

The excellent qualities of Putnam
 as a collector and as a Curator
 are so I wish to detach in any
 way from his devotion to the ~~best~~
 interests of the Peabody Museum
 that are you ready to reward ^{more} ~~him~~ ^{him} ~~him~~
 by, devotion by promotion to a
 Professorship above of all others,
 requires that it is incumbent
 should have the widest possible
 culture? of he is to represent before
 the scientific world American
 anthropology as it should be represented.
 Surely the grounds on which this
 nomination is urged have not
 your sanction as representing the
 highest interests of science and you
 can not be ready to place in Wyman's
 Professorship among Putnam's

MUSEUM OF COMPARATIVE ZOOLOGY,

CAMBRIDGE, MASS.

caliber? The establishment of a
Professorship is not going to alter
Putnam's relation to the Natural
Museum while it does not meet
as is so often the case no other
appointment - a crying want.
There are no students or pupils
clamoring for instruction and
asking to have the machine kept
going by the appointment of the
best available man. The Museum
will be as well to run care of by
Putnam as Curator - and I cannot
help feeling that such an appoint-
ment is offering a premium to
deserted mediocrity and is to a
certain extent a mark of want of

collecting the material for
 the purpose of a new group of letters
 between the various institutions
 which is now in progress
 as is also the case with the
 off-hand and a copy of the
 then are in the hands of the
 University of Cambridge and
 writing to have the material left
 for the purpose of the
 had a letter from the University
 with a note to the effect that
 between the University and the
 University that such an effort
 was in offering a specimen to
 the University and it is
 certain that a great quantity

appreciation on the part of the
 governing Board of the work
 which is attempted here.

I have been perfectly frank
 with you in this matter as I do not
 wish to seem to you or to any other
 member of the Trust, to be acting
 in an under hand way or in my
 opposition to their action.

Truly
 A. Cassin.

P. P. A. A. A.
 Cambridge.



Agassiz, Alexander. 1837. "Agassiz, Alexander undated." *Asa Gray correspondence*

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