

Washington Oct 21st 87

Dr. Asa Gray
My dear Sir

You have I presume learned of my effort at the meeting of the A.S.A.S. to interest the botanical Club in the Herbarium in an effort to obtain better opportunity for enlargement and improvement. A committee was appointed of which you was made Chairman, much to my gratification. The purpose was to present a Memorial to the Commissioner and the Agricultural Committee representing the utility of the Herbarium and the desirability and importance of suitable appropriations to make it what it should be. I have asked in my estimates for the coming year for an additional assistant, and for \$10,000 for local ~~exp~~ and other agents and collectors and special workers - I think that if an appeal is made in the direction I have indicated that the appropriations may be secured.

Now, with respect to the Sm. Inst. If there should be a decision to remove the Herbarium to that Inst., and room and workers should be provided, there would still be the same need of botanical exploration - and if that is the ~~best~~ channel for the work I would not object - although it seems to me that under present circumstances the Department of Agriculture is the best agency.



Vasey, George. 1887. "Vasey, George Oct. 21, 1887." *George Vasey letters to Asa Gray*

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