



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
Web site: www.huntbotanical.org

The Hunt Institute is committed to making its collections accessible for research. We are pleased to offer this digitized version of an item from our Archives.

Usage guidelines

We have provided this low-resolution, digitized version for research purposes. To inquire about publishing any images from this item, please contact the Institute.

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.

Portenhall 16th July 1806.

Dear Sir

I should be sorry to fail in respect
for one on whose friendship I set the
highest value, but in truth I have not been
in town for some years, except for a very
few days, to execute some necessary business,
and have made no longer stay than was
absolutely necessary. The air & bustle of
London disagree with my weak frame so
much, that I am obliged to give up seeing
even the few friends I have left; I will
not however come to town again without
paying my respects to you.

I thank you much for your Book and
the friendly letter which accompanied it.
Mr White has general orders to send me
whatever you publish, so that I had read
your Introduction and the Appendix before

I received them from you. The subject is interesting to me, and though I had studied the ancient buildings in and about Rome, particularly with a view of ascertaining their respective dates, yet it had never struck me that the invention of Arches is comparatively so modern, if I may be allowed the expression. I have not however a shadow of doubt but that you are right, even after all that M. Duten has said. I confess that I was much disappointed upon a view of the Cloaca maxima, and the Alban Emisario; not but that they are stupendous works for the time in which they were first executed, but they carry no marks of their antiquity about them, and the works in their present state cannot possibly be older than the Augustan age. You have no occasion to prove them more modern.

I am nearly of the same age with you, being 71 complete next October, and am happy that I have the same feelings with you respecting

my friends and a future state. Whatever
may be our situation there, it is one of our
first pleasures here to hope for the enjoyment
of the society of virtuous persons whom we
have valued as such, without the restrictions
and impediments which we experience in
this world. If this should not be allowed
us, we are in the hands of a merciful Being!
who will provide yet greater happiness for
those who strive to deserve it. To Him I
cheerfully and confidently commit myself,
to do with me what seemeth Him good.
That we may meet hereafter is my most
earnest wish. In the mean time give me
leave to assure you, my good old Friend,
that I am with true esteem and respect
your most obliged

& obed^t. humble Servant

Thos. Martyn