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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.

M^{rs} Lovell Reeves
a

Thurs. Thursday Eof.

Dear Sir

Mr. Curtis's plan seems to me to be good - a 4 to size - all the plates classified, & the letterpress rewritten. This of course is more troublesome & much to be rewarded with a few more copies - for I do not think the sale would justify a money loss. I would have all written in English. I could use upon you especially a plan of an Oculiculous House & a few pages on the Cultivation in general & under each Genus a few lines on the culture of that particular Genus. The general plan indeed should be that of the new edition of the Bot. May. of W. Mr. Curtis published one volume & no more: - & no plan can be better or more interesting. I send for your inspection my copy of this, but pray

return it to me. I think if possible
the whole work sh^d. come out at once;
— say including the Orchidaceae to the
end of this year. Then those afterwards
published should from time to time
form supplementing nos.

You suggest that many of the
really plants of Orchidaceae are too poor
to publish. My Orchidaceae are all
brought up together & I can see at once
which are the indifferent ones. The
only really indifferent ones are the
common hardy terrestrial species &
these may very well be admitted by
calling the work

"Exotic Orchidaceae,"
consisting chiefly of such tropical
Orchidaceous plants as are worthy
of cultivation

selected from Curtis' Proterum Magazine

It is, as it appears to me, — (which I cannot
be so good a judge of a work as a publisher) that
the prospect of a good sale will rest on the
work appearing all at once, & arranged, with
new matter in English & with information
about cultivation &c. Certainly the coloring

of some of the old plates needs improving,
which can be done from other figures or
fresh specimens.

Truly Yours

W. J. Hooker.