



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-Haven, October 12, 1897.

Harlan H. Ballard, Esq.

Dear Sir,

I wish to thank
you for your very interest-
ing sketch of Amos Eaton,
and to apologize for
the time that has el-
apsed since it was
received at my house.

I was out of town at the time, and have been ill for a few days since my return.

I took up the pamphlet in a perfunctory way, as I am not very fond of the personal memoirs which are showered upon us in these days; but I found the sketch so

interesting from its flighty
style and facts that
were quite new to me, that
I read it with much
pleasure.

When I was young, and
just married, I consid-
ered "the old Professor" a
perfect "Bluebeard" owing to
his many marriages, as I
listened to the family

traditions. Of course, I never
could have seen him, as
he died before I was born.
Later on, I began to
appreciate his fine char-
acter and attainments,
especially when I met
scientific men from
Vermont or the Berkshire
region or from N. Y. But
I never truly appreciated
him until I read your