

P. Redpath

The Manor House,
Chislehurst.

Feb 6, 1887

Dear Sir William,

Dr Murie - Librarian
Linnean Society - a short time ago
drew my attention to some specimens
belonging to the Society which it is willing
to dispose of because they want the
room for book cases - Dr Murie
says the specimens are valuable and
would constitute an excellent nucleus
for a collection illustrating economic
botany - He offered the cases and
contents

Contents for one hundred pounds
and was anxious that they should
be secured for your Museum.
The cases are of mahogany - very good
workmanship and the lower three contain
each 20 drawers - Those above have
glass fronts - I have no doubt the
cases ^{themselves} are worth over thirty pounds - The
specimens which I believe are all named
I cannot judge of. Some of them
were interesting to my unlearned eye.

At the time Murie spoke to me
I had some idea of purchasing them
myself for the Museum provided you
thought the collection desirable but

I

I have found reason to be very careful
of my expenditure this year and I cannot
undertake such an outlay on the back of
other obligations which I have incurred.

I will however, if you desire to have the
collection, contribute £20 towards the
purchase if you can get other friends
to make up the remainder of the required
sum - Mahogany would not be in

good keeping with your other cases but
that is not ~~an~~ a very serious matter -

Marie said he would send me a
sufficient description for you to judge
of the things but he has not done

so and I have written to him
that my wife and I leave tomorrow

for the Continent - and are likely to be
absent for three months - and that he
should write to you direct. I fear
my friend is somewhat dilatory in his
proceeding -

Mrs Redpath does not gain strength
notwithstanding a month in the
Isle of Wight during which however
owing to a severe cold taken on landing there
she was only out of the house three times for
about a quarter of an hour on each
occasion. We go in the first place to
Paris and thence probably along the
Riviera to Italy and as far as Rome.
I trust that change of air and a warmer
climate may prove beneficial -

Mrs R. sends her love with mine to you all.

Yours ever truly

Sir William Dawson
Montreal

Peter Redpath