

"Urusvati"

Naggar, Kulu, Punjab, Br. India.

Feb. 2nd, 1935.

Dear G.,

Many thanks for your letter of the 15th Dec. 1934 with enclosures. I am quite sure that the plant in question will thrive in the U.S. provided suitable conditions are found for it. I have by now gathered a very extensive material as regards the cultivation of this plant and it seems to me that it will rather stand an excess of cold than of heat. Damp heat of the India monsoon affects it adversely on lower levels and makes it liable to rot. It is true that often the plant recuperates as soon as the monsoon is over, but certainly it would be undesirable to subject it to such conditions.

The place near Washington mentioned by you looks interesting and I think the experiment could be well carried out there. The altitude while not being very great yet will be of some help. It seems to me that an experiment further North would also be interesting as it may show the relative adaptability. Some time ago I had a small amount of seeds sent to Mrs Horch to be put out for me as an experiment - in the Adirondacks (Moriah, N.Y.) altitude about 1000 ft. I know that they have come up last summer but it was very late in the season; now we can expect in the spring to see how the seedlings stand the frost in the open. While the number of the seeds planted was very small, yet it may give us an idea of this neighbourhood.

I have now despatched a quantity of seeds to you and more will follow shortly. The next sending will be from various geographical locations here. With this amount of seeds, I think, we shall be able to arrive at some definite conclusion.

I cannot for the present share the cost of the experiments in the U.S., but would suggest that my share in these be deducted from the proceeds of future sales. The net profit I propose to divide equally between you and me. If this arrangement is satisfactory to you we could begin working on this basis. However should you think of a better plan, please let me know.

The financial yield from the cultivation of this plant appears to be quite large, proportionately it is higher than even ginseng, as it does not need any elaborate cultivation. The local people place from 20 to 40 thousands of plants per acre and a single root, when dry, is worth about one rupee or 40 ¢ in US currency. One maund (80 lbs) of this root on spot fetches from 220 to 250 Rupees; about double that in China, I believe, because it goes through so many stages before it reaches the final consumer. I consider that by taking the average weight of a fresh root at 1-1/4 to 1 1/2 lbs, one is on a safe side as regards the number of roots that make up one maund. Already the second summer our roots here reached over one pound in weight and by the end of the third summer, when they shall be extracted, they shall weigh from 2 to 3 lbs fresh. At Lahul they have them up to 5 lbs

and more. As the root loses three quarters of its weight in drying, it takes 320 lbs of fresh root to make one maund dry. Thus at 1-1/4 lb it takes roughly 250 roots to make a maund, which as mentioned brings the local sale price of each root to about Re:1 or 4 40 c. This is a conservative estimate, since the roots often grow larger.

As you see this root is very promising, because it may be used firstly as medicine and secondly as perfume. Probably a large cultivation would bring the price down, but a wider application of the root would be thereby secured. It seems Europe imported in 1928 only about 500 maunds of this root, but I hear the price is considered prohibitive.

All the places indicated by you seem approximately close to our conditions here, being slightly cooler and having less rain, both of which is desirable. Rain well distributed would not harm; what is harmful here, are the continuous downpourings of the monsoon, intermingled with a blazing sun making the ground steam heavily. The altitude of Klamath Falls seems to bring conditions nearer to those here, but as mentioned above, perhaps further north one may obtain still better results.

I will supplement this letter in a week or two by further data, which will be of use in cultivating the plant.

I do not wish to close this letter without expressing to you my sincere appreciation of your constant efforts on behalf of the Pact as well as of the other work. I know the Powers of Light are near you in this Battle against the forces of darkness, but "in hoc signo" lies victory and this we know.

Sending you my best thoughts,

very sincerely yours,

2
"Urusvati"

Naggar, Kulu, Punjab, Brit. India

Feb. 21st 1935.

Dear Friend,

Let me express to you in this letter my great and sincere appreciation of your noble efforts on behalf of the Great Cause. Knowing the far reaching importance the adoption of the Roerich Pact will have upon future generations, it is especially gratifying that the United States together with the other Americas were the first to grasp the importance of this Pact and make this project a reality. Great lies the future of this movement ahead, knowing its effects for the welfare of humanity. Truly only gradually can consciousness be awakened and the beauty of Culture, its infinite possibilities unfolded.

