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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.

August 1, 1827.

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The term loss, will, by many, be thought a mere figurative expression of a tradesman, for not obtaining what, in his own ideas, he ought to get for his trouble; but, he wishes it to be distinctly understood, that although the Botanical Magazine is a well patronized Work, and, from its long continuance, an important Work to Botanists, the profits being calculated on its former much greater sale, the present diminished circulation of the Work does not pay its own expences; nevertheless, as its sale is increasing, he hopes it will soon reach to that extent which will become even profitable again; although, to uphold a Work, the parent of all Works of a like nature, and originating in his family, he would even conduct it without profit; yet, he cannot but hope, that in the end, he shall find verified, that "reward sweetens labour."

Many unforeseen causes have occurred to retard the publication of the General Index to the Old Series, which would be uninteresting to detail here; the Proprietor now informs the Subscribers he hopes soon to announce its publication.