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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.



KARL EUGEN HEILMANN

Am 31. Januar 1966 konnte Apotheker Karl Heilmann in überraschend körperlicher und geistiger Frische seinen 80. Geburtstag feiern. Als Krönung seiner 65jährigen Tätigkeit im Dienste der Gesundheit, die ihn weit ins Ausland bis ins ferne Japan führte, konnte er noch in den beiden letzten Jahren seinen Lieblingsplan verwirklichen — ein übersichtliches Sammelwerk über alle erschienenen Kräuterbücher der vergangenen Jahrhunderte zusammenzustellen.

Wie kam es dazu?

Es war um die Jahrhundertwende, da erwarb der Apothekerstift in einem Antiquitätenladen ein vergilbtes Buch mit Pflanzenabbildungen, nämlich das lebenswürdige, derbe, ja köstlich geschriebene Kräuterbuch des Pfälzer Botanikers Hieronymus Bock. Der Grundstock für eine aufsehenerregende Sammlung war gelegt, der größten, der sich je ein Privatmann auf diesem Gebiet rühmen konnte.

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Schon begannen die gewaltigen Fortschritte in Medizin und Naturwissenschaft die Kräuterbücher zu verdrängen. Diese Werke des ausgehenden Mittelalters wurden als textlich überlebt, die Holzschnitte als kunstlos bezeichnet. Erst mit dem Aufkommen des Jugendstils, für den die Holzschnitt-Technik große Möglichkeiten bot, und vor allem, als über Frankreich die wundervollen Farbschnitte aus Japan kamen, erkannte man wieder die künstlerische Größe dieser Illustrationen, die dem Expressionismus so nahe verwandt sind.

In den unglückseligen Inflationsjahren kaufte das Ausland diese ledergebundenen Meisterwerke auf. Der größte Teil jener unersetzlichen Dokumente unserer Kultur in der Entwicklung der Medizingeschichte wanderte für immer von uns fort oder wurde in den Kriegswirren vernichtet. In diesen Jahren begann Heilmann seine Sammlertätigkeit, und im Laufe der Jahrzehnte erreichte seine bibliophile Schatzkammer ein stattliches Volumen. Über hundert der seltensten alten Kräuterbücher befinden sich in seinem Besitz.

Niemand war darum berufener als er, dieses umfangreiche Sammelwerk zusammenzutragen, konnte er doch größtenteils aus eigenen Quellen schöpfen.

Was auch noch so gelehrte Worte in den vorhandenen pharmaziegeschichtlichen Abhandlungen nicht vermögen, die Bild-dokumente, die sich nahezu fugenlos aneinanderreihen, lassen nun klar und übersichtlich den großartigen Weg erkennen, den unsere Kräuterbücher gehen mußten, und zwar vom Anbeginn ihrer Geschichte bis in diese unsere Zeit.

Konrad Kölbl

1966 DER VERLAG

from the and papers of -his

Krautbücher in Bild und Geschichte

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MEMORANDUM FOR DR. PAUL C. STANDLEY, REGARDING FERDINAND RUEGEL'S COLLECTING LOCALITIES

THANK YOU for your courteous note re Dr. FERDINAND RUEGEL (1806-79.) I have an article (with portrait) on Rugel, coming out in the next issue of Field & Laboratory (v. 15, no. 2, June, 1943.)

I am sure that you are correct in doubting the Ohio localities for the Rugel specimens secured from the British Museum (Shuttleworth Collection) through the USNM. You can, I hope, trust the Cuba, Tennessee, Texas, and Switzerland localities. Regarding the Florida labels, I cannot hazard an opinion, [v. infra.] You are right in surmising that the "Rugel" reference in Jane Loring Gray, Letters of Asa Gray, v. 1, 1893, 215, is a lapsus calami for Karl, Freiherr von HÜGEL (1794-1870), Austrian Geandter at Florence and Brussels, whose "Enumeratio Plantarum ..." was published in Vienna in 1837 (8°, pp. 83.) Gray examined the HÜgel plants in the Vienna herbarium (1839), and took specimens, gratis Endlicher.

I copy out for you some of my rough notes on Rugel's collectings, in reciprocation of your kindness to me. FERDINAND RUEGEL was born near the village of Altdorf ("Weingarten", post 1854), 2 miles n.e. of Ravensburg, in the Donaukreis of Württemberg, [NOT Baden], on January 24, 1806. Of his parentage and early education I know little that is trustworthy. About 1827, Rugel went to Switzerland, to Bern on the Aar, and entered upon an apprenticeship to a pharmaceutical house. Rugel became interested in botany, and his interest was increased by association with Robert James Shuttleworth (1810-74), who for many years resided in Bern.

