

Hosterwitz near Dresden Decr. 11. 1902.

My dear Mr. Seane,

So many months have passed since I received your good letter in summer, but time flew away so rapidly, and I am quite surprised christmas is near once again. My mother and I unite in sending sincere good wishes and christmas-greetings to Mrs. Seane and yourself. I have been delighted as always to receive your letter and to learn you both have felt very well. I remember with delight the evening I spent at your house 7 years ago and when I got introduced to Mrs. Seane's mother and father. I hope they feel now very well again, and will you please remember me to them and give to them our best wishes. We have been quite well all summer, I am so very happy my dear mother was almost saved from sufferings; specially since late summer she felt very well indeed. You probably have had a pleasant time again last summer, but our summer was not a pleasant one, cold and rainy almost every day, so there was no time for enjoying nature. Birds have nested again in our garden, more than last year, but they were not much disposed to sing owing to the rough weather. A nice scene concerning bird's life I observed on a day when I visited one of our wild ravines in the neighbourhood on purpose to study the roots of a *Melampyrum* growing there, a very near relative of your American form. I watched two birders who were laying lime-rods. They specially aimed at a black-cap, *Sylvia atricapilla* with a

wonderful thrill. He was so careless to go very near to a lime-rod, when suddenly sharp thrills sounded down from the top of a tree, the warning cry of a robin-red-breast. The black-cap listened and had a narrow escape. Fortunately the lime was probably too old and bad. The birders scold. Suddenly a policeman came at which sight the two fellows took to their heels with full steam. Birding is very strictly prohibited here. The policeman told me he knew the birders, one of them being a young wealthy fop, who is sporting sometimes by catching birds. He torments them for a while and eats them at last. For his adventures he hired an old rascal experienced in such things as helpmate and this was the other fellow. No sign of the idealism by which so many other people are fond of captive birds! In walking home I thought the black-cap will surely have shaken hands with the robin-red-breast that morning or if the latter was a lady he presumably has kissed her. This autumn we had again a couple of owls about here. They cried incessantly all night. On a late evening in October they sat on our old linden in the corner on the street and sang a duo. I got a little cross already and considered how I could drive them away when suddenly an Automobil passed by on the street in full race. The helloballoo of the toff-toff and the hellish odor of benzole must have terribly worked on the owls, they shun our garden since that moment. Mr. Brewster's collections must be highly interesting. I am sorry I have not seen them. Mr. Greenman

has married. He sent me a card and I wrote him our good wishes. We liked him first rate when he called 2 years ago; he is a very pleasant man. I wonder how rapidly these 2 years could flee, with me a time of uninterrupted working. The set of models I commenced about that time has demanded the longest time of all shipments, and I am quite sure that some people will be already very impatient. But this is a curious matter. The material of plants yet in hand, is much sifted. Some species collected 10 years ago, have always been laid aside on account of the presumably very long time they would demand to be done. Now I was compelled to do them, the willows, Musas, ferns etc. and my working has been all right successful otherwise they would have taken longer. I do not mean this on purpose to boast, I myself have done the most difficult work, such a paradox surpassing-record has always been far from me. But I am not able to work in a Banauise way in the present situation with such tasks. I have no assistant. So I can only do what I am able may ever it be my detriment, materially or in other respects. About end of this month I shall finish the 26 specimens. Today I am working in Iporangia. We have been surprised by a very severe winter. Lots of snow and ice, frozen rivers, hungry birds and men everywhere, wealthy people hunting hares, roes, skij sleighriders, skaters, the city-stores full of clerks, empty of customers, here bright faces full of anticipation of christmas-gifts, there voices scolding at the hard times and so on, this is the picture of the present season.

Everyone hopes the hard winter will give birth to
a good summer and in this sense my mother and
I wish Mrs Deane and yourself a happy christmas
and a new year full of health and pleasure.

With kindest regards Very sincerely yours

Rudolph Blaschka



Blaschka, Rudolf. 1902. "Blaschka, Rudolf Dec. 11, 1902." *Rudolf Blaschka letters to Walter Deane*

View This Item Online: <https://www.biodiversitylibrary.org/item/158899>

Permalink: <https://www.biodiversitylibrary.org/partpdf/298530>

Holding Institution

Harvard University Botany Libraries

Sponsored by

IMLS

Copyright & Reuse

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

Rights: [Harvard University Botany Libraries](#)

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>.