

New Haven. March 2. 1816.

Dear friend,

When I inform you, that I am the author of the work proposed <sup>under</sup> this prospectus, I presume you will perceive the propriety of suppressing the name. You will, of course, receive this communication confidentially, and prevent Eddy and Hazack from knowing that I have any concern in it. I wish you to procure me as many subscribers as possible and send the prospectus to Doct. Ives.

I have now before me, Pursh, Persoon, Muhlberg, Wildenow, whole system & Vols, The Hortus Kewensis, Turtor, Simons, Woodville, Miller's Illustrations, Curtis, lectures, Smith, P. Ray's whole system, Witherings, whole system, Rees's Cyclopaedia, The Edinburgh Encyclopaedia, &c. &c. I attend Silliman's lectures every morning in Chemistry, and Wednesday & Saturday afternoon in Mineralogy. I have free access to Gibb's splendid collection, and an extensive Mineralogical library. This work will not be guided by the silly arrangement of Pursh. I follow Persoon rigidly in the classical arrangement, and use Pursh only for his generic and specific characters. We calculate to give no individual credit to any European. Saying generally, that those without credit are Europeans, the Americans we shall credit. I wish you to send me your collection immediately. It shall be returned perfectly safe. We wish to be able to quote as many herbariums as possible, which we have ourselves seen. I have seen yours, and would say so; but Doct. Ives will

to see them, that they may be cited as nearly by  
him in J. Sany's Herb. I have quite such a pre-  
judice in your favor in his mind, that he is anxious  
to note your herbium in this work.

I beg you to get my manuscripts from  
the Agent immediately, and put them in a  
box with your herbium and deliver them  
to Capt. Ansel W. Ives, No 345  
Pearl Street. Nail a card upon it  
thus:

For Amos Eaton. To the  
Care of Professor Ives of Yale  
College. New Haven

I earnestly hope, that you will grant  
this favor without one moment's delay. You  
may rely upon this, that you will never re-  
pent the favor. We shall receive the box  
safely from Capt. Ives of N. York.

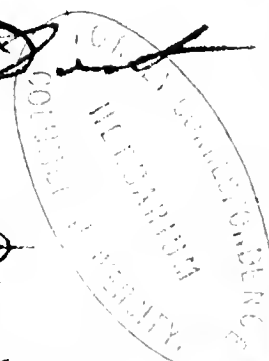
If you could get fifty subscribers, the work  
could immediately go to the press. You and Capt.  
Kee shall receive gratis one book for every ten  
good subscribers, which you obtain and send to  
Capt. Ives. Tell N. Moore, I say he must  
subscribe for Vol. 2.

Please to present my respects to Capt.  
Wythrop and Capt. Kee.

I am your obliged friend,

Amos Eaton

W. John Jarey.



TORREY GREENHOUSE  
HERBARIUM  
COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY.

Mr John Torrey.

To the care of William Torrey Gray.  
Greenwich.  
New York.

March 22 1816

Amos Eaton



New Haven. May 25<sup>th</sup> 1866.

Dear friend

What I am here about to communicate to you was intended to be kept a secret until the object should be clear. But I want your assistance, and must ask it in strict confidence.

Doct. J. having received letters from all parts of the States requesting him to enlarge the plan of his book, he has at length agreed to the purchase of the work, and the work will appear this next winter. Then it will be in two large volumes. As soon as this was agreed on, I purchased a pocket book of this title.

A  
System of Botany

For  
The Northern States.

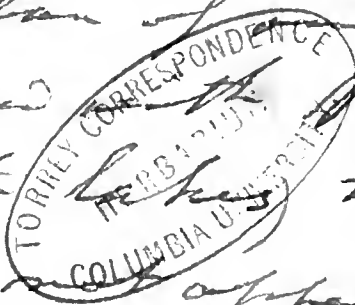
In three parts.

I. The Grammar of Botany.

II. A System of Terminology.

III. The essential characters of all species in the Northern States, with enlarged descriptions of cryptogamous plants.

The price will be one dollar and 50 cents. You will see it about the 1<sup>st</sup> of July. I have about half completed the manuscript. I intend to begin to print week after next.



My method is this. I take every species from Muhlenberg, credited to Pennsylvania and any state north of it. 2<sup>d</sup>, I take all the species in DeCoster's catalogue, Green's catalogue, your herbarium & Bigelow's book. Then I take all Ives' plants gathered here, a vast collection. In addition to this, Professor Smith, son has lent me his herbarium of 300 species, collected near Dartmouth college. Pursh's credits of plants are hardly to be depended on; but I use them with caution.

I am now ready to propose ~~what~~ <sup>the</sup> favor I want of you.

1<sup>st</sup> Cannot you assist this? Go to Paddy, and other collectors, tell them you are collecting, and wish to know if any new plants have been discovered in N. York, not in Green's catalogue, published in Albany 1814. Get the names, and, if new, get the descriptions.

2<sup>d</sup> Send these names &c. to me, and all your own discoveries this spring.

I shall want them as soon as the  
general one printed, which will be by the  
middle of June. Do not neglect now.  
Many plants are not credits to us by Muhl-  
lenberg, which grow here. I found a Sangui-  
gorba media yesterday - some days ago, I  
found a Leardamine spatulata, with many  
others not credits here.

