



Hunt Institute for Botanical Documentation
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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.

New York 28th
by N.Y. mails

and hence to

Middletown Connecticut July 20th 1840.

My Dear Friend,

I received a letter from Mr Buckley dated Mobile^{*}
July 6th informing me ~~that~~ he had shipped a box of plants
by packet (the James Baring) the day to sail; by the time this
letter came to hand, I saw by the N.Y. papers, the arrival of the
packet announced - so I suppose you have the plants in your
safe keeping. - Mr Buckley said he had enclosed a package for
me, which I presume you found. of the navigation to the
Sound had been open, I should have desired some friend to call
and take charge of it, before this time, for my desire to take these plants -
Chas. Smith will visit New York in a few days, and has kindly
offered to convey the package for me. I very much wish
you would do it, put in a suitable box for safe carriage, if it
is not sufficiently protected to endure a journey at this
season, partly by land -

I took care to send by Capt. Dehor on the 15th of July, a fine
package of Caricifera to Dr. Booth. There were several sets and
in fine preservation. Capt. Dehor was in this city a few days
prior to sailing, and was so kind as to take them with him
to New York. His sister afterwards informed me he put the
package in the bottom of his trunk! by this time I presume
they are in possession of Dr. Booth. When you hear from him
let me know if they have been received, and what he
is engaged upon, or doing with the Caricifera. I have
an unfinished letter which will require the observation
of another year to complete. It will show in separate
columns the time of flowering, the time when the fruit is
fully formed for collecting, and in another col. the time
when the fruit is fully ripe. Then references to if this were
more complete I once sent a copy to Dr. Booth at once, for his use

* Allenton, Wiley & Co. New York - Street lettering -

There are about 70 species of *Forss* growing here, and this table
is intended to show the time of flowering &c. and will be
highly useful to me for reference, and ^{who is going to send me} I think to
be useful for you & Dr. Gray, when you receive the *Chrysomorph*.
in your time. I hope I shall ^{have} some new matter for you ^{later}.
The flowering time and fruiting is very imperfectly given in the
books, I cannot tabulate through the County names be very
agreeable and useful. I will set a good model before
the Botanists in due time when I can finish it to my mind.
I have been much delighted with experimenting with the
great Microscope of Amies. through the polite attention of
Mr. R. D. Jarvis. He has taken much interest with
Infusoria. Ehrenberg's paper on it and with experiments
on the blood. There are some excellent papers in Taylor's
Scientific Memoirs - I hope to be able to make a number
of experiments soon with Dr. J. on the structure of plants, he
takes great interest in these matters and is very skillful with the instrument.
You must have had a high treat with seeing the
plates and proofs of the Frenchman with his Daguerreotype!
He when I next come to New York, I hope you will be able to show
me some of your own contrivances or your friends at least -
I send my best respects to Dr. Gray, say I have made up
2 handsome vols of his *Colony* &c. It has been seen
by several here, and the plan much admired!!
There are a few blanks perhaps 8 or 12 that I should like
to obtain ^{to complete the set} - of these I will furnish a list to Dr. G.
I shall soon be able to send your specimens. But
think a list of -
I send my best regards to Mrs. & the Misses Torrey. I wish
I could see these charming visitors of your library of *torreys*.
it is my privilege - I am very truly yours
J. Barratt.

To Dr. J. Torrey

Dr. J. Torrey

J. Barratt.