



Hunt Institute for Botanical Documentation
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About the Institute

The Hunt Institute for Botanical Documentation, a research division of Carnegie Mellon University, specializes in the history of botany and all aspects of plant science and serves the international scientific community through research and documentation. To this end, the Institute acquires and maintains authoritative collections of books, plant images, manuscripts, portraits and data files, and provides publications and other modes of information service. The Institute meets the reference needs of botanists, biologists, historians, conservationists, librarians, bibliographers and the public at large, especially those concerned with any aspect of the North American flora.

Hunt Institute was dedicated in 1961 as the Rachel McMasters Miller Hunt Botanical Library, an international center for bibliographical research and service in the interests of botany and horticulture, as well as a center for the study of all aspects of the history of the plant sciences. By 1971 the Library's activities had so diversified that the name was changed to Hunt Institute for Botanical Documentation. Growth in collections and research projects led to the establishment of four programmatic departments: Archives, Art, Bibliography and the Library.

6 Dec. 25

from Oliver

Dear Miss Curtis

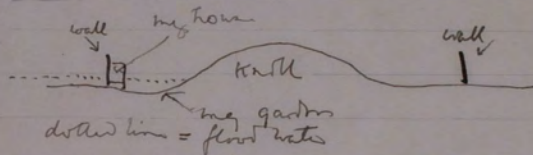
Air mail to Australia from Egypt
appears to be a 1-way affair,
so this will reach only after the N.Y.!

Many thanks for sendings, which are
instructive.

Winter, such as it is,
is starting here - & heavy rains.

This village is built on a little knoll
my home being on the border. 5 miles
away was a cloud burst 4 days ago
with a great rush of soil-water (run-off)
ab. flooded the ground all about
up to perhaps 3 ft. On 3 occasions

in 10 years this has happened, but
never quite touched my own hill (on left)



This time it was more than a foot up
the wall & covered the garden at 2 sq.

holes, laid into the ground, & then it remained, knee deep for 2 days. till it cd. penetrate, as the water could get away till the land outside fell. This was so terrible for the Loma itself - wh. is raised 4 ft above ground level - but it made traffic difficult, so the I was practically a prisoner. The most troublesome feature was the immense quantity of dust the flood swept up - turned like powder. This remained like a layer of glue 3 ins. thick after dark, & was taken a month to do out! Nature's revenge for dabbling in such matters -

He left on 1st Dec. after liberation of Singapore & making his way to Sydney to confer with his opps. no. of the British Pacific R. & on the way back was held up 4 days at Perth (W.A.) awaiting his aircraft back. He found the place & its people & brought me a nice bunch. After, at the Club, met people who

early in the war were stationed
 here & Bore, & used to come in
 here for occasional refreshments. I
 think they were rather amused,
 & the reason the water got in was
 because it came at night & un-
 announced — otherwise we sh.
 have blocked the aforementioned hills.
 { Geoff is now en route England
 with calls at Melk & G.B.
 He expects to be home 8-10 Dec.

You may perhaps recognize
 the plants enclosed of 15 yrs ago!
 wishing you all the best

for (Mrs. Stirling)
 J.W. Stirling

G. was astonished to find the shops at
 Perth fully provided with goods
 — so different from the bareness of England
 the last time I was in Perth for the Xmas-
 trees