



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.

Sir Robert Ker Porter
H. B. M. Consul
The Caracas
line of - hand by
Ship at La Guayra

Marques of the
from sea
Nov 26 4 1834
Confined was landed
Jan 7 21. 1835

(2) Marquis of Sligo

77 The Misses Anne & Isabella de la Vega
Jun. 6th 1844

My Dear Sir Robert

I am not certain if you will be surprised
in the present memoir of Jamaica or old documents
of 1814. An adventure at Las Vegas with Jim Henry
have not escaped my recollection. Through
having promised a set of plants to
my request I promised to trouble you as a duty
which I hope you will assist me in if possible
I understand that either near the Canaries
or Porto Felice there are quantities of Passiflora
plants from Jamaica. I should
a couple of hundred of them to produce that
culture in this Island. If you could have them
raised & sent to me here either by way of
Anacona or Santa Marta or any other way you
would be much obliged to me. There are also
some other plants & trees which I am anxious
to get here which will name in a moment

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Should you can procure & find an occasion
for sending up to me for undress much skin
me. The Milk tree Gum Plantain tree & some other
which I want to try here under our chairs &
position the plants & the packed or baskets
with wet plantain bark underneath them,
so that they may be kept in a moist state
till their arrival. I sent to Santa Marta or
Cartagena with a note to the Consul requesting
that application should be made to any of
His Majesty's vessels who should come down
^{with} for the boats there to take them on board,
there is little doubt but that they would
reach me safely here. You will, I am sure,
excuse me for improving this humble opportunity
in consequence of the dislike of the Negroes to
labour at the Sugar, I am anxious to find
out some less disagreeable mode of employing
them to advantage.

The first of August passed off very quietly.

as you will have heard but there is no danger
of their overworking themselves they are already
careful not to let themselves be overdone
I'm I hope however that things will smooth
down & that we shall get on better than we
anticipate just now. How times are changed
I'm sure painted here I am with almost 10
children here: The climate suits me very
well but I am going to
send my son George to
be a creek boatman.

I'm anxious here, to come to my place in London
as I have no business here to attend to them.

I may expect to hear from you very
by the first convenient opportunity of course,
any expense you may want I will pay when
you are in London. I may perhaps call on you
as a favour when you are in London
I will be glad to see you: I'm very dear & what
I'm sure I'll be glad to see you.