



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](mailto:huntinst@andrew.cmu.edu)  
Web site: [www.huntbotanical.org](http://www.huntbotanical.org)

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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.

Dr Wallis J. R.  
Botanic Garden  
Calcutta  
& India



W. J. R.  
London Dec 3  
1818

London Dec 3<sup>d</sup> 1818

recd May 16<sup>th</sup>

My dear Sir

I have just rec<sup>d</sup> your two Letters, one dated, 20<sup>th</sup> of May 1818 the other dated five days after. I cannot express how much I am obliged by your kind intentions to me. I write therefore hastily lines, because I have heard of a ship sailing to morrow, the Blenheim for Bengal - my friend Sir Benjamin Hobhouse of the Carnatic office told me this. I dined with him yesterday - his son has taken his passage in her for India.

I hope to receive in a few days the plants you were so kind <sup>to send</sup> me by Captain Wilson of the Ship Nautilus: as soon as I get them, I will write you a very long Letter, and I cannot tell you how happy you have made me by your kind promises: as my Herbarium, is my constant amusement, and chiefest Delight -

I am sorry to inform you of a great disappointment I have just met with by receiving a

Letter from Mr Cook, purser of the Orient, to whom  
I had written about the specimens you mentioned  
from Madagascar; and which you entrusted  
to the late Captain Casell, saying that there  
were nothing directed for me on board the  
Orient, he supposes the cause is the unexpected  
death of the Captain before he left Calcutta.

I make no doubt my dear Sir that you  
will be so good as to have them conveyed by  
another opportunity, as I am particularly anxious  
for plants <sup>from</sup> that part of the World.

I am much interested in the Flora Indica  
which you say is now printing, and hope  
we shall soon be part of a copy here.

I must conclude fearing I might lose the  
opportunity of the Blenheim's sailing, and can  
only add that I am my dear Sir most

Faithfully yours

D<sup>r</sup> Wallich

A. B. Lambert

We shall have another part of our Transactions  
printed in a few weeks. I was very happy to  
announce from the Chair ~~that~~ your Election  
in the Society, a few days ago.