



COLEGIO DE LA SALLE  
VEDADO - HABANA  
CUBA

Santiago de Cuba, Apr. 24/40

My Dear Teuscher,

Thank you for your kind letter which I get here back from a wonderful day in the field where I got two native relatives of the Poinsettia, one of them described as Euphorbia Helenae, I think, and the other, which is a small tree, probably new to science. The two plants are of great beauty, and I will put into your hands the horticulture of it. They inhabit the same stand of Pinus cubensis at an altitude of perhaps 1000 meters. This place has but recently made accessible and is a fantastic, bewildering place for a botanist. You will receive roots, cuttings, seeds (perhaps more), and later on more secure material.

My former trip has been just a well-earned rest, and I have spent most of my time going to the Hope and Castleton gardens — and doing nothing, a new venture for me.

I thank you for the details on the garden situation. I am sure Dr. Rousseau well have understood it himself. That was one of the reasons

for my absence. He can make good for errors without being imposed upon by my daily intervention. You judge your own responsibility and it is an objectivity that is a credit to you. If you think that things are like that, then your sailing is clear.

I will be in Havana to-morrow (14 bus hours!) and will work my notes, photos and mss. for a while. There I will fly to Yucatan (Maya district) and Mexico.

And then, as the crow flies, towards home where I will try to be useful, and work a hard summer.

Although I nearly died of indigestion in a country "juda", (those mangrove oysters!) I have never felt so living in my life. Two months at sea in the Tropics is now a necessity for me.

I am writing a word to Dr. Rousseau just now. Tell every body that if I am happy amongst wonderful plants, I miss them a lot. My respects to Mrs. Teuscher and the children

Jr. Marie Seeliger.