Of interest are the aspects of heaven on April 15th. Many benevolent and important aspects of Mars. The moon conjoins Neptune and is sextile of Jupiter. These aspects are good for all humanitarian projects and if this date be chosen it portends well for the future.

Closing this letter I again want to tell you that it is especially precious to me that a true friend struck the keynote in bringing about the recognition of this noble project.

Cordially yours,

1
3
Dear C.

Many thanks for your letter of
with Enclosures.

I am quite sure that the plant in
question will thrive in the U. S. provided
the suitable conditions are found
for it. I have by no means gathered practically
all material available here and it
seems that it will rather stand on
excess of cold than of heat. Damp
heat of the Monsoon affects and is
liable to rot. It often recuperates
as soon as the monsoon is over, but then
of course it is not desirable to subject
it to such conditions. I have
dispatched about 3 pounds of seeds
already and some will follow.
There is one weed that comes from wild
plants near the Hartm. Vally. named
thus superfluous. It comes from wild
plants of yesterday near the largest size
of seed. The Experiment could be
well carried out near in Washington

Hills. But at the beginning we
 must one way or to try it - keeping
 expenses down. I cannot for the
 present ^{share} ~~carry~~ the cost of the Experiment
 in the U.S. but should we succeed -
 I think we could deduct from the
 proceeds ~~some 25 years~~ ^{25 years}
~~for the cost of the experiment.~~
 The net profit I thought ^{was to be} ~~we could~~
 split divided ~~equally~~ equally. If
 this arrangement is satisfactory to
 you we could begin working on the
 lands. You see the yield of this plant
 is very large - proportional to it
 higher I believe than even Ginseng
 and it does not need the elaborate
 cultivation. The local people
 plant from 30000 - 40000 plants per
 acre and a root a ten day & worth plant

40 cents per lb. S. edwards
on one Page. ~~1806~~

One mound of ~~Root~~ ~~to~~ plant in spot
worth \$225 - 250 (about double that
in China) ~~the~~ ~~Strong~~ ~~have~~ ~~the~~ ~~local~~
~~Estimate though~~ ^{graves} ^{price}

I consider that by using the average
weight of a root as $1\frac{1}{4}$ - $1\frac{1}{2}$ lbs one &
on a safe scale since the second summer
our roots here are about one pound
and the third summer ^{are} ^{unusually}
2 or even three pounds. At about
they have them up to 5 pounds and
more.

As the root looses $\frac{3}{4}$ of its weight
in drying it takes 325 lbs
of fresh root to make one pound.
at $1\frac{1}{4}$ pound it takes ^{roughly} 250 roots
or about ~~one~~ One Rs. per root or 40 cent U.S.
at 3000 roots per acre the yield is
at the rate of \$12000. This is rather
conservative I believe, because
roots have reached up to 16 lbs in
weight on some plantation ^{after 5 years}
(There is no limit to the size of the root people hold)

(4)

405

The root is very promising because
it may be used as medicine 1 and
perfumery 2. I think it would
be practical to bring it price
down since a wider application
of the root would then be secured.
Europe ~~apparently~~ ^{apparently} imported (1928)
^{only} about 500 Mounds of Root.
~~or less~~ but I hear it price was considered
prototypical.

This so recapitulates from an
Econobotanical viewpoint ^{also} it seems
to be the most promising of plants
for cultivation.

Desires of the plant.
Here. I must say that besides
root from leaf I have recorded some.

(5)

Insects. (Parasites).

Rats which are numerous here apparently do not hurt the roots when firmly established it seems even they avoid them.

Insects the Larva of the Cockchafer injures the young roots The Meal worm also eats it but does not injure it much.

The large roots seem to be very resistant since they become too fibrous for insects to attack them! and then the roots heal up naturally. ~~The danger of insects is not~~ quite enough.

The local people are known to cut the roots into small pieces for propagation. I do not advise the pieces to be too small but it is true that their vitality is quite extensive. —————

76

"Urusvati"

Naggar, Kulu, Punjab, Brit. India.

Feb. 21st 1935.

