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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.

The Germantown Nurseries,

Chew Street, below Gorgas,

Germantown, Philadelphia.

July 26<sup>th</sup> 1882

Prof. N. S. Thompson

My dear Sir,

I am pleased to know that you may come some afternoon to see any of our series. I take great pride in them, - believe that in many respects I have the finest in the world, and am always glad to have friends see them. - It has been one of my life-ambitions to show that one may successfully pursue high Scientific or literary studies, without being thereby unfitted for the every day affairs of life. If I could know what afternoon you would come, I would certainly be in, except Tuesday afternoons, which I give to the

Municipal Department of the  
Academy of Natural Sciences, -  
and the last Monday afternoon  
in each month, which I give  
to the Business Council of Manage-  
ment of the Academy.

I am also in the School Board  
of the 2<sup>nd</sup> District, and just  
now there is much Committee  
work in connection with the  
building of a new Schoolhouse  
and other matters, which might  
lead me out some afternoon  
when you might call.

For more business purposes,  
of course, whoever calls at  
any time whatever receives  
attention from those in charge  
of departments. - Also I  
shall have to be away from  
home for two weeks after  
20<sup>th</sup> of August, as I was invited  
by the American Association  
for the Advancement of Science  
at Cincinnati last year, to  
deliver one of the Vice Presidential

addresses at Montreal at  
that meeting, on account of  
my refusal to accept the ~~hon~~  
Presidency of the Botanical  
Section.

In regard to payments  
on account of my work on  
the Encyclopaedia, - I never  
have more money on hand  
than I can find good use  
for. If as a rule you  
could send me from time  
to time about what the correct  
sums would amount to  
it would be entirely satisfac-  
tory.

I am very glad to  
know that you approve of my  
work. It has always been  
my aim rather to do my part  
thoroughly and well, than to  
dictate at the outset for amount  
of compensation, - trusting rather  
to the appreciation of the worth of  
it to those who employ my pen.

I have ~~sixteen~~ years on the Editorial

Staff of The Press, - commencing  
and building up the "Weekly"  
for them, - and among my  
pleasantest personal remembrance,  
is that my salary was  
voluntarily doubled on  
the recommendation of  
Charles J. Deland then  
Managing Editor, at the  
end of the first year, and  
very nearly the first of the "two  
or three Editorial contributions  
to the Science Department of  
the New York Independent".  
Now twelve years ago, I  
am the only one, by a long  
way, who still continues  
on it. I hope with you  
also I shall long retain  
literary relations.

Very truly yours

Howard Crosby

A good chapter on Diatomaceae  
might be interesting. Pittenbergh ought  
to be able for it.