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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.

St Mandelstam

Dear Sir,

If you have not entirely forgotten a tall and queer fellow, you used to meet at the late Sir George Naylor's in Hanover Square and at the Travellers' Club, and with whom you had many a talk about our mutual friend Palmstjerna at St Petersburg, you will be left astonished on receiving these lines and excuse the request I am going to make, after such a lapse of time and at such a distance.

The renown of the famous Wheat Seed that bears twice a year, which you have sent to Europe some time ago from Carracas or Venezuela, having spread to Wurtemberg I have been desired to procure some of it here; but no where could I meet

5

