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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.

Duke of Dorset
23 March 1795

Dorset House March 23^d 1795

Mr Forsyth

Thos Wood, who you recom-
-mended to me as Gardener had good
talents and abilities for his profession
but I was obliged to part with
him, as he was inattentive to
my orders, and was always absent
from his business. ~~At present~~ latterly
he took to a very dissipated turn
of life
and passed most of his time in
the publick houses at Levensham,
I had given him a very excellent
house for his wife to live in.

and he ought to have been satis-
=fied with his situation, I found
great irregularity in his
accounts, but I don't mean to
accuse him of the least want of
of his honesty in making them
out, I even offer'd to let him
remain in ~~his~~ my service for
three months, if ^{he} would promise
to lead no longer so dissipated
a life, which he refused in the
most decided manner. I have ap-
=pointed a man by the name

of Bryant Helps who seems a
very clever and intelligent man
he served under Wood at Thrope
and the chief ^{of the business} of the Garden was
always done by him. I thought
it right to say as much as this
to you, as you may hereafter
be useful to Wood, in recommen-
ding him to some ^{place}, where he
would be less his own master
than at my house.

I am &c &c

yours

Lovet