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Des Moines, Iowa - 12/2

A happy, blessed Marian year to you and Mr. McTague. N

Notre Dame, Ind. 12/2 C

Wishing you God's blessing and Our Lady's gracious protection.

Mountain Province, P.I. 12/19

Of the seeds you sent me, the following were more or less successful: Marigold; all of the three kinds seem to have succeeded well; this is one of the kinds already cultivated in Baguio. I would be pleased to have more of them for they are quite pretty. The summer Chrysthamum type is especially good, but it seems all are not as high as indicated in your pamphlet. I think the reason may be the quality of soil. I have thought all along I was planting in topsoil, but began to suspect it was not, and was too sour. Today I got word of the man we purchased the dirt from, and he said he never sold it for topsoil! Hence I think a generous dose of lime and fertilizer is in order.

Hollyhock: my little plants were getting along, until "Cora" a destructive typhoon passed close to us with 70-mile an hour winds, and the hollyhock practically disappeared. "Cora" was an Amazon! I find Hollyhock around here and I think I can get cuttings.

Morning Glory: These are going well but they were almost immediately eaten (the leaves) by bugs or worms, while the native morning-glory is untouched. Perhaps it would be better to leave out morning glory from your seed list for me, since I can use the native, immune variety, although it has only one color, light blue.

Balsam: I have a few plants growing, but I think with care I can grow more. So you can keep balsam on the list.

Scabiosa was growing, but disappeared with "Cora". The forestry nursery managed to save the ones they kept of my seeds and they are wonderful.

Quaking Grass: Okay but it does not seem to look much different from ordinary grass, so drop it.

Blessed Thistle: One plant has survived, and I have it in a pot in my room. Its crinolined, white-marked leaves are lovely. I am waiting for the flower. I think all it needs is a little more care in transplanting. The man from the forestry nursery is giving me the young plants shook out all the dirt. I think the dirt surrounding the young plant should be left with the plant in transplanting. By all means, let me have some more Blessed Thistle.

Pansy: Some of these are surviving. I also got some super-giants from my brother and they look as if they will be all right. They are already transplanted. Include Pansy.

Foxglove: I got mixed up in my markings and I don't know yet whether it is the foxglove or some petunias that have survived. Will let you know later.

Aster: Some I got in the local nursery are doing well.

Cinquefoil: Some of these survived but are only slowly growing.

Thrift: These seem to be coming nicely and are beginning to flower.

Forget-me-not: The ones you sent did not thrive, but some from the local nursery seem to be doing well. So I can get what I want from them.

As to cold beds, especially for the perennials, our nights now are around 60° F. I am sending you pictures of our two lay-outs, the terraces in front of the house and the patio between the Observatory Wing and the Central Wing of the Villa. On one of the pictures of the terraces, I indicate a portion we are going to inclose to be used as a store house later, but now I am going to use it for a nursery, myself, for the seeds you send me; it has enough wind circulation to get the night temperatures, and so should do for a coldbed. It gets some afternoon sun, but no morning. I note what you say about the ground being porous. This time I shall be much more careful in transplanting. I shall water by hand and shield the young plants from heavy rains. I think it would be well, for this reason, our heavy rains, to transplant the young plants a little later than is usually done, to give them additional strength. I can pour here with a vengeance. I do not know whether I told you that our "Mirador Hill", in 1911 recorded the largest officially accepted 24 hour rainfall in the world, forty-five inches. Of course, we usually don't get anything like this. It only goes to show how raindrops aided by a good wind can be almost like bullets for tender plants.

I find that in other convents of the city, Mary's Gardens are being started. I gave one of your seeds to the sisters of Perpetual Adoration here; but alas the sister who was given the seeds was suddenly called to the States to become a superior there, and no one knows what she did with the seeds! I

I think you will find the enclosed pictures interesting, and give you an idea of the location.

