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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.

Yokohama
Bangkok, July 20th 1923

Dear Sir David Prain,

Prof. Craib has written to tell me that you are willing to be one of the nominators for my admission to the Linnæan Society. I thank you very much for your kindness in this matter. If elected I feel that I will be better able to keep in touch with present day botanical work & thought than I am at present.

Just now I am in most interesting country, all very new and strange to me, and almost untouched by collectors. This is very near Ridley's

line, between the Malay and I Siamese flora, but
I should say it is very distinctly Malay, as
in the jungle I hardly recognize a plant
as belonging to other parts of Siam known to
me, so, as you may imagine, I am kept
pretty busy. The pity is I can only skim
the country I may not get a chance of
visiting it again.

Some years ago you asked me if we
had a red Hedyotis here; since then my
brother found a plant on Ser Sutep but only
brought in the flowers. I went up after it
but was unable to find the plant. Red
flowers are a weak point with me, I am
color-blind and rarely spot them unless
close enough to distinguish their form.

Thanking you again for your
kindness I remain
yours sincerely
Allen