



Hunt Institute for Botanical Documentation
5th Floor, Hunt Library
Carnegie Mellon University
4909 Frew Street
Pittsburgh, PA 15213-3890
Contact: Archives
Telephone: 412-268-2434
Email: huntinst@andrew.cmu.edu
Web site: www.huntbotanical.org

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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.

DB

Mr. Saml. B. Buckley

Attenton, Wilcox Co.

Alabama -

New York. Oct. 26, 1841

My dear Sir -

Your letter of the 18th ^{ult} came in good time
of I thank you for sending me the information re-
spected respecting the Saxifraga. It arrived a little
too late, however, for Dr. Gray to use in his paper
on the plants of N. Carolina. He was describing
several species of the genus. I wished to
introduce yours in a note. The Doctor
is still somewhat incredulous respecting the plant
being a native. I fear it may, by some accident
have been introduced where you found it! This
I assured him was not at all probable of occurring,
indeed, possible. At any rate it seems to be
identical with the well known *S. parmantoides* &
cannot be a *Boylea*.

Your account of the ripe fruit of *Croonia*
rather surprised me - for I had it in a pretty
advanced state from Dr. Chapman. & it seemed
indurcent. I wish you had sent a single specimen
in your letter. for I am almost too impatient
to wait until you send the next parcel -

By this time you have probably rec^d part V. of

the Flora by mail. Dr. Spillman, here, I think, had
the Flora sent to him by this time. Dr. Gray took charge
of the business after I showed him your letter. The
first part will not be published till next spring. It will con-
tain most of the remaining portion of *Compositae*

Next Summer, if you cannot make up your mind
to join a Caravan to N. Fee (which you might easily
do, & get home again the same season, with a large
quantity of plants) Dr. J. & I think you had better
explore some of the most western ranges of the N. C.
mountains, & then go into Tennessee, the greater
part of which, has been only imperfectly explored.
Texas would afford you many choice plants, but the
country is rather too sickly to visit with prudence -
The small *Desmodium* that you speak of is, if I
remember rightly, a form of *D. pauciflorum* Nutt.

You seem to think that Mr. Carey & I are unwise
to take the trouble of receiving & keeping your boxes.
- but the chief thing that we found fault with was
that you did not make them more compact. The
specimens, if put up properly, might be packed in
half the space that you put them in & thus
a large portion of the expense might be saved.

Mr. C. has the boxes but need in his possession -
but I will try & find some to send them at the end.

College, where most of your plants are stored. Neither
Mr. C. nor I wish any remuneration for our trouble - we
are sufficiently paid in the plants you send us.

Have you sent off the fossil bones of the Saurian? Our Natu-
-ralists say that they belong to the animal noticed some
time ago in Silliman's Journal - but I forget what - I will
endeavour to give more exact information before I close
this letter.

You ought not to give this fine specimen away. Before
you make any disposition of it, wait till you hear from me.

D. Jory will send you a copy of his N.C. paper. but
it must not be used in any ^{public} way to anticipate its con-
-tent before the January Number of Silliman's Journal
is pubd.

I have just recd. a letter announcing the unex-
-pected news of the death of De Candoille - an event
that we looked for almost daily for the last two
or three months. The illustrious botanist had exhaust-
-ed his power by arduous labour on his great
work, on which he has been constantly engaged
for the last 20 years - -

Pray send me some of your last discovered bluffs,
- not forgetting the fruit of the Crocus

Yours truly

Wm. A. B. Buckley

J. Lory