a place of publication; but something
more botanical would be better for my D.Sc. list;
a good deal of the stuff I have written lately is
in farming & estate journals, & will, I know, be

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Considered too Semi-popular to be mentioned, in spite of the work it has entailed!

The School of Rural Economy is in rather a turmoil - The last Government wanted us to re-organise as a post-graduate School; but the Socialists received such a crushing blow yesterday that we may continue intact! I devoutly hope we shall, for Agriculture & Biology & Soil Science need encouragement in England as never before. One of the Nationalist Policies is, fortinately, the encouragement of Agriculture, so we hope for an influx of Students soon; we had only 11 at the beginning of this term!

Yours sincerely,

Helen Bancroft.

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11. IX. 31.

from Bancroft

Dear Professor Lames

I hope you will forgive my taking up your already very crowded time with the enclosed small note. The naturalisation of this American Martynia in S. Africa is an interesting point - it seems to me, perhaps more interesting to Americans than to English botanists. I should therefore very much like to get it published in an American journal; but am not quite sure which one would be the most likely to take it. I thought at first of "The Scientific American," but we do not have that journal in Oxford, & I have not seen it for a long time, & am not sure of the present style of its articles. If the Chicago Field Museum issues any publication, I think perhaps it would be most suitable there; or perhaps the "Botanical Gazette" might take it? Or would the Torrey Botanical Club consider it? I should really like it to go into some specifically botanical paper, because I want to include it in my list of publications when I apply for my Oxford D.Sc.

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If you would be so very kind as to send it for me where you think it would most likely be published, I should be most grateful.

Miss Dickson's "Floral Anatomy" is proving most interesting - her Papaveroidae paper is almost finished; but we cannot get satisfactory material of *Sanguinaria* - we only succeeded in getting one rather old fruit. The Rhoeadales as a whole, seem to be a rather odd group structurally, & we hope to extend from the Papaveroidae to the rest of them in course of time. So that is to say, the Government will only leave us alone! We have been threatened not only with drastic cuts in our salaries & working expenses, but with complete extinction! We are however, very much hoping that the new National Government will spare us.

I hope I am not troubling you too much with my small paper, but I should be really very grateful if you would help me to get it published. With kind regards. Yours very sincerely -
Helen Sanborn

[P.S. - I have just seen a Chicago Field Museum Bulletin & it seems rather as if the Bulletins are written by their own staff & not by out-siders.]

Ans Feb 19

Dear Professor Lames

The Sanguinaria which you sent to has settled down here well, owing to our very mild winter, I expect we shall soon have a good show of flowers. Our work is going very well, though slowly on account of many other things to be done.

Has that small note of mine in Martynia had any luck yet? I should imagine the "Scientific Monthly" might take it, as they are rather interested in the "geographical", &

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'distributional' aspects of things. - I should be very
grateful if you would send it to them, if it is
not yet placed. The address is

Ware, Catell

(Associate Editor)

Grand Central Terminal,

New York.

They have the Semi-popular paper of mine
at the moment.

Miss Dickson & I are looking forward to your
next Floral Anatomy paper - Miss Saunders is
still carrying on her queer ideas!

With kind regards.

Yours sincerely.

Helen Bancroft

Dear Professor James

Your letter arrived a fortnight ago just as I was at the beginning of a very bad attack of laryngitis - The most painful thing I have ever experienced! I ought to have answered before but I really have not been able. Thank you so much for so very kindly looking after my paper. "Torreya" is just the publication for it; & of course I agree to the omission of the 2 figures. I am used to the request that I should either cut out - or pay extra for figures I'm afraid! It would be most kind if you would read the proofs for me; there are just two points of revision, namely, that it would be better to say that the outer covering of the capsule "Splits" & falls away, instead of "rots away"; & also I have discovered that another popular African name of the creature is "Devil's Claw", which is very expressive, & ought to be noted.

We are much looking forward to the blooming of Sanguinaria; it will probably do better in Miss Dickson's garden than at the School, because

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it is very sheltered & sunny here, under the
old City wall. The School Garden is rather
open & exposed.

