



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.

Newfield N. Jersey
May 20. 78

Prof. C. E. Bessey
Dear Sir

I am much
pleased to receive your
favor of the 15th inst. It
is of course gratifying to
me to find my under-
taking meets the appro-
bation of those for whom
it is intended. I at first
designed to issue only
N. Jersey fungi & had
actually prepared a few
copies for distribution
when I was induced to
enlarge the scope of the
work so as to include
all north Am. species
. I am now ready to

begin with Count I. R. A.
Filipi which I expect to
have ready for distribu-
tion by the first of Aug. next
possibly before. I am having
a Prospectus printed & will
send you one when ready.
I shall be much pleased
to receive any species you
may collect on your return
for the work. I expect to
prepare only 30 copies of
each Century so that
30 good specimens would
suffice. In the case of
leaf fungi such as *Erysiphe*
Puccinia &c. It would be
desirable to have at least
two or three leaves = 60 or
90 leaves bearing specimens
of the species to be illustrated
especially so if the leaves are
- small

to Bessey 20-v-1878

In case of a fungus on a large
leaf like an oak leaf for instance
one leaf for each copy (30 leaves)
might suffice. In case a
species is scarce a smaller
quantity might have to
suffice but you will
agree with me that it is de-
sirable to have a species well
illustrated if possible. I am
more especially interested
in the Ascomycetous fungi
but any species in any order
will be welcome. Perhaps
you will be able to send me
some of the species in your
Erysiphæi (for which please
accept my thanks) Of these
Podosphaera Krmzei will
appear in Cent. I - I have
also *Microsphaera Extensa* C. &
& *M. Vaccinii* Ph. ready - no others

The 2nd Century by Pres. Huxley
will be ready for distribution
it is hoped by the 1st of Jan.
1879.

Thanking you for
your favorable opinion of
my undertaking and
hoping that the correspondence
commenced may prove mu-
tually pleasant & profitable
I remain very truly
Yours
J. B. Ellis

Newfield N. Jersey
Sept. 6. 1878

Prof. C. E. Bessey,
Dear Sir

I send you 2 cenz by
mail Cent. I N. Am. Fungi
The Spec. have all been
poisoned so that they will
keep I think for many
years. I hope to have Cent II
ready for delivery in the
course of three or four
months and Cent III (Uredine
ei by Prof. Harlow) in the course
of a year from this date
after which probably only
two cents will be issued
annually. I think after
some practice I can arrange
the Spec. so that they will lie
easier in the books

If convenient you can send me a P.O. Order payable to Prof. W. G. Harlow at Cambridge Mass. as I am indebted to him for many advances on the blank books.

I very much hope to receive from you some of the Iowa Fungi for the Ex. Excati - The Ascomycetous Fungi are of special interest to me but any will be acceptable. If you should collect any specimens for the work it would be better to send the spec. to me except a few which might be sent to Harlow for determination. Since the material if sent to him would have to be sent back to me again as the putting up of the spec.

in all the cents. will I suppose
devolve on me.

I hope you will be pleased
with the work. I shall do all
I can on my part to make
it valuable.

Very truly
Yours,

J. B. Ellis

Newfield N. Jersey
Sept. 20. 1878

Prof. C. E. Bessey

My Dear Sir

Your favor of the
12th inst. was duly read.
I am much pleased to hear
that you are pleased with
Cent. I. and hope the succeeding
cents. may be fully as satis-
factory. I shall certainly
use my best endeavors to
make them so.

I should have answered
your letter at once but
have been waiting to see
what Prof. Harlow had ready
so that I might point out
the species on your list that
would be desirable for
N. A. F. I enclose the list
you sent and have drawn

a double line under those
I would like to have in quantity
for my Exsicc. — 7 species —

Omit Puccinia Galioformis as
I saw on taking a second look
Prof. Farlow has collected it.

The other species on your list
I either have or think I can
get here. For the species furnished
in quantity for the Exsicc. you
can credit yourself 50 cents for
each species furnished — the
amount to be deducted either
from the price of Cent. I or the
succeeding Cent. \$3.50 for the
7 species — unless you prefer
to receive an exchange specimen
from my herbarium not in
quantity to be published in
the Exsiccati. These however I
would furnish you at any
rate if you should wish without
price as you shall no doubt

be troubling you more or
less in asking for some of your
Western species for my herba-
rium - in fact I have in
the list you sent drawn a
parenthesis around some of the
species I would like for my
herbarium if you have them
convenient. - 4 Puccinias
with the Thecaphora & Sporosporium
I have no spec. of these in
my herbarium.

