



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.

Bethlehem Pa. Mar. 23/84

My Dear Mr. J. D. S.

Yours of the 15th recd. & have had it under consideration, resulting in a decision not to include the *Characeae* in my *J. W. Algae*. They are an outcast tribe & should have no samples to adopt them, but the idea comes too late. The printers have just finished the last page of a short addenda & have set up a Glossary. I might yet squeeze in 15 or 20 pages by quoting freely from Halsted, & from Allen. Could not do much from personal observation.

The plants are familiar but did not make them a study as the true Algae.

I wrote to Dr. Allen, in reply last night he says "I shall issue this season the first part, 'Introduction & Classification' of my full work on the Amer. Char. which has long been in preparation".

He will list these humble plants out of their obscurity - So, under these circumstances think best to do nothing, but regret your suggestion was not made sooner. Was not aware of the good & lasting it should have had in adding the *Characeae*.

to the Algae. They are somewhat distinct
but they ought to be added to some larger
Community - They are nearest to the
Algae.

Had specimens of *Extremophila*
a few years since from Salt Lake; &
recently received five specimens from
Montana which I note in the "addenda".
The ready proof, added also Nebraska
in your authority.

Am making slow progress with
my book - particularly with the plates -
Lithographers say they are very much
crowded with work - half not yet finished.
Printers have you in hand the index
& 1st pages - Descriptions of the Plates.

Write a strong letter to the Lithographers
last week - They are not doing justice to me.
They have to have ^{them} my ~~plates~~ ^{proofs} & try some others,
but that would be making perhaps more
delay.

Yours
fraternally
Francis M. W.