I am collecting every plant I can  
find. My wife has been long unwell - she  
does no business, <sup>of consequence</sup> only to collect and preserve  
plants, and teach the children. I shall  
send you herbarium several which you have  
not probably seen - I have the Coussakia  
rosea - Burseria coriacea - Propogon condita  
Bionasa ovifipula etc.

I have heard nothing from my manuscripts  
since I received your herbarium. I beg of you  
to send it as soon as possible. I want the  
"Buzology" very much. You must continue  
collecting bugs. I shall collect all I can.  
Young Smith is sent by this college, to collect  
plants, and he promised me, that he would collect  
insects also. I told him, that you were collecting; he  
will give you any assistance towards <sup>an</sup> American Entomol-  
ogy. - yours in friendship, Amos Eaton.

Amos Eaton  
May 21<sup>st</sup> 1810

Mr. John Torrey.  
Care of William Torrey Esq.  
Greenwich.  
New York, City.



New Haven. Oct. 4. 1866

Dear friend,

I recd. your post-marked Oct 1<sup>st</sup> this evening. I am near the P. Office, and will write a few lines.

You have heard of the catastrophe in my family, which was caused by the barbarous conduct of those, who compelled me to leave the State. The attending physician certified to Dr. Tompkins, that he had no doubt such would be the consequence of my leaving Mr. Q.

In four days he fell into a state of total derangement, from which he never recovered.

I have made arrangements here in such a way, that I shall have a family in house keeping in two or three weeks with two of my sons. If you and Dr. T. Roe will come here and attend ~~the~~ ~~lectures~~ ~~of~~ ~~Dr.~~ ~~Winn~~, I will have you boarded very comfortably for two Dollars twenty five cents per week each. Two clever fellows can be conveniently accommodated by me for that.



You will never be perfect in mineralogy  
until you are familiar with Gibbs' cabinet.  
You will learn many other things here,  
which you will never regret. You can be  
in the cabinet just as much as you please.

Write me an answer, not conditional, but  
certain, before I send your herbarium.

Jan Howe has one copy of Person's  
fungi \$5.75. He had 3 copies of Person's  
Synopsis all sold.

The moment you write me I will obey

Yours truly  
Arnos Eaton

Lectures will commence on the  
2<sup>d</sup> of this month.

*Handwritten text, possibly a signature or name, oriented vertically.*

*Handwritten text, possibly a signature or name, oriented vertically.*

*Handwritten text, possibly a signature or name, oriented vertically.*

Mr. John Jones.

Care of Mrs. Jones Esq.  
Greenwich Li.  
New York.

Proctor & Eaton  
Oct. 4th 1816



New Haven. Nov. 21<sup>st</sup>. 1816.

Respected friend,

I intended to have sent your herbarium by my brother, Sylvester Eaton, but cannot get it ready. I have not gone through my collection. I have only finished the 11<sup>th</sup> Chap. Then I must bring together all the names contained in your two letters and in your herbarium, before I can know what to put into it from my collection. I believe I can find you about 100 species; perhaps 50 which you have never seen.

There are eleven specimens in your herbarium which I have not found here. I wish you would write me immediately whether you have duplicates of them so that I may take them out of yours if you have not the whole. Or if you can spare I want the most and the others according to the order in which they stand.

1. *Carthamus echinatus* - 2. *Vicia Mitchella* - 3. *Verbascum blattaria*
4. *Sobelia sphaerulifera* - 5. *Hieracium americana* - 6. *Hibiscus*
7. *Claytonia virginica* - 8. *Euphorbia peplos* - 9. *Oxalis*
10. *Calycanthus floridus* - 11. *Carduus benedictus*.

Dear Mother

London

I have just received your kind letter of the 11th and was glad to hear from you. I am well at present and hope these few lines will find you the same. I have not much news to write at present. I am still in the same place and doing the same work. I have not seen any of the old friends here. I have not time to write you more than a few lines at present. I must close for this time. Write soon. I am your affectionate son, John Smith.

We have received Persoon's fungi, Acharias  
Lichenes &c. We are now diving at the Cryptogam  
class.

Professor Silliman made me a present of  
a ticket yesterday for his Mineralogical lectures.  
I intend to know all that can be known  
of mineralogy and botany in this country.

Please to pay as much as you can in your  
letter. Where is Doct. Roe, Doct. Wyckoff,  
Mr. Abbey, Mr. W. Farlow, Mr. Herd, Mr. Thompson  
the clerk? Is Mr. Parker in the school yet? Where is  
your brother William? How is your father & mother? and  
what are you about?

Mr. J. J. Jones

Yours  
A. Arno Eaton



Note. We have had Doct. ~~Wright~~ <sup>Wright</sup> here from  
Charleston S. C. a month. He is the friend  
of Elliot, an excellent botanist.

Amos Eaton

Nov 21 1810

W. B. A. B. S.

Received

of William Eaton

John Street

For M. M. Edwards to Eaton



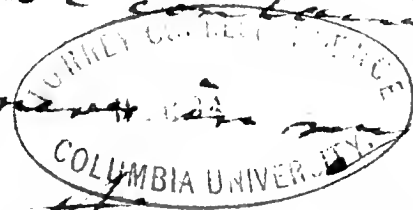


New Haven, Feb. 27<sup>th</sup> 1817.

Dear friend,

You will receive your herbarium  
by Jesse Gilbert Esq. of this place, I direct  
it to Professor Mitchell for you.