In 1833, Rugel collected the flora of the Rhone valley in the Canton of Velais; and that of the Pennine Alps (between Mont Blanc in Haute Savoie and Monte Rosa.) He thus collected an abundance of the plants of southern Switzerland and the Piedmont. In 1839, he went down the Rhone valley into France, past Nîmes and Montpellier, and so to southern France, where he collected from April to August. From June to August, he collected at Narbonne (in Aude), at Perpignan (Pyrenées Orientales), and at various other localities in the Pyrenean region. He is also reported as having made some collections in Sicily at about this time, but the data are not conclusive, and I am inclined to believe the reports erroneous.

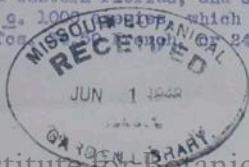
On March 25, 1840, in an advertisement in Flora, Rugel announced that he was about to go to the United States to collect plants and insects in Georgia and the Carolinas. Arrangements were made with Shuttleworth of Bern to act as his agent in the disposition of his plants to other botanists. Rugel's letter was dated from Bern.

How Rugel arrived in the United States, I do not know. I surmise that he came to Baltimore, and from Baltimore to Portsmouth (nr. Norfolk), Va., wher he collected until the spring of 1841, at the same time that he worked as an apothecary. On Nov. 25, 1840, Rugel wrote to Asa Gray from Portsmouth, and tried to enter upon a correspondence with him, and to make an engagement for collecting with Gray. Nothing came of this effort. Gray at the time was fully occupied in completing and seeing through the press the first part of the Compositae for his North American Flora [v. 2, pp. 1-184.] Rugel confined his Virginia collecting in 1840, apparently, to the vicinity of Portsmouth. Rugel says so in a letter to Gray.

About this time, Shuttleworth informed Rugel that he wanted all, or none, of his collections; that he wanted no sales on the side of specimens to American botanists. He also required Rugel to prepay all packages to Bern, which irked Rugel intensely.

In the spring of 1841, Rugel set out for the mountains of North Carolina from Portsmouth via Petersburg, Marysville, and Martinsville [probably], to the Virginia line, and then via Rockford, Wilkesboro, and Morgantown to Rutherfordton, in Rutherford County, N.C. In July and August, he was collecting on the Black Mountains, N.C., and was collecting in Rutherford County in October and November. He missed meeting Gray (who with John Carey and James Constable had come up the Valley of Virginia during the summer of 1841, and had got as far as Grandfather Mountain, N.C., and Roan Mountain, in Carter County, Tenn.) In November or December of 1841, Rugel was at Knoxville, Tenn. In November or December he was exploring extensively in that region, as well as in the mountainous parts of eastern Tennessee. He hoped to collect in Tennessee and Alabama in the season of 1842.

His whereabouts in 1842, botanically, I do not know. In 1843, Rugel journeyed to Florida and collected plants in northern and western Florida, and also some in contiguous Alabama. He collected an aggregate of ca. 1000 plants, which were distributed in sets by Shuttleworth. Plants were sold at for 24 Swiss fcs. per century. They were admirably collected.



A Century of the Arboretum

by Walter Muir Whitehill

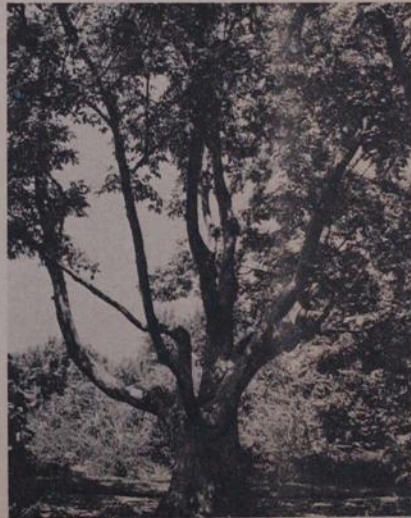
This brief history of the Arnold Arboretum is excerpted from the Foreword to the Arboretum's Centennial publication. Mr. Whitehill is Director and Librarian of the Boston Athenaeum.

Edwin Lawrence Godkin, editor of the *Nation*, who came to the United States from England in 1856, observed in 1871 that "Boston is the one place in America where wealth and knowledge of how to use it are apt to coincide." This was more than a little due to the remarkable respect for learning prevalent in a region that had established Harvard College in 1636, only six years after the Puritan immigrants of the Massachusetts Bay Company first settled Boston. As substantial prosperity came to Boston, first through maritime commerce and, in the nineteenth century, from manufacturing, solvent Bostonians devoted considerable money, time, and personal effort to the creation of learned and benevolent institutions that have survived usefully to the present day.