Again thank you for your continued interest, and do hope that within the next year we shall have a Mary's Garden which she can be proud. Sincerely yours,

Havana, Cuba, 12/19 C

We made a Garden for Mary; we built a little shrine as you will see by the photos. We had planned on a blessing on May 31st but for two weeks it rained in such a way it had to be postponed until the early part of June. Some of these seeds didn't fully grow, but the Mary's Gold and Our Lady's Mantle came out beautifully. We have around the Virgin three kinds of roses, and several Madonna lilies as perennials. Thanks again for such a lovely idea. May the Infant Jesus send you and your family all the best in 1954.

Cotabato, P.I. 12/10

I visited a town called Dadiangas the other day, where I was to preach a mission and saw the beds prepared by the students there. Already the seeds have sprung up but they are not developed enough to predict the success of the garden. Also I did not take a picture for that reason. Later on when the schools report I will have photos taken of all the gardens and send you copies. Bishop Mongeau says that you may use his poster in any way you want and I am enclosing here some more copies that we had left over. In the national Catholic paper, "The Sentinel", an article was run on the "contest" and several priests, nuns and laymen have written in asking where they can obtain seeds. They want to get them in the Phillipines and not in the U.S.A. --- but I just gave them your address. I would gladly help them pay for the seeds in U.S. currency but the Bishop is afraid of complications. Maybe some of them will write you and send you pesos --- if so I can arrange to take the money from you and give you the dollars, but I didn't want to get too involved in the financial part of it because we could distribute a million packages of seeds and still need more, if we gave them out free to everyone. It is the same with medals and rosaries --- we have distributed so many that we just had to stop and charge a nominal price; otherwise, we would be broke and no one really appreciates something they get for nothing. I was on a committee for relief of the war victims and was shocked to see how the free distributions worked out. . . . They will accept all the handouts but whether they will use them or not is another question. So we are concentrating on our schools where we know the seeds will be planted and cared for, and the spirit of the Mary Garden will be talked up by the priests, brothers, sisters and lay teachers. Anyhow, you will be hearing from me soon. Thanks for writing and God bless the apostolate. It ought to be a Marian project all over. Sincerely.

Des Moines, Iowa - 3/11 C

I have wanted to write you for some time to tell you that our color display this past year is far superior to the first. We used the month's feasts and specific devotions to be practiced during that month as the central theme, and I do wish you could have seen it or that I might have time to tell

you all about it. This year we plan on holding it June 10th and want to put as many different shrines of Mary with one of the Immaculate Conception as the central theme.

On March 1st I spoke on our TV station at Hames, Iowa, and after a brief explanation of our Council work, I told a bit about our local project, the religious display, explaining that this was to stimulate interest in our Council work, and spread devotion to Mary. I told them about you and Mr. McTague and had some request for the little book on flowers named after Mary. I also read your foreword on "Inspiration." I received a very complimentary thank-you from the Production Manager and I wanted you to know this. I also showed one of sheets of the calendar and read the story and explained about the elderly Englishwoman. We had these mounted and used them to mark each display last year. I can't tell you how much you have helped us in our small effort and I do hope that our idea will be used elsewhere. In our own locality a number of groups have used various phases of the general idea to carry out an idea. With kindest regards to you and Mr. McTague and asking Our Blessed Mother to pray for you constantly, Sincerely.

Mirador, P.I. 3/15 C

About the perennials: I have fixed up a place for myself underneath the reception room to act as a nursery. I have also been doing my own planting of seeds, and have had much more success. You see, I planted them a fair distance away from each other, and then when I transplant, I take with the tender plants all the dirt that surrounds the roots. Then the seedlings get used to the new surroundings gradually. This reduces infant mortality to the minimum. Our summer will be with us within a few weeks, but the mornings and nights remain cool at this altitude, hence there is still time to give the perennials a cold bed, if we nurse them outside of the house in the shade.

Now about my little successes. Mary's Gold : These thrive well here. I used the seeds to illustrate grace. Each flower has very many seeds and all the seeds seem to propagate nicely and grow up, if care is taken in the nursery. The reason they do not grow is because of the fact that the surroundings are often not favorable ; they seem to need to be a bit under the ground to grow. All graces are fruitful; and it is the soil of our souls that will determine the outcome. I had a wonderful case a few years ago. I made a remark to a certain man before his marriage; i.e. Voltaire said: The Protestant religion may be all right to live in, but the only one to die in is the Catholic Faith. The man remembered this on his deathbed, called for a priest and was baptized and died in the Faith.