I am very interested to hear of your book
on the Morphology of Vascular Plants. I am
sorry it will not be an advanced text, but
at the same time, there is need for an intro-
ductory text along the new lines of morphological
treatment. There undoubtedly has been too much
tendency on the part of teachers to deal with
Morphology as a subject apart, to neglect
the fact that it affects, & is affected by, Physiology.
A very good elementary Zoology text has
comparatively recently been written by Dakin,
of Liverpool, along the lines of Casane
Morphology; & there is no doubt that
botany wants treating in the same way, from
its earliest introduction. I have, these last
two years modified my elementary course very
considerably, making a great point of the
interdependence of form & function - & also making

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much more of practical out-door observation
of such interdependence. I have found that
an elementary course on those lines lays
a much better foundation for an understanding
of crop & grassland problems, ecology &
genetics. It is just possible that, in
the future, I may be taking Biology for the
Geography School, as well as for the
Agriculture School; it will be possible to have
exactly the same elementary treatment for
the two groups, & specialise later. I shall
certainly very much welcome your text-book.

Miss Dickson's thesis is nearing completion,
for we must set a limit to its scope, owing to
the time-limit for the degree. But the work
of course, is interminable, & will last to both
a life-time. She will be showing a most
beautiful evolutionary series of gynaecea at
the British Association this year - from Ranallan
types, such as Aquilegia, through the Papaveroidae

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Hypecoideae, Fumariaceae, Capparidaceae to
 the Cruciferae. We have dreams - which
 unfortunately will not materialise in our
 time, owing to the financial situation - of
 setting up a School of Systematic Anatomy in
 combination with Dr. Barth Dary (Systematist)
 & Dr. Chalk (Wood technologist) of the Forestry
 School. We have material & workers, but
 neither money nor accommodation - if you
 could help they are the holes & corners in which
 we work! - I took an American last term
 to see our laboratory - he was aghast!
 If we were not a good-tempered & cheerful &
 friendly collection of people, on the whole, our
 conditions would be impossible; fortunately, we
 fit on excellently, meeting & discussing our
 Systematic Anatomy whenever we can!
 In the meantime, Miss Dickson is working
 splendidly at her group; & the British
 Museum keeps me supplied with fossil timbers;

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Dr. Burt Davy & Dr. Chalk are swamped
with material, from Africa & India in
particular — Perhaps our work will
be co-ordinated some day! I hope so.

I hope to have some reprints to send
you shortly. Thank you so much for
helping me with my hantaria notes.

Yours sincerely,
Allen Bancroft

Dear Professor Eames
Thank you so very much
for correcting my small paper, & sending it
for me. I am writing to Dr. Hastings
about the reprints.

Sanguinaria flowered quite happily, both
at the laboratory & in Miss Dickson's garden,
although the conditions were not ideal; we have
had a very cold late spring & our warm
weather is only just beginning, rather unusually.
We were very much struck by the Anemone-like
appearance of the flowers.

Miss Dickson is giving an exhibit of a
Ranalian - Rhoeadean series of *Gynaea* at the
British Association at York. & I have been
persuaded to give an account of my African
fossil dipterocarps. I don't much want to
read a paper, but the School is in such a low
water at the moment that I feel one should
do all one can to advertise it a little -
although fossil dipterocarps can hardly be considered

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as Rural Economy! But then Agriculture here
has been my work, except from the purely
teaching point of view, that was very much
of an accident.

I hoped to come to New England this
Summer, but that unfortunately, must wait
for another year.

Very many thanks -

Yours sincerely.

John Bancroft

Wrote
 what I intended
 to say
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A. N. 32.

Dear Professor James

I enclose some recent reprints with many thanks for the help you have given me.

You will be surprised to hear that the Botanical Department of this School is no more! Now agriculture is to be taught with out proper instruction in Botany, I don't know; but the Department of Agriculture having come under Ministerial & University lime-light recently (owing to one of its staff practising forgery & embezzlement to a vast extent), the Institute for Botanical Education. I have decided to do so by "sacking" all its botany staff & concentrating on the more economic & historical aspects of Agriculture.

