



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.

Cambridge, Nov. 23, 1887

My dear Barney

Thanks for your good
letter & kind greetings.
I am glad you are taking
up the Naturalist. for Botany.
We got home on the 6th - but
are not yet settled, tho. I
have done considerable work.
Shall be glad to see you in "Jan. or
Feb."

As to "Pocket Manual of
Botany", the simplest solution is
one which some of my botanical
friends have made, viz. that of
cutting a copy of my Manual
down close to the type & binding in
limp leather. Copies could be pre-
pared in this way if there was a
demand, and they could be ~~printed~~
printed on thin paper.

Hyde or Deal type would be
found a nuisance. As to ~~higher~~
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and compactness, it is possible
that the next edition of
Sprengel's Manual may cover a
larger geographical space. I
must be much increased in bulk,
perhaps an increase in bulk.

A synopsis with characters
reduced to a few words is
very difficult to make, trying to
use, and in use very likely not
to contain the certain peculiar-
ities which require examina-
tion in the field.

I may say to you
that I am thoughtfully
planning the form and
the number and extent of
the paying books which I
can leave behind me,
and which may for a while
give something to run the
herbarium here after me.
I shall be glad of suggestions.
The income from the

whole lot. is not much, but
it is important to a man
like me who has no
salary, and who is devoting
his life to a Jelva of
N. America. which, when
measured as a pure labor
of love, does not pay
the ~~for~~ expense of type &
paper. I pay for
all myself, and as to
the part of Jelva is=
sent in May 1878, I
have got back only $\frac{2}{3}$
of the direct outlay to the
printer.

I add that I have
had in mind the future
issue of this Jelva on thin
paper & very narrow margins,
for portability.

Very truly

Jos. Arcton