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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.

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Boston, April 5, 1848.

My Dear Sir William

When I came into
Boston last evening to attend
a meeting of the American
Academy I had no idea
that our worthy President
was to sail this morning for
England, or I should have
entrusted to him some portion
of the contents of the box which
I sent yesterday on board of
the vessel (to charge of the
Lords of the Admiralty).

But as Dr. Bigelow
hopes to see you very soon
at New I make him the

bearer of this letter, and
know you will be very glad
to see him.

The maple sugar which
I inclosed in the box is not
I fear all maple, but in
part of cane sugar. Though
it has the odor of the former.

Dr. Bigelow has promised to
get some of the real country
article, and also some Bay-
berry Wax, to bring you
Museum. If he does not
succeed in finding it this
morning, I will send a note
hereafter.

The box I speak of contains
a trunchion of *Aristochida* Lopho.
the largest stem I ever saw of it.
some Sassafras Wood. A large
dry specimen of the larger Texan

Dasylinum, - a living plant
of the same which I trust
you may flower this year
in the stove, - and a small
specimen of the same, in its
pot.

There is also a live
plant of Gaylussaccia brachycera
(from the new locality in
the Mts. of Peru) which will
flower this spring.

Pray send me plenty of
copies of your for the coming
instructions for collecting for
Museum. I can distribute
many to advantage.

The Santa Fe plants are on
the way to me, but I am
sorry to say they have not
yet arrived. The next steamer
I trust will take them to you.

I had a short and pleasant
visit from Nutt all the day
before he

returned to England. I trust you
have received the copy of our
little Manual N. U. S. sent a
month ago to Dr. Booth, and
Proceedings Am. Acad. through
Mr. Bennett. — I wrote at the
same time, informing you of the
affliction in the removal of my
dear brother. I appreciate the
goodness that has induced you
on hearing of it to write so kindly
to me. Give my best thanks
also to Lady & Miss Hobbes for
their kind remembrances. I read
with much interest all you write
of Joseph, and shall be glad to
read further in the Journal, of
his doings. All success attend
him, and prosper y. I remain

gratefully & affectionately,

P.S. We are going to send Fendler back to
Santa Fe. for two years. A. Gray
Dr. Leman shall have as good a set of the
plants as can be, and a good chance
for the future. J. H. S.