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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.



Penn Yan N. Y.

Jan. 27, 1894

Mr. F. V. Coville:

Chief, Dept. Ag. Division of Botany:

Dear Sir:

Your favor of the 20th inst. came duly, and I am very much obliged for the information it contained. Am very glad to know that Dr. Vasey's Monograph will be issued, even if incomplete. Mr. Dewey no doubt can put in good shape.

I am especially gratified with your kindness in offering me some of your duplicate grasses.

I have, as I said in my previous letter, about 800 species and varieties of grasses. They include very many from Europe, ^{and northern Asia} but none scarcely from Australia, Calcutta, Japan, Cape of Good Hope, South America, or Mexico.

Acting upon the suggestion, in your letter, I have taken an extra copy of Patterson's Catalogue, and checked off a rather formidable list of Residerata, marked with the usual check mark (✓). All others in the list are in my herbarium.

in all orders, from all parts of the world, and all nicely mounted.

I have inserted in the desiderata, ^{with pencil} such as have been published since the catalogue was issued, and not in my herbarium. A large number of the check marks (✓) are put to varieties.

While inserting check marks for desiderata, I went over the ground of all the glumaceous endogens and ferns. Of the latter I have over 500, and they include a nice and nearly complete exhibit of the Sandwich Island species, over 100 from Brazil, and 100 from New Zealand.

I am Truly Yours

S. Hart Wright

P.S. The synonymy of the grasses is getting burdensome and rather puzzling, and I hope Dr. Vasey's Monograph will relieve us to a great extent. S.H.W.