



Hunt Institute for Botanical Documentation
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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.

London June 13th 1804
JUN 13
1804

London June 13th 1804
Mr. G. Stephens

Little Canten

near Stamford

G. Stephens

Wimpole Street



My dear Humphrey

I will not go to my Pillow this Night before I have thanked you for your last letter and thro' with a Remnant of Concern that I have not from one or other Cause earlier done it. The Improvement of your stile - the Correctness of spelling gives me an Increase of Pleasure - they are proofs of a dutiful Regard to my Counsels, of a steady Attention to the heads Instructions you daily receive, and believe me, my dear Boy, by this uniform Attention (you not only ~~enjoy~~ your good & worthy preceptors Labour but also your own somewhat more of perseverance) & the rough ascent is gained from the Summit (we will look around you & gather the sweets of various Science at your feet. The first Hour of disjunct have I will wish to Mr Turquay, & no longer despairing of your being of some Credit as a Scholar, consult him when you shall be fit to leave School, & become a Resident Member of University College, & I presume you will prefer to pounding a Mortar at Edinburgh, or quite driving on a Lawyer's Desk in the Temple. My wish is, of your Continuance with them to Christmas, & to enter pro Forma, either in the present or in Michaelmas Term. By continuing reader his Care to the Time I propose, the Course of your Studies will have less Interruption, & you may add considerably

during so many Months that will intervene between
the Re-Commencement of his Tuition & the Christmas
Receipts, to the Stock of Knowledge you have already
acquired. Of all you have acquired, or you certainly
you stand fully in need. I would not have you bring with
you a load of Books - but yet a few - Dictionaries &
Lexicons I have in Town, which - It is likely you will
pass the greater part of your Holidays - I have also several
Latin, but hardly one Greek Classics. So that if you
are disposed to enjoy any of Homer's Celestial Beauties
you must bring them with you. Had the Doctor
been permitted to remain on his Seat, there had been
a Chance of your enjoying some dusky Field Days
with your Brother Coningsby & me at Ipswich, but
as you would have your Favorite Minister of Phaction
Pitt to drive the Couriers of the State you must be
content to melt in the Pervert Heat of the Metropolis
& back the Dog Days in Carradish Square. I shall not
certainly join my Regiment while the Camp continues
to sit. We had warm work last Week - nor shall we
have it less warm, if I augur right, in this. There may
well be a grand push. Pitt will have a greater Majority
than he has had yet - not large enough to rise him at
Large in the Saddle - sad work - delirant Regis plethuntur
Achiv.

Coningsby is working at Thucydides. Harry pleases
the Chancellors in vain the Gascons to play
a game of Tennis with Cannon Balls - Charles
springs in the Streets of Canterbury in Jack Boots
& little Dick returns to me now to Utham -
Your Sister as well as your Mother complain
occasionally of Headache - "fight as well as" can
against creeping old age, & the impotence
public & private Land. What think you of Pitts Bill
his Scheme of publick Disgrace. The Doctors was bad -
this - ten hundred Times worse.

I remain with Compliments to Mrs Pitt &
your affet Father
Do not flatter yourself - Baccains as the
bought at auction - little said but the Refuse
I have given Tatum Instructions to buy for me
one small picture - the Tribute money -
Do you bring me up a Catalogue - I have lost
what I had - or know truly some one had
made it their own - whole it was not.