

BEATRIX FARRAND  
LANDSCAPE GARDENER  
REEF POINT  
BAR HARBOR  
MAINE

September 1, 1944

Mrs. Robert Woods Bliss  
1537 28th Street,  
Georgetown  
Washington, 8, D. C.

Dearestest Mildred:

It is a joy to think that you and Robert will soon be off on holiday and I promise not to bother you more than is absolutely necessary during your leave. This note will be brief in order to save you time in reading it. "Pest Control in the Home Garden" not worth your bothering with.

Thanks for the draft of the Van Rensselaer "Needs of the Botanic Garden". I will work this over and try a digest of it and will send it direct to Van Ransselaer unless it seems necessary to worry you to again look over it.

It's maddening to have to plan to come to Dumbarton just for the couple of days before you get home from your leave but these two days will be more than used up in the chores, measurements and working over arrangements with Bryce, and then I am hoping to come back again in October and will try and fit my dates to exactly marry in with yours. It now looks as though the best days for me would be to arrive sometime on Sunday October 29th and probably to leave again sometime on Tuesday the 31st. Let me know if these dates seem totally impossible for you. I have to remember of course that Mr. Thacher's freest days are Saturday and Sunday and therefore usually regulate my visits on this basis.

A particularly nice letter came from Mrs. Thorne speaking with enthusiasm and admiration for not only your gift to the Botanic Garden but also for the wisdom and foresight which have prompted it. Evidently she feels as I do that the Botanic Garden's future is now assured and that it has a very real important future. Mrs. Thorne further says that she stands ready to do anything in her power to see that what you hope for the Garden may be accomplished. Without underlining the riffles in the Board of Trustees she recognizes them and feels that a more generous and understanding attitude toward the Director should and must be adopted.

Frankly it is very foolish for the obstructionist on the Board to object to Mr. Van Rensselaer's single signature to checks and vouchers, and also to oppose the publication or circulation of the leaflet to encourage further gifts. If ever there was a moment in which to strike for further generosity to the Garden this is it, as your shining example will show others that a person whose opinion in the community is respected feels that the Garden is worthy of backing and financial support.

You will be delighted to hear that a report has come from Van Rensselaer as to the condition of the two trees at Casa Dorinda. He has evidently gone into the matter carefully and says that the great Guadalupe Cypress and the

