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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.

Cambridge Aug 3^d 1848.

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My Dear Friend,

I was away for a fortnight when your letter of the 17th ult arrived. - and must now reply briefly.

In a day or two Sprague & myself will sit down to shape the tree Report. Remind me, before you meet it for your Report and I will send you a sub of programme. I have not time to bend my mind to it now, any farther than to secure drawings of fruits, flowers - ~~as they~~ of trees that fall within the limits of the which I have assigned for the first part.

I want to see you before autumn. I will now merely say that the Common Engraving Printing will not do for word cuts, if the illustrations are done on wood, which is most desirable.

In respect to testimonials, I have at present only statements in private letters, mixed up with other things. I will send some if you wish. But I have yet to answer some of the letters. There is a notice in Hooker's London Journal of Botany for July. If the Smithsonian see the notice, for your copies it would make the continuation

of the work sure. In my opinion it is deserving
of that encouragement.

I think it would be well to employ
Desor for a Nat. History Report. He is
extremely capable, and somewhat in want.

It happens that I do not know him at
all intimately myself. But Agassiz has the
highest opinion of his talents, and I know would
like he should have such an engagement
with you. A. is now at Lake Superior.

In haste

Yours faithfully

Asa Gray

Prof. Henry.