So Miss Dickson & I are going over to the Imperial Forestry Institute as (for the moment; at any rate) unpaid workers in the systematic anatomy of plants - precisely what we want to do of course! And we hope that in due course stipends for both of us may be forthcoming. In the meantime, however, we have various papers for publication, especially "Some stages in the evolution of Rhoeodalean Gymnoecia" (Miss Dickson's own work); & her thesis on *Glaucom flavum* & the

generally
Papaveroidae will be ready by the end of this
year, or the beginning of next. Our difficulty
is this. The "Annals" & the "New Phytologist" are
over loaded by Mrs Saunders & Mrs. Arber, & are
not anxious to take any other people's work on
the subject of Floral Anatomy; The Linnean
Society has masses of Floral Anatomy work
sent in, & rejected - for the simple reason I
suppose that Mrs Saunders, having constituted
herself the "authority" on such work, is intolerant
of others; & anything which does not fit in with
her ideas has no chance at all; So I have
been advised to send Mrs. Arber's work
there. Our first study - the history of
Pelargonium - we published ourselves, at our
own expense, because we did not wish to wait
for the paper to appear, & also because we wanted
to have our diagrams published in a clear,
readable series - not telescoped & muddled as
for example Mrs. Arber's. Sometimes are in the
"New Phytologist"; & we were rather afraid that
they would be "fitted into" one another if we
left them to an editor. We were contemplating
publishing the "Evolution of Rhoeo adalean Synecchia"
when we got "aced"; & we cannot possibly contemplate

Some of the Rhoeadales like Reesoda, Platy Stigma &
Platy Stemon had ordinary "valve" carpels like
those of the Ranales. She does not think there
is such a thing as what she calls a
"monomorphic" Syncarpous gynoeceum. Dr.
Burt Davy & Mr. Parkin are anxious that
Miss Dickson's paper should appear as soon as
possible; Dr. Burt Davy, in particular, is keen
interested, especially as we are going to work
with him in future. Do you ^{think} we might send
the paper to the American Journal of Botany,
as we have suggested Dr. ^{English} Journal?
Our ideas are at any rate, in accordance
with yours & Dr. Wilson's! And they are not
in accordance with Miss Saunders entirely, nor
with Mrs. Arber entirely, nor with Henslow
Thomas's at all!

I do hope this is not bothering you too
much; but if you think it is any use, we
will make up the paper according to the value &
requirements of the American Journal of Botany.

With best wishes,

Yours sincerely,

Helen Bancroft

TELETYPE
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Ans 7/11/32



IMPERIAL FORESTRY INSTITUTE,

UNIVERSITY OF OXFORD.

(6, Keble Road)

13. XII. 32.

REF. NO.

Dear Professor Eames

Thank you very much indeed for your letter - Mrs Dickson & I will both be very glad to join the American Botanical Society; & in view of Christmas time, there will be no difficulty about the subscription! Thank you so much for your very kind suggestion. — Mrs Dickson has been in the nursing-home with a damaged knee, which has held up her work for some weeks, but I am glad to say that she is now able to sit up & write. This is a very long one, but very readily falls into short parts, suitable for publication, each with its own quite moderate amount of illustration. Her paper on "Stages in the Evolution of Rhoeoaleum Gyneria" is simply illustrated diagrams, which explain themselves with a very brief summary — but it would be about 20 pages of diagrams, one for each type. I don't quite know what to do with that!

It really has been worth getting "used" in order to get an opportunity to work in a department where other people are researching keenly. I couldn't think of

anything better for Mrs. Dickson & myself than working at
Systematic Anatomy with Dr. Burt Dury & Dr. Chalk.
And our new Professor Professor Throp, has succeeded in
persuading the University to give me a Scholarship for
next year - just enough for my "board & lodging" so to
speak! After that, he hopes the financial situation will
be eased, so that he can give me a Salary, & then I can
hand over the chance of the Scholarship to Miss Dickson,
who at present has it. They are not easy to get,
as there is so much competition & the men have the
first chances of course, as after all, it is their University.

