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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.

-from Hoffman  
-to Rose

Siemensstr. Berlin.

Jan. 26 1891.

Highly respected Sir,

You have had the great kindness to send me specimens of two (to me) new and hitherto unknown genera. I received the same at the end of last year. For them, as well as for the very excellent descriptions accompanying the same, I express my sincerest thanks. I have had my attention called to *Deschampsia* the last time through you. Indeed, until now I have not been able to obtain any volumes publishing this genus, so closely are periodicals brought for me. I will therefore notice both genera in my supplement.

*Deschampsia* seems to me to belong to Smilacae-Sinulinac which it is true

(excluding the aberrant genus *Cedrus-carlowii*) has no native representation in North America. Knowing the author and styles decides this. On the contrary I am not so sure of the highly interesting *Coulterella*. I am sorry that the specimens sent showed no anther nor pistil. These parts had been eaten by an insect. In only one flower was the lower limb of the anther visible, so that I could at least establish the fact that they were rounded at the base. Therefore what I write concerning the systematic position of this plant is a guess. It reminds me notwithstanding its different mode of Lagace. In common they have the inflorescences: 1 flower head, whose involucres scales are connate high up into a tube; deeply 5 parted corolla limb, the lobes of which are marked with a midrib nerve. Very

likely you can decide if the forms  
of the style corresponds with  
this. At all events I should be  
very much obliged to you if you  
will communicate your views  
to the place of the genus.

Most respectfully and truly,

O. Hoffman.  
Siidender dei Berlin.

Letter to J. M. Rose  
Jan. 26th 1891

Dr. J. N. Rose,

Associate Curator, U. S. National Museum,

Washington, D.C.

My dear Dr. Rose,

May I ask you a favor?<sup>2</sup> Would you kindly find out, whether you have any *Struthocleis* from Persia in the Nat. Herb. that represents the one pictured on the enclosed photograph.<sup>2</sup> The plant was collected by one of our Entomologists in Persia in 1906, it is not known at Kew nor in the Bot. Museum, neither do they know it at Dahlem. They all think it is new, and advise me to describe and name it. But, before doing so, I would like to be sure, whether you have something similar or not. It is a most interesting plant, prostrate on the ground, pubescent and with a very unusually shaped panicle. We have only two flowering branches and some flowers but alcohol, sufficient to give a full description. Besides

we have four seedlings growing in a pot on my window.

Our entomologist, Dr. Lindner, only collected a very few plants, to my great regret, and this is his last finding.

I hope you are all well. I have to thank you for your last letter, which however I have not at hand. - Would you care for some plants of our native flora? If so, I would gladly make out a list.

I am very busy as usual in the office and at home. We like Stuttgart very much, it is so pleasant to be "home" again.

With kind regards to you all from us all

Yours very sincerely

Alwin Dörner.