

UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA

COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE

AGRICULTURAL EXPERIMENT STATION

Sunday
Jackson, Amador Co. March. 24th. 195, 189

My dear Sir,

With the flowers all over the hills, and such letters as your kind lines coming to me: do you wonder I asked my wife to again play to me the tune of Meldeßsohn's Springsong? (My mother brought over to us the piano which served us through years of better time, and now was the means of allowing us to have my wife take music lessons since we are married). Like the song of Uhland sounds it to me, and like him I walk over the hills and persuade myself with old time faith, and old time hope, : Am ende muss sich alles wenden. - I see by your papers which you kindly sent me (and which I appreciate with the signature of the donor) that you are made of the same clay as my wretched self when you gather flowers on such plans as you describe your sand-soil binding specimens. Alas, such was my occupation. I have transformed since those days when I first saw the ocean, my dream of years, on the coast of Insel Ruegen now twelve years since. My specimens are not as good as that. Nobody could sell them for \$ 7.00 per century, nor part with them under any conditions as long as the Daisies have not taken possession of the ground above ~~him~~. I have collected specimens like that from all over the mountains of my fatherland, and I now have not time to look at them. - You have dropped the balm of sweet hope on my wretched soul when speaking in terms as you did about my little pamphlet. I paid \$ 102 for the paltry 1st edition got out, and while I thus cut into the returns which might come to me from my exsiccatae, I reap the benefit beyond the influence of coin already now ere days have passed. You told me you are a teacher. Such is my profession, if I but could get there. I always wished and tried to explain, tried to extend my little capacity of learning and demonstrating upon those in desirous of it, and happy I was. And if I had to spend the rest of my life in this position, I gladly will do so knowing those, or some of them at least, which do appreciate a soul's expression. It was kind of you to read some passages to your wife. My ever-so-much-better half did not know one word of the contents of my booklet ere it was finished by the printer: and she then looked displeased. But what have I if not ~~her~~? what do I care if I can not let the outside world know how satisfied happy homelife renders a person? - Around me in this county: marriage is contracted for fun, dissolved for renewal of fun, and the children of such issues populate this beautiful country in such terrifying ways, that I lead a life which for instance now has not taken me into Jackson for more than seven weeks. But enough of that. -

Is it unkind of me to ask you to check off & your desiderata on the accompanying checklist? It would be great trouble for me to get them marked as I have not kept track of the numbers (in succession) since sending first my plants to Prof. Greene. It is an easy thing for you to mark again, and while I am sorry for the delay, I am now in the busiest season with my pruning and trimming in orchard and vineyard. - After reading your notes on your herbarium, I am not surprised that you wish

those cosmopolitans as you note on your list (which I for your guidance return with this). But you embarrass me as not all of them have been dried by me . But that is easily remedied. I attend to them at first chance , and do you justice as best I know.

The shakemaker is the worst robber around here . He fells the best trees only, saws them into "cuts" of three feet, and splits them into thin sheets of wood six inches wide to cover our roofs with. He makes " shakes". If the tree is twisted in its grain, he abandones it, if good but six feet, he takes them , and trades his shakes for whisky and " grub" (vitals , more of the former of course) at the first " station " or store . There is not a section of government land anyways near accessible territory which he has not singled over. And if a poor man steals an overcoat from the rack in a hotel , he is locked up. I have been born and nursed under covers of silk and lace, I have shared my profession's life in the lowest hovels, and from a whole-souled scientist , I am reverted to an ardent politician for pure humanity's sake. If I keep alive , if my brain is further refreshed by such friendly expressions as you have for my heart's bitterness : the day will come when I enter the steps of legislative halls,. I have pilgrimed three times to the little rooms where Luther translated the bible ere he went forth on his mission. I have looked from out of his window where he gained strength for soul and body . I now myself spend my years on a recluse so similar to his , that I feel strengthened in the very likeness of our position. Like him I feel convinced of the truth of my doctrine , the religion of humanity , and like him I do not care for consequences. My orchard book will contain some of my ideas on our surroundings, I

think some library near you may purchase a copy (worthless for you) and I will feel glad if you consider its pages worth your trouble to look over.

Look again at your copy of the West American Oaks. The last dozen of drawings are of my pen (and form the supplement in same cover) . If you have not got it, I have the disposal over some copies, and gladly write for one for you. If you do not see my name anywhere's else , do not wonder. It does not always do to lift the veil from those " munificent patrons". The delay in my orchid book, the poverty with which my wife and self have been stricken against all sane calculation, it was born under a crust which to lift is disgust. Happy the man who never learns that " and thereby hangs a tale " . --- How childlike my conception must be , to make me as happy as I am.

I enclose the little Dodecatheon which Prof. Greene is going to name after me .

Sincerely yours

Geo. Hansen.



Hansen, Geo. 1895. "Hansen, George Mar. 24, 1895." *Walter Deane correspondence*

View This Item Online: <https://www.biodiversitylibrary.org/item/159798>

Permalink: <https://www.biodiversitylibrary.org/partpdf/291115>

Holding Institution

Harvard University Botany Libraries

Sponsored by

IMLS

Copyright & Reuse

Copyright Status: Public domain. The BHL considers that this work is no longer under copyright protection.

This document was created from content at the **Biodiversity Heritage Library**, the world's largest open access digital library for biodiversity literature and archives. Visit BHL at <https://www.biodiversitylibrary.org>.