



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.

Wednesday Evg.

Sept. 26. 1860.

My dear Major Drury
Owing to the Xmas
holidays or perhaps the
badness of the roads,
your parcel of drawings
&c. was only delivered
at Ken this afternoon.

The ferns are the
usual kinds now so fre-
quently sent from New
Zealand. Twenty five
years ago they would
have been of great
interest. Dr. Hooker
has lately published
an entire Flora of New

Leeward, & it is
now very diffi-
cult to meet with any
thing new or rare.

The collection of Indian
drawings is considerable,
but executed by native
artist, & perhaps with-
out any dried specimens
by which their accuracy
might be tested. Some
appear to be much better
executed than others
& they must be of interest
to you as representing
so many of the useful
plants: of which I shall

be very glad to hear that
a new edition is required,
& if that could be accom-
plished with suitable il-
lustrations. The general
objection to such illustra-
tions is that they add so
much to the cost of the
work.

I shall be glad to look
a little more carefully at
these drawings & will then
^{send them} to Mess^{rs} Richardson,
Cornhill.

I hear that Dalziel
is preparing a flora of
Bombay; it is very much
wanted.

Very truly
Yours,

W. J. Hooker.