I am ashamed to be obliged to tell you,  
that I have not reported my collection be-  
yond the 12<sup>th</sup> class. So far I have sent  
you such specimens as were not named  
in your letter, nor contained in your her-  
barium. I was never in my life so busied  
with business, as this winter. I have several  
private students, I attend 5 lectures  
each week in chemistry and two on min-  
eralogy. I have superintended the print-  
ing of my Botanical Dictionary (sold  
now by Wood in N. York) and I have  
done much for one week in preparing an  
Astronomical Dictionary &c. &c. &c.



I have received an invitation from  
the Faculty of Williams College to deliver  
a course of lectures there on Mineralogy and  
Botany. I have agreed to commence on Mon-  
day, the 10<sup>th</sup> of next month. I shall stop  
no longer with mineralogy, than to pre-  
pare the class for Geology. I shall then  
go upon Wakerell's plan nearly. I have  
Wakerell, De Luc, Phillips, Henslow, &c.  
In Botany I have, besides my manuscript,  
Persoon, Sprengel &c.

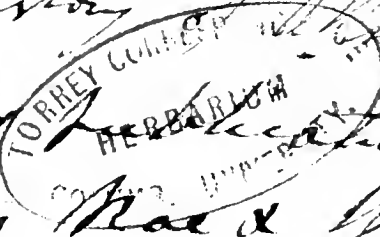
Silliman has, to day, given me the  
most flattering certificate, as a mineralo-  
gist, which you can well imagine - I've  
had done the same in botany. Thus e-  
quipt I am soon to set out. The  
distance 110 miles. When I arrive, I in-  
tend to correspond more freely with you than  
heretofore, if possible.

My dictionary is still in my own hands, though published in Horner's name. All you care to be purchased is so much gain to me. For they are all sold on commission for my benefit.

My Northern States Botany ought to be published, but my subscription list will not yet warrant it. Perhaps it never will, if so many books are coming out. You saying that De Comt was soon to publish this, was the principal cause of my deferring it. If he goes on, I will send him my new species and original remarks. I intend to write a minute account of the Geology and Natural History of Williamstown and its environs — not for publication.

My respects to Doctors Hall & Wyke.  
Yours &c.  
Amos Eaton.

Mr. John Torrey.



Amos Eaton  
Feb 27. H. 1818

Mr. John Torrey.

Student in Physic &c.

son of William Torrey Esquire.  
at Hamden.


New York.



Williams College. May 9<sup>th</sup> 1817.

Dear friend,

This letter I send merely to apprise you of another which I shall soon send by the hand of a messenger.

In my letter by Esq. Gilbert of New Haven who carried you the herbarium I told you of the invitation I had received to come to this college. I have gone through with a course of lectures on Mineralogy and have delivered 14 lectures on Botany. I have a class of about 70 —  The faculty also attend, excepting the president.

I have just labelled my eighty eighth species found in flower this spring all woods plants.

I have found several plants, which were new to me, such as the *Chrysophanum oppositifolium*, *Fritillium pictum*, *Calla pubescens*, *Potentilla tridentata*, *Cypripedium pubescens* &c.

I am to deliver about 8 lectures now on Mineralogy in the month of July. I have about 200 species and varieties of ~~minerals~~ minerals in small specimens. But a few essential ones are wanting. I have but few ores, no *Asphaltum*, Jet nor Amber &c. I shall send you all the rare plants I can find, and you must have as many of the following minerals to send <sup>by the same hand</sup> me <sup>as possible</sup> - Every variety of ore with numbers and an explanatory letter, Amber, Jet, Asphalt, Phosphate of lime, Carbonate of barites, Strontian, Indurated marl, Opal, Emery, Topaz,

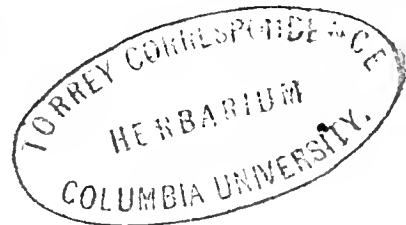
Pitchstone, Obsidian, ~~Quartz~~

Write to me by mail that you  
will have them put up as soon as possible,  
that I may know you are alive. It is  
discouraging to write to you, for I never  
get an answer. If you are dead tell  
me so — if you are alive I will take  
pains to accommodate you as much as  
you do me. I can send you handsome  
specimens of green tourmaline, rubies  
and jaspone if you want them.

In haste your

Amos Eaton.

Mr. John Torrey.



I have a few doubtful plants. To whom  
shall I send them for examination? If  
I shall send nothing till I hear from you.

Amos Eaton

May 9<sup>th</sup> 1817

Mr. John Torrey.

Student in Phyisic.

Care of Prof. Am. Mitchell.  
New York.

Williams College, July 18<sup>th</sup> 1877

Dear friend,

I have had three days notice, that Major Sloan was going to N. York. But I could not write a word till this evening. I have a thousand things to say, but shall say little.

This cruciform plant I call *Draba arabiana*? Muhlberg says, he never saw it. I presume he had a bad description of it. You see it has pinnatifid leaves, &c. It grows wild every where in wet meadows. I found it also at N. Haven. Write me your best botanists' opinion.

This *Lonicera* is the one I mentioned in my letter to you. It grows sometimes thirty feet high, twining very closely to other trees. But the largest stem is not one inch in diameter at the base. It grows on high dry hills.

