



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.



of 100 y
-down-

William Haysick Esq.
YORK
Hensington near
London



Dec 29th
1807

John Bate

17/4/501
Dear Sir,

I shall make no Apology in addressing a liberal minded ingenious Man as I conceive you to be; & although I am not personally acquainted with you, I am well acquainted with your superior abilities and ingenuity, as well as your Philosophical turn of mind; and I have now before me a Recipe of yours which I have met with in the Philosophical Magazine for the killing of those insects which infect apple trees so much, that notwithstanding I have about 100 trees, I had not an 100 apples upon them this year; and I am inform'd by my predecessor, that has been the case for several years past, owing I believe to an insect which fixes upon the leaves & eat them, so that they appear like a blight, & which insects have their winter abode perhaps in the shrubbery & trees which are planted on one side of the gravel walk, & the apples are planted on the opposite side thereof at a considerable distance from one another, and they are healthy looking clean barked young trees about eight or nine feet high, & they were full of blossom, but no fruit at all.

Your Recipe says to a 100 Gall^s of human Urine and one bushell of lime, add as much Cow dung as will bring it to the consistency of paint & with this composition anoint the Trees.

and the month of March is the proper time to do
this business, but I am really so much at a loss how to perform the business
that I shall esteem it a very singular favour if you will have the goodness
to give me a few lines on the subject, as I suppose you have seen it performed,
Is the stem and all the branches of the tree to be painted over with the
mixture? if so, I fear it will be a tedious operation, perhaps the branches
may be sprinkled over with the painting brush by dashing it over them, or
by pouring the mixture upon them by a watering pan with wider holes
in it than usual — By this time I imagine you will begin to
wonder who the person is that is addressing you with so much free-
dom. I am an Architect who has followed that profession upwards
of 60 years with indefatigable industry, but have now retired about
a year ago to a place I purchased which has been prettily laid out
& planted, & near the house is a well walled & planted garden, in which
& in a parterre adjoining I now amuse my self: I am well known to all
the eminent Architects in London, & am an honorary member of the
Architects Club or society, I visited London annually for upwards of
50 years to spend a month or two there with my numerous friends,
during which period I lived in the city of York, I now live at
Asham hall near Tadcaster Yorkshire at which place I shall

be very happy to hear from you, I have ^{Dr} Dyot Bucknalls
treatise of cleaning & deepsing apple trees but mine ^{being} all young trees
do not require his mode of treatment, It is the insect which preys
upon the leaves which ^{hinders} their fruiting. I have lately heard of a book
published by you of the management & cultivation of fruit trees, but
our York booksellers say they cannot procure it from its being out of
Print; The last time I was at Kensington I dined with Mr. ^{your}
neighbour, unto whom I desire you will present my best respects,
I ^{being} still in the land of the living, but am now upwards of
eighty years old I don't ramble so far from home as I used to do
but ~~God~~ God I have no other complaint what ever but old

Sincerely wishing you may enjoy your health
as long and as well as I do, I remain dear Sir

Your most obedient & respectful
humble Servant

Ascham hall 29th Dec^r. 1801

J. R. Carr