

October 13, 1949.

Dr . C. A. Stuart,  
Dept. Bacteriology,  
Brown University,  
Providence, R. I.

Dear Dr. Stuart:

We have been doing some work lately that, I think, clears up the question of the apparent high lactase activity in lactose-nonfermenting cells of *E. coli*-mitabile, as reported by Deere. We would like very much to confirm this work on the same Garrett strain of *E. coli* that was used by Deere.

Dr. I. D. Michelson at the University of Tennessee tells me, however, that the "Garrett" strain is no longer extant there, but that it was included in a set of cultures sent you some time ago. If you should happen still have this particular strain viable in your culture collection I would be very grateful to receive a transfer. If your collection no longer includes this strain, I wonder if you could give me any further leads as to where it may have been preserved.

Yours sincerely,

Joshua Lederberg,  
Assistant Professor of Genetics.