



*G. D. Chrel. pinet 1785.*

*HELLEBORUS niger, flore albo,  
etiam interdum valde rubente. f. 3.*



To our many Friends

The year 1966 closes on a somber note, for we of the Hunt Botanical Library staff are indeed most conscious of the loss of our friend and donor, Mr. Roy Arthur Hunt, who died suddenly on 21 October at the age of 85. With his passing an era has ended.

Early in April this year Mr. Hunt encouraged negotiations that led to his gift to the Library of ten hitherto unrecorded water colors by the German-born British botanical artist, Georg D. Ehret (1708-1770). A calligraphic caption from Bauhin's *Pinax* in Ehret's hand is beneath each painting. His Christmas-Rose (*Helleborus niger*) was selected for this card; the four-color reproduction (reduced about one-half) is by the Meriden Gravure Press.

The year now ending has been conspicuous for both staff activity and growth of collections. During the year we served an increased number of visiting scholars, visitations by 26 organizations, and more than thirty-seven hundred individuals.

Two publications were issued: the second volume of The Hunt Facsimile Series, Walafrid Strabo's *Hortulus*, a 9th century poem on gardening by a Benedictine monk at St. Gallen, Switzerland, and an illustrated catalogue for the Henry Evans exhibition of more than 100 linocuts. The *Hortulus* is a "first" for its reproduction of its earliest known manuscript, made available through the courtesy of the Vatican Library, and for its new English translation by Mr. Raef Payne of Eton College. The work is prefaced by Mr. Wilfrid Blunt's biohistorical account and is illustrated by original linocuts by Mr. Henry Evans. Many reviewers have considered it the most beautiful volume we have produced. The production of the third volume of our yearbook *Huntia* has been delayed for several months due to a substantial increase in administrative demands placed on its editor. It is now scheduled for publication in the spring of 1967.

The Library's collections of books, botanical art, portraiture of plantsmen, and autograph letters and manuscripts have received many additions. Our book acquisition policy concentrates on botanical and horticultural works published between 1730 and 1840. This coincides with the period of *Bibliographia Huntiana*, reported below. In addition, we continue to add more recent books important as working tools in our studies. Approximately six hundred titles were added this year, bringing the total to 11,685 (no volume count is available).

The current program to develop here an archival center for original work of 20th century botanical artists and illustrators has witnessed the addition this year of 48 paintings and drawings by 16 artists not previously represented. Also added were 163 items of original work by artists already represented in the collection. Notable among artists new to the collection are Claus Caspari, Carmen Castellano, Helene Didlaukis, Elsa Felsko, Mary Grierson, Karl Grossman, Lotte Günthart, Heinz Mahnke, Fritz Marlier, Johanna Prins, and Karel Svolinsky. In addition the Library has now catalogued some 1,600 grass drawings by the late Agnes Chase and others, deposited here by the Department of Botany, Smithsonian Institution.

The collection of botanical portraiture contains more than 10,200 likenesses of about 6,600 botanists, horticulturists, and artists, making this one of the largest of its kind. Assisted with enthusiastic cooperation from officials at many institutions visited by him, Mr. Theodore W. Bossert, Curator of Botanical Portraiture, secured copies of photographs in their collections of persons not previously in this collection: from Padua, of 687 botanists (mostly men of the 19th century); from the Massachusetts Horticultural Society, of 330 horticulturists, and from the Jane Gray albums at Harvard's Gray Herbarium, of 178 botanists. Dr. Walter H. Hodge continues to supply photographs of contemporary plantsmen, and Mr. L. Vogelenzang is developing our holdings on earlier Dutch botanists. Pertinent biographical data accompany each item.

New acquisitions, by purchase, of autograph letters by botanists are primarily of men active in the mid-19th century and earlier. The Library received a collection of about 600 letters addressed

to the western American botanist, Marcus E. Jones (1852-1934). With that collection were also received two drafts of his autobiography, in Jones' hand. The Smithsonian Institution sent on a collection of about 350 letters received by Eduard Hackel (1850-1926), noted Austrian agrostologist. Mrs. Truman G. Yuncker, of Depauw University, contributed more than 400 letters received during the period of 1920 to 1960 by her late husband. Prof. Arthur J. Eames, of Cornell University, presented the Library with a choice selection of letters received during a forty-year span from colleagues throughout the world.

The Library's research activities have been focused on the production of its multi-volume encyclopedia, *Bibliographia Huntiana*, designed to account in bibliographical detail for the world's botanical and horticultural literature published between 1730 and 1840. Currently fifteen of the Library's staff of twenty-eight persons are engaged in this project. One by-product of the study will be the publication next year of a computer-produced volume to be known as *Botanico-Periodicon*. This will provide the first publication of full titles, with basic bibliographical details, of all the periodicals of the world published from about 1666-1966 (about 5,500) and known to contain a significant number of botanical or horticultural articles. Each title will be preceded by an unambiguous abbreviation. Included also, and appropriately cross-referenced, will be more than 10,700 synonymous abbreviations used for these same titles in the world's literature.

To the growing family of friends whose interests and contributions have assisted in the growth of this Library's collections, we gratefully extend our thanks. The Library is open Monday through Friday to visiting scholars and a receptionist is on duty those afternoons to receive and assist the casual visitor. Once again we extend at this Christmas Season our best wishes for a most rewarding New Year.

George H. M. Lawrence, Director  
Hunt Botanical Library  
Carnegie Institute of Technology  
Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania

9 December 1966