

Sapprev, May 27th. 1883

My dear sister:

The last two mails have brought me letters the first from you, and the last from Mat. I am delighted to learn that you have both been so well. Hope that you will not fail to take a daily walk of gradually increasing length. Why do you not take up the study of botany? It would in my opinion prove interesting, healthful and

I am making a collection of the indigenous flora. I have to leave to all as ever
Sill.

I am exceptionally busy as I am

like all knowledge ac-
quired might sometime
prove of great use. At pres-
ent, its principal use
would lie in its furnish-
ing an incentive to out-
of-door exercise. You have
little idea how much
pleasure the study is ca-
pable of giving. You may
perhaps think you would
find no pleasure in it;
but it always comes.

For the study you will
need Gray's ^{School and} ~~Field and~~
~~Field Book of~~
Garden Botany" and al-
so his ^{New} Manual of Botany"
together with a Magnify-

ing glass of moderate power. Such a one as is figured in the latter part of the "School and Field Book" is suitable. All of these I shall be most happy to pay for if you will buy and with their assistance make a collection. If I remember rightly I have a press and drying papers at home; but if not I shall be glad to pay for those also. Now please think of this plan carefully and if your decision is favorable begin at once.

You mistake my meaning
about a fire in your sleep-
ing room. It is not for
its warmth, though that is
no objection when the
source is an open fire;
but for ventilation: and
the intention is to have only
a small fire just to start
an upward current of
warm air through the chim-
ney and to allow it to go
out immediately after your
retire. Sorry to hear of the mis-
fortunes of the Rogers family.
Will you ask Ed. to give you
five dollars for them and to
charge to my account? We
are both well & happ., and