Dear G.,

By now you must have already received the first lot of seeds and an equal amount was sent some two weeks ago. I have marked the sacks with the denomination of their provenance, such as "Kashmir", "Ladakh", "Lahul". The Kashmir seeds as you will notice are larger. With the first sending I enclosed some seeds of the Himalayan Rhubarb, which is of a very fine quality medicinally, as well as seeds of rock parsley (pleurospermum) - very rich in essential oil, and of medicinal value, used for pneumonia. The other seeds which may be tried as an indicator for the insense plant, are angelica glauca and another umbelliferae, growing in the vicinity of the incense plant, in its wild state.

With the second lot I enclosed a sample of the commercial insense root as sold by traders. Please note the heavy smoking it underwent while drying, which seems a favourite way of preserving this root, or shall we call it "curing" it. I do not know how much the smoke contributes to the quality, but it may be of value in killing the root, since if dried normally, the root dries very slowly. China apparently prefers the smoked kind and the local agents only take roots which have become outwardly brown with smoke. I believe there is another reason for it too. Roots dried in hot smoke are hygroscopic and weigh more since they absorb moisture from the air.

For the oil extraction I think fresh roots will be of much greater use, since the fragrance of the fresh root is most more pleasant than that of a dried one.

In my previous letter I have not approached the question of the root's resistance to parasites, diseases, etc. The only disease I have noticed was the rotting of the root, when a direct sunray of lower India coupled with heavy rain made the ground steam heavily. Of insects there are the cockchafer larvae and mealworm. But they are only harmful to young plants. The old roots are too fibrous for them. The cabbage worm eats the leaves as well as do other caterpillars, but it does not affect the plant much, as far as I noticed. There is a kind of cutworm (caterpillar of a moth), that cuts the leaves' stems at night, but is only harmful to young plants, inasmuch as it affects their normal development for a while, by depriving the plants of their leaves.

The seeds while immature are at times attacked by the larvae of a green garden fly, but all these foes are not very serious. At any rate we have not found them to be such out here, and India is proverbially full of pests of all descriptions. We have not any moles to dig up the soil, but we have very energetic rats and I believe they are much more harmful, however they seem to avoid the roots and have not done any harm that could be noticed.

When these two sendings reach you, I shall send some more. One pound contains approx. from 22,000 to 25,000 seeds. I hope to be able to produce here a superior variety of heat resisting roots, but as yet

experiment is incomplete. I shall keep you informed as to its progress.

There are some alpine plants from the highest peaks that have survived the transplantation and climate here and this makes me believe that since exception proves the rule, we may succeed in obtaining better grades of plants.

As I have already mentioned, extraction in the fresh state, should be preferable and this opens new possibilities for the plantations. The yield of essential oil is roughly one per cent.

Should there be any point unclear to you, please let me know and I shall try to answer it. I want to thank you again for all the literature you sent me. It is of great interest and I went over it carefully.

Hoping to hear from you soon,

with best greetings and wishes

Yours very sincerely,

"Urusvati"

Private and Confidential.

Naggar, Kulu, Punjab, Brit.India

7th. Aug. 1935.

Dear Friend,

The old world is passing through a period of re-adjustment. New forces are reaching our system - our Earth. Directly and indirectly their influence will make itself felt. The process of transmutation from within is helped and accelerated by a new influx of energy. Like in a powder cellar, the setting off of one explosive will in succession set off a whole row of hitherto inert chemicals.

It has been always suggested that the so-called appearance of new stars, presages great changes, of whatever nature they may be. This year we witnessed the Nova Hercules. The impulse set in action some ten centuries ago, has already struck our system and has now passed on to the next system of worlds; for us it is the past - for them the future; but nothing can ever be lost in this manifested cosmos.

A heavenly signal to men. The seven eclipses are another signal. Eclipses, as you know, are of great and often lasting significance. A very noteworthy configuration was the combination of three eclipses: on June 30th, July 16th and July 30th. The one on July 16th of the Moon was very significant.

More and more will humanity become restless. On one hand the seekers of things spiritual, or those who follow the tide of evolution, on the other those who cling to matter and must sooner or later give way, swept off by the oncoming tide. Like those ascending into the stratosphere need oxygen to sustain their lives, likewise with the oncoming forces of evolution spiritual aspiration and development will be that life giving force.