Scabiosa: (Our Lady's Pin-cushion) - these are only now getting flowers, and I like them very much. The first three flowers have given no seeds so far.

The race is not only to the beauties, as you will see from Our Lady's Thistle: I love this especially for the leaves and tradition attached to the white in them. The flower is insignificant, but the butterflies or insects must like them, for out of two flowers so far, I have gotten 35 and 26 seeds respectively, which seem big and fat and black. I hope they propagate well for I think it will make a lovely border. Two more flowers still remain on the same single thistle plant, which survived the transplanting ordeal of the old regime. Hope I have no trouble with my own method.

Our Lady's Eyes: The variety I got from the nursery of The Bureau of Forestry grew and gave nice seeds, which are growing nicely and ready for transplanting this week. Our Lady's Glove: Plants look fine, but no flowers yet. They are a biennial.

Our Lady's Cushion: Some plants grew but I can't say I like the flower, for the individual flowerlets did not seem to open wide. Should they?

Mary's Hand: Some came up but have not yet flowered.

Our Lady's Delight: I am having a little success now, but have to fight the bugs which like the seed pods.

Our Lady's Mantle: I think I got the seeds that grew from my brother but I am not sure. These grow splendidly and give plenty of seeds.

Well, I think that about exhausts the list. I do hope by the end of this season I shall have the Mary's Garden well planned and can do without the chrits, the cohels, etc., which I shall plant elsewhere on our grounds. If I do not bore you, please let me hear from you and don't forget the perennials. Sincerely yours in Jesus and Mary.

Chicago, Ill 4/5 C

At last I have found the note and MS on the original compilation of sacred plants made by my wife, Winifred Jelliffe Emerson, back in the 1930's. This was the work she did for Mrs. Frank Lillie, who, I believe, made the first Mary's Garden at Woods Hole. I should be glad to send this "MS" together with the notes complete to you or your organization if you still wish them.

After the death of my wife in 1949, the MS was placed in our attic, but there was so much confusion in the stored materials there that I could not find it and knew that it would take days. I am now planning to move from our house and have spent about a week going over these things, and that is how I happened to find it. Very sincerely yours,

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Ontarion, N.Y. 3/27 C

An old issue of the Catholic World recently came to hand. In it I read with delight your article entitled, "Man in God's Garden". It is gratifying to know that there are at least some few who think about such things as I do. An article of similar vein could be written to include animal as well as plant husbandry. I am interested in this idea of a Mary Garden. I know nothing about it, but the suggestion you make in the essay. Can you give me further information?
... Yours very truly.

Dayton, O. 3/28 C

Last year I decided to plant as complete a Mary Garden as possible here at our Grotto. You sent me 25 varieties, but there were many more listed in your catalogue. I have since ordered some of these from various seed companies, but there are still a few I have not gotten. I would like therefore to inquire if and when you can supply me with the following:
...

Announcements concerning our Mary Garden appeared in our local Catholic paper, and I don't know how many other periodicals picked it up from there. As a result I am getting inquiries from all over concerning your wonderful project. I would like therefore to ask you to send me a little packet of order blanks and I would like to distribute them to these people for you. I would also like to make them available to the people who visit our grotto, if you have no objection. Sincerely yours,

Cotabato, P.I. 4/2 C

I am happy to report that our Mary's Gardens competition in the Notre Dame schools has been successful. As you know the school year ends in March and opens in June. Not like the June closing and the September opening in the states. So we ended the competition on March 15th, and presented the prizes at graduation time in the schools that won. The Notre Dame of Morala won first prize --- a loving cup suitably engraved with the word: "Bishop Mongeau Trophy for the Best Mary's Garden - 1954". The second prize was won by Notre Dame of Marbel, and a smaller cup was given to them. The third best garden was at Notre Dame of Cotabato, and the fourth, Notre Dame of Jolo. I am enclosing pictures of the gardens. Not too good as photos go, but they give an idea of the work accomplished. We had thirty different Notre Dame departments in the competition, including elementary, highschool and college. I can not give you a detailed account of the success of the seeds, although I enclose a very fine report from Brother Herbert, winner of second prize. The first prize winner had the garden in the form of a huge rosary, ten small bushes for each Hail Mary, and a large bush for the Our Fathers --- ending in a great big cross. The cross was filled with water and water lillies. Then at the background they had

