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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.

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A new and greatly improved Edition of LINNÆUS'S SYSTEMA NATURE was commenced, three Years ago, by Doctors RÖMER and SCHULTES, under the following Title :

Carol. a Linné Equ. Systema Vegetabilium, secundem classes, ordines, genera, species, cum Characteribus, differentiis und synonymiis, Editio nova, speciebus inde ab editione xv. detectis aucta, et locupletata. Curantibus d. d. RÖMER, M. D. pll. Soc. Litt. Sodali, et D. A. SCHULTES, M. D. Cons. reg. et Prof. P. O. Botan. et Therap. Spec. in Universitate Landshuthana Bajor. pll. Soc. litt. Sod. 8. Stuttgardiaæ svvit. I. G. CORTELII, vol. i. et ii. 1817. vol. iii. 1818. vol. iv. 1819.

WHEN the fifth volume was nearly struck off, one of the editors, Dr. RÖMER of Zurich, died suddenly. Deplorable as this loss was for the interests of Botany in general, it proved particularly unfortunate for the present edition, to which Dr. R. had devoted much of his valuable time. Arrangements were, however, speedily made for effectually preventing the progress of the new edition from being interrupted. With this view, applications were successfully made to several of the most eminent Botanists in Germany, France, Italy, and the North of Europe, who obligingly engaged to become joint-editors of the succeeding volumes, and allow their names to be stated in the title page. This association of able Botanists, residing in various parts of the Continent, can, it is presumed, not fail to be considered by the votaries of botanical science, as highly auspicious for its promotion. The European Flora will thus, by combined efforts, be presented in a form approaching perfection as nearly as possible. Still, the new edition, now in progress, would be far from being as complete as it may be rendered, if the vegetable productions of the remote parts of the Globe, and particularly of the East and West-Indies were not illustrated with equal care, a desideratum which can never be supplied, without the assistance of
British

British Botanists; for, not only have British men of science contributed the most towards the elucidation of the plants of those distant regions, but in no part of the world are gardens, hot-houses, green-houses, and conservatories, so amply stored with the precious vegetable productions of the remote quarters of the Globe as in Britain. Several of the choicest botanical publications of England, likewise, do not readily find their way to the Continent, being, on account of their high prices, beyond the slender means of the continental scholar, and not unfrequently, for the same reason, excluded from public libraries.

A hope is therefore entertained, that some of the British Botanists may, from zeal for the furtherance of their favourite study, be induced, by participating in the completion of this important work, to lend their powerful aid towards giving it a superior degree of perfection, such as may be expected from the accession of their talents. Should they think proper to encourage the undertaking by communicating their favours, they will be pleased to take notice of the following particulars.

I. The Contributor to choose, for illustration, any genus of LINNÆUS'S vegetable system, with a view of composing a separate paper on the subject of it, or to fix on some species in which he may see room for more accurate description or more ample elucidation. It is needless to add, that new discoveries in the vegetable creation, or the placing of its known individuals in a new point of view, will, of all communications, be the most acceptable.

II. The name of the contributor to be affixed to his paper or detached observations, and to be inserted in the title-page among those of the joint-editors.

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Landshuth, Bavaria. } May 1, J. A. SCHULTES, M. D. Royal
Stuttgart, Wurtemberg. } 1819. Counsellor, and Professor of Botany in the Bavarian University of *Landshuth*.

Letters and Communications to be addressed either to Dr. SCHULTES, as above, at *Landshuth*; or to Mr. I. G. COTTA, at *Stuttgart*.



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