These benefactors of culture were mostly men and women of moderate rather than colossal wealth who, being free to choose, devoted their time to study, collecting, and giving, rather than applying their abilities to the enlargement of their own fortunes. The American Academy of Arts and Sciences (1780), the Massachusetts General Hospital (1811), the Provident Institution for Savings in the Town of Boston (1816), and the Massachusetts Horticultural Society (1829) were all the result of professional men joining with solvent and well disposed



A pleasant walk on Hemlock Hill



Acer Ginnatum

TODAY and TOMORROW

By WALTER LIPPMANN

The Fascination of Greatness

MR. CHURCHILL lunched with the Washington correspondents last week. At the end there were few among us who would not have agreed with the Lord Mayor of the English city when he said in the dark days of 1940 that a speech by the Prime Minister is like a week end in the fresh air. I do not remember a time when Washington so badly needed fresh air. In fact, it needs a gale of wind out of heaven to blow away the dust, the cobwebs and the stinks of intrigue, vanity, jealousy and vindictiveness.

Mr. Churchill's remarks, which were given as answers to questions from the correspondents, cannot be quoted. In fact he revealed no secrets and said nothing that is not already known to the attentive reader of the newspapers. Yet somehow he restored and refreshed the faith and confidence of a corps of men whose duty it is to report and interpret the conduct of the war.

We may well ask why and we may ask how. For Mr. Churchill is not only the Prime Minister of Great Britain. He is also the one certainly authentic example of greatness in a public man who moves among us. In these times which try men's souls, we are not equal, but we have to learn to be equal to them. We may then remember the profound saying of Whitehead that "moral education is impossible without the habitual vision of greatness." For Churchill's special gift, which enhances all the others, is his moral quality: he draws men out of their meaner selves and fascinates them with greatness.

The fascination of Churchill is not merely in his wit, or even in his humor which keeps him so near to his fellow men, or in his genius for war. We may find it is his eloquence provided we do not, as Cardinal Newman said, "consider fine writing to be . . . a sort of ornament superinduced, or a luxury indulged in, by those who have time and inclination for such vanities." Churchill's eloquence is the man himself, and secret of his fascination is his magnanimity.

It becomes more ample with the years. For when men age, they may grow vain, irascible and self-centered. Or they may grow wise, benign, compassionate and universal. Churchill has aged well. At the pinnacle of his fame, we saw him the other day treating the humblest man asking the most impertinent question with that courtesy which only those display who really respect the dignity of other men. He does not talk down to other men, nor does he talk over them. He talks to them because they have a right to know. Thus he rallies men to his standard because he engages that which is noble in them. And even in his wrath against the enemy, which is awe-inspiring, there is not the malice of the small man but the chivalry of the good warrior.

In these energies of the spirit,

he radiates upon the cause in which we are engaged an habitual vision of greatness. The war as he reveals it is not only strategy and logistics and production, not a mere series of bombings, landings, ship movements, factory schedules, rationing and taxes, but the historic drama of our century. Nations cannot wage a war of this magnitude unless they carry with them in their minds and hearts such a measure of its depth and its scope.

That is why our spirits languish when their daily food is only the military communiques, press releases and an absolutely intolerable flood of gossip journalism, pipe-line journalism, and intrigue journalism, about who is in the dog-house now, and how the courtiers at the palace are planning to cut one another's throats, and how misunderstood and unappreciated are those who hand out the dope to those who then lick their boots.

The air is foul and stale with it all and, as we come to the climax of the war, the air must be cleared and cleansed. We have fallen into the vice which Chaucer called "the synne of accidie"—that sloth and torpor of the soul which makes us sluggish in the exercise of virtue. We spend our days pawing over the intrigues and machinations of little men. We have fallen to these depths because, though the nation is engaged greatly, it is denied the habitual vision of greatness. "They fainted, and were scattered abroad, as sheep having no shepherd."

The springs of greatness in a public man lie finally, as they do in Winston Churchill, in the conviction that he must serve the truth and not opinion, that he must do what is right whether or not he is sure to succeed. That was how in the darkest hours of 1940 Churchill made the choice between honor and calculation. When none could calculate the future of Britain he settled the issue on the ground of honor and of duty.

This is the way of greatness. In the supreme moments of history terms like duty, truth, justice and mercy—which in our torpid hours are tired words—become the measure of decision. We, unhappily, are acting as if we had forgotten them. We seem to be ashamed to utter them, in part because we tremble at the gibes of the Philistines, but in the main because they are remote from our habitual feeling.

Yet the outcome of this war will break men's hearts if we allow ourselves to sink to the meaner measure of our conduct. We are trying to be too shrewd, too clever, too calculating, when what the anxious and suffering peoples cry out to us for is that we practice the elemental virtues and adhere to the eternal verities. They alone can guide us through the complications of our days. The straight and righteous path's the shortest and the surest.

