



Frontispiece of *Gart der Gesundheit*, printed in Mainz by Peter Schöffer, 1485. From the Hunt Botanical Library copy (reduced).

This woodcut, handcolored in the Hunt copy, identifies this as the rare first edition of this herbal, for the shield shown here in blank above the three physicians (seated), in later editions contains one or more heraldic devices which serve usually to identify the city where printed.



To our many Friends

During the year now ending, this Library has been visited by many friends of the late Rachel McMasters Miller Hunt, of her family, of this staff, and by many others who for the first time learned something of its collections and program. We of the staff count each visitor as a friend. In furtherance and encouragement of this friendship, it is proposed to send you from time to time an informal report on accomplishments of the year and plans for the future.

The loss of Rachel McMasters Miller Hunt on 22 February 1963 created a void in our thoughts and activities that cannot be filled. A tribute to her and an epitome of her activities will be published in the forthcoming first volume of our new yearbook *Huntia*.

In consequence of Mrs. Hunt's wishes and of plans made with her, this Library opened on 16 April an exhibition of her collection of Redoutéana. The paintings, drawings and prints, books containing his illustrations, letters, and other memorabilia associated with the great Belgian artist Pierre-Joseph Redouté (1759-1840) were on display for three months. An illustrated volume, *A catalogue of Redoutéana* (126 pp.), was published, providing a biography of the artist, a bibliographical account of works containing his illustrations, together with an annotated catalogue of the nearly 200 items in the exhibit.

This Library operates in part on the counsel of an Advisory

Committee composed of five members of The Hunt Foundation and six botanists of international repute. At its April meeting the Committee was provided with the first copies of Volume I of the Hunt Facsimile Series, L'Héritier de Brutelle's *Sertum anglicum*, a broadsheet volume first published in Paris (1788 [1789-92]) and now republished with accompanying scholarly studies on the author, the artists, its bibliographic complexities, together with a study of its taxonomy and nomenclature, and an English translation of its Latin notes.

At the same meeting, the decision was made to reproduce as No. 2 of the Hunt Facsimile Series, Walahfrid Strabo's *Hortulus*, from the original 9th century manuscript now at the Vatican Library, with a new translation.

More than 140 botanists and others came to the Library from all sections of this country, from France, England, the Netherlands, and Germany for a two-day symposium on 18-19 August, to commemorate the bicentennial of the publication by Michel Adanson of his *Familles des plantes* (2 vols., Paris, 1763). Associated with this was the unveiling to the public of Adanson's library of botanical books, correspondence, and manuscripts acquired for the Library in 1961 by Mr. and Mrs. Roy A. Hunt. At the banquet closing the symposium, Prof. Roger Heim, President of the Académie, presented a bronze commemorative medal in behalf of the French Académie des Sciences and the Muséum National d'Histoire Naturelle, of which he is also Director. In addition to the medal, all in attendance received a copy of Part I of the volume *Adanson* (No. 1 of the Hunt Monograph Series), containing in full the papers given at the first session. Part II is to be published in May 1964.

Volume 2 of the Hunt Monograph Series, to follow late in 1964, is to be the publication of Edward Lee Greene's hitherto unpublished manuscript of Part II of his *Landmarks of botanical history*, together with republication of Part I of that work (originally published in 1909 by the Smithsonian Institution), a biographical study of Greene, and an analysis of his contributions as a taxonomist.

Early in November 1963 the Library opened for the Winter

season, its display of Mrs. Hunt's collection of herbals and related materials. This will be followed by a new exhibition, to open 1 April next, of paintings, drawings, and prints of contemporary botanical artists and illustrators.

The most significant news from this Library for the year 1963 is of the decision to begin a project which is destined to transcend other activities of this and many years to follow: the preparation and publication of a multivolume encyclopedic work to be named *Bibliographia Huntiana*: a work providing bibliographic study of all botanical works published in the period 1730-1840. A full account of this project, with an illustrative example, will appear in the first volume of *Huntia*. A prospectus of *Huntia* and invitation for subscriptions will be distributed in January 1964.

The staff of this Library takes this opportunity to thank its growing company of friends for the many expressions of interest and for gifts of books, papers, manuscripts, and photographs received, this year. We look forward to the continuance of these fruitful relations through research and service in behalf of all. To all we extend our best wishes for a very Merry Christmas and a most satisfying New Year.

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