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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.

3 June

My Dear Ryd

I am about to announce
myself the Editor of
a Newspaper on Agricultural
and Botanical matters
— and I do so as a guarantee
in its respectability. My
plan are maturing fast
although the day of com-
mencement is not yet at
hand. Will you allow

Am to mention your name
as that of a Botanical
intending to contribute? I
will find you in excellent
company and shall be very
much obliged to you; for the enter-
prise is full with difficulties
and it is important to show
that I am not unsupported
at least by well-wishers

Always yours very truly

John Lindley