In my last letter I have spoken of Mme Roerich's clairvoyance. Some day when the dozens of her unpublished esoteric works and notes will become public the world will be given a new insight into the inner working of life and evolution, the higher Powers and Their guidance of the life impulse. I can truly say that generations to come will be nurtured at this storehouse of facts and hints, leading to the higher life of Spirit. Just as the Secret Doctrine was given out by Mme H.P. Blavatsky and was the keynote struck during the past century, followed later by the Temple Teachings through Francia La Due, so now through Mme and Prof. Roerich a new scroll of the eternal wisdom is being unfurled.

The Great Adept Who worked through HPB has this century manifested His Hand through Mme and Prof. Roerich. Mme Roerich alone can converse direct with the Masters and receive Their answers also direct by clairsaudience. Her writings will remain for years to come the guiding light upon the steep steps leading into the realm of Spirit, just as the great genius of Prof. Roerich will kindle the aspiring hearts of the new generations. "By their deeds shall ye know them". How true this is. The oeuvre of man is the only key to his soul.

The coming generations - what great changes await them. The New Era has begun but it cannot be as yet clearly perceived.

There are certain sacred Signs-objects, manifestations of the Great Bro-

therhood that accompany all great events. These great Signs-objects mentioned in the most ancient annals and scriptures have been placed into Mme Roerich's hands by the Great Brotherhood, including a Sanskrit letter by Master M. - the Lord of Sh. - in His Own Hand, empowering Mme Roerich to start at an appointed date to come the construction of the New Era. I know these Signs and I know what They mean - the last great Manifestation attesting the Advent of Lord Maitreya took place in 1934.

Time will pass. This letter will remain a witness. I attest every word of it since it is the Truth and nothing but the Truth. To every Manifestation we have living witnesses.

Life occult can hardly be measured by these standards of every day. Take the life of HPB. She was martyred, misunderstood, slandered, suspected. Years have passed and what do we see. Greater than ever appears her heroic personality. It towers high above all the petty slander, often coming from her closest associates and makes these men appear all the darker for their dark deeds. These actions, generated by envy and ambition, these two scourges that lay at the base of every slander! As Barker truly remarked, the works of HPB are the best criterion, which will always stand on its own merit. The brighter the light, the darker the shadow it casts about it. Everything is thrown into a higher relief within its radius. It is the testing stone.

I believe you know the Temple Teachings, and also know the laws that govern the so-called chelaship. They are immutable as long as human nature remains what it is at present.

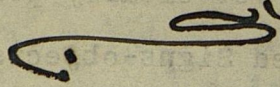
The Adepts determine events far ahead and choose Their representatives, who assume the mission entrusted to them. They incarnate directly under the guidance of these Adepts, and they are guided through life and carry with them the Signs that constitute the magnetic focus. There are material links to supplement the spiritual ones, but this link can only be one and no more. Only death itself can put an end to their mission.

It is very gratifying that alongside with attacks (these inevitable shadows) the recognition of the work done by Mme and Prof. Roerich is growing incessantly throughout the world. New books are constantly coming out dedicated to their work and numerous new groups of people join. With the very significant planetary configurations for Mme and Prof. Roerich one can expect new and very favourable changes.

For the last few weeks I discern a sadness in Mme Roerich at some recent events or rather misunderstandings. One always feels more acutely that which is associated with a person one has a true regard for and I know how highly she always spoke of you.

I close this letter and should you wish to answer me, you may do so quite safely direct to the address as at this letterhead.

With all best wishes

Yours sincerely


28
"Urusvati"

Private and Confidential.

Naggar, Kulu, Punjab, Brit. India

7th. Aug. 1935.

Dear Friend,

The old world is passing through a period of re-adjustment. New forces are reaching our system - our Earth. Directly and indirectly their influence will make itself felt. The process of transmutation from within is helped and accelerated by a new influx of energy. Like in a powder cellar, the setting off of one explosive will in succession set off a whole row of hitherto inert chemicals.

It has been always suggested that the so-called appearance of new stars, presages great changes, of whatever nature they may be. This year we witness the Nova Hercules. The impulse set in action some ten centuries ago, has already struck our system and has now passed on to the next system of worlds; for us it is the past - for them the future; but nothing can ever be lost in this manifested cosmos.

A heavenly signal to men. The seven eclipses are another signal. Eclipses, as you know, are of great and often lasting significance. A very noteworthy configuration was the combination of three eclipses: on June 30th, July 16th and July 30th. The one on July 16th of the Moon was very significant.

