

Andover, Mass., April 23, 1896.

Dear Prof. Lyon.

I shall have to go to Boston on Monday next and would like to see you for a short time. This will be on the 27 th. Would you be more at leisure on Saturday the 25 th? -- Could you come in to Boston on Monday? Or could you do so on Saturday? At what time and place? Would you prefer that I call on you in Cambridge?

The matter is wholly about the Museum. -- Certain parties have been talking about it for sometime but they have decided that they cannot afford to take the birds and animals, but would like to take the other section, namely, the coins, tiles, iridescent glass, archaeological objects, &c., &c., -- I would like to have the entire collection go to one place. There is a vast amount of material which could not be collected to order in the space of ten years and ten thousand dollars would be required to do it. Some of the objects ~~it is not likely even~~ it would be impossible to duplicate. -- The collection cost me a great deal of time and money, but if I should get twenty five hundred dollars for ~~the~~ it I should get my money back. I would sell it for that because I have had a great deal of pleasure and satisfaction in collecting the objects. -- The fifty pieces of glass are worth five to ten dollars each, and the ^{collection} coins from the time of the Maccabees down to three hundred A.D. is particularly valuable. I have between thirty and forty of the towns of Palestine which were allowed by the Romans the right of colonies to coin their own money, -- except gold and silver. -- If the collection was at Cambridge I should take a personal pride in helping put it into shape, -- giving my time for that purpose I mean. --

The collection is unique and ought to go together. If I sell one section I injure the sale of the other section, -- and dividing a collection makes it less valuable. --

Is there any possibility of your thinking of it? Perhaps we do not need a personal interview if it is not convenient. You can write me your opinion, which please do at once. Yours sincerely Selah Mer-

Selah Merrill

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