



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.



Wm J. Hooker Esq
Halesworth
Suffolk.



My dear Hooker

I have now to thank you for several beautiful additions to Mr. D's Collection of Mosses & I assure you that I value them both on their own account & still more as a token of your continued Friendship - I fully thought I had answered your former letter & have often been as much puzzled to account for yours as I still am for Turner's long continued silence - The Fact on recollection turns out to be that immediately after your letter arrived I went to Town where from what I heard at Sir Josephs I fully expected to have met you at the Anniversary I went repeatedly to the Bedford in hopes of finding you there - The Disolution of Parliament then took place & some Events which followed tended to drive all other matters from my head. - In short I suffered myself to become a Candidate & should have succeeded if my Opponents Interest with Government had not prevailed in obtaining for me a refusal to accept of another Sheriff in my stead.

I was however led almost irresistably into this attempt by the wishes of others rather than by own, & on the whole sincerely rejoiced at this honorable escape from a sort of life which would very much have taken me from my more favorite Hobbies - An experimental Farm of Zoology & a little dabbling in Entomology to which Kirby & Shenners book has principally led the way now occupy most of my time & I have been preparing for the Linnean Society some Account of the Coleopterous Insects which are found in the Neighborhood of Swansea.

Before you publish a second Edition of your Mapes I think you are in duty bound to look at those of South Wales & as we have abundant room for Mr. W. & other Family & as Mr. D. & myself would be rejoiced to see them I shall move for a Rule for you to shew cause why you should not pay us a visit next Summer - Indeed, my dear Hooker I think myself somewhat unfairly deserted by most of my old scientific friends

I place Turner first & you second in this list of delinquents because you can go so much further home in other directions, & because I have had your repeated promises to come & see me.

Mr. D. gives me in best thanks to yourself for your very handsome present & in kind regards to Mr. Hooker.

Believe me

Very sincerely Yours

L. W. Dillwyn

Pembroke

Jan. 30. 1849.

Author of a work on British Conifers, & of a Conchological Dictionary.