I have just labelled my four hundred and forty seventh indigenous plant, gathered here this season. My students are very zealous. Many of them are making very elegant herbaria. I deliver six lectures every week extempore, and one public written one in the chapel. The faculty favor my efforts in the best manner possible.

I have received several invitations from



different places for my next year's course. But I am not yet satisfied with any of them. I shall probably spend another year in this way in some place. The faculty here will hereafter keep up the spirit of Natural history at this College. I shall probably continue here till the last of Oct.

I wish you would remember May: Sloan's boarding place, and the day he appoints to return and send me such of the specimens I wrote for, as you can spare. Also of my other letter &c. &c.

I wish I knew what plants you want. Have you *Trichium pictum*, *Cynosyris amplifolia*, *the true* *Perenn. Muhlenbergii*, *Hesperis vulgaris*, *Solanum*, *Potamogeton canadensis*, *Cornus canadensis*, *Cinnam. & appendiculatum*, *Hydrophyllum virginicum*, *Aralia hispida*, *Staphylea triflora*, *Conocallaria umbellulata*, *Epilobium*, *Spicatum*, *Pyrola secunda*, *Batibada fragrans*, *Pentstemon pubescens*, *Physalis*, *barbarea*, *Orchis orbiculata*, *Lemna minor & polyrhiza*, *Riccia fluitans & natans*? Any of these, which you say you have not, I will send you. I mention these because ~~they~~ I never found them near the sea board.

I intended to have sent you a copy of

my Manual; but the foolish printer sent  
us all the book but the index. We shall  
send for that tomorrow - it is printed, for we  
have one copy of the index. I will send you  
one by mail. I reduced my first plan,  
and it now consists of 150 pages. I am  
sorry I did not include more specimens. Fifty  
pages more would have made it much better.  
I could now publish another edition of both  
the Dictionary and Manual, which would  
be useful. Perhaps I may in a year  
or two. The Dictionary would extend about  
30 pages farther, and the Manual about 100.  
This would exactly compare with my views  
of botanical school-books.

I am respectfully yours,  
Amos Eaton

Dear John Torrey.

Can  
~~you~~ you tell Major Moon of any new  
approved system of Zoology, which he can  
get for me, for 2 or 3 Dollars?

Amos Eaton

July 18<sup>th</sup> 1844

Dear John Jovey

Peruville.

New York.

Williams College July 31<sup>st</sup> 1864

Dear friend,

We have sent 100 Manuals to Swarts to be sold. I wish you would encourage purchasers. It will be a convenient pocketbook, though I regret that we did not insert more species. I send you one, and one to Professor Mitchell. Read the note at the bottom of page 124.

I am not quite satisfied with the English index. Doct. Beck of Albany made both indexes and corrected the proof. He is good fellow, but has not much practical knowledge of the subject. We have collected 493 spec. with plants.

I Doct. Mitchell approves of

this work, I hope he will recommend  
it.

I shall close my course here  
next ~~spring~~ <sup>year</sup>. But shall  
remain here till November.

I have a noble spirited class;  
some of them will be excellent  
naturalists.

Your friend

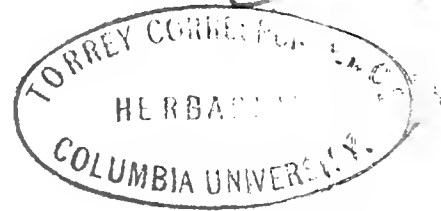
Amos Eaton

Went. O. Toney.

I have taught all my class  
to reverence the name of Mitchell and  
to esteem that of Toney. I often  
mention Rafinesque & Oddy also.  
I speak frequently to them of



Dust. Hojock. But I was a  
frail Pendleton has made him  
my enemy. I will however  
treat his name respectfully at  
any rate.



Amos Eaton  
July 21. 1812

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27302 4  

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376 9  
100  

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276 9

New Haven  
July 31  
Capt. John Jarey  
New York  
1812  
Capt. S. Whitehill.

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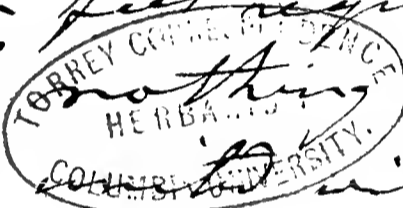
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Williams College. Aug. 6<sup>th</sup> 1817

Dear friend,

I received your package by Mr. D. Stow. Usually I learn the date of your letter by the post mark; but as this has neither date nor postmark, I guess at the date. Tell no one but me, that my *Sonchus* is a *caprifolium*, in a manner implying that it is not a *Sonchus*; as *caprifolium* is but <sup>that</sup> a section of a genus &c. I wish you would get the opinion of your oldest botanists respecting the species. I am deficient in books. I have nothing but Purson, Bigelow, Muhlberg, Sprung, Smith; popular characters given by Phelps, my translation of about half of Pursh, Elliot, and my manuscripts of Northern States plants. Consequently I may err.

