



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.

May 25. 1780.

Dr Sir

Answered by conversation

I write a line to beg (if yet ~~you~~ have not already done it) that you will pay one Guinea & a half to Mr. Downes & take his receipt for it. I have received the Edwards & have sent up the Draft, & the parcel of Books, & am thus quit of this troublesome affair. I return you my Thanks for the share you have had in it & am sorry to find Mr. Downes the younger not so facile to deal with as his Father. For 10 years past, unsolicited his Father has sent me his Catalogue & I have made a point of laying out some Money with him as far as I remember every year either by sending my Commissions to himself directly or to Dr. Garthshore. If Mr. Downes will write his receipt on the Top of half a sheet of paper you can lay it aside

till you have occasion to write to me
& with this I must conclude being at the
utmost limit of the paper & obliged to go

Yrs. R. Pulteney

Common Botanist

Printed 1730

And 1801

author of the life of Linnæus

Virginia Broom
& Madder

PULTENEY (Richard), a physician and botanist, was born at Loughborough, in Leicestershire, in 1730. He served his apprenticeship to an apothecary, after which he commenced practice at Leicester, where he studied botany with ardour, and corresponded frequently with the Gentleman's Magazine, in the volumes of which are numerous valuable communications on botanical subjects by him, and some on antiquities. Several of his papers also appeared in the Philosophical Transactions. In 1764 he took his doctor's degree at Edinburgh, his inaugural oration for which was *de cinchona officinalis*. Soon after this he was appointed physician to his relation the earl of Bath, who died a year afterwards. Not long after this event he settled at Blandford in Dorsetshire, where he acquired a considerable practice. In 1781 he published his General View of the Writings of Linnæus; and in 1790 a work, entitled, Historical and Biographical Sketches of the Progress of Botany in England, 2 vols. 8vo.; to which we have been indebted for much valuable information. He also made considerable communications to the works of others, particularly Nichols's History of Leicestershire, and Gough's edition of Hutchins's Dorsetshire. Dr. Pulteney died in October 1801. He was a fellow of the royal society of London, and other learned bodies at home and abroad.—*Life by Dr. Maton, 4to. 1805.*