



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.

Langholme,
Woodstock Road,
Oxford.

6 Nov. 1888.

Dear Mr. Rogers

I hope you will forgive my delay in writing: it has arisen from a complication of causes too long to go into & not worth while, but including overwork & absence from home.

Many thanks first for the *Primula*, which arrived safely, & now looks pretty well & likely to grow. Also now still more for the list of *Tasm. Hepatica*, which I am very particularly pleased to see. Like you I observe a good many that have not been sent to me, about in fact, & I have put a slight mark to these with a pencil, as you will see.

Part of these however I have before from N. Zealand or Tasmania.

I have just finished a rather intricate job, in arranging the old collection of mosses made by Dillenius, the first Sherardian Professor of Botany here, about 1730 to 1745, and putting modern names to them. Among them are specimens received from Pennsylvania, sent by John Bartram, and other curious and interesting things, as *Salacomnion palustre*, in fine fruit, bags about Oxford, 1740! It would be a difficult thing now to find either the plant or the site where the said bags existed. Such are the changes brought about by time. I do remember the plant, about twenty five years ago, in a barren starved condition in some dampish ground,

but even that has now long vanished.

Yes, I had a couple of days at Kew, also visited the Italian Exhibition, and paid off some long arrears in the way of visits to old friends about London. Since returning I have been busy with various matters of very uninteresting kind, generally, except the collection above referred to. I don't think there is anything amongst them that is worth the telling you about. I hope now to get a little more leisure & quiet.

Kind regards.

Yours very truly

H. Boswell.

I am afraid there is no one now who does anything in the Butterflies, but I will enquire about & try what I can find.