I enclose you the three dollars, which appears to be the initiation fee required by you by laws. I can think of  nothing more agreeable to my views, than to be with such a club as yours. I think it most probable, that I shall spend next year at Middlebury College, Vermont - Perhaps not. Let me tell you, what you will not believe. Ebenezer Kellogg A.M. Professor of Languages in Williams College, and Chester Dewey A.M. Professor of Mathematics and Natural Philosophy, and Lecturer on Chemistry in Williams College, are the most persevering and zealous naturalists in New England. Mr. Dewey has the best collection of rocks on the continent. He has collected plants several years, and sent them abroad to be named. He and Mr. Kellogg have directed their whole attention to Nat. Hist. all this season. Now, if you study the interest of your Society, do you get Mr. Kellogg elected corres-

pending members, and Mr. Dever, Honorary  
member. They, being situated so far in the  
interior, in an unbroken primitive country, ~~they~~  
will be of great use to the Society. I will be  
grateful for their acceptance. Mr. Dever is a-  
bout 33 years old and Mr. Kellogg 26 - two such  
persevering, honorable and benevolent men are  
rarely to be found. They are preparing themselves for  
teaching Nat. Hist. to the Indians hereafter.

I wish you could come here and spend a week or two  
with us. In September we calculate to take a  
transverse section from the top of the primitive  
ridge to St. Paul's in the manner of Backwell.  
You speak of my writing a Flora of N. States. I  
have none of your modesty; for, without Mr. Dever  
Oddy's talents, I would readily undertake it, if  
my pecuniary circumstances would permit. You know  
it would yield no profits for 2 or 3 years. I calcu-  
late to publish nothing but a new edition of my  
Manual. I have already begun to arrange ma-  
terial for that, which I may have ready in  
a year or two. I intend to include all the species  
of N. A. with characters as long as Persoon, but  
contracted by sections or under Quercus. At  
the end of each species I shall give popular  
characters by figures in the manner of Phelps.  
I can compress the whole in 300 pages 12mo and  
give more striking characters than Bigelow does.  
Any assistance from you, Mr. Dever, or others of  
the Society will be thankfully received. I intend  
to insert all new species &c. I may publish it  
next Spring - perhaps not. I have published but  
400 copies of this edition. If you help sell  
it, we will try another edition next Spring.

I should calculate to be more particular about localities and time of flowering than any thing which has appeared. If such a thing could be made consistent, I should be much pleased, if some of the Society would examine the Manual in its present state, and express their opinions respecting such alterations as would make it acceptable and worthy of some share of the Society's patronage. I would then endeavor to get it ready by next April or sooner. If you should bring along your new plants, or full descriptions, we might give the work a taste of what you will do; and in the preface give notice of your full length Flora.

Can you spare me a considerable collection of exotics without much trouble? Is Pursh the same of Jusseu?

I have not received my manuscripts, but Mr. Swan supposes I shall soon. They were not at Doct. Burnett's Monday. You ought to correspond with Doct. Amatus Robbins of Troy. He was 3 years tutor of this college - last winter attended lectures in N. York - this summer has been with me a few weeks. Botany he will understand at any rate, and is making great progress in it; though he has but little experience yet. Several of my class will make first-rate naturalists; the best is William A. Hallack, son of the Rev. Mr. Hallack of Plainfield (N. J.). He resides on the top of the granite ridge. In friendship yours  
D. G. Jones



I am afraid my orchis rotted before it reached Prof. Mitchell. It usually grows three feet high and as large as a smallish mullein. ~~It is~~ shorter than you know any orchis with these three characters? Have I ever sent you our Polonia? the Manilla at abundant in the description. think with has it, but has ended in the description.

UNIVERSITY OF CHINA  
HERBARIUM  
COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY  
Pigeon

1871

Wm. Brownell  
Sept 4

Dr. John Torrey

Care of Professor Mitchell, New York.

August 6, 1871  
Sweet Lotus



has the siliqua smooth, opening regularly by 2  
valves and leaving the partition on the receptacle -  
cells 2, parallel, both fertile with about two  
soybean seed in each - cotyledons angular, often  
nearly rhomboidal, resembling the granula-  
tions of the mineral, coccotite. It is certainly  
a draba or the diagnosis of that genus is very  
imperfect. You might question the stigma's  
being sessile. But it is sessile, and the appen-  
dage of a style is the prolongation of the parti-  
tion, as in the Diapis, dissipimentum prom-  
ised draba. Person says I ever saw a yellow  
moralis is yellow. This may not be the  
arabizans, but Person says the siliqua of the  
arabizans is undeniably acuminate by means of  
the style. He would have been more certain  
with his generic description to have said  
by means of the elongated partition. But  
we know what he means, and this cha-  
racter is found in my draba. As he gives  
arabizans as a synonym of arabis, I think  
ours is a new species. It may be called  
Draba byrata. Its diagnosis may be thus:  
Stem leafy, branched; Lower leaves byrate,  
upper ones sub-pinnatifid. The draba you  
sent me is certainly as much like it  
in habit as we could suppose, since it is  
under a different section; which is for  
from an artificial difference.

Yesterday I collected several additional  
specimens of Staphylea trifolia & Hippophae  
for you. Have you the Staphylea trifolia

*Cypripedium pubescens*, *Parnassia gonifolia*.  
I have a new *Cynoglossum*. We have found  
both of the latter species here, and this  
differs from both. It has all the characters  
of *Perovnia lanuginosa*, but that species  
is not credited to this country. The root is  
very small as you see here. It grows <sup>3 or</sup> 4 feet high.

The mail will not wait for me

Yours

W. Watson

J. E. Gray

Amos Eaton  
Augt. 14<sup>th</sup> 1817.

1817

Amos Eaton  
Augt. 14<sup>th</sup> 1817

Doct. John Torrey.  
Care of Doct. Hitchcock  
New York.



