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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.

Sept. 17th 91.

Dear Prani,

I am now in a position to answer your letter of the 8th August. First the Govt of India have sanctioned the expedition. I sent the F.O. a copy of your D.O. letter stating the pay and position you wished to go in & voted that you go simply as attached to my party in the interests of the Botanical Gardens, that all collections go to Calcutta & not to Kew, that you draw your deputation allowance of Rs 10/- a day from the Foreign Dept; getting your

pay, proper, in the usual
 manner. The case is now
 before G. & they tell me
 that no difficulty is expected
 regarding its settlement on
 your require. They asked
 me today how long your ser-
 vices were likely to be required
 & I said at the outside
 from 1st Nov 1891 to 15th April
 1892, though I expect we shall
 be back early in March.

About tents we had better
 have one each, I can arrange
 for them from here if
 you don't object to a very
 small one. We must
 buy a light servants' pal
 which we can share evenly
 from our outfit allowances
 (£ 750) each.

We should be at Delnagarh
 by the 15th Nov^r. I am

(3)

going to ask you to let
me consign all my things
through you to Messrs
Hamilton & Co to be sent
on to Dibrugarh. Rations
we must buy in Cal-
cutta if you will see
them before they are
sent off. Will you run
the mess & buy in the
necessary stores, drink
&c. Packages should not
be more than 50 lbs. We
should get some light
tin cooking pots, enough
to do us should we be
separated. Keep an acct^{such}
of all your expenses as
your hire of us F. D. must
pay all. Our rations
must go in advance of
us by slow steamer, it
would cost nothing to

Take them by mail train.
 I have proposed that a
 Mr. Errol Gray, a planter in
 North Laka mission should
 accompany us as inter-
 preter. If it is sanctioned
 we must receive rations
 of 2 at Dirugam and
 take on to Sadeya, making
 arrangements there for
 boats coolies &c
 Our party I have proposed
 should consist of the following.

Dr. Colomb.

Dr. Pruni

Mr. Gray.

2 private servant.

My orderly to be generally

1. Botanical collector ^{useful} to you

1. Soldier surveyor.

1. Interpreter (Tibetan).

12 permanent Khasia
coolies

and for information regarding
routes, people, arrangement
to the I. B. We shall call
them to make our reports as
full as possible on all subjects
so I do not think it will be
possible to make a division
of labour. The F. I have
lent me a camera so
we can manage the
photography all right.
Climate of course will
fall to you and agriculture.
Bugs I will take as we
must all appear suffi-
ciently mad. I have got
a galvanic battery &
must get a magic lantern
The instruments you will
I will arrange for, some
from here & some from Cal-
cutta.

As regards medicine I think

we should take as much
as we can get, our party
you see will be some 25
men, the F.O. also looks
to you to "Kushi-Karo" the
natives so it might be
as well to take instru-
ments for simple operations
such as hare-lip, which
is very common all over
Burma and will probably
be so in Khampti country.
Midwifery always goes
down well, this I saw
proved with the S.B.
Commission, we might
take instruments, also
wrote forceps and plenty
of Chloroform. We need
not stint ourselves as
regards carriage, we
can hire as much as we
like. The first thing the

That is 3 Europeans & 19
-natives. The latter will get
free rations which we must
allow for. In addition
to these I have estimated
for 25 wild cookies. You
can add to your party as
-you please but the more
men we take the more
rations we must carry,
-better not take more than
2 collectors if you can man-
age with that number.

As regards our duties: - the
main object of the expedition
is to ascertain where our
boundary with China
should lie, (2nd) to find
the sources of the Irrawaddy
if they lie in the vicinity
I shall have to be responsible
for the surveying & Political
conditions to the Govt of India

I.O. want you to do is
to say exactly what medicines
and instruments you want.

About ration & stores about
I hope tell I will. I'm

sure I think to be all
at present. With kind

regards to Mrs. Paine.

Yours very sincerely,

L. O. Colman.