It is most extraordinary that people are so
short-sighted about "pure" Science in the study of
agriculture - it is so fundamental, & that they
can see that you can't "apply" Science, until you
have got the Science properly! That is what is the
trouble at the School of Rural Economy here. Our
research never interested the authorities, & even the
Students used to tell me that they hadn't come there
to do "just Botany" - they wanted AGRICULTURE! I made
the Botany as agricultural as I could, but since
my old friend & "backer", Sir William Somerville
left in 1904, it has been quite obvious to me that
I have been without support from the best of the staff,
who, to be quite frank, resented Sir William's bringing a
woman there - a woman moreover from that place
quite beyond the pale, Cambridge! - So I was not surprised

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REF. NO.

When the license was made that the finances of the School would not allow them to maintain a botanical department any longer! And I had come to despise the place & the staff so much that I was glad to go - apart from anything else, I felt it expedient to go before I gave the Professor my mind concerning himself this powers of organisation! The Department has in fact become the laughing-stock of the University & I discovered that my botanical friends elsewhere wondered why on earth I stayed there.

I am very interested to hear that they have asked you to be the American Editor of the *Annals*. It is a chance for missionary work, because the *Journal* paper has distinctly deteriorated under Blackman. I have not had the reprints of my October *Annals* paper yet - one I sent in in March 1931. Before I got the proofs, new work had come out which necessitated changes.

Miss Saunders is making an appalling nuisance of herself - I think every floral-anatomy paper

which any one tries to publish in this country
is referred to her. A member of the Linnean
Council told me that "masses of them" go there
& all get turned down; so he advised me not to
send ours. It makes Dr. Burt Davy so
irate that no one can get a chance so long
as she is at large!

Dr. Burt Davy has signed our Botanical
Society forms & I am returning them to you. I
am afraid there will be a little late for this
meeting now. The Dr. is at the moment away, so I
can't ask him how to make out the cheque for
our subscriptions - perhaps you will very kindly
let us know about that when - if - we are
elected!

With best wishes -

Yours Sincerely,

Ellen Bancroft

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(6, Keble Rd.)

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7. III. 33.

REF. NO.

Dear Professor Eames

Thank you so much for your letter - Yes, Miss Dickson & I are both safely members of the Botanical Society of America by now; but we neither of us have a paper in the hands of the editor yet; because, so far as I am concerned, I am trying to persuade the new Phytologist to continue with my Elgon Fossil Plants until they are finished; & so far as Miss Dickson is concerned, her thesis is so long that I am trying to steer it past Miss Saunders' watchful eye into the Linnean, because it is rather difficult to break it up into well-balanced sections. However, she has a good deal of material for a paper on Obolopodomy in various families, & we are going to try that on the Botanical Society when it is ready. The trouble

with all these floral anatomy papers is that to be convincing, they need much illustration, & the illustrations should be well arranged & spaced, not crammed together. I have a feeling that "Stages in the evolution of *Rhododendron Lyndeei*" can be kept for a while & added to; perhaps, if conditions improve, we might be able to publish it ourselves, in due course, as we really want it.

Miss Saunders is, indeed, curiously powerful. When I was a very young student I remember Prof. F. W. River telling me that botanists in this country were a sort of happy family & all hung together. That was when Dr. E.

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of Bedford College, & I thought they were right in their criticism of her. My seniors, however, indicated that I would damn myself at the outset of my career if I said such things. It seems to me now that English Botanists form a series of families, happy, perhaps, within themselves, but inclined to be warlike with the members of other families. And the new Phyt. is getting like that under the new editorship; I think the new editors are a little too young & in-

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REF. NO.

performed so far as lines of work other than
Reis' own are concerned, to be fair judges.

Hamshaw Thomas has recently been
propagating his "New Morphology" views at
the Linnean - he is against the foliar
interpretations of floral organs in general,
sees in a carpel, for instance, not a leaf,
but a whole branch system.