Northampton (Mass.) Sep. 20<sup>th</sup> 1817.

Dear friend,

I received your letter of Aug. 27<sup>th</sup>. I am very sorry you were so disappointed at Lake George. My *Trichia* was not introduced, unless *multiceps* were. I do wish you to propose Prof. Dewey as a corresponding member. You say I have not sent plants to you. I have them ready for you, but wait for a good opportunity. Has Doct. Mitchell received the minerals I sent him? I did not receive my M. S. till last Tuesday, and now Rome has kept back, or given to Penhallow the important receipt I mentioned. I begin to talk of Doct. Eddy, for, and shall hint it, incidentally, to Bigelow. You say you want no other plants. I believe I can help you considerably in that way. You may depend on my doing all I can if Doct. Eddy really goes on in earnest. What do you mean by my having a *Solomon* at Kakerigi? there is no such thing in the book. You inquired at Dr. Graham's *Levithem* - ask your mother to show you some garden *lovage* or *smallage* at the end. These signs are often omitted by the careless printer, but not in this case.

The corporation of Williams College conferred on me the degree of Master of Arts at commencement. How will my enemies like this? The President and Faculty signed a very flattering recommendation also in my favor. But as Doct. Mitchell was the first who ventured his name in my behalf and gave me a very handsome out-set

in the very face of public reproach, I feel under greater obligation to him, than to all others.

Since commencement (the 3<sup>d</sup> Sept.) I have crossed the primitive range from Hazock Mt. to Cox river in three places, and travelled in zigzag lines, so that I am now master of every material fact. I took geometrical surveys in every part, and have sketched a geological map of the whole country, <sup>15 miles in breadth</sup>. Several of my students accompanied me for one week. Many of them reside in these regions, so that in travelling more than 200 miles I spent but 3 dollars. I particularly examined the Chesterfield and Goslin rocks and Southampton mines &c. I found the *Whicuttia cornuta* in great abundance in Crooked pond in Plainfield Mt. also several other plants, as *Andromeda polifolia*, *Kalmia glauca*, &c. and one <sup>aquatic</sup> plant of the 5<sup>th</sup> class which I do not know. It has a single cordate leaf, floating like the *Najas*, and growing with it. The flowers come out in a fascicle a little below the leaf, and have a fascicle of stamens opposite to them. I have not looked much for a description, because I left all my specimens at Plainfield to be brought to me by Mr. A. Hallock.

I was invited to Northampton by Genl. David Hunt. He has raised a pretty good staff here, to whom I am to deliver a course of 7 weeks, in the town house. We can now correspond with more facility. I have not concluded where to spend the winter and next summer. I had several good reasons for accepting the invitation here. I wished to explore this very interesting country, and I shall be enabled to add considerable to my mineralogical collection. I left my one tin, which is very complete. I can get at the tin only for one season, and my time spent me, and pledge themselves to my extent.

One of my students, <sup>Mr. Eastman</sup> brought me *Sarcosium flava* from Gronby I believe. It was a *S. flava* specimen and I may be in a mistake. I am sure that he has brought me the *Sygodium* also. He is to bring me one more of that *Repsitate* when I can determine better. I always called the plant *Myositis virginiana* at first, but the generic characters as well as specific differ widely from *Elhat*. - There is not a filament in the throat, the limb of the coral is spreading. This plant is



generally 3 or 4 feet high. On comparing  
the flowers and fruit in all stages it exactly  
resembles both species of *Leptoglossum*.

