



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.

1800
10/10/10
C
Mr
Mr Thornton

Hide Street
Manchester Square
London.

Cambridge 30th May 1805.

Dear Friend.

I should have thanked you for your magnificent present before I left town, but my stay was only four days, and on them I was much hurried. I had not even time for a transient view, which I shall enjoy at full leisure, when in my quiet rural retreat, to which I am now returning. Hitherto I have been detained here. Indeed our collection at the Botanic Garden is become very interesting: our Curator being indefatigable in procuring plants from every quarter.

I am much out of humour with Sir Joseph Banks; so much, that I dare not mention your name or your work in Soho Square, for fear of losing my patience, as I once did on your account, soon after the Linnean Society read you so severely. I have never attended the

Society since, I wish it were in my
power to render you any service; but
I have left the world. If my countenance
would be of any use to you, you might
command it fully; but as to my Father's
countenance, I have it not in my power
to give it you, for there is no portrait
of him, and he never sat for his picture.

You favoured me with a sight of Linnaeus
in his Lapland dress, on a former oc-
casion and I possess a print from that pic-
ture. When I next come to town I shall try
hard to see you, in order to assure
you in person how much I am

your very faithful Friend
& obed^t. humble Servant

Tho. Martyn