

THE SHAW SCHOOL OF BOTANY.

WM. TRELEASE, PROFESSOR IN CHARGE.

St. Louis, Mo., Sept. 25, 1885.

Dear Dr. Gray:

Now that I am getting settled in St. Louis - though by no means well at work yet - I want to write you about something that I have had in mind since spring, when Mr. Shaw told me that he had had some conversation with you regarding the publication of Dr. Engelmann's writings in a compact and convenient form. So much drudgery must of necessity be done in an undertaking of this sort, that I should like to relieve you of as much of it as possible, and, if you like, will gladly do all of the work that you wish to submit to me. At any rate, if you will kindly tell me what your plans are, I can hope to be of some use in one way or other.

Judging from present appearances, the opportunities for work are greater than the prospects for an adequate number of advanced students - or, for that matter, of students of any grade; but I hope we shall get them in time. In this respect the University is of comparative little help, as it can only spare one class of beginners two hours a week.

In order to be where I can use the Garden freely, and see Mr. Shaw frequently, I have located in the library of the museum building, where I expect to dig most of the time. By the way, a little influence ought to be brought to bear on Dr. Engelmüller, with reference to his father's Herbarium. Some time since the duplicates of the collection were sent to the Garden, but, as I

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St. Louis, Mo., 188

understand, he could not quite resign himself to seeing his father's personal collection leave the house. However, the Herbarium is too valuable to be kept in a private house, where it is not readily accessible; and, in my estimation, is ought moreover to be where it can be properly looked after and where it is safe from fire — all of which points constitute arguments for its transfer to the fireproof building at the garden. I hope, too, that as collections come up, we may be remembered at Cambridge, for I am anxious that every facility shall be utilized to make the new school what we all hope it is to be.



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