



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.

Prof. Nuttall.

Dec. 3. Nov. 21.

25



Mr. A. Woods,
President of the University of
Alabama

Tuscaloosa,
(Ala.)

OBITUARY.

The London *Athenaeum* records the death, on Sept. 10, of Dr. Thomas Nuttall, at his residence, Nutgrove, St. Helens, Lancashire, at the age of seventy-three. He was born in Yorkshire, brought up a printer, and emigrated to the United States in the latter part of the last century. He devoted his leisure time to the study of botany and geology, published the *Genera of North American Plants*, the *Birds of the United States*, and other works. He traveled in California and published several papers on the shells and plants of that region. Dr. Nuttall returned to England, living at Nutgrove, an estate which was left to him on condition that he should reside on it.

1859

93

Cambridge (Mass) Nov. 3^d. 1831

President Woods,

Sir, I yesterday shipped the collection of minerals amounting to 3078 ^{specimens} in 27 boxes. The Catalogue will be found at the top of the 27th box. — as the commencement of the suite is from the 1st box and goes on to the last succinctly, — but unfortunately, some of the boxes are probably, wrong marked. but they will all be found when spread out to view, at once upon large shelves or tables. I shall go on to make collections, and if any thing of moment occurs to me, — this winter, in my rambles. I shall lay aside and forward specimens to complete your cabinet, to wh. I shall be pleased to make such addition for your acceptance. I have had the minerals insured to the amount, at 2/4 % ^{from here} to Tuscaloosa — By the same vessel, the Rufus, I perceive also a box of books for you; the whole are therefore delivered to the charge of the same person in Mobile, in wh.

place I have no correspondent, as it would be well
therefore to write a line to your agent here on the
subject of forwarding the minerals without ^{incurring} any expense
delay. It will be necessary to unpack the collection
with some care, as some of the substances are loose
or friable. The best way of exhibiting such things
are in trays of pasteboard on inclined staged shelves
well lighted, and defended by ~~light~~ glass doors to defend
~~them~~ from the access of dust, as some do not admit
of being washed.

Respecting the birds offered me by Mr. McMillan
I thank him much for his generous offer, but would not
desire him to do more than enter into an exchange
with me on the subject. The specimens, he desires I will
attend to getting by the first opportunity, but wish that
he would furnish me with an extensive list of wants
and in return let me know (by name) those wh. he has
collected and can spare. In rapacious birds I am most
deficient, and should be pleased exceedingly to receive

with the specimens, notes, (copies if possible) concerning
their habits, as I value these greatly beyond the
pleasure of ~~possessing~~ mere skins of the subjects.
In his walks as a collector, he may be able,
no doubt, to add much to the history of your birds.
I should like to receive a letter from Mr. M. on
the subject, as soon as convenient. Pardon me
for thus intruding on you a subject ~~at~~ ^{which}
neither is interesting nor amusing to you.

Yours obt. humble servant
Wm. Nuttall.

Will you favor me with respects to Professor
Sol. Constable & his worthy brother. I thank the professor
for his favorable opinion of my work, for w^h he
forwarded me a dollar too much in the price, perhaps you
can ~~favor~~ ^{accommodate} me by deducting this in my account & pay it
over to the Professor. I am about immediately to publish a
smaller work on our Land Birds, with wood cuts well executed, some
of which will probably be sent to you & your wife by the publisher.