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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.

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2109 Second Ave. Seattle, Wash.
March 4th, 1899.

Mr. F. V. Coville.

Dear Sir. I write to
you at Dr. Coulter's suggestion to ask for
information in regard to making a
botanical collection in the Yukon valley.

I spent last summer on the Yukon.
giving the flora some attention, but not-
making any collection. I propose to repeat
the trip this year and devote the whole season
to making the best collection possible on the
Yukon generally or at some particular locality
as the Porcupine River which is entirely in
the arctic zone and mostly in Alaska.

A collector here, passing from Ft. Yukon
to the foot hills of the Rocky Mts could perhaps
find more species than elsewhere in the

arctic, and collect several series.

About one half of the species I observed are also reported from Labrador, and the same proportion from the Rockies of Montana and Colorado. Some were quite unexpected, as the five orchids that I found near Dawson.

As a stranger I cannot expect a positive engagement, but am trying to decide whether such a collection would probably have sufficient value to meet the expense of the trip. — about four or five hundred dollars.

I shall have many risks to run, and this makes one too many. Supposing the collection to be satisfactory in quantity and quality, could you purchase the whole or a single series? Would a general collection from the Yukon or a smaller one from the Porcupine be more valuable?

I might help out the collection with

full notes and photographs.

Any suggestions you may be kind enough
to give will be appreciated.

Yours truly.

J. B. Farleton.