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erected a nice grotto. you can only get an idea of the garden from the picture. The third prize winner was a humdinger of a garden with a little gate marked "Mary's Garden", and the professionally built grotto --- a gift of an engineer living in the neighborhood. Jolo garden was not so good as to the flowers, but the novel grotto made of coral put it in fourth place. I will try to get more detail on the seeds and how they grew later on.

I must quit now as I am terribly busy until after Easter. We expect our Bishop back from the States by Holy Week and I will have a little more time after that. Until later than I will call this a report on the Mary's Gardens so far. Thanks for all your kindnesses --- and God bless you and your work. Sincerely in J.C. et M.I.

Cotobato, P.I. 3/10 C

We have completed our Mary's Garden as our part to praise our Lady in a garden in her honor. The garden is a devoted work of our 101 boys in junior year, directed by Mr. , the horticultural teacher, and the Mary's Garden design was done by the school artist, Mr. . Three full months work went into the project that will remain a permanent beauty spot honoring Our Lady on the school campus.

Not all the seeds of the packets we received germinated. The Mary's Gold did very well (they are the most abundant). Mary's Bud has not bloomed yet. Our lady's pincushion are yet very short but hardy. No bloom yet. Our Lady's Mantle is still in the seedbox. Mr. will not transplant them until the rains come. St. Joseph's staff is not in bloom yet; Our Lady's Thistle are plentiful, but the marigolds are the best. Our Lady's Delight, the pansies are beautiful but they do not last long in the heat.

It is a sad fact that we have had little rain; in fact, no rain sufficient to soak the soil at least one half inch deep. Tons and tons of water were hauled every day to get the grass growing. Only during the last two weeks has the garden assumed a green coat of Bermuda cushion grass.

Honestly, we do not care about the trophy. Ours has been a devotion of praise and love for Our Blessed Mother during this, her Marian year. And as one walks on the lawn covered paths through the Mary's garden, our only wish is that he or she offer a prayer to Mary. And nothing prevents one from saying his rosary on one of the two flower rosaries, that are really most appealing parts of the garden.

This is our report on our Marian year Mary's Garden, a work of love accomplished solely by male hands. This is strictly a man's garden. Every proportion of it is manly. Yours ever in this Marian year.

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Southgate, Calif. 4/19 C

The Catholic Speaking Group known as the "Carrollton Club" which operates the same as the Toastmasters International Holy Name Speakers Union of the Los Angeles Archdiocese, would like to have some material pertaining to flowers and the history of Mary's Gardens. We feel that this is a very interesting subject, very close to the hearts of so many Catholics who grow flowers year around in southern California. It is good subject matter for our speakers. There are more flowers grown in California than any other area in the United States. Several months ago when I was trying to locate you we could not find any information for very few people had ever heard of Mary's Gardens. It is a wonderful idea and we would like to help you in our way to spread the word to many more that I know would be interested. Thank you very much for any consideration or materials you can forward to us. Cordially yours,

Hudson, N.H. 2/2 C

Last year in March the Catholic Digest had an interesting article on vest pocket gardens for Mary by James Cuniff. Your extensive study on names of flowers dedicated to Mary has interested me very much. Would it be possible to have a list of these names? I would certainly make use of them during this Marian year in my retreats to nuns and closed retreats. In my parochial missions I would certainly point out the ill effects of the reformation to the devotion of Our Blessed Mother. Hoping to hear from you soon, yours gratefully, Father ---

P.S. My blessing to your fine work.