Amos Eaton



Sept. 20<sup>th</sup> 1817

Amos Eaton

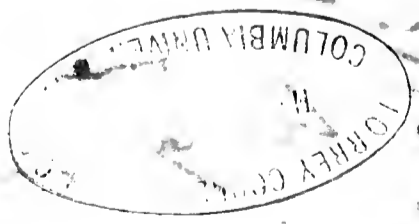
181

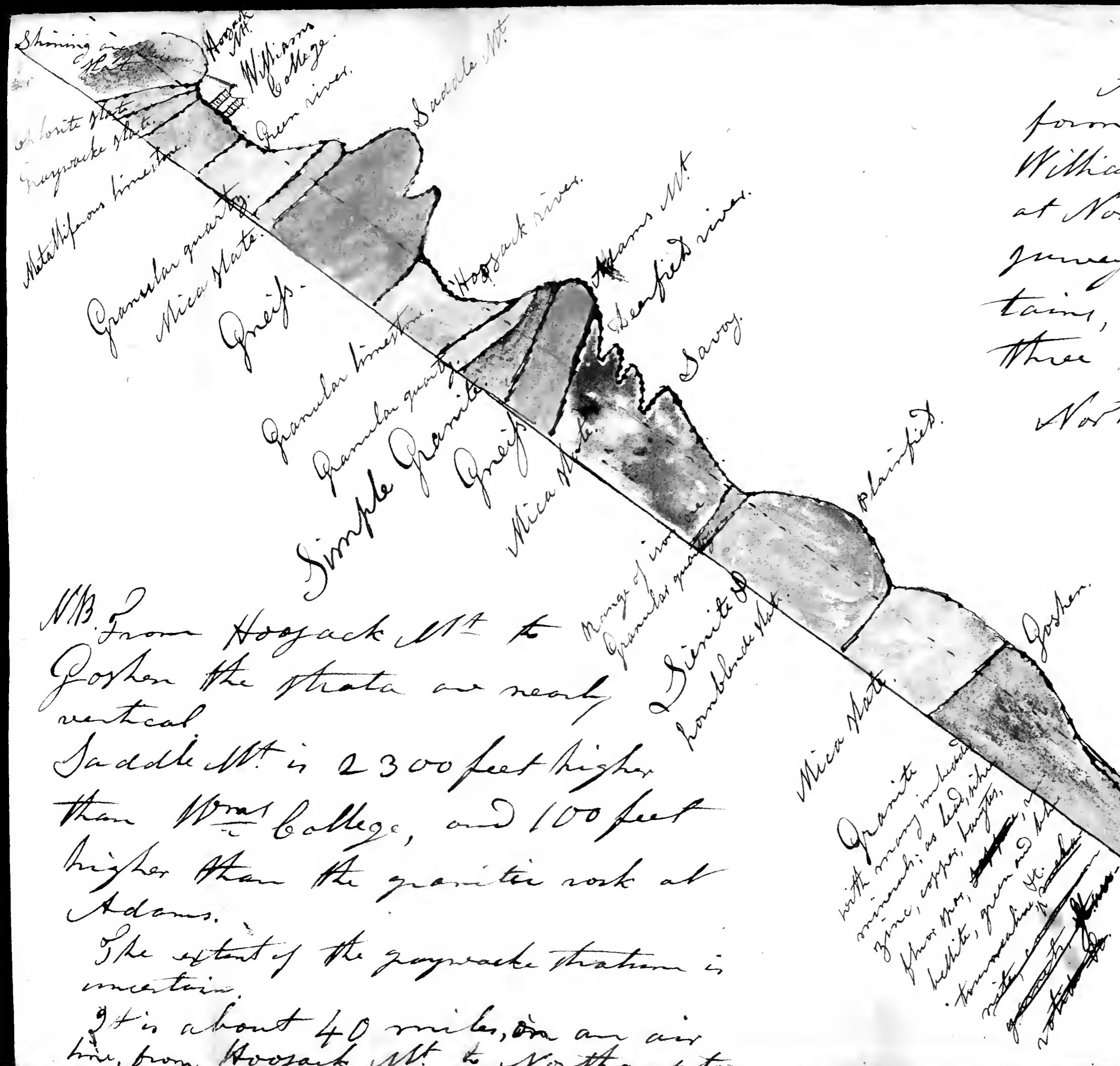
Doct. John Torrey

Care of Doct. Mitchell

New York

Sept 20





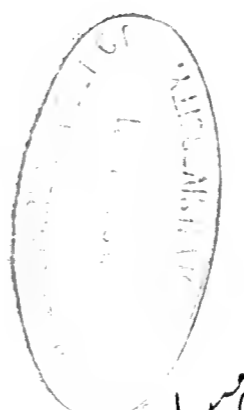
A transverse section of the rock formations from Hoosack Mt. west of Williams College to Connecticut river at Northampton. Made from actual survey of the most important mountains, and after travelling the ground three times, mostly on foot.

Northampton, Sep. 20<sup>th</sup> 1817.

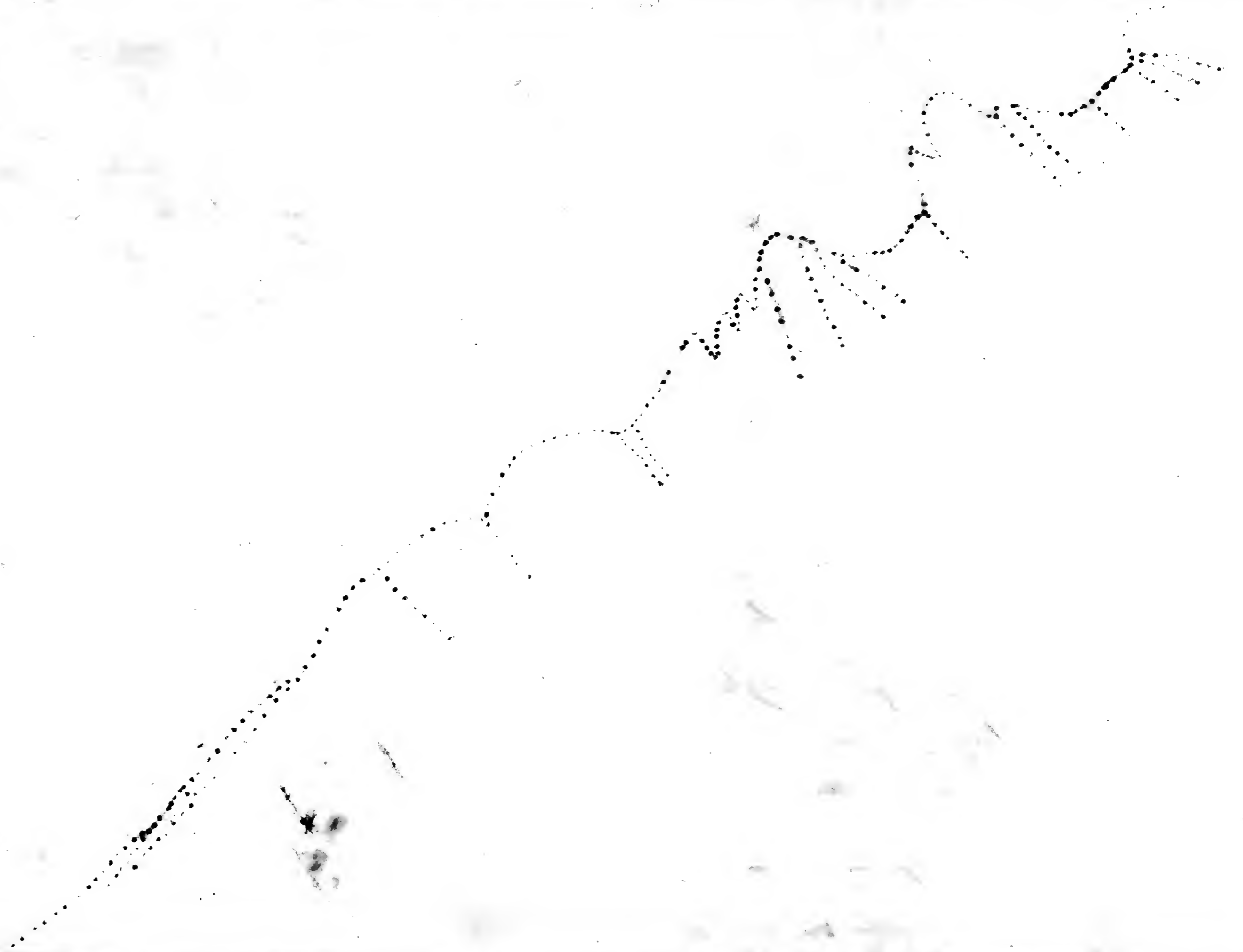
Scale calculated to correspond with the large map of the state of Massachusetts.

