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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.

*With my compliments
G. Ledyard Stebbins Jr.*

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SOME OBSERVATIONS ON THE FLORA OF THE BRUCE PENINSULA, ONTARIO

G. L. STEBBINS JR.

THE Bruce Peninsula, that narrow promontory of limestone separating Lake Huron from the southern part of Georgian Bay, has long been known for the wealth of its flora, and for a number of isolated species of western range found there. With these attractions in view, Mr. James Stauffer and the writer led a group of five Colgate students, J. R. Breed, H. Jeffrey, P. H. Jenkins, J. E. Loveless, and S. K. Phillips, on a field trip to this region, in order to become acquainted with its flora and to collect such of the rarer species as could be found.

On June 13, 1933 we made our first camp on Isaac Lake, in the settled farm lands of the interior of the peninsula. The borders of

this lake were lined with a fine blue flag with glaucous foliage, which looked different from the familiar *Iris versicolor*. This later proved to be the first find of the trip, *I. virginica*, here 175 miles northeast of its previously known range in Ontario.

The next day we went to Cape Croker, on the eastern side of the peninsula, for a day's collecting, which introduced us to many of the beauties of the region's flora, but yielded nothing not already known from, or to be expected from this region. After a day's rest, we moved to Red Bay, on the western shore. The marl bogs, gravelly shores, and open swales of this region, although already well known to botanists, gave us many thrills in the form of striking plants unfamiliar to us, and occupied us for the next week. Here we first noticed one of the most interesting features of the Bruce; plants characteristic of widely separated regions here grow side by side in the same habitat. The woods in the interior are Alleghenian in character, and not much different from those familiar to us in central New York. Beech and sugar maple, basswood and hop hornbeam are the cover for such herbs as *Hydrophyllum virginianum*, *Uvularia grandiflora*, and *Osmorhiza Claytoni*. Yet in the midst of this assemblage of familiar plants was the Cordilleran *Osmorhiza divaricata*, abundant, and just as much at home as its more southern relative. Between these woods and the shore is a more or less narrow belt of Canadian woodland, in which *Thuja occidentalis*, *Picea glauca*, *Betula papyrifera*, and *Populus tacamahacca* are dominant, along with such characteristic Canadian herbs as *Listera cordata*, *Habenaria obtusata*, and *Viola nephrophylla*, but containing also the Alleghenian *Senecio obovatus*, and the Cordilleran *Festuca occidentalis*, *Carex Richardsonii*, and *Corallorrhiza striata*. The shoreward side of these woods is interspersed with marl and sphagnum bogs, containing a large number of Hudsonian types, such as *Carex capillaris*, *Drosera linearis*, *Selaginella selaginoides*, and *Carex gynocrates*, but open swales, containing such species as *Cacalia tuberosa*, characteristic of wet prairies in the central states, are scattered through this same region. Likewise, along the shore itself, *Houstonia ciliolata*, characteristic of the upper Mississippi Valley, was at home with the boreal *Pinguicula vulgaris*, *Primula intercedens*, and *Carex scirpoidea*.

On June 20 we made a trip northward, following the eastern side of the peninsula, through burned-over limestone barrens of a most desolate nature, as far as Gillie's Lake, north of the small village of Dyer's Bay. The country about the western end of this lake was as