

St. Louis, Mo., Jan. 21, 1890.

Dear Mr. Watson:

Thank you very much for the hint concerning the Ball Herbarium. While it is not in the line that I have planned for final development (N. O. botany), I fully appreciate its value, and if it can be obtained I shall certainly be glad to get it, and can at once furnish temporary in the fireproof building that we have no Benhardi and Engelman's herbaria in. It will be but a short time, I feel certain, before we have a large and really fine fireproof building for our collections and the library we must soon form.

Acting on your suggestion I have written Sir Joseph Hooker, making formal application for the Ball Herbarium. I had seen the "Nature" note before, but it had not occurred to me that it would be anything but impertinence for anyone to ask for it. However, I judge from your letter that you have pretty direct knowledge that applications will not be viewed in that light. If you happen to have



Trelease, William. 1890. "Trelease, William Jan. 21, 1890 [to S. Watson]." *Asa Gray correspondence*

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