The price of the exsiccatis is
\$7. per Cent. (Seven Dollars)
Prof Harlow advised me to
put it at \$8. or \$10. but I
am unwilling to ask more
than others do for the same
work though it will not prob-
ably be very remunerative finan-
cially speaking - Cooke's British
Fungi (Fungi Britannici) are
published at 21 shil Sterl,
about \$5.50 but the Cents

are not bound or pois-
oned - the last item at
least being in my opinion
quite essential though requir-
ing considerable additional
labor & expense.

If you have opportunity
in your correspondence please
mention the work as I would
prefer to dispose of as many
copies as possible in this
country in the hope of doing
something to increase the interest
in mycological studies here.
The indications at present are
that I shall have quite a
demand for the series here
I am putting up only 35 copies
The fungi I have marked on your
list will not be used before next
winter at least.

Very truly yours, J. B. Ellis

to Bessey

Newfield N. Jersey
Nov. 16. 1878

My Dear Sir

Yours favor of the 5th inst.
with accompanying spec.
was duly rec^d & should
have been answered at once
but has been neglected till now

- There is now I think with
what I had previously rec^d
from Mr. Holway a supply of
Puccinia notitangivis
The *Monerula actinca*
is very acceptable.

I am now about having
my microscope renovated
& improved so that I am
not in a condition to give
any satisfactory opinion
concerning the fungus on
Desmodium & *Scutellaria*
I should very much like

either or both of them for the
Exsicc. if you have them.
The material you are
sending can not be used
before another year at the
least as I have now ma-
terial for 4 Cents, ~~not~~ ^{on}
hand - So that you may
perhaps be able to get
more another season if
you have not a good
supply, I should like
a spec. of *Puccinia gram-*
inis var. *brevicarpa* if
you please some time
when convenient.

I see I shall have
to set to work in earnest
on the Exsiccati as the
material continues to
accumulate

I have rec^d some fine
things from Dr. Wood H. C.
also from Ravenel & from
James Jackson & Everhart
West Chester Pa.

Dr. Harkness from Calu-
has also sent some interest-
ing fungi. He promises to
send me *Polyphorus volutus*
Pk., which he finds abund-
antly on *Pinus contorta*
in the Sierras. His spec-
imens are larger than Mr. Peck's
but evidently the same
thing. Though Crevillea has
published it in *Grevillea*
under another name "*P.*
obvolutus" He seems to
take special pains to ignore
Mr. Peck & in fact all
American though of course

in my Exercise where there
is a choice I shall not
follow his lead in that di-
rection.

Very truly Yours
J. B. Ellis

Newfield N. Jersey
Feb. 23, 1888

My Dear Sir

Your favor containing
check for \$1. for Cent. III.
is safely read^a for which
please accept my thanks.
It is also very gratify-
ing to me that you are
pleased with the work.
I mean to do the best I
can to get up a valuable
collection. I am glad
to hear that you will
probably be able to do
something at collecting
the coming season. You
spoke of a var. of *Puccinia*
graminis - perhaps you
will be able to get that
for me another season

also a good supply of *Puccinia*, *Solidia* 52. And probably many other things you will meet with in your neighborhood.

The books for Cent. IV. are all finished & the material ready and in a few days I expect the printing will be done when I shall go on with Cent. IV. as fast as I can. Nos 1-33 in Cent. IV. will be *Hymenomyces* - among them *Polyporus volvatus* PK 34-57 *Sphaeronema* 58-83 *Dematium*, *Mucedines* &c. 84-400 *Discomycetes* embracing some very interesting species such as *Peziza gracilipes* ^{6h}

211
Pez. incondita & P. myssaegena
nov. Spec. The last grows
from old droppings of Myssae
multiflora buried in the
mud under decaying logs.
— also 4 species of the
Friesian genus Om-
phophila

The material for Cent.
V. is also mostly ready.
This will be made up
principally of Sphaeriaceae
& Discomycetes. I hope to
have a copy of Cent. IV.
ready for you by the 1st
of May next — possibly
sooner.

