



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.

Downy Valley
Cambridge

24 May 1849

My dear Royle,

The new regulations at
Cambridge having infused
a fresh vigour into all
pursuits connected with
natural history - I am hard
at work preparing a series
of illustrations in botany
for the use of our students -
I mean to arrange sections
of fruit & seeds with des-
criptive references, under

flap, in cases & drawers
to which they may have
access for the purpose of
study - And I propose to
have as many vegetable
products of all sorts, as
I can get hold of also ar-
ranged in the Museum -

If you can any way help
us I shall be very thank-
ful - Since I have been
here lecturing for the last
5 weeks I have worked
at this object - I have
hatched up a number of

Specimens for Hitcham when
I shall prepare them, &
return them when prepared.
I leave on Saturday, but
shall probably be here
again 2 or 3 times during
the summer for the sake
of getting things ready before
next term - Many a duplicate
specimen which you would
hardly think worth sending
to any one else I shall
be very glad to receive, as
my method of exhibiting dis-
-sections will often require

It a dog fruit or seed of
the same species - sections
of wood, gums, resins, &c
will be very serviceable &
of course any herbarium
specimens are always ac-
ceptable - I see by a note
in Humboldt's Cosmos that
the supposed mistake about
the N. limit of the snow-
line on the Himalayah has
been refuted - I was quite
puzzled with the conflicting
testimony & wrote to ask you
but perhaps you never saw
my letter -

Dear J. W. Ward
J. S. Hurlow