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December 26, 1916

Mrs. Hortense Butler Heywood,
Peterson, Iowa.

My dear Hortense :

Your letter of the 19th came on Christmas morning
and I read it with great pleasure and also the accompanying
manuscript. The latter is very interesting reading and ought
to be published somewhere; probably the best place is with your other
manuscript when you get ~~them~~^{as} all together.

I have not made ^{as} much progress with the Dragonfly
Handbook up-to-date as I had hoped. Too many official matters
are coming up all the time and consuming the hours that I would
like to devote to it. I have been working of late over the
nymphs of the genus Gomphus. I have not yet reached the place
where I could use your help to the greatest advantage, but if
during the winter it should appear that the book could be pushed
along faster by our working jointly upon it for a time, could you
leave your happy home and come up here to help with it again?

Remember me kindly to your mother and to Mr. Heywood,
whom we shall hope to have you bring to see us some time.

with best wishes, I remain,

Yours sincerely,

JGN:KW

James G. Needham