

BEATRIX FARRAND
~~1650 ORLANDO ROAD~~ Reef Point
~~SAN MARINO, CALIFORNIA~~ Bar Harbor, Maine,

June 30th, 1944

July 3

Mrs. Robert Woods Bliss
1527 28th Street
Washington, D. C.

Dearest Mildred:

This is the shop part of our joint work in the two lovely days together at Dumbarton Oaks. Mr. Thacher has already sent me a list of his understanding of our agreements. As his letter to me crossed one posted to him two days ago I send you a copy of my notes to him. Over and above these notes Mr. Thacher and I agreed that "utility" books to the amount of \$75. could be bought for Miss Sweeney during the fiscal year July 1, 1944 - July 1, 1945.

If you want to add to the "library" books on horticulture and design a fund of approximately \$500. ought to accomplish much if spent over a period of four or five years. Two catalogues were given me and the only books in the K. Gregory catalogue, 22 East 71st Street, that seem to me to be in your "alley" are the three numbers 258 Mrs. Loudon's "The Ladies **Ornamental Bulbous Plants \$55.; 259 "The Ladies ** Ornamental Annuals \$50.; and 261 "The Ladies ** Ornamental Perennials \$100. The price of the two first numbers is about their usual market quoted price. The perennial book is dearer than seems to me necessary. It would seem wise definitely to rule out such books as Michaux Nuthall's "Silva" and Gerarde's Herbal unless a particularly good copy should be available at a reasonable price. Also the botanical magazines - such as Curtis - seem to me rather beyond what Dumbarton needs. This same catalogue carries the titles of some utility books which I am hoping to get for the Harvard account after I check with Miss Sweeney as to whether or not she already has them.

In the Dulau catalogue which Miss Sweeney also gave me I don't see any items that seem worth bringing to your attention.

The nursery plot offered on your White Haven land is likely to be of definite use for Dumbarton and of course if Harvard is allowed to use the land it will be with the understanding that the plants are to be moved when the land is sold.

Your comments on the record notes are going to be immensely helpful as Miss Sweeney and Bryce have checked for the accuracy of the planting lists and plant positions and Mr. Thacher has run through the notes and says they seem approximately what he thinks useful.

As soon as I catch up with the nightmare of delayed correspondence and orders the work on the record notes will be pursued and then the design for the low Ellipse wall started and the first rough sketches for paving the Green Garden.

Mrs. Bliss 6/30/44 -2

You have been very patient with me on the whole Santa Barbara Botanic Garden situation and I am sorry to have bothered you so constantly with my worries and anxiety over the situation and the difficulties of Van Rensselaer's position. You have made me see that the French saying is more true than ever in my case - "Surtout point de Zèle", as I can well see what a nuisance the Board of Trustees must have often thought me. Your letter to the General speaking of the gift you expect to make to the Garden should assure its continuance on the present wise lines and you and I both hope that Van Rensselaer's position will be assured by your gift and that he will be less fretted by constant slight obstructions built up by the Board. There are no words to thank you for what you have done as the Garden has come to mean a great deal to me individually and as an integral and lovely part of an intimately beautiful whole.

Again thank you for two perfect days. Wicked Max had over-tired himself slightly last week so that there are one or two down days but nothing serious and it only means that I must stay fairly close on my job. We both send you and Robert our devoted affection and both also send you our gratitude for what you are doing at Santa Barbara.

Yours ever,

Bea Trux