It was through some
inadvertence that the
title page of Cent. III. does
not agree entirely with

The specc. I hardly know
how it was myself but
somewhat between Prof.

Farlow & myself it came
out as it is. It will be
well to add some explan-
atory note in the next Cent.
of *Medicinali* which will
probably be Cent. VI.

The *Peronospora Halstedii*
was in rather scanty supply
& if you meet with it another
season I should like a good
supply so that I can send
out additional specc.
in another Cent.

You ask if I receive
sufficient pecuniary
encouragement to make
it certain that I shall fin-
ish my 10 Cents.

I find the expense is consid-
erable & much time is re-
quired but it is paying
me as well as I expected
so that I think there is no
doubt I shall be able
to finish my 10 Cents - if
I live - I am favorably
situated for such an
undertaking for this is
a wonderfully rich locality
for fungi - And living
here as I do my expenses
are small. Even as it
is however I could not do
it were it not for my
wife who helps me put

of the spec. and makes
the books - that is does
the binding - I had the
first 60 made in Boston
but besides the inconvenience
of having the work done at
a distance the cost was
too much, so as Mrs. E.
said she would undertake
to make as good a book
as the Boston binder I bought
in N. Y. paper board enough
for the 10 cents. Mrs. E. can
now make a better book
than at first having had
some practice.

Very truly Yours

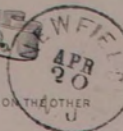
J. B. Ellis

J. B. Ellis-desiderata-
var. of *Puccinia graminis*
Puccinia solida Sz
Peronospora Halstedii Praelm

If you should collect
anything for the N. A. F.
please try to get enough
for 40 or 45 copies

Please mention the fungi
to any in your correspondence
you think would like
a set

Ellis to Bessey 23 II - 1880



WRITE THE ADDRESS ON THIS SIDE - THE MESSAGE ON THE OTHER

Prof. C. E. Bussey
Ames
Iowa

Dear Sir Newfield Apr. 20. 1880
I send you today Cent. IV. N.
Am. Fringe. I was behind the time
on Cent. III & so send out Cent. IV
sooner. I hope to finish Cent.
V. by the end of the year but
perhaps I can not before
1881
Yours truly J. R. Ellis

Newfield N. J.
Feb. 33rd 1881

Prof. C. E. Bessey

Dear Sir

Please accept my
thanks for your favoring
No 18th mlt. with draft
on N. Y. for \$7.

I am also much
pleased that you seem
satisfied with my work.
And thank you for your
kind consideration in no-
ticing it in the Naturalist

I have still 15 sets of the
fringe (out of the 26 which
I publish of each Cent.) but
have no doubt that they
will all be called for as
soon as the parties desiring
them learn that they are to be
had

We (my wife & I) are now
at work on Cent. VI. which
will be ready some time
the coming spring and per-
haps also Cent. VII. as I am
behind one Cent. and have
the material on hand.

I have to get them out
in the winter as during
the warmer season I have
to be busy on other mat-
ters — I enclose a found
receipt and with best wishes
remain very truly yours

J. B. Ellis

Newfield New Jersey
Feb. 23rd 1881
Rec^d of Pres. C. E. Beechey
Seven Dollars (\$7.) in full
for North American Fungi
Cents. 1-V. inclusive
J. B. Ellis

Newfield Apr. 30 92

Dear Prof. Bessey

I send you by Expr. to day
a Box with two Copies N. A. F. XXVIII,
one for you & one for the Ag.
Ex. Sta.

Also 2 copies our new Book
one for the Station and one for
yourself with compliments, E. & E.

Bills enclosed - Please acknowl-
edge receipt of the Box promptly
and oblige

Yours Truly

J. B. Ellis.

P. S.

I do not recollect whether
the Station have ordered the
copy of N. A. F. sent or not - If they
do not, I want it, please hold
it for me

J. B. E.

Only one Century
this year

Ellis to Bessey
Newfield, New Jersey Apr. 30. 1892
Prof. Chas. E. Bessey
To J. B. Ellis, Dr.
To Cent. XXVIII. of Ell. & Evrnt's.
North Am. Faun. & Serp's
\$ 7.00