



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.

Edinburgh, Scotland. Dec 20th
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Mr Frederick V. Coville
Washington. D. C.

Dear Sir: I returned from the Faroe Is.
lands a few weeks ago. While in
Iceland in the summer, I made a
small collection of plants, not as large
a one as I hoped, for I found the plants
were very local. There would be millions
of perhaps thirty or forty species, and
after that careful and wide spread
search was necessary. I have about
110 species, (117 specimens) which I
would be glad to give to the National
Herbarium if it will pay express char-
ges from Troy, New York. Probably
such packages can go free, but I will
ask my brother in law, Mr. Alden, to
await instructions from you, before send-
ing the package to you. It will go
sometime next week in a box with other

sets of plants which I am sending
to Mr. Alden for distribution. If
you wish the set, will you please
write to him - Mr Charles L. Alden,
no 17 Irish Street, Troy, New York -
instructing him about the sending of
the package - In the course of a
week ^{or two} I will send a list of the Iceland-
ic names, as far as I know them -
I am not a botanist and feel too doubt-
ful about the classification of the
species, to venture to name them separately -
I will send, therefore, a list of the
scientific names with their colloquial Ice-
landic names, as I suppose ^{the Latin names} ~~them~~ to
be - I have taken the classification
from Blamish & Icelandic botanys, which
differ, in some cases, from English ones -
I think these Icelandic names are
correct. In most cases I ascertained
them from a prominent Icelandic botanist
or had his approval of those I had
taken from Herr Hjaltalin's book

written in the early part of this century.
Some of the specimens, I am sorry to see, have
changed color - The difficulties of preparing
them were great - often rain outside, a cold
damp room inside, no fire, & the necessity of
going on, with ponies, the next day -

I have no plants from the Faroes: my
steamer was caught in ice floes in the spring,
damaged & much delayed, so I could not visit
the Faroes on my way to Iceland - And on
arriving, on my return, the last of August,
the season was too late -

I know that Mr Henry Carrington
Bolton is much interested in the
"Games & Counting out" rhymes of children -
I do not know his address, but have an
impression that he can be reached through
the Smithsonian Institute - If so, will
you kindly give the enclosed note to
him. It contains a Faroe Island
childrens rhyme which he may like to
see -

Yours sincerely,

Elizabeth Taylor.

Care of Thomas Cook & Sons,

Ludgate Circus. London.