

THE MISSOURI BOTANICAL GARDEN.

ST. LOUIS, MO.

OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR.

July 23, 1902.

Dear Professor Saccardo:

On my return from Central America, some months ago, I found on my desk a card from you, inquiring about the Alaskan fungus paper, but endorsed by one of my assistants in such a way as to lead me to believe that it had been answered. I am mortified to learn from your card of the fourth, just received, that it was not answered.

The entire course of this Alaskan fungus paper has been an uninterrupted trial to me, and I sincerely hope that the tone of your card does not mean that it has cost me your friendship, - which I should be most unwilling to lose.

On taking up the examination of the fungi collected on the Harriman expedition, I saw that there were many imperfecti, which were laid aside in the hope that they might later be examined for us by you. The rest of the specimens were studied by Professor Peck, myself, and others. The residue, after I had listed our determinations, was sent to you, and you very kindly and promptly sent me your determinations. Later, the bulk of the imperfecti was unearthed in a place where the specimens had laid, unseen, when the first specimens were sent you, and, in sending them on I added a lot of small Agarics that had baffled us. These, like the first, you were kind enough to report on very promptly, - requesting that a separate paper be made of your contribution. The undesirability of dividing the paper on fungi, in the report on the Expedition, was so great that this was not done, but the new determinations were incorporated in the original paper, to which your name is affixed as joint author, with full indication of the part played in its preparation by everyone who had aided in the work. This paper, with the plates, was placed in the hands of the editor of the Harriman books about Christmas, last, and I had his assurance that the cryptogamic volume would be published in January. The reproduction of your plates, however, gave him trouble, and he is still trying to have them suitably reproduced. I sincerely hope that the long delays will soon come to an end, and that you will be ultimately pleased with the form of publication, which will be in a work destined to take place as a well made and permanently useful addition to the literature of botany. -- And I hope that you will once more bring yourself to believe in my real gratitude for your assistance in making it so.

Sincerely yours, Arthur Peck