

BILTMORE, N. C.

March 30th, 1897.

Professor P. A. Saccardo,
University de Padova,
Padova, ITALY.

Dear Sir:-

Your postal card of the 17th inst. offering to send us three or four hundred dried plants in duplicate, is received. I thank you very cordially for this opportunity of securing the specimens of Italian plants and I take great pleasure in confirming the tenor of the Biltmore exchange catalog, that we will gladly send an equal number of duplicates for any advances you wish to make. Shall we send the specimens at once, or would you prefer to have them go out with our European shipments by freight to a central distributing point in either England or the Continent? I think it would save you considerable expense in transportation charges. However, we shall do as you wish. It is our intention to arrange with some responsible parties in Europe to act as our agents in the distribution of botanical specimens, and to have our patrons forward our desiderata to these agents, and they in turn forward the many consignments by freight to us in Carolina. Of course all selections of plants are made here at the Herbarium, and if there are any specimens in the Biltmore exchange list that you especially desire, we will be pleased to have you indicate them. I hope by the time I have received your instructions as to the shipment and regarding any selection of plants you particularly wish, we shall have established such an agency in Europe. The material from your locality is greatly desired by this

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institution and I will not attempt any selection,- preferring to leave this entirely with you. It is the design of this Herbarium to secure illustrations of the woody plants, and if you can help us in gaining this end we shall feel under many obligations to you.

Again thanking you for your kindness in permitting us to exchange with you, I am

Truly yours,

C. D. Saccardo