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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.

8 o'clock  
26. JU  
1855

Prof

Mr Swift, Sen  
Poultry 2

June: 25. 1813

Wm. P. Manchester Esq

My Dear Sir/



I received your letter, in which you mention  
 "that I wish to detain the small portrait," which is  
~~the~~ invaluable, done by Raphael M.A, and would  
 be a gap in the collection <sup>this you have got, being sent</sup> — The portrait I speak  
 of, is the large daub over the fire-place, meant  
 to fill up a gap, done by a lad, and which would  
 appear ridiculous to be put up — Two Doctor  
 Thorntons in the Catalogue — But sooner  
 than quarrel about it, I am ready to  
 give it up — but I think I must appear

foolish to you, and the world, and <sup>valued only</sup> except for  
a sunset, it is only a family piece, and  
of no value, but to Mr. Hornston, and  
the fine picture of me in the collection  
you have — If you would give me the  
crayon picture by Raphael <sup>for it</sup> I should say  
something, as it is <sup>really</sup> valuable, but this  
cumbersome piece of furniture, only  
suits my room — & as I said, if it  
would bring £10, I should not wish to  
repose it, altho' it does not form a part

of the collection more than the chairs & tables.

But I shall feel mortified to see myself  
knocked down for three pounds, fifteen, and  
the picture is worth less. — I can get ~~it~~ you  
of this young artist, who did this picture, as  
many as you please for 12 shillings, and  
perhaps the Doctor may be knocked down for  
as little — But as I said before, if you  
really wish it to go, I will let Mr Christie  
have it, but I think it is a pity, and Mr  
Chippendall assures me, that it never could  
be thought to make part of the collection, as  
it is unworthy of it & it is not mentioned in  
the Catalogue. I remain

Dr Sir  
Yours Truly  
Thos. Thomson. MD

P.S. I would you to consider this subject  
& send your answer