Yes, you certainly are in a difficult
position with regard to the editorship
of the "Annals". But, after all, a journal
should be open to every genuine worker, not
only to Miss Saunders!

I am so sorry your economic conditions
are so bad - ours are awful, but we
read the newspapers with horror at the
conditions in America; they seem to be
so "worse" with you - some people so
very wealthy, - just a few - many so desperately
poor. Here in England, everyone is more

or less fit but fortunately shoes, living & clothings
are comparatively cheap. Americans are here
at the moment we certainly scoring!
But I don't understand a word of economics.

The Sanguinaria has not yet appeared
above ground, but things of that description
have been late this year. Granthia usually
flowers at the beginning of January. It is
in full bloom only now, this season. Of
course, when the School of Rural Economy
turned us out we transferred the Sanguinaria
we had in the garden there to Miss Dickson's
garden, so that may have checked those
plants.

With kind regards,

Yours sincerely,

Helen Bancroft

The Imperial Forestry Institute.
6, Keble Road.
Oxford.

26. 1. 33.

Dear Professor Eames This Dickson & I are now
working on the Systematic Anatomy of the
Monotoidae. The odd, aberrant African sub-family
of the Diptisocarpaceae. It will be a long
piece of work, so we intend to divide it up into
5 parts, each of which, we can make quite
complete in itself. Its title is "Contributions
to the Systematic Anatomy of the Monotoidae"
(it is only "Institute for Botanical Documental Studies"
are not available, & we can get only a limited
amount of flowering, fruiting & timber material);
& the parts are as follows: -

Part I. Introduction, a general survey of the Monotoidae
(History, Distribution (with map), General characters
(with habit photo of Monotis mangrovea, &
Bibliography)

Part II. The wood structure of certain Monotoidae
(with, most probably, & photo & a few wood-figs.)
+ Bibliography

Part III. The floral type & anatomy (with as few wood-
figs. as possible, to make points clear) + Bibliography

Part IV. Leaf type & Structure (with a few leafy legs)
(+ Bibliography)

Part V. A discussion (based on the above points) of the
true systematic position of the *Monardieae*.
(+ Bibliography)

I am writing Parts I & II. Miss Dickson III & IV,
& V will be a joint affair.

Miss Dickson's work will take longer than
mine, for she has more material; unfortunately
I can't wait until she is ready, because my
research grant business demand that I shall
produce Part I & II as quickly as possible.

(I must get them in print, if possible, by the beginning of next year!)

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Part III would probably
be published in sections or a number of its
length.

I have nearly finished Part I; &
Part II will not take long, once the Oxford
Electrical Co. has got the projection apparatus
in order. So that I can make some necessary
measurements (we are in the midst of a change of
voltage). The point is, since each Part
can be quite complete in itself, do you think
the Botanical Society would take Parts I & II without
waiting also III, IV, & V? It is a great

to Emma 26-V-1923

sity I have to hurry in this way, but the trustees
are only granting the research fund if I can show
them that I can carry out research! I feel
just a little mislaid by that; but as there
was no botanist on the board, perhaps they
may be excused! — which, I am afraid, sounds
somewhat conceited!

Miss Dickson got her B.Sc. without any
difficulty; & I have sent the thesis to the
Linnean, who are, apparently, thinking about
it! Prof. Holden, who is on the Council is
very favourably impressed with it, which will
be a help.

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The Swedish Botanical Society published
a paper ^{on me} on the "Botanical History of the
Dipterocarpaceae," & produced it most beautifully,
but my reprints have somehow got mixed
between. Stockholm & before, so I cannot send
you a copy!

I shall be most grateful if you will give me
your opinion about my *Thonströmiaceae* work,
because I am, beginning to be a little concerned
about getting my part of it published in time!

With kind regards -

Yours sincerely,
Helen R. Croft.

The Imperial Forestry Institute.
(6, Keble Rd.)
Oxford.

21. VII. 33.

Dear Professor Lames

Thank you so much for
your letter - for the very amusing "Biologist's
Jabberwock"!

