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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.

from Peggy

BRITISH RESIDENCY,
BAGHDAD.

January 17 1924

Dear Sir David,

Thank you so very much indeed for a delightful letter, and for the very attractive book. I have not got a copy of my own of "Parables from Nature", and I love the illustrations. Thank you so very, very much for it.

I do hope you and Lady Pain will have a happy New Year. I

am afraid that it is a little late
to ~~write~~ send those wishes, as you will
not get this letter for so long.

I am having a delightful
time here, and being so gay that
I am doing no reading, and forgetting
all my Arabic. There are absolutely
no flowers whatever outside the garden
(Then we have roses and marigolds
and pansies and chrysanthemums, and
not many birds.

We have been to Ctesiphon and

BRITISH RESIDENCY,
BAGHDAD.2

and Babylon and Bin Nimrond, or the Tower of Babel. Ctesiphon is extraordinary in the way it towers up over completely flat country.

On the other hand Babylon is almost all below the ground level, or dug out of great mounds.

I think the riding is one of the nicest things we do. I ride my cousin's charger, who is generally very peaceful, though the other day

when Captain Holt, (the Secretary) turned
me out hunting, he gave me a
certain amount of trouble. Still I
enjoyed it enormously.

I am so very sorry that I am
going to miss the lecture on "Paleolithic
Man in the Dordogne", as that was
where Father and I went together,
and when I first started getting
interested in Prehistory. Would it
be possible for you to let

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BAGHDAD.3

rather go to it as my friend, or
must I be there myself? I know it
would interest him so enormously.

I will try and write to Mrs. Bidwell
very soon, but I find it extraordinary
difficult to cope with letters to
all my own family! I am glad he
is well.

Would you please give Lady Prain

my very best love, and thank her
very much for her ~~letter~~ message to
me.

Thank you again so very much
for the letter and the extremely
attractive book.

Yours with much love,

Peggy