

BEATRIX FARRAND
THE VALLEY CLUB OF MONTECITO
P. O. BOX 1140
SANTA BARBARA, CALIFORNIA

April 12, 1944
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Mrs. Robert Woods Bliss,
1527 - 28th Street, N. W.,
Washington, D. C.

My very dear one:

This will not be a long screed, but is merely sent to tell you what satisfaction and joy your present to the Botanic Garden has meant to all concerned. Naturally, when anyone is as immersed in his work as Mr. Van Rensselaer, he worries a good deal about its continuance, so that when he was told what a difficult financial year this was likely to be his nice face got quite puckered and worried. And now that your present has come, he is again smiling and, although the sky is not entirely clear, nevertheless you have given a big boost to the balance sheet. Thank you again, my very dear.

We go up to the Garden next Friday for the final meeting of our season here. We hear that the strawberry meadow is silvery with its blossoms, and that the flowers have seldom been as lovely. I wish you were going to be there, so that we could see it with our twin eyes.

We start Eastward next Friday week, the 21st, and as you already know, I think, we shall go straight to Bar Harbor and get there somewhere about the first of May, so that I hardly expect to reach Dumbarton until after the middle of May, but of this more when I reach home.

Thanks to you and this little cottage, the winter has been really successful. Max is stronger, and although not yet well, he has made definite steps in the long convalescence. His courage and patience are as admirable as Robert's were - can one say more.

Your ever fond,

Ap. 16. 44

Yesterday's meetg was good Trix
a peaceful, & the garden enchanting. It is a
wonderful place & must be kept afloat. The General
looks badly & has been suffering much with his back.
There will be things for you & me to speak of, garden.
circle - when we meet -