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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.

he is civil & cleanly. In that I have not had time to
judge, but he bears a very ^{good} character - There is however an
old & true proverb, that "new brooms sweep clean"
& this I shall perhaps find in my household concerns.

London, December twenty third 1815
Mrs. Fawcett
Brynor
St. John's
Worthing
Sussex

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The Bishop had not the civility to ask as to the
and indeed a mere uncounted being I never
like him neither as a Bishop or as you the man.
Johnson returns before I was long remember me to her
I will write to her when I am a little settled - for
the present I shall be as busy as a hen with me

Canwick - December 21st 1815.

My dear Sister

Since my return to this place, my time has really
been so fully occupied, that I have never had it in my power
to fulfil my promise and write to you. I arrived safely
on the 11th having travelled from Buckden with the Duke
and a cold which for a few days deprived me of some of my
faculties. This I believe I caught in the cold chapel at
the Bishop's palace where together with many others I was
expelled on the 10th. I did not fail to appear fully powdered
thatched there may be in other towns, I am sure there is
no teacher at Buckden. Such a creature, formerly a school
and only good for a school and a few more. I made my head sore with
and a cart load of powder. I made my head sore with
combing it all out again. On Sunday last I made
my first appearance in the desk & pulpit. I had
full duty at both my churches & a Christmas Eve
which I continued to compound with a baptism. I am
glad to say I never felt less fatigued & could with
duped care to myself have gone thro: a third duty. This
I was ^{very} glad happy to find as I was afraid I should
have been as hoarse as a raven before my first service
was over: and one of my churches is a very difficult
to read in. My father I found much as I had left

Christen... Mrs. Fawcett... the Bishop... Johnson... I will write... the present...

low; and then they much improved. - Conings by had
by no means gained ground during my absence. - Altho
his hips was considerably better, and going on as well as
could be wished; the cold weather had rendered him
rheumatic from head to foot, & he could not get any
sleep. This had a visible bad effect upon him - but
God be thanked, he has for the four last nights slept
very well for him; & this also has had an evident good
effect upon his general health. - He has also tried a
new remedy for the Rheumatism, which promises well.
So that my uphill now must be a favorable one -
Of the rest of the family & our neighbours I can also send
good accounts. - His father & his two youngest daugh-
ters returned last Friday from the South. My uncle James
journeyed that way on Saturday - Miss Bryan has declined
altogether taking Jane - - - Tomorrow I move to my
new residence at Washington - and as I may say
change my home - The short distance I am removing
to from Canwick will make this ^{event} less unpleasant
than it would otherwise have been - but I feel I
am entering upon an entirely different scene, &

new life, and when my mind is not fully occupied with
other things, I cannot shake off many anxious & gloomy
thoughts: which few have left right to indulge than myself.
I have been endeavouring to sketch out the Antique
for Mr Hawkins, but I have not yet finished it to my
satisfaction, & shall not be able to send it with this.
I hope Heywood reached you in good health & that Miss
Lee by this time joined your merry circle - I wish to
be in conversation. The witham navigation
promises well, & indeed is almost at a stand-
still ^{caused many fine boats to be in the}
place in all directions: & by the bankruptcy of the
late mayor, the corporation are minus some ^{hundreds} ~~thousands~~
My mother has sent off a box with four pair of shoes, &
your old pair: some frocks for Agnes; a piece of muslin
& some short gloves for the kniper. It was directed to
Mr ^{Hawkins} ~~Coarsons~~ at Dersey's Hotel. My love to Polly and
tell her I have settled with Mrs Harris, who has
had a pain in her face: and looks rather aged -
Mrs Brown had the things much better in the box -
I like my man servant very well. His: not very quick