

BEATRIX FARRAND  
1650 ORLANDO ROAD  
SAN MARINO, CALIFORNIA

March 18, 1941

John Thacher, Esq.,  
Executive Officer,  
Dumbarton Oaks Research Collection,  
3101 "R" Street,  
Washington, D.C.

Dear Mr. Thacher:

As the announcement of my husband's resignation from the Huntington Library has now been made public, we are making plans to close the house here and to leave for the East on Saturday, April 12th. I hope this will bring me to Washington on Monday morning, the 21st, and as I know from Mrs. Bliss that the Harvard overseers, Mr. Sachs and you will probably be at Williamsburg, it will allow Bryce and Miss Sweeney and me to do some work on the Catalogue House, and some of Mrs. Bliss's own enterprises, until you may return, perhaps on the evening of the 22nd or the morning of the 23rd. There is much that Bryce and Miss Sweeney and I can do in your absence, and as I hope to stay in Washington until the afternoon of the 24th, I think we should be able to clear up most of our questions. If this is not possible, I can always come back in May or June to finish up any otherwise hanging business.

Three days in Santa Barbara last week gave me the opportunity of several good talks with Mrs. Bliss. She seems to me definitely a little less strained than when I first saw her, but she is obviously anxious about Mr. Bliss, and he seems quite far from well. His colour is not good and he moves slowly as though he were carrying a heavy load.

There were several developments with regard to Mrs. Bliss's sentiments about the Orangery and the drawingroom, which will be well to think over and discuss at some length when I next have the privilege of meeting you and Mr. Sachs. If by any chance, Mr. Sachs should not be in Washington during the days I am to be there, I could stop and see him in Cambridge on my way to or from Bar Harbor.

John Thacher, Esq., March 18, 1941.

2.

Mrs. Bliss gave me the tragic news of Professor Focillon's serious illness. What a calamity for that delightful pair of people, and what a difficult position and responsibility for you!

Pray forgive a scrappy and dull letter dictated in the intervals of packing, saying farewell and arranging for the family move.

Yours very sincerely,

Beaumont Newhall

*The list of questions to discuss will really arrive before I do, but the hubbub here is considerable!*

Carbon copy to Mr. Sachs.