



Hunt Institute for Botanical Documentation
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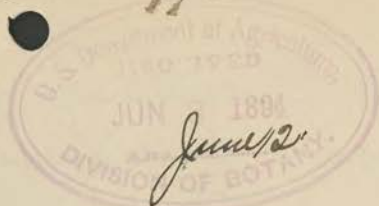
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About the Institute

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.

Oct. 26/77.



June 12.

Oberlin, O. Fe. 6th, 1894.

Chief Bot. Div.; -

Dear Sir; -

Your letter received and contents noted. It increases very much my desire to take the trip I proposed to the West Indies. I have mailed you 30 specimens of my collecting, besides 16 specimens of parasitic fungi also of my own collection and identification. I also send you two microscopic slides of my own make. The section is a free hand section. The fungus *Adocephalum*, I found on a culture and identified with *Saccardo*. Prof. Kelsey, formerly

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of Helena, Mont. who is my
teacher, tells me to refer you to
him for any testimonials. Now
I should like to accept your
proposition, but I, as I said
before, have not the money.
I have worked my way
through college and find
myself almost without a penny.
I will make a new proposi-
tion. If you can get me down
there i.e. to St. Croix, I will
when I can get the money, re-
pay you, and besides give
you free a full set of the
specimens I collect. If you
wish to know me better I
can refer you to G. Frederick
Wright F.S.S.A., my teacher
in glaciology, L. M. ^{Mr.} McCormick
of Smithsonian Institute and
others. As to security in case

^{insurance} of my death, I have a policy
that will cover all my debts
two or three times over. I am
exceedingly anxious to go, and
especially because I will have
much help from my relatives
so that I can make my
collection larger than possible
otherwise. My father is a
missionary in that island.
Can you give me a list of
books covering that flora
besides Benthams & Hooker? I
would like the list of persons
who might purchase sets.
I intend to collect from
25-30 sets. If you cannot
do what I wish, can you
refer me to some one who
might do it? As to my
specimens I think they will
bear comparison with any.

I will do even better when
I can devote my time to it
for at present I am so ex-
tremely busy I cannot give
my proper attention to the
press work. If you can give
me any encouragement
or suggest anything I
should be most grateful.
Yours very truly,

A. E. Ricksecker,

25 W. Lorain St.

Oberlin, O.