



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](mailto:huntinst@andrew.cmu.edu)  
Web site: [www.huntbotanical.org](http://www.huntbotanical.org)

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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.

No. 12

George Henry  
No. 12. Very  
unusual. Very  
characteristic

Gr. Linn

37 Wimpole Street



32 George Street. Portm. Sq.  
Oct. 4, 1821.

Dear Sir,

I hope you will not think me impertinent in submitting to you <sup>two</sup> grammatical remarks, relating to the last number (417) of the Botanical Magazine.

The first is, that the Epithet Pubens (in Paonia Pubens) is not, according to correct Latinity, a term that can express your idea, viz Downy.

In no passage of any classical author that I can trace, is it used in that meaning. When pubens is applied (as it is in several passages) to grasses, herbage, <sup>foliage</sup> flowers, (Pubentes herbae, Virgil. Pubentia gramina Auson. Pubentes frondes Auson. Pubentes rosae Auson.

it denotes that these objects have  
attained their full growth, so as  
to be fit for their destined use;  
but in no instance the notion  
of hairy, or downy is implied.

You should, therefore, substitute  
Pubescens for Pubens.

My second remark relates to  
Aloe Microcantha, which must  
be Micracantha; the word being  
composed of μικρο's and ἀκανθα.  
You cannot possibly throw out  
the α from ἀκανθα; for this  
would leave you with κανθα  
a word or sound, without  
all meaning, or bring you to

Kardos, which means the corner  
of the eye, or the tip, or iron that  
covers the wheel. It seems that  
other botanists have been guilty  
of this error; but that is no  
reason, it should be propagated  
in the Botanical Magazine.

Yours, My Dear Sir,

Truly

G. H. Noehden