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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.

19. June/22
"ST HELENS,"
PRESTON PARK,
BRIGHTON.

My dear Pina,

We were so glad to hear from
you lately & to learn that all was
well and that you had some con-
genial occupation, for I cannot
imagine you idle & happy at the
same time. I hope the powers
that-be have already realised the
absurdity of regarding what you are
doing for them as "part-time"
work.

Many thanks for all you write 26th June. A most unusual thing regarding the identification of the "alaba" (fibre producing shrub). I am writing to Calcutta about it.

I think I told you that Temple suggested that it would be better for him to write the review of Brass's book for "Nature"; the Editor of N. (Macmillan) had asked me to undertake the task. I was glad to be relieved, and I hear that Temple's review was despatched last week. He is also writing a review for the Journal of the Anthrop. Inst. and a long one in his own "Indian Antiquary".

this letter was left unfinished a week ago on account of my being called away for something urgent and I have been kept pretty busy ever since. I hope this rain has not come too late to save our various crops. Many here will lament (not we amongst them) if the whole week proves wet as while it ~~would~~ ruins the stupid Carnival it will prove a fall-lead to our cereals & gardens. Sir H. Thos. Hill who is with us at present tells us that

What we have hitherto regarded
as acacias here & at Sarabito
are really robinsias. He is a
"sala janta wala" in natural
history and above the average in
botany & other sciences; so I sup-
pose he has good grounds for his
assertion.

Please give our affectionate
regards to Lady Prain. We often
think of her in her anxious attendance
on her sister. I hope the patient suffers
no pain and that her mental powers
are not much impaired. The policy of
hospitalisers must be a sore trial.
With love & best wishes, Yrs. ever Ed. Prain