More and more will humanity become restless. On one hand the seekers of things spiritual, or those who follow the tide of evolution, on the other those who cling to matter and must sooner or later give way, swept off by the oncoming tide. Like those ascending into the stratosphere need oxygen to sustain their lives, likewise with the oncoming forces of evolution spiritual aspiration and development will be that life giving force.

In my last letter I have spoken of Mme Roerich's clairvoyance. Some day when the dozens of her unpublished esoteric works and notes will become public the world will be given a new insight into the inner working of life and evolution, the higher Powers and Their guidance of the life impulse. I can truly say that generations to come will be nurtured at this storehouse of facts and hints, leading to the higher life of Spirit. Just as the Secret Doctrine was given out by Mme H.P. Blavatsky and was the keynote struck during the past century, followed later by the Temple Teachings through Francis La Due, so now through Mme and Prof. Roerich a new scroll of the eternal wisdom is being unfurled.

The Great Adept Who worked through HPB has this century manifested His Hand through Mme and Prof. Roerich. Mme Roerich alone can converse direct with the Masters and receive Their answers also direct by clairaudience. Her writings will remain for years to come the guiding light upon the steep steps leading into the realm of Spirit, just as the great genius of Prof. Roerich will kindle the aspiring hearts of the new generations. "By their deeds shall ye know them". ~~How true this is. The~~ *Leuvre* of man is the only key to his soul.

The coming generations - ~~what great changes await them.~~ *waiting* The New Era has begun but it cannot be as yet clearly perceived.

There are certain sacred Signs-objects, ~~manifestations~~ *manifestations* of the Great Bro-

therhood that accompany all great events. These great Signs-objects mentioned in the most ancient annals and scriptures have been placed into Mme Roerich's hands by the Great Brotherhood, including a Sanskrit letter by Master M. - the Lord of Sh. - in His Own Hand, empowering Mme Roerich to start at an appointed date to come the construction of the New Era. I know these Signs and I know what they mean - the last great Manifestation attesting the Advent of Lord Maitreya took place in 1934.

Time will pass. This letter will remain a witness. I attest every word of it since it is the Truth and nothing but the Truth. To every Manifestation we have living witnesses.

Life occult can hardly be measured by these standards of every day. Take the life of HPB. She was martyred, misunderstood, slandered, suspected. Years have passed and what do we see. Greater than ever appears her heroic personality. It towers high above all the petty slander, often coming from her closest associates and makes these men appear all the darker for their dark deeds. These actions, generated by envy and ambition, these two scourges that lay at the base of every slander! As Barker truly remarked, the works of HPB are the best criterion, which will always stand on its own merit. The brighter the light, the darker the shadow it casts about it. Everything is thrown into a higher relief within its radius. It is the testing stone.

I believe you know the Temple Teachings, and also know the laws that govern the so-called chelaship. They are immutable as long as human nature remains what it is at present.

The Adepts determine events far ahead and chose Their representatives, who assume the mission entrusted to them. They incarnate directly under the guidance of these Adepts, and they are guided through life and carry with them the Signs that constitute the magnetic focus. There are material links to supplement the spiritual ones, but this link can only be one and no more. Only death itself can put an end to their mission.

It is very gratifying that alongside with attacks (these inevitable shadows) the recognition of the work done by Mme and Prof. Roerich is growing incessantly throughout the world. New books are constantly coming out dedicated to their work and numerous new groups of people join. With the very significant planetary configurations for Mme and Prof. Roerich one can expect new and very favourable changes.

For the last few weeks I discern a sadness in Mme Roerich at some recent events or rather misunderstandings. One always feels more acutely that which is associated with a person one has a true regard for and I know how highly she always spoke of you.

I close this letter and should you wish to answer me, you may do so quite safely direct to the address as at this letterhead.

With all best wishes

Yours Sincerely
G. S.

Dear J.

I think your plan very good one
and herewith I give you the
information you desire.

Since I had a study made of the
plant there is a great deal of material
gathered concerning its habits and
both ~~as regards its~~ wild and cultivated
form.

