

October 6th, 1937.

Mrs. Robert Woods Bliss,  
c/o Santa Fe Railroad Office,  
Pasadena, California.

Dearest-est:

Several things occur to me to put before you for rumination on your Eastbound journey which were not touched upon in what always seem over-full days when you and I are together.

Gray asks if the White Narcissus ordered for "E" Terrace are to be planted in the beds and borders.

As you doubtless know, Gray has already cut seven men from his payroll, of which one is a greenhouse man. He says this is a cut absolutely "to the bone" and that no further reduction can be made.

It turns out that there is considerable space over at the Quarters where the little surplus nursery can be placed, and Gray and I both have some question as to how the nursery near Quadrangle's grave may look, and whether the rather "hit and miss" colors and straight rows may be unpleasant in this softly rolling meadow. As there is room over at the Quarters, and no immediate haste for transplanting, it seemed to me wise to delay the actual planting in the meadow until it has been given further consideration.

I hope you will see the blue Nymphaeas at the West end of the Swimming Pool as they were entrancing in their flower; also the groups of Fuchsias on the North side of the Loggia, where it seemed to me the colors were most satisfactory.

Four or five of the rose beds are not in good condition; they either should be cobbled or replaced. Gray and I have gone over them together and we suggest replacing five beds:

Mrs. Aaron Ward  
Lady Margaret Stewart  
Mrs. E. P. Thom  
Roselandia  
Marie Adelaide

The cost of these replacements will amount to between \$125.00 and \$150.00.

We also think that where the Hemlocks seem over-thick, as they do in places on the Clifton wall, we might as well use these for further bordering plantations, rather than buy new material.

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We should like permission to keep the bunches of Heather on top of the rock wall North of the greenhouses, as the Heather are growing well there and will not stand moving with any great enthusiasm. The Azaleas will of course be taken out as Gray reports your dissatisfaction with the colors.

Gray also reports that the Baltimore Flower Show is to be held next February, if I understand correctly; and that if the house is being occupied he does not feel that he can make any good show of groups of plants, but that he could show a few specimens.

This, I think, closes the list of things for your consideration Eastward, but I shall envy you when you reach dear Dumbarton next Sunday as my heart goes with you both to it.

Yours always,

BF:KCE