



Hunt Institute for Botanical Documentation
5th Floor, Hunt Library
Carnegie Mellon University
4909 Frew Street
Pittsburgh, PA 15213-3890
Contact: Archives
Telephone: 412-268-2434
Email: huntinst@andrew.cmu.edu
Web site: www.huntbotanical.org

The Hunt Institute is committed to making its collections accessible for research. We are pleased to offer this digitized version of an item from our Archives.

Usage guidelines

We have provided this low-resolution, digitized version for research purposes. To inquire about publishing any images from this item, please contact the Institute.

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.

To
Sir Robert S. Porter
R. B. M. Consul
Cancun.
My friend & Mr. Thomas Pearce &
McKinnon Pearce & Co.
with a small parcel. }



Glasgow. Aug. 10. 1836.

Sir

Wm J Hooker

Although a perfect stranger to
 you, yet your name & literary &
 scientific character are so familiar
 to me that I venture to address
 you on behalf of my favourite
 subject, Botany, & to ask you
 if you can assist me in procuring
well dried specimens, for the Her-
barium, of the plants of Columbia
 especially of the more elevated &
 mountainous districts. I am aware
 of the great value of your own
 time & of the impossibility of your
 devoting much or indeed any to
 the cause of Nat. History: but I
 should be very thankful if you
 could put me in correspondence
 with any Botanist in your part.

of S. America. I have friends in
Chili, Brazil, Peru & Santa, & my
valued friend & relative Mr. Loomer
is doing what he can for me at
Santa Fe de Bogota. But from
your district of S. America I
scarcely possess a single specimen.

But there is one plant of La
Guayra, or of the neighbourhood,
which I especially covet, & of
which I am much anxious to pub-
lish a figure & description in
my Bot. Journal, of which I
beg to send you a No. containing
a little article by a friend of
mine on a part of Colombia. — &
that plant to which I allude
is the famous Corn tree of Hu-
baldt, Gularstadendron utile.
At present our acquaintance
with this plant is very imperfect.

but if I could receive a small bundle
a foot or a foot & a half long, bearing
leaves & flowers, & carefully pressed
& dried (by Lou & shifting into
other & dry papers), & others with
fruits, I should be able to make
complete drawings & descriptions.
A few of the flowers & fruits fresh
in a small bottle of spirits would
also be desirable. The owner
of my friend Mr. Pearce (M^r E.
Pearce & Co. of Longwayre)
will take charge of anything of
the kind for me. Any other
particulars also respecting
this extraordinary tree would
be very acceptable.

Praying you to excuse the
great liberty I have taken in
thus describing & troubling you, I
beg to subscribe myself

To
Your most obed^t Serv^t
L^{ieut} R. H. Porter
J. Hooker.