



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.

● Clayville, N.Y., March 20/99

Hon. F. M. Coville,

U. S. Natl Museum, Washn

Dear Sir,

There are now in my hands, as you are aware, 82 sheets of the different forms of Asplenium felix-fœminina belonging to the herb of the Smithsonian. Six of these sheets came from Fred. M. Clements, all of which were gathered at Lone Pine, Nebraska, on Sept. 4, 189, & they are all the same thing, viz. var. cyclosorum, of which there are also other specimens in the collection.

I am writing this for the purpose of asking whether it would be allowable to let me have one of these sheets, for which I would compensate the herb by putting in its place some endemic species from the West Indies which is probably not represented in the herb at all. It would be no loss to the herb, as these specimens are identically alike & look as if they might have been taken from the same plant even. I have no Nebraska specimen, & should appreciate it much if my plan is a feasible one.

I have all the specimens of this species owned by Harvard, the St. Louis Bot. Garden, & the Cal. Acad. of Sciences, but your collection will form the basis for my exploitation of the species. It has never been

thoroughly done in this country, but I have
the ^{right} material to work upon & believe that I can
make the study fairly complete & satisfactory.

Trusting that I have not asked for some-
thing that I ought not to, I remain

Very sincerely Yours

Benj. D. Gilbrech