You see the plant is a native of this valley as well as Kashmir though Scientific data does not mention it. In former years the valley must have been ^{an} ~~an~~ ^{important} ~~very~~ ^{source} of the plant but this has ^{now} been completely exterminated. (The ultimate fate of this valuable plant). There are a few individual plants left in jungle and I had my sketches made from them.

About two years ago the Experimentos
plantations have been started at

2

510

3000 feet below the lowest line reached on the wild state. The results were quite unusual. Inasmuch as the plants grew to much larger proportions than in their wild state and were of a much better quality. To start you an illustration a portion flowered and bore seeds the spring of the second year whereas usually they would do so the end of the third year.

But experience has shown that there are definite rules to be carried out, as our altitudes, others were the plants are slow and not as robust as they ought to be.

Your questions point by point.

1) Rainfall. The plants thrive in Rajasthan but also in Sahoul. — Rajasthan has an average monsoon Sahoul has none and is rather dry. Punjab has a monsoon for long from June to September when there is a general humidity in addition to the rain.

3

to 11

The average for Naggar Rule
is according to a 27 years average
from first Oct to 31st of March. 20.62
from 1 April to 30 Sept. 29.78.

Rule has snow and where it grows wild
the snow lasts from December to
April.

The rainfall is extremely variable from
year to year instances varies 100%
and in many years it is ~~as little as~~
~~what it may have been.~~

The average temperature you shall
find on the enclosed chart. Naggar
being at 6000 feet
as there is a difference of 3° for every 1000 feet
at 9000 feet it would be 9° less.

And Naggar is where I have conducted
my experiments and repeat
again very successfully.

The plants & extraordinarily hardy
A root can be cut up into small
fragments ~~and~~, planted and grow well.

Byland 29

12

3) Here ~~Butt~~ ^{Butt} prefers partial shade
but then the sun is extremely hot
the leaves being very large
up to 3-4" then in a large area
of evaporation.

However in plants left in the open
provided the slope faces North
the plant recovers within an hour
of all ill effects of the sun.
and while the sun may scorch the
edges it does not affect the plant.
~~at all~~ lighter

4) It prefers limber soil but not
pine forests. It thrives best
under birches - Kalmia & forms
a regular undergrowth under these trees.
I think it is a good indicator.
The pine trees have a rotten effect
especially on local Pinus Exelsa &
on Blue pine the Decidua ^{Pinus Decidua Leban} is less
detrimental.

5) ~~It is~~ I doubt the soil of Indian
^{land conditions under a good}
corn would be suitable as
the corn grows below as a wide
range and does well below
where the plant will not do well, here
below 6000

5

13

In my opinion the Thronducks are
an ideal place for it or in some
higher places of the middle west.

5) It will grow well on ordinary garden
soil. Fertilisers greatly improve
its size. It is very sensitive to a
well worked soil. A deep soil is
of great help as the roots grow to
be very large and in a loose soil
penetrate better without forming
small branches.

The soil ought to be a well drained
soil as leaves in the place as
otherwise the roots may rot.

I have found that ridges
such as for potatoes are very
helpful to free the growth. Even
this does make the soil warmer for
the roots.

On account of excessive rain during
the monsoon the water is better
carried off from the main root
I enclose photograph of root
15 years old. weight 9 pounds. —

6

B 14

If the plant will do well where
 Inula Helennium grows well
 since Inula is used to adulterate
 the roots of the plant.

Inula Helennium I believe
 grows in the U.S. and I believe
 is the best indicator.

Since the roots contain manganese
 the fertilizers ought to have
 some should the ground not
 contain it however most grounds
 do.

The parts of the plant used is the
 root which often is a pound in
 weight.

Controlled hot air will be useful
 in drying the local people
 use ^{primitive} stoves where most of the root
 becomes charred and if not
 become saturated with smoke.

In drying the root loses over a third
 of weight.

The price averages \$100 ^{on local open market} per 80 lbs.
 but has gone up of late.
 80 lbs is the unit called "maund".

I only ~~mention~~ ^{annex} these points briefly, since each ~~particular~~ ^{particular} can be enlarged ad infinitum.

The Root & the old Costers of Mund
The great panacea of Sanskrit, Chinese,
Malay, the Lykian, Arabic,
Greek, German, &c etc.

Most Exports goes to China
Via Calcutta.

Rastmies State had a profit of
overage