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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.

to Fagg

Gray Herbarium,
Cambridge, Mass.,
November 8, 1930.

Dear Jack:

I enclose a copy of the next instalment of the Massachusetts Flora for you to go over. I wonder if you could cover the literature for Nantucket and Dukes Counties for us. I am planning to assign the literature to the different members in hopes of making a little more speed in the future.

It will soon be time for the Club to make up the committees again and I hope you will be willing to continue with us on the Massachusetts Flora. May I tell them that you are?

I am following your work in Rhodora with much interest and am looking forward to seeing it assembled in a Contribution. It seems to me a Flora loses much of its effectiveness when it is allowed to remain in the broken up serial form as Bicknell's was. Allow me to compliment you on the fine appearance that your Flora makes.

Sincerely,

Lyman B. Smith

Nov. 22, 1930.

Mr. Lyman B. Smith,
Gray Herbarium,
Harvard University,
Cambridge, Mass.

Dear Lyman:

This is merely in the nature of a belated acknowledgement of the receipt of the Massachusetts Flora sheets. I have not had time to go over the copy critically yet, but hope to do so soon, perhaps during the Thanksgiving holidays.

I shall be glad to cover the literature for Nantucket and Dukes Counties and also, if you wish me to, for the southwestern portion of Barnstable County (Falmouth, Woods Hole, etc.) with which I am somewhat familiar.

If, living at such a distance, I can still be of service to the Massachusetts Flora Committee I shall be only too glad to continue. But do not feel that you have to keep my name on the list simply because I agreed to help the year I was living in Cambridge.

Many thanks for your remarks concerning my Elizabeth Islands work; you are more than kind. I hope that some of these days I am going to be able to tackle Mattha's Vineyard in the way that it really deserves.

Most sincerely,