

Urbana, Illinois

April 11, 1913

Mrs. N. L. Britton

2965 Decatur Avenue

Bronx, New York, N. Y.

My dear Mrs. Britton:

Knowing of your extensive work in mosses, I am taking the liberty of writing to you to ask your advice regarding my plans for collecting and studying the mosses of Ellesmere and Crocker Lands where I shall spend the next three years as geologist and botanist to the MacMillan Crocker Land Polar Expedition which leaves next July for the far North for scientific exploration and research.

I wish particularly to know what books on mosses I should obtain for study and references, what equipment I shall need for collection and preservation of specimens, and what methods you would advise me to use, and to learn all that you would suggest as being necessary to a careful study of the mosses of the region which our party will explore. I should like to know, too, where I may obtain copies of your publications.

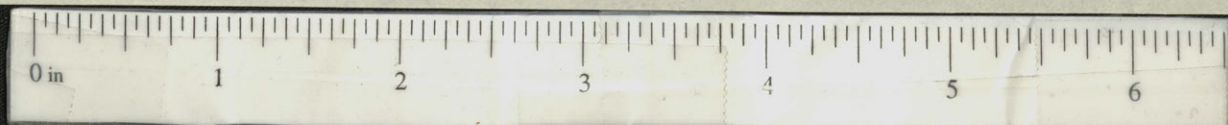
I trust that I shall have an opportunity to meet you and Dr. Britton when I come to New York in June to stay until our boat, The Roosevelt, sails.

Thanking you in anticipation of your kind attention to my request, I remain

Very sincerely yours

1103 West Springfield Avenue
Urbana, Illinois





New York Botanical Garden,

Bronx Park,

New York City.

April 28, 1913.

Mr. W. Elmer Ekblaw,
1103 West Springfield Avenue,
Urbana, Illinois.

Dear Sir:-

Your letter of April 11th has been received. We are very glad to help you and hope that you will try to come up here and see us before you start on your trip to the Arctic regions! All the collections of mosses from the Arctic that I have ever seen are scanty and dirty and usually without fruit. The ^{Arctic} mosses seem to be perennial species mostly, like Bryum and grow in dense compact tufts often several species mixed. You will need white newspaper, grey blotting paper and corrugated card-board, samples of which I can send you, if you like, and probably supply you with enough of them to use and help you name your specimens, if you care to share them with us. You had better have a talk with Mr. R. S. Williams, who has spent a year at Dawson, Yukon Terr. and will send you his list of the mosses. But frankly, unless you are a bryologist and know the genera of mosses, I do not think you will make much headway naming ^{them} with any books that I can recommend. We sent Peary's mosses abroad to a Norwegian specialist! But, if you will save an hour or two for us ^{before you start} we can tell you all you need know ^{as to how} to collect. The only advice I can give you is to take everything in fruit, that you see and get enough of it, not scraps! and take a hand lens with you. Do you expect to take a microscope?

Sincerely yours,

Elizabeth G. Britton





Urbana, Ills.

~~April~~

May 5, 1913,

Mrs. Elizabeth C. Britton,
New York Botanical Garden,
Bronx Park,
New York, N. Y.

Dear Mrs. Britton:

I wish to thank you for your kind letter of April twenty-eight. It was just the kind that crystallizes the rather indefinite ideas that a ~~new~~ novice has of the problems that confront him, and it was so to the point that ~~at once~~ after reading it that I was ^{at once} able to decide how much more of the limited time for preparation I have left I could devote to biology.

I am tempted to remark that biology must be conducive to sanity and definiteness of thought, for as well as to courtesy and kindness, for every letter I have received from a biologist has been ~~almost~~ an ~~model~~, an inspiration and a model.

Some time in June, while I am in New York, I ^{think} ~~hope~~ that I shall have an opportunity to come to the Park to see you and Dr. Britton and receive all the suggestions you have to make regarding my work in the North. I note that you are recently home from work in the West Indies. I remain

Sincerely yours

J. Elmer Ekblaw
1103 St. Springfield Ave.,
Urbana, Illinois

~~Address.~~



W. P. BOUQUET
Superior



New York, 25 June, 1913.

My dear Mrs. Britton:

The botanical supplies which you sent me prepaid to the Navy Yard have been received and stored away with the rest of the scientific equipment. I wish to thank you again for your kindness in sending me these necessary supplies, for the many suggestions which you have made to assist me in my work and for the courtesy and hospitality you have shown me.

I note your suggestion regarding the brass screens and shall take the precaution to secure extra supplies of that kind.

It may be that I shall come up to the Garden again before I leave, if I find time, but if I should not I wish to take this opportunity to express my appreciation of your interest and voice my assurance that any bryological material which I obtain in the North I shall most certainly ask you to help me with upon my return.

With sincerest good wishes to you and Dr. Britton and to the botanical people who helped me so well, I remain

Very sincerely yours,

Am. Mus. Nat. Hist.,
New York City.

Mrs. Elizabeth G. Britton,
N. Y. Botanical Garden,
Bronx Park,

W.E.E./B.P.





New York, 28 June, 1913.

My dear Mrs. Britton:

I wish to thank you for the nice letter of congratulations that you sent me upon reading of my intended marriage in the "New York Times" yesterday. I only hope that this erroneous account in the "Times," which has no foundation in fact, will not cause you to be less congratulatory when the event really does happen. The report as published was quite false, and Miss Krieger and I have no intention whatever of being married until my return. At that time I hope that she and I may number you and Dr. Britton among the most welcome friends that grace our home.

With sincerest good wishes, I am,

Very cordially yours,

Am. Mus. Nat. Hist.,
New York City.

Mrs. N. L. Britton,
Botanical Gardens,
Bronx Park,
CITY.

W.E.E./B.P.

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MADE IN U.S.A.
W. S. & S. W. FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION



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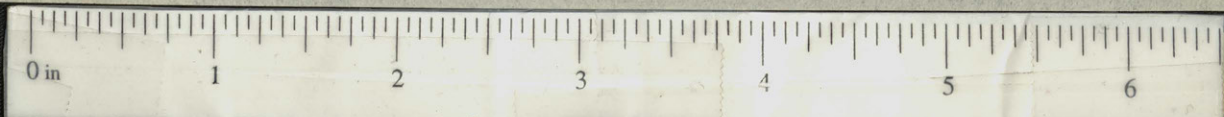
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AM. Mus. Nat. Hist.,

New York City.

Mrs. N. L. Britton,
Botanical Gardens,
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