



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.



BASEL



SUISSE
PAR BÉLFORT

PF

N. Wallich

49 Great Cornhill Street
Brentwick Square

p.p. Calais *Great St. London*
Soho

10/8



C. F. Meyers
21 Broad Street

Bath 21st March 1830.

Dear Sir

I have at last the pleasure of announcing you that your precious present of Indian plants has reached me on the 10th inst. — and I take the first moment of leisure to pay you my sincerest thanks, which I have been prevented doing earlier by a slight indisposition. The joy I felt at perusing the very numerous and beautiful plants may more easily be supposed according to what I expressed in my former letter, before their arrival, than properly described, and the more so, as the extent of the whole present greatly exceeded my expectation. Indeed, dear Sir, you can hardly imagine how happy you have made me! — In the inclosed letter to the Chairman & Deputy Chairman of the most hon. E. S. Company, which you kindly offered to deliver to them, I tried to express my gratitude, but with very imperfect success. I never felt so strongly the insufficiency of language, and especially my want of practice in writing the English. Besides I fear my jests perhaps have made a blunder in the ceremonial titles I gave the Chairman, not knowing whether they are Lords or Gentlemen, — in short, I have many reasons for imploring your benevolent protection & assistance for asking the Company's indulgence, & excusing the occasional errors in my letter. — The specimens arrived in good state, only I regret that 4 or 5 species of *Ribes*, and one of the *Phanerozomis* (a *Cassellia*, I believe) were found without tickets bearing the Herbarium, which, probably, have been lost at opening the cask at the customhouse at Calcutta, which seems to have been done not too softly, notwithstanding your advertising inscription. I had not yet the time to examine the rich collection more closely, but still I have found amongst the *Polygona* many I had never seen before, and of the other plants every one was entirely new, & therefore most acceptable to me. Nor do I value less highly the specimens from the Herb. Hamilton, Wight & Madras, and I shall be very happy to see in future also those of the Herb. Roxburgh, Poulton, &c., which you kindly offered me. For the present I cannot enter into any detail upon your *Polygona*, but I shall do it as soon as my time will have allowed me their examination, when I shall also return to you, with my best thanks, the unique specimens from the Herb. Hamilton. I am very anxious to read your answer upon the several questions I addressed you in my last letter, and upon the whole I need not tell you that I should always be most happy to receive, as often as your time will allow, any small notes or communications from you.

Accept with the appearance of my satisfaction any amount of interest in the plants, and please me, once you should return to the Herbarium of Calcutta.