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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.

MANSEFIELD,
ST. ANDREWS,

FIFE.
12. XI. 23

Dear Prain,

If you have not already got
it you will be interested to know
that J. H. Balfour graduated M.D.
at Edin^v. 1831. and was M.A.
at Edin^v. 10 April 1856, eleven
years after becoming Professor
of Botany there. It would be
interesting to know how he got M.A.

I take the liberty of sending
you a copy of the Expedition you
sent at St. Andrews 100
years ago and some comments
on it. I think it will interest
you: but what is more important
I hope you will be able to help to
explain some of the entries. You will

Sub on
copy into
4 to 1800.

White - handkerchief

STANDREWS,
MANCHESTER.

notice they are all numbered for reference.

I want to know what a White 130.
Weavers Glass 151 Spruce Beer 135. ^{What drink}
Blocking why it cost so much. etc. you
don't know → Day & Martin(?)
Duty on Cloth & on Books. 501.

Bath Paper 240 *. Why Cotton Stockings
289. (He came from Lock Tay side).

Staple 366 Testot 486 must have been
a Lecturer or Entertainer? A night cap 570
was the custom; another 613. The Angas 619 *. He never
buys in
vends Bottle

Watch Glass 566, 630, 708. A Nick 799
B - no Domestic Medicine 371.

Generally if there is anything in the
accounts which you can help to explain
please do so.
I shall be glad to have the papers back
from B. have done with them.

W. S. H.
Yours sincerely
P. D. Scott Lang.

MANSEFIELD,
ST ANDREWS,
FIFE.

10. Dec. '23.

My dear Prain,

I see you have been
at Aberdeen.

I sent to you at the
Royal Society, Burlington Ho.
a packet of papers, relating to
a student here 100 years ago.
I hoped you might be able
to solve some of the puzzles
that I found. There is
no hurry about an answer
but I would like to know
that they reached you.
I am confident you would

MANSEFIELD,
STANDREWS,

FIVE.

find them interesting.

I hope Lady Proctor is well.

We are in our usual. I
take things very easy now. I
can easily see to write & read
but walking in the crowded (?)
streets with diabolical cars
and bicycles so that crossing
the streets is somewhat risky.
With kind regards
Yours sincerely

P. W. Scott Lang.

and
10-1-24

MANSEFIELD,
ST. ANDREWS,
FIFE.

26. XII. 23.

My dear Prun,
Very many thanks for
D.D.: accounts, and especially
received this morning
for your comments. You have
cleared up "Spruce Beer" and
also B-w's Domestic Medicine.
I am of your opinion as to
"Stiffer": some garment or sort
of collar on which to lay the
elaborate stock. Cotton Stockings
I find were cheaper than
woollen ones: they were also
dressier: but I cannot imagine
what he would
like to be dressing.
The Nick is very possibly
what you suggest. But he buys

STANDREWS
JAN 2/2

a Penknife at the same time
as the Nick for 1/6. Would not
the knife have a small blade?
It happens at the very end of
his College career. They are both
bought in Glasgow.
I am very greatly indebted
to you.

I hope to be able to get more
about the Duty in Bucks. etc. I
am disposed to think it was a
local, burghal, imposition.

The most interesting point at
present regards a statement in
his income for 1825-6. The entry
is "Income from Sodin 6. ..."

I think that means Sodin
Zindburgh: & the £6 is some
bursary or grant. I have tried

MANSEFIELD,
ST ANDREWS,

FIFE.

the Church of Scotland Highlands
& Islands Com^{tee} -; also the Royal
Bounty Com^{tee} - (to expend £2000
given annually by the King to
the Church & which on his suggestion
is expended in connection with
young men, each speaking, who
will to train for the Church. But
as yet I have no light. I have
tried other sources. One thing
that opens me on is that Sir
Walter apparently goes out his
way to send Pemberton Butler a note
to the Town's College in Edinburgh
to the St Andrews. Who should
Sir Walter do this unless he
knew there was some sort of
Bursary for divinity students

STANDREWS,
MANCHESTER

at ^{PIFE} St Andrews? Moreover I know
that in 1611 and subsequent
years there were Collections in
Parish Churches in the neighbour-
hood of Schindberg. In the
entertainment of ^{Divinitie}
Students at St Andrews.

Of course ~~was~~ Newber Butler
was more than 100 years after
1611 and D.D. was 100 years
after Newber; but still it is not
impossible that both Newber
and D.D. got money for their
entertainment at St Andrews

from the same source or fund.
I know Charles well: he is an old
Student of mine: I have been at school
already about twice with him. But I'll
try him again. With kindest regards
to you both from all of us

Yours sincerely
B.D. Leitch Lang.

MANSEFIELD,
ST. ANDREWS,
FIFE.

12. 1. 24

My dear Prain,

Many thanks for William
Lether. I am going to examine
our Burgh Accounts circa 1820
and I hope to get something
out of them. I believe - half - that
these duties were put on after
Waterloo.

