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#### *About the Institute*

The Hunt Institute for Botanical Documentation, a research division of Carnegie Mellon University, specializes in the history of botany and all aspects of plant science and serves the international scientific community through research and documentation. To this end, the Institute acquires and maintains authoritative collections of books, plant images, manuscripts, portraits and data files, and provides publications and other modes of information service. The Institute meets the reference needs of botanists, biologists, historians, conservationists, librarians, bibliographers and the public at large, especially those concerned with any aspect of the North American flora.

Hunt Institute was dedicated in 1961 as the Rachel McMasters Miller Hunt Botanical Library, an international center for bibliographical research and service in the interests of botany and horticulture, as well as a center for the study of all aspects of the history of the plant sciences. By 1971 the Library's activities had so diversified that the name was changed to Hunt Institute for Botanical Documentation. Growth in collections and research projects led to the establishment of four programmatic departments: Archives, Art, Bibliography and the Library.

Orlany, March 24  
1842

Dear Sir

I duly received yours of the 21.<sup>n</sup> and beg to return my most grateful thanks for the collection of Mr. Cumings Philippine Isl<sup>ts</sup> Ferns which you have had the kindness to offer me. I do so not only on account of their value, but for the very handsome manner in which you have rewarded my little labours in the Botany of the East.

I subscribed to Cumings Chilian plants, to Matthews, to Bridges, to Deen-  
mond and others, but

*Tempora mutantur et nos mutamur in illis.*

The increase of my family made me by degrees withdraw my name from ~~con-~~  
tinuing a subscriber to some of the above  
and my want of success at Glasgow, last

Summer has now deprived me of all means of procuring any new collections.

It was therefore entirely out of my power to subscribe for Cumings' eastern plants, a circumstance I much regretted as they were in a measure indispensable to me whilst preparing the second volume of Wright and my "Prodrum". For my portion of that collection, then, I am peculiarly thankful: and as the Ferns have been all named by Mr Smith of Kew, they will enable me to determine some of D. Wright and others from Java which I have not yet been able satisfactorily to make out.

As to D. Wright ferns, Sir W. Hooker undertook some years ago to elaborate them, and until they be determined, as to what nos are identical as <sup>the same</sup> species, I am rather unwilling to make a fresh distri-

- but an. If however you have none  
from the Peninsula of India or Ceylon,  
I should consider it a duty this even-  
-mer to look out a few for you, un-  
-named as they are.

Have you got a copy of Wright's Icones,  
or his Illustrations - of one or other of  
them, I am not sure which at present,  
I believe I have a copy, of the first  
volume, and shall be glad to send it  
you if you have it not. How can any  
thing be forwarded to you from Edinburgh?

You ask the address of some friend in  
Edinburgh: any packet for me may be  
sent to the care of "Messrs" MacLachlan &  
Stewart, Booksellers, South Bridge Street,  
marked to be forwarded. ~~By the Mail~~ or  
as there are <sup>other</sup> two mails and two coaches  
daily from Edinburgh to Perth, passing  
through Kinross; the parcel may at once  
be given to either of the Coach offices.

again thanking you for your kindness,  
allow me to subscribe myself  
yours very truly,  
G. M. Moore Smith

I believe it is unnecessary to mention  
that Pamplin takes care of all parcels  
in London - for me.