Cincinnati, O. 4/3 C

Father Howard Rafferty referred me to you concerning the procurement of Mary's gardens material. Incidentally, I x-ray flowers, a group of which he will use in the May issue of "Mary". You may be interested in seeing them since they present an entirely new version of the flowers. Sincerely yours, Sister ---

Esopus, NY 4/26 C

Thanks for the latest M.G. catalogue. You're growing! And in this Marian year every backyard should be growing flowers for Mary as your weekly ads in the Register suggest.

Happy to hear that the Woods Hole garden is being restored. It has been some years now since I have been down that way, and this year I will hardly be there either as I am guiding a pilgrimage to the Marian shrines of the continent. . . . If I actually do come across any real Mary Gardens, I shall take color shots of them and let you see them some time.

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Meanwhile, Our Lady prosper your toil. God bless you.

Mirador, P.I. 4/22 C

This is simply to acknowledge receipt of the Mary seeds which arrived safely a few days ago. I shall try to do most of the planting myself, following your instructions as to the cold beds when needed, etc. We have a couple of refrigerators in our house, and I think we can find space for them. I am wondering how a new "wrinkle" of mine is going to turn out. I took some of the Japanese honeysuckle my brother sent and which has steadily refused to sprout, and pricked little holes in a few of the seeds so that water could get into the interior quickly. They may possibly grow; who knows? Yet I wonder if it is a question of only the water, and rather a question of starting a rhythm by first giving the cold treatment. From what I have read about "trigger" reactions in insects and animals (which seem almost to be like our own spontaneous reactions at times), according to the Divine Plan, it may be cold instead of heat for these perennials which start things going.

I shall keep you informed as to how things go. I am finding quite a bit of trouble lately in getting fertilization (e.g., marigolds at first fertilized with all 150 seeds to one flowers, now they scarcely do any at all. It may be that the trouble is not with the flower with the lack of the proper fertilizing agent, e.g. butterflies, &c.) I see a few of them around now; we have no bees. Small ants are plenty, perhaps too many. . . . I notice that the heavy rain accompanying some of our thunderstorms, some of which have already started and more are due, almost drown seedlings which are transplanted too young. sincerely yours.

Patucket, P.I. 5/2 C

Thank you for your catalogue. However, we consider your shrines too modern. We like to keep the liturgical. Sincerely,

Hamilton, Ont. Canada 6/38 C

I am delighted with everything connected with this venture. It is very appropriate for the Marian year, but as we always have our Blessed Mother every year --- how inspiring to read of the flowers named in her honor! Sincerely,

Sweeney, Texas 4/10 C

It is rather late to write you since the article I just read dated March 1953 in the Catholic Digest, but we have a group of women here --- 22 to be exact --- who will be interested in the same thing as you folks are. I am a gardener and housewife and will give a talk on Mary's gardens soon, taken from your article. Thanks. I intend to fix packages of seeds as you listed. We have all of them except Bluebells of Scotland, Lily of the Valley and fushia. Do you have more named than were listed in the article? We will plan our garden to honor Mary because of the Marian year. We are keeping it holy by studying her life. Thanks for the wonderful pleasure you gave us by your article. Sincerely,

Sweeney, Texas 4/23 C

I want to write a book on Mary's Garden --- with arrangements made with Mary's flowers and her statues. I am a flower arranger and lecturer on dried flowers. May I use your list in my book? I will also have colored pictures of her flowers. I am going to paint them in different mediums (amateur artist). The book would sell for around \$3. If I can find a publisher.

It was a miracle to open the package from you all. Thanks for the extra information that I did not send money for. How much do I owe you?

Our Catholic Woman's Club has been busy planting some of Mary's flowers. I shall get all of them at it this fall because it is already too late to plant most of the flowers here. We have quite a few Mary flowers growing wild here. Thank God and God bless both of you.