I have been struggling with
"Shives" v "Borts". D.D. never
mentions Borts. But I think
in those days what are now
commonly described as Borts
were in fact described
as Shives. The Americans today
follow that practice: and I see

MANSEFIELD,
STANDREWS,

FIVE

in Guy Mannering - a splendid book
Jack Jabs speaks of the Bulls
Mannering had on when he arrived
on the night of Little Harry Buttram's
birth, and later "Soles the
Shoemakers" (not Bob & Shoe Maker).
means Dark Hattericks "Shoes".

Now I had always imagined
that Hattericks were Boots, one
sort.

So I think it not
unlikely that D.D.'s Shoes were
like our Boots.

As to a Nick. Did you notice that
he purchased the Nick ^{1/4} folks in
the purchase of a Penknife 2/-?
with the purchase of a Penknife 2/-?
Gives merely

P.S. Scott Lang.

and
7.6.24

MANSEFIELD,
ST ANDREWS,
FIFE.

6 June 1924

My dear Prain,
The other day I had a note
from the Unionist Manager in
Scotland to the effect that a
Sir Charles Bedford would like
his name to be considered as
a candidate in the Scottish Uni-
onities in the event of a vacancy.
I wrote to Craik and he has no
intention of resigning as I feared.

You may remember your name
was brought up two or three years
ago & I believe I had this
meeting not been practically
to Berry as the result of a meeting
not duly called at which I was

MANSEFIELD,
STANDREWS,

unable to be present you would have
been adopted.

I don't like the Scottish office
interfering. But what I want to
know is if your name on the
occasion of a vacancy was favor-
ably received would you accept
nomination. I should perhaps
say that the expenses of election
have hitherto been small.

I don't know when there may
be a vacancy; but if you don't
object I thought of waiting. To
some of the Com. I had reminding
them of your existence & qualifications.
I had to be favorable towards a time.
But I don't want to do this & then
find that Sir David has been
accounted absent with pleasure & glad-
ness. We are all well. Edie is back in London.
Yours sincerely,
J. G. Lamb.

MANSEFIELD,
ST. ANDREWS,
FIFE.

12 June 1824

My dear Prain,
Your letter fills me with
sorrow: for your Wife, your Sister
in Law and Yourself. We are
very sorry to hear Lady Prain
is not in good health. My
Wife's heart was in poor condition
two or three years ago: but it has
I think rather improved. She
got great encouragement from
Sir James Mackenzie. I am
sorry to say he is leaving
St Andrews. I understand he
finds the cold too much for his
health. They go back to London.

MANSFIELD,
STANDREWS.

FIVE

in August. He is a very competent
Doctor.

Now about yourself. Are you
forgetting that M.P.S. get £400
a year, and first class fares?

Well I hope there won't be a
vacancy for some time. I won't be
much surprised if we have a
Woman Candidate. I have just
looked at our list of graduates
and out of the first 156 names
47 are women very nearly one
third.

By the way I am much
exercised and hope I shall be
Colleague Mr. Letcher over the
neglect, or rather the closing of

MANSEFIELD,
ST. ANDREWS,
FIFE.

The Gatty Marine Laboratory.

I write talks much of Research
But there was Research first and
present in Zoology here I mean.
and ever since D'Arcy Thomson
came the Gatty has been closed.
At first the Council would not
allow Mr. D'Arcy to work in it. Now
he is allowed provided he pays for
the Coal & Gas he consumes. Of
course one of the chief difficulties
is D'Arcy: he cares nothing about
that sort of work: does not do it him-
self, but does it with his students
to do it. But why the Council which
"goes in" for Research & spends much
money in Scholarships & Research
allows & rather keeps this Lab closed

MANCHESTER,
ST. ANDREWS,

is what I can't understand. It is
bad very bad for the University.

I was glad you gave Mr. Ditch
the Linnean Medal. He was very
much pleased. In a week or two
Durham is going to Lamerale
him.

Well don't forget the £400
and First Class Fares.

With our united kindest
regards to Lady Pain and
yourselves I am

Yours sincerely
R. G. Scott-Lang.

MANSEFIELD,
ST. ANDREWS,
FIFE.

4. 1X. 24.

My dear Brinn,
Many thanks for sending
me Isaac Bayley Balfour. I
have read it with much inter-
est and admiration. You have
managed to pack an unusually
large number of facts into a
small space. One important
and rather serious omission
is no mention of the fact
that he was tutored for his
medieval preliminary by a
very distinguished mathematic-
ian. You can insert this
in the next edition. Apart from this
the memoir is admirably done
I am much struck by

MANSEFIELD,
STANDREWS,

FIFE.

great resemblance to his
father in face I mean. The
old man was kind to me
and gave me a flaming test-
imonial. I had no idea
Isaac had done so much work
and good work.

For a time he and I were
the senior professors in Scotland.
there was at most a difference
of only a month or two.

I enclose a weed which
so far as I know entered my
law only last year: but it
has spread very much and the
usual method of taking up
individual plants is a little
use as it has long runners

MANSEFIELD,
ST ANDREWS,
FIFE.

If you can tell me how to
proceed so as to eradicate it
I shall be obliged. Perhaps
it could be starved out.

I am much in my usual
Lady Loring is not very fit. We
are thinking of a visit to
Harrogate & perhaps later to
London & if so I hope we
shall see you.

With our kind regards

Yours sincerely

Edw. Loring