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TO INSURE PROMPT DELIVERY,
ADDRESS YOUR REPLY TO THE
SIGNER OF THIS LETTER.

May 14, 1912.

Miss Hortense Butler,
Peterson, Iowa.

My dear Miss Butler :

Your letter was received a few days ago and we were glad to hear from you and also from your mother. Since you suggested that it was not impossible that you might again be a pupil of mine, I venture to make another suggestion. In case you should come on here for advanced study, how would you like to work cooperatively with me on the preparation of a handbook of North American dragonflies? I am beginning a series of handbooks on the groups of fresh-water organisms and am completing this summer one upon the mayflies of America. You probably remember that at the time when you were working on dragonfly labium with me at Lake Forest, I had already much material accumulated toward a handbook of the dragonflies. That material has been lying on the shelf for about twelve years and is still reposing there, but it must come off the shelf next year and be finished, and my hands are so full of chores that I never get anything done alone any more. In the case of the mayfly book, I have had a graduate student who finished her work for her doctor's degree last February working with me, and on each of the succeeding volumes I expect to get some one to help me out. I am reduced to this necessity by hard circumstances, but in getting help I trust I shall not be the only one benefitted. Now if you should take kindly to this proposition, nothing would please me better than to have you resume your work in this line and add to the good work you have done already. Kindly let me know what you think about it.

Yours sincerely, *James G. Needham*