Carthage, Ill 5/11 C

The library department of the Catholic University of America referred me to you and supplied your name and address. At this season of the year I usually start gathering material with which to prepare addresses for special and public groups. Inspired by the current growing season, I am working on one for delivery to flower clubs, and to women's or even general groups on the matter of what were the favorite flowers, shrubs, herbs of the great in history (although I am especially interested in flowers and scented herbs. It seemed to me that at any time, especially in this Marian year, it would be appropriate to mention all the flowers, shrubs, herbs even trees, as to which we are told by tradition, recorded source, etc. are associated with the Blessed Virgin Mary. In fact it has seemed to me this would be an appropriate starting place. I remember reading some place that columbine is one such plant. However, I would ^{not} like to have an exhaustive list. Not being a Catholic myself, nor any large library, if I am to include this in my talk, I would need some suggestion as to where I may find this information in a source of sources of a reliable character. Possibly you have a booklet or booklets or pamphlets on this subject which you have compiled and that is for sale to the public who visit your garden. If such is the case, I wish you would quote prices on each item of the same and give titles, for my use in ordering, and I will be very happy to send you a return order. In addition I would be glad to have a bibliography or list of citations of any work or works that might contain material on the subject. If I can get the citations or bibliography I possibly can get the books, maybe from our state library, or if not, from the library of congress. I like to have source references on all material I use. If, in addition to such information as you can give, you think of any other source or sources wherefrom I may get additional material, references or bibliography, I wish you would give me names and addresses. Thanking you and hoping to hear from you soon, I am very respectfully.

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Phila., Pa. 5/16 C

Praise be God, His Blessed Mother and St. Joseph! O

Enclosed is a check for which I wish you would send me the following:
. . . . I intend to sow them now for next year.

I am now growing in my Mary's Garden, St. Joseph's Staff (planted last fall) Our Lady's earrings, Mary's Bud, Mary's Gold, Mary's pink, Our Lady's thistle, Mary's mantle, Mary's candle. They are all coming along fine.

In the fall will I be able to get seeds from all these flowers which are now growing in my garden so that I can plant them again next year, God willing? If you have the time you may come to look at my garden. We are having a lawn party Saturday from 12 noon to 11 P.M. --- turkey cold plate dinner at 5, games, bingo, etc. for all the family. May the Mother of God watch over you and yours, Sincerely in Jesus, Mary and Joseph.

Gloucestershire, Eng. 7/9 C

I am so glad you were able to get Mrs. Lillie's flower name list. It is wonderful how much you have already collected and a real help and interest to many, and a real aid in increasing devotion to Our Dear Lady.

Queensland, Australia 7/16 C

As you know June, July and August are our winter months here. Queensland is noted among Australian states for its sunny days in winter. Acting on the advice of local gardeners I set seeds from five packets in small boxes about 3 weeks ago. One lot --- Mary's bud --- shot up very quickly but I did not plant the seeds deeply enough so they were inclined to get top heavy and fall over. And then a few days ago a violent cyclone struck Gympie, another southern town, with the result that Mary's buds were in many cases flattened out. I raked up some pot plants and transplanted them, and they seem to be doing well. The others are doing nicely and were not injured. I hope to set the other seeds after the danger of frost has disappeared --- about the 15th of August. I hope to be able to send you word later on that everything is lovely in Mary's garden in Gympie. The seeds are watered with water from the Mary River, which flows through Gympie. Praying that Our Lady may especially bless you in this Marian year,

Pewamo, Mich. 8/8 C

It is indeed a pleasure to plant, then watch the flowers grow, to see what they will look like. The perennials I planted last year, and with the pretty flowers this year, gave me a great satisfaction, for the work I put in them. The grandchildren are interested in the flowers named after Mary. They like them in a bouquet of flowers as I also have other flowers. Our Lady's keys were pretty in the early spring. Mary's thistle, Our Lady's delight, and St. Joseph's staff were pretty last year as well as this year. Mary's pink and Mary's hand were in bloom for a long time. Our Lady by the Gate is pretty now. This year I

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ordered more seeds, some annuals and some perennials. Because of weather conditions the seeds were a little slow in coming up and will be something to look forward to later on or next year. . . . For fall sowing I would like the following . . .

Wishing you success in your work.