I am sending Part I of the series of
papers on the Monotoidae to the American
Journal this week. It is "The Economic
History & Geographical Distribution of the
Monotoidae", & with its map, simply forms
an introduction to the rest, though it is complete
in itself, with bibliography.

I am also sending a paper on the
African fossil Dipterocarps (& one or two others)
which really belongs to our series. I have
been publishing rather a lot lately in the
"Annals" & the "Phytologist", & as they both
care much more for Physiology than
Anatomy, neither journal will take any more

of my stuff for a while! Prof. Blackman
is very nice about it - but Godwin & Co. are
hot, being terribly young!

The Linnean is taking Miss Dickson's
"Poppies", so I don't want to bother them with
another paper yet - & my only hope is the
"American Journal". I do hope they will
be able to take the whole series.

Miss Dickson got her degree without difficulty
& is now working for her D. Phil.; her ~~thorough~~
work will do for that. As she is working quite
independently of me at it. We have had
a most successful year in our new quarters
& have almost forgotten that we ever had
anything to do with the unsympathetic Rural
Economists!

Thank you so much for your interest in
our work - it is most encouraging & helpful.

Yours sincerely,

Klein Barcroft

Bancroft

IMPERIAL FORESTRY INSTITUTE

UNIVERSITY OF OXFORD

TEL: OXFORD 3131

20. IX. 34.

Dear Professor James

You will be pleased to hear that in spite of financial disabilities & discouragements, my small scheme of research in Systematic Anatomy, is still carrying on! Miss Dickson has just done a most interesting piece of work on the Primulaeaceae Gynaeceum, & I shall send it to the American Journal when she has polished it up. I am, of course now busy on my Review of work on Floral morphology, for the new periodical. There is too much Saunders in it at present - it needs balancing up a little!

I want to ask your advice - this department is thoroughly appreciative of the work I am doing. It is giving me every kind of help it possibly can, to carry on. Unfortunately it is in low water financially & is not in a position to make me a maintenance grant. I cannot carry on much longer without one. I have applied to various institutions here, but I am "not doing the right kind of research"; or "Oxford should be in a position

to maintain its own people" - &c. &c. Professor
Hous, our Director, has advised me to make a
personal application to the Rockefeller Foundation
for a grant or fellowship - (we were hoping to
make an application as an Institute to the
Foundation, but the Council of the University
wouldn't let us, on the grounds that it had
recently given a sum to the Bodleian Library.)
The point is this, do you think the Rockefeller
people would give a grant to an English
woman for my kind of purely academic
research? And if they gave it to me would
they let me work in Oxford, where there is
much material which I want? If they gave
me a grant on the condition that I worked
in America, I would come, of course; it
would in many ways be a great advantage
for me to come; on the other hand there are
personal & professional reasons for which I
could work much better in Oxford - it would
certainly be less expensive, as my home is here.
Prof. Hous, as I say, has advised me to make
the application, & I shall do so; but if American
backing is needed I wonder if you would be so very
kind as to give it? I hope this is not bothering
you too much. With kind regards -

Yours sincerely Helen Banerjee.

June 6, 1933

Miss Helen Bancroft
The Imperial Forestry Institute
6 Keble Road
Oxford, England

Dear Miss Bancroft:

The American Journal of Botany will take each part of your paper as it is ready (that is, it has always so treated papers of this sort, and I know no reason for change). Send Part I just as soon as you can. Publication has been recently in five or six months, but it may be a little longer now. This is the time of year when the largest number of manuscripts come in, so that the period may be a little longer.

I am very glad to see the manner in which you have attacked the Dipterocarp problem; broad treatments, such as you outline, are the only satisfactory ones.

My best wishes that you will succeed in demonstrating your research abilities to the trustees; I know you can do the work excellently, and they should be convinced!

When reprints of your paper on the geological history of the Dipterocarpaceae is available, I shall be glad to have a copy.

We are just closing a most busy but satisfactory year; I hope to write you later at more length.

Sincerely yours,

AJE:CES