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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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THE design of the following publication is to facilitate the knowledge of our English Plants among the lovers of Botany. To those conversant with the Latin language the *Compendium Floræ Britannicæ* of SMITH, may appear entirely to have superseded the necessity of such a publication. The truth of this, as far as it relates to such persons, cannot be denied; but among the admirers of Botany, some may be found who are wholly ignorant of, or partially acquainted with, that language; and to such, perhaps, it may be presumed, without arrogance or vanity, that the present small work, or rather franslation, will be no unacceptable publication.

The elegant productions of WITHERING and HULL, on Indigenous Botany, have no doubt induced many to become acquainted with this most pleasing branch of natural history, who otherwise would not have attempted it; but from the size and number of volumes they are not conveniently portable, and consequently not always at hand for immediate reference. For the purpose, therefore, of rendering the present volume as commodious as possible for the pocket, such abbreviations as could with propriety be adopted, have been made, which the explanatory table prefixed will sufficiently elucidate : and IN ONE VIEW the student has an opportunity of marking on the one page, the class and order of every English species, according to the system of Linnæus; the Linnean and English names, their soil or situation, the colour of each flower, the time of flowering, and duration, together with references to the figures of plants as described by CURTIS, SOWERBY, &c. and on the opposite page their specific characters. To have included the class Cryptogamia (vide the preface to this Second Edition), would have extended the present publication to thrice its bulk, and thereby have rendered it less portable. Although this class comprehends an assemblage of vegetables whose structure excites the highest admi

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ration, yet the greater part of them, on account of the minuteness of their parts of fractification, not admitting of that mode of investigation usually adopted throughout the preceding classes, is seldom attended to but by the experienced botanist. The author has to apologise for any inaccuracies that may appear in this volume, disclaiming any merit whatever on his part, further than endeavouring to promote the cultivation of one of the most innocent, rational, and useful accomplishments.

PREFACE TO THE SECOND EDITION.

THE estimated utility of this work was satisfactorily proved by the very rapid sale of the first edition; but the death of the author has hitherto delayed its republication. A new edition, however, having long been called for, and the publisher having been favored by a scientific friend with a copy, containing not only corrections, but also, the addition of all the British species of Plants described and figured in SMITH and SOWERBY'S English Botany, and in other works, since the publication of the first edition, he has now the satisfaction of complying with the often expressed wishes of many lovers of Botany, by sub-mitting to them the present work. This, like the former edition, neither has nor pretends to have any claim to originality; but the publisher trusts, that as forming a systematic Index to the figures in English Botany, besides containing descriptions of several Plants which are not figured in that extensive and admirable work, this edition will be acceptable even to the possessors of the former one. In the first edition the author strictly adhered to the names of genera and species as given by the learned President of the Linnean Society, and respect for the deservedly eminent character of that individual would have led to a similar course in the present publication, if in a work of this nature respect for the character of an author or private friendship were alone to be consulted ; but the worthy individual alluded to possesses too much candour and love of science to object to deviations from his works, when they appear to be the result of investigation. The genera and species as given in English Botany are, however, still retained, excepting where the author of that work has himself altered them in subsequent publications, or where a reference to the second edition of the Hortus Kewensis, enriched by the superlative science of BROWN. as well as to other late works, has appeared to make an alteration necessary.

The principal novelty in the present publication is the introduction of the class Cryptogamia, which was totally omitted in the former edition. To have included a full description of all the Plants of that class would necessarily have encreased the volume to a very inconvenient size; but it is presumed, that the essential characters of the genera, with descriptions of all the species of the Linnean Order of Ferns, and of at least one species of each genus of the other Orders, will be considered as forming a valuable addition to Mr. GALPINE'S work. The books from which this part of the following pages is chiefly compiled, are English Botany, Hortus Kewensis, Hooker and Taylor's Muscologia Britannica, Acharius's Lichenographia Universalis, Persoon's Synopsis Fungorum, and Sowerby's English Fungi. The species given as types of the genera are principally selected either as the most common, or as the most remarkable for their appearance, or for some real or supposed quality. In some cases a species is given of each family or subdivision of a genus ; and in Fucus and Ulva, a species is given of each of the new genera of LAMOU-ROUX; this plan being considered preferable to the full adoption of his genera, because a better arrangement of this interesting tribe of plants is soon expected from the able hand of Mr. DAWSON TURNER. Much, indeed, is yet required to be done in the cryptogamic department of British Botany; particularly with respect to Alga, Lichenes and Fungi.

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