Hubbard, O. - 8/16 C

On May 17, I sent for my "Outdoor Mary Shrine". And I am more than happy with it. . . . I am enclosing a snapshot of my shrine and garden, the snap is not too good but I thought you would like it. . . . Believe me grateful for the help you have given me to grow a Mary's garden.

,Carthage, Ill. 5/21 C

I have been fascinated by the literature you sent me. I believe I could easily make a fairly long paper on marian flowers alone from the literature you sent. Actually, I would love to do so, and maybe sometime I will for a specific group to whom I believe it would be of much interest. However, since I am also going to cover some subsequent eras, possibly even some relatively recent ones, as a matter of adaptability to all types and groups of racial backgrounds, I have tentatively concluded (which is about as conclusive as one can be in hot weather) to therefore limit my consideration to the flowers or plants of the Holy Land itself, attempting as it is to go into the matter more extensively. I will be glad to send you a copy of my notes from which this portion is prepared when the same have been made and completed. I am having our local library gather me some material thereon at this time. I surely enjoyed your letter. I hope some day we may meet, personally. With every good wish.

San Francisco, Calif. 9/8 C

Read of your wonderful seeds and thought that perhaps this article about the "lady bug" you could publish in your next catalogue.

Baltimore, Md. 7/17 C

I have just received a letter from . . . who informed me that he has mailed to you a project in honor of our Lady which I am contemplating for the Marian year. We hope to put in five exhibits on Mary : art, botany, stamps, literature, history. These will be on display for two weeks, in the early fall (mid-October) on campus. The one on botany concerns flowers named for Mary I hope to obtain proper advice from you. . . . (seven thirty) I am deeply grateful for the information which you sent me on Our Lady's flowers. I appreciate your promptness and kindness. I shall consult further the leads you gave me. If I owe you . . . Hoping that your work continues to thrive, I am, with remembrance in Holy Mass . . .

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8/21

Just a note to thank you for your hospitality to me yesterday. Though I gained much knowledge about flowers in relation to Our Lady, nothing was closer to the reality than her virtue of charity which you poured out on me. With with I heartily thank you. . . . I hope that someday I may offer you the same kindness though I can think of no better way --- than nor now --- to remember you in my masses. Sincerely.

Minneapolis Minn. 9/7 C

Though all the Mary flowers I planted this year did not come to maturity because I attempted too much, I have special success with Mary's Bud and Our Lady's Pincushion. I shall remember you especially in Our Lady's Birthday Mass tomorrow for your kindness to me. Yours in Our Lady.

Cotabato, P.I. 8/2 C

Thanks for all your kindnesses, Perhaps next year we will get up some enthusiasm for the Mary's Gardens again. I know that the schools are going to keep them up, but it will be better to jog them occasionally. God bless you in your work.

Exeter, N.H. 9/14 C

Enclosed is a clipping from the London Catholic weekly, The Universe, which may interest you. I have been writing them for permission to reprint a nice article about the making of chartreuse, with herbal ingredients, and I sent them a copy of last year's Herbist. So my little note on your lovely idea was picked up by their columnist, "Clement Dane". With best wishes for the work of Mary's Gardens and all your labor of love, sincerely yours,

Victoria, B.C. 12/1 C-2

I plan to give these to my sister as a little Christmas gift for I am not able to sow and cultivate them myself. I feel sure she will derive much pleasure and interest from such a project in honor of Our Blessed Mother, and I shall eagerly watch her progress. I have no doubt that I shall share some of the plants and flowers with my sister. I am looking forward to that. I am very curious to learn from your information booklet what the Mary's names are for some of the flowers we know by other names.

Seattle, Wash. 12/9 C-4

A few months ago I read your article in the Catholic Digest. Yesterday I found St. Paul and got your address. I am hoping you can send me some of your Mary's Gardens. I am anxious to use these for Christmas gifts for certain people who appreciate so charming an idea--- and "Revival". I enclose a check for \$20 which I hope will suffice for a dozen of your gardens, and pay the postage.

Seattle, - 12/16 C-17

AQUATIC MARY GARDEN
TRAPPIST MONASTERY
AVA, MISSOURI

