

Nov. 24 '89.

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My dear Dr. Lillie,

Will you kindly let me know how you now feel about coming here next year. If you would come, on what condition would you come? I think there is a good field here, and I am convinced that President Harper is now much more in earnest than ever before about the development of the department. We have a fine set of research students this year - more than we had last, and I feel as if we were to go forward instead of backward. The loss of Wheeler Watson added to the meager attention and means given to us, had nearly discouraged

me, and I wrote to Harper²
from W. H. in a very
frank way about the whole
matter, and he has taken
it in a kind spirit and
is certainly more in
earnest than ever
before. I shall soon
have to decide what
to do next, and I have had
you on my mind, as
you already know. Davenport
is likely to work along his lines
and to lead the elementary
courses. My work will run
on as usual, with perhaps
more attention to natural
history questions. This fall
I make metamerism the point
of departure for an examination
of the phenomena of fission,
proliferation, budding, and all
the comparative anatomy and
embryology that bear upon
the question of the primary meaning
of metamerism. In my seminar,
which is a joint affair with all members
of the dept., the main topics are those

of Color, Variation,
instinct, etc. Dr. Child

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along with Davenport works
with the elementary class.

Now I do not care so
much to have some one
more just to fill a gap
which may have been left
open in the departure of Water
and Wheeler as to have
some important work
and course of instruction
represented. I should be

glad of course to have
you work with me, in
case that seemed best,
but I should set up no
bar to freedom of development
in any direction most agreeable
to you. By work with me I

mean to help take care of
research students. If you
felt inclined to work along
cytological lines, that would
certainly be important enough.

Would you be willing
to come as Assistant Professor,
as Davenport has done?

I do not see how one ⁴
could at first offer more,
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but I am merely judging
from the way things now
stand. I am not the
one to settle that as you
know.

By this time you
will perhaps be ready
to tell me what I can
expect.

What do you think of
asking Parker to take the
class in Zoology at W.D.?

Yours truly
C. O. Whitman