



Hunt Institute for Botanical Documentation
5th Floor, Hunt Library
Carnegie Mellon University
4909 Frew Street
Pittsburgh, PA 15213-3890
Telephone: 412-268-2434
Email: huntinst@andrew.cmu.edu
Web site: www.huntbotanical.org

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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.

Humeau Fort.

29/VIII/19

Well now, that was a very real & great pleasure, to have my dutiful Nephew's letter, & to learn the "latest" of my dear Chinese children, who, I assure you, are by no means relieved in my tenderness by their Burmese brethren. I am particularly delighted to hear that the Golden Rose has come to its own at last, & that the Great Lily is gradually doing so. It only shows one mustn't be in a hurry to see the full character of a new plant, raised from seed; nor too rashly throw it away in scorn. The Lily has hung fire for a long time, but I have always kept on hoping that ultimately it would show you the magnificence that made me gasp at Siku, instead of the mere 2-3 squiggly little flowers it had so far vouchsafed (though I must say I do it justice that according to Botanical Documentation, notably with him last year). And the Golden Rose is certainly a treasure beyond any Pope's: in time it will develop its great crimson pteracantha thorn wings, too; & then you'll fairly lick your lips. No doubt the Paeony is Woodwardii, damn it! - Woodward was a friend of Ten-wick-Clean's, I gather; & Pundom, in 1911, gave the latter some seeds, which passed to W. - with the result that now I, if you please, am defrauded of Paeonia Farreri & Prun. Farreri, by their premature & preposterous ascription to Woodward! Oh, what a wicked world it is, where merit is cheated of its triumphs! None the less I am glad the P. lives up to my memory of it: & its scent is so pleasant. F. 298 (error) ought to have been a dull bottle-fruited briar: you have gained in getting dear little 3 But in-

-stead. And I hope F. 544 will ere long come to its fullness.

I'm glad I'm appearing in the Chronicle. This gives you an idea of my work and country, so now I can turn straight to the oddments I am sending you. The first is an Anemone of the Narcissiflora group, but taller, stouter & more spreading, with flowers of blazing golden orange. It is a notable beauty of alpine & high-alpine "hay fields," from 11-13000. The second is also an Anemone and also of the Narcissiflora group, but smaller & depressed, with the loveliest flowers of pure Potentilla-nitida-pink (though variable) This is a high-alpine, from the fine open turf at 13000. And the third is a very handsome Cremanthodium that adorns the folds of the alpine hayfields at 12000, with pendulous great globular-looking heads of purest white, that fade to deep & deeper clarity-crimson. I took it at first, from afar, for a tall 1-flowered white Meconopsis of the Primulina group! - You might, at your next, keep me in mind if anything good can be spared I want, when I come back, to try those hardy Orange-hybrids, & am particularly craving a sturdy cutting of that single Kaufmanniana tea-rose. Will you have heard of the latest blow, the departure of Mr. Redman? I cannot be surprised or grieved about it: it is his plain duty to his family to take so rich an offer as he has had, whereas I simply cannot pay the wage that he is now fairly entitled to. And, after all, there are fish as good in the sea as ever came out. If you come to hear of any particularly ^{suitable} ~~good~~ man going lepping, tell Mommes, will you? Meanwhile, though it is the breaking of an old and pleasant association, of course, there are aspects in which his departure gives me a feeling of something almost like relief, between ourselves. For one thing, despite all his qualities, & all my appreciation of them, I never could manage to manage a real free & frank personal liking somehow. Can you understand such a thing? Your puzzled Uncle.