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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.

Number 353, (PRICE 3s. 6d.) TO BE CONTINUED MONTHLY, OF

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Botanical Magazine;

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The most Ornamental FOREIGN PLANTS, cultivated in the Open Ground, the Green-House, and the Stove, are accurately represented in their natural Colours.

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Intended for the Use of such LADIFS, GENTLENEN, and GARDENERS, as wish to become scientifically acquainted with the Plants they cultivate.

Continued by JOHN SIMS, M. D.

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ute for Botanical Documenta

ON THE 1st OF JUNE, 1816, WILL BE PUBLISHED, PART I.

POMONA BRITANNICA,

BEING & COLLECTION OF SPECIMENS

OF THE MOST ESTEEMED FRUITS

At present cultivated in this country.

BY GEO. BROOKSHAW, ESQ.

LONDON:

PRINTED FOR AND PUBLISHED BY LONGMAN, HURST, REES, ORME, AND BROWN, PATERNOSTER-ROW;

> AND JOHN LEPARD, 108, STRAND.

THE present imperfect state of horticultural knowledge, together with the difficulty of procuring good specimens of fruits, have been long regretted by every professional gardener and gentleman interested in the science. Innumerable instances of disappointment have occurred in planting, through the want of some certain and ready criterion by which to distinguish the different varieties, so that it is by no means uncommon to see, even in celebrated gardens, long walls covered with fruit of little or no value, while many of the choicest and most valuable sorts are not to be found.

It is unfortunate that most of the books which have hitherto been written on horticulture have treated only upon the cultivation and practical management of the garden, a branch of the science to which a gentleman rarely attends himself, while they afford him little or no assistance in the choice of trees for planting :--for information to enable him to distinguish between the several varieties,--to ascertain the most delicious and valuable sorts,--in short, how to stock a garden judiciously, so that each tree may contribute to the gratification and reflect credit on the judgment of its proprietor, he may consult them in vain, while the few descriptions they do afford are vague, unsatisfactory, and incorrect.

The celebrated Miller was so sensible of this circumstance, that it was his intention when he published his specimens of plants, to have given engravings of every fruit; and it is most probable he would have done so had the state of the arts at that period been favourable to his design.

The object of the Pomona Britannica is, by a series of correct delineations, to afford gentlemen an opportunity of becoming

acquainted with the most choice and valuable varieties of fruit, which will enable them to plant gardens and orchards in the most advantageous manner; it will also introduce to their notice several sorts of superior value, which are at present but little known; it will also contain a table of the comparative value of fruits, enabling them at one view to select the most desirable sorts requisite to stock a garden, in proportion to its size and to the extent of walling it may contain.

Each plate will be accompanied with a letter-press description of the peculiar character and habits of each fruit. Particular care will be taken in pointing out the sorts proper for forcing or open walls. The leaves and blossoms, when they assist in marking the varieties, will be given, and nothing will be omitted which can in any manner tend to make the work complete.

With respect to the execution of the work, it is simply necessary to say, that the plates are engraved and coloured, from original paintings in the possession of the proprietors, made by Mr. Brookshaw, from specimens in the most celebrated gardens in the vicinity of London. The paintings are the result of ten years' labour, and afford by their superior execution and accuracy ample security that the Pomona Britannica will give the true character and representation of the fruits.

The colouring will be done under the immediate inspection of Mr. Brookshaw.

The work will be handsomely printed in quarto, on fine elephant paper, and will be delivered in twelve parts, price one guinea each to Subscribers; each part will contain five plates and their descriptions.

The work will extend to sixty plates, comprising 174 specimens of fruits, and forming two handsome volumes. The plates are all engraved, and the descriptions will shortly be completed, so that no delay will occur in the publication.

Part I. was published on the first of June, and the succeeding parts will regularly appear on the first of each month.

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On the 1st of June, 1816, will be published,

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NUMBER I.

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TO THE PUBLIC.

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It would, perhaps, be difficult to find a Capital, whose surrounding scenery, taken as a whole, more abounds in the picturesque, than that of the British empire. If it has not those prominent tokens of the sublime, to be met with elsewhere; ...if, like Naples, it has not a Vesuviis in its neighbourhood; if neither Alps nor Glaciers are in its immediate vicinity; it nevertheless, has an ample share of the beautiful; its natural amenity is of the highest order; its cultivation superiorly elegant; its simplicity of the most captivating description. It offers to the painter an inexhaustible fund for the exercise of his art. It is marked with bold and pleasing features; is full of the most delightful sinuosities; meandering streams intersect it in every direction, giving freshness to the scene, adding fertility to the soil. If its hames cannot measure with an Ohio, or a Mississippi, still its banks are more superbly decorated; its watters more richly freighted than those of any other river. If Pactolus flowed gently over a golden sand, this hears on its rippling surface the wealth of the world. In short, within a radius of thirty miles is to be found almost every thing that can embellish or give zest to society; that can induge the most sanguine expectation of the amateur; gratify the meditative passion of the antiquarian; repay the most inquisitive researches of the botanist; amuse the peripatetic, or add to the enjoyments of the man of pleasure.

Yet, for want of a proper elucidation, for want of a faithful guide to throw it into hight, to point out its beauties, to conduct to its delicious retreats, this mass of treasure lies almost unnoticed : like the diamond in the mine its intrinsic worth its known to but few; it requires the hand of the artist to set forth its brilliancy, to give play to its dazding lustre. The inhabitant of the metropolis may be said to live embosomed in beauty, of which he is unconscious: strangers, who visit our wealthy city, frequently, for want of intelligent information, qui it without having explored the grandeur by which it is environed.

The design of the present Work is to supply what may be termed a national deficiency, to bring under a focus a more complete and picturesque assemblage of Gentlemen's Seats, Villas, Antiquities, Towns, Villages, Churches, Singular Buildings, and Views within the distance of thirty miles round the Metropolis, than has yet been submitted to the public.

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Continued fince the Death of Mr. CURTIS,

By JOHN SIMS, M.D. F.R.S. & L.S.

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and will be fpeedily published.

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