



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.

David Townsend Esq
Jan. 26. 1838 -

West Chester Jan. 26. 1838.

Dear Sir,

Mr. Espy
I have received your favor of yesterday on the subject of Mr. Espy's lectures. I had previously understood from that gentleman that he would be willing to deliver a course of lectures here, somewhat upon the plan proposed, and upon consulting with some of our friends ~~here~~, it was thought there would be a difficulty about it, until the present course of Cabinet lectures is completed; after which, we had concluded to ascertain whether sufficient encouragement could be had, and if so, to invite ^{him} to deliver such number as he should think proper, in the Spring.

I also understood Mr. Espy to say that it would not suit him to attend here at any time but on Saturdays, so that in such event, the Courts would not help us.

We are anxious to have a further illustration of his Theory, and will certainly use some exertions to get a class that will remunerate him for his time & trouble.

I am,

very respectfully do

Samuel Hays