



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.

R. K. Greville Esq^r

No. 1. Wharston Place

Edinburgh

Thos. Greville
Hamp. March 50.

Answered July 1. 1824

New York. July 3rd. ~~New York~~ 1823.

My Dear Sir

I have just heard of an opportunity of writing to you by a vessel which sails tomorrow morning for Glasgow. You must excuse this hasty scrawl, but I was unwilling to lose so good a chance to let you hear I am alive. Your good letter, brought me as usual a great deal of agreeable news. I rejoice to hear you are still devoted to the charming science in which you so much excel. Your exhortation not to neglect Botany I have not entirely disregarded, but I have not been so constant a lover of Flora as I formerly was. There are so many temptations among her charming sisters that I shall be forgiven if I am a little unfaithful.

By this time I hope that long expected New Holland parcel has arrived, & that you have remembered, in laying aside the duplicates, your friends on this side the water. Don't think me greedy, but you know too well the exquisite pleasure we experience in receiving a package of rare & curious specimens!

I have read the 1st & 2nd. of your Scottish Cryptogamic Flora & like it much. It displays much learning as well as profound knowledge of Mycology. Have you the last part (completing the 2nd. Vol.) of Fries Systema? It is a great performance. The author appears to have followed Kees on Spizbule very nearly. Shumacher was much pleased with your work, (a copy of wh. Hooker sent him last summer) & would be glad to correspond with you. That promised Flora Danica I have been waiting for a good while. Is it not time it was published?

Your remarks on Jameson corresponded very well with my own opinion of the man. He is not thought much of in this country - nay we believe him to be a very stupid fellow. What a mis-
paper that of his is the lost to but one of your Majesties!

Hooker's H. Exot. I had already seen (i.e. the 4th part no) It is a very valuable work, infinitely superior to Couth. Map. &c., & cheap too. Is that 2nd ed. of the Musc. Brit. yet published? I hope the authors will ~~not~~ carefully revise it, especially the synonymy. Smith has given them a hard hit a two in the Lin. Trans. under Hyp. recognition.

I have been endeavouring to procure a copy of DeCandolle's Synop. of wh. I am told the 2nd ed. has appeared. Is it for sale in England? It is often a great while before we get European books in this country.

That Linnæan Soc. of Paris have made me a member - Would you, use the ~~title~~ title? I fear it is not much!

I shall not send you Eaton's manual, as it is a beautiful performance & will be of not the least use to you - I have many copies which the author gave me; but they should all be burnt.

I feel highly indebted to the Muséum Socy. for the honour they have done me in electing me one of their members; but more to you, for proposing me - In connection with DeKay, I have returned the complt. & by this time I trust you have rec^d. the ^{of my Lyceum} Diploma, conferring on you the title of Honorary member - I have not yet received the diploma of your Socy.

A month or two ago. I sent by a vessel which sailed for Glasgow, under cover to Prof. Hooker, a small package of North American plants for you. In the package was a letter from DeKay, with a communication from an Lyceum, & the 1st no. of my Flora of the Northern & Middle States. A second number is now printed, but not published, & the 3^d is ~~two thirds~~ two thirds.

Done; wh. ~~I have~~ takes me through Octandria. The whole work may
~~make~~ make about 1100 pages. I wish you to send me notices of
every thing which would be useful to me in my work. Such as
notices of monographs or any thing in which the genera or species
of North Amer. plants are noticed. There are often valuable re-
marks published in scarce & rare works, some of which I never
can get, or which may not reach this country in time for me
to quote them. A synopsis of them with a reference to the vol &
page (to make my work uniform) would be invaluable to me. There
is I am told a paper by Hooker on Perisperm of Nuttall, & another
by Brown & Lindley on the same subject, which I am very desi-
-rous of knowing something about; but it is too late. Now
if you hear of anything beyond Rosand. Monog. which I shall
arrive by the time I can have an answer. Do let me have
it immediately.

In the 2nd. no. of the Annals of the Lyceum. of which I
enclose the 2nd. no. you will see a continuation of a little
paper of mine. I also say notice of a rare mineral. It is
remarkable that Dr Frost communicated to the Phil. Acad. a
paper on the same subject a day after me! Mr Schwein-
itz's paper on N. Amer. Canes is good. We have 110 species. He
has written a complete Monog. of the genus, which I am now ex-
-amining in MS. We shall publish a description of all the n. sp.
in our Annals. Elliott is printing his last No. Bar-
-tons Fl. of N. Am. with col. plates. 4 to. goes on - or rather drags.
He is a poor Botanist, but paints well - -

R. K. Greenle Esq

In great haste I remain
your faithful friend
John Torrey