N.B. From Hoosack Mt. to Goshen the strata are nearly vertical. Saddle Mt. is 2300 feet higher than ~~Williams~~ College, and 100 feet higher than the granitic rock at Adams. The extent of the gneiss stratum is uncertain. It is about 40 miles, in an air line, from Hoosack Mt. to Northampton.

Granite with many included minerals; as lead, zinc, copper, barytes, kalicite, green and blue mica, hornblende, &c. ~~noted~~



Williamshung  
 General course S 50° E  
 Williams College  
 Hoosack river  
 Adams Mt.  
 Northampton





Northampton. Oct. 2 - 1867.

Dear friend, I have made out a draft of my geological map, and transverse section. I intend to send a copy to the Lyceum accompanied with specimens from every part of the district. Perhaps I may make some reflections, at the same time, peculiar to myself. I send you this sketch, because it will be some months before I shall find time to complete the plan. I think this region clearly proves the existence of a granular quartz stratum. Brewster's distinction between granular and micaceous varieties of lime are clearly verified here. Geologists, who have hurried through here by stage have called this an entire region of the primitive formation. You here see, that we have two distinct ranges of granite - one remarkably free from imbedded minerals, the other is remarkable for its great number and variety.

We have greenstone traps here on Leon river containing fine specimens of agate, and some zoelite, chabazite and chalcedony.

I received yours of the 26<sup>th</sup> inst, enclosing the diploma. I have found no remarkable plants here. I lecture in the town hall - I have a class of about 25 gentlemen and 40 ladies. Gov. Strong's daughter, the亨翰斯, Hunt, &c. belong to my class.

I fear my hopes at Middlebury College may suffer some check. Professor Allen negotiated with me and was a fine fellow. He fell from the college roof last week and died in 17 hours. I have not yet begun a correspondence with the other members of the faculty. Respectfully yours, Amos Eaton.

by a Gray sheep. I sent a box of my bottles of Gray part of them on board last June. E. Sab. Middlebury.

10%

Mr John Torrey.

Care of William Torrey Esq.

New York.

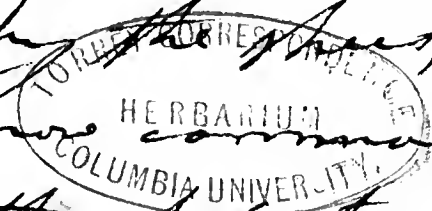
Sept. 20th 1874

Amos Eaton

Northampton. Oct. 5<sup>th</sup> 1847

Dear friend

In a letter to Bigelow I told him I was going to propose a system of Botany on a well outlined plan; only taking in New England. I added, that I believed you and Hooker had contemplated publishing the history of the Northern States &c. In his answer, he says that he approves of a multitude of local works on Natural history. That Boott is a man of great wealth and cares nothing about the expense or profit of the work &c. He says, he had expected that Shublenberg's Sarcostemmis would include all the plants of the Middle States, &c.

I want your catalogue by the sheet, as far as it comes out. But you know  Botanists here will think it not worth while to purchase it. Prof. David Hunt wants a copy. Professor Dorey of Williams College, I presume, would sell one and always sells books for J. H. Howe of N. Haven. I have no book for species of mosses. Any body can find out the genera by our manual. Of lichens I know you have Lectyaria facunosa, auriferius. You have also Machontia poly- antogamou species.

When will Shublenberg's Sarcostemmis be out? Can I continue to get it by the sheet? I am glad Mr. Rafinesque has not set you all wide. Why can't he give up that foolish European foolery, which leads him to treat Americans like half-taught school-boys? He may be opposed, he will never succeed in this way. There are many learned men in New England - All begin to call him the puffing egotist already. He will soon become the butt of ridicule, and thus

deprive his usefulness. His account of foreign plants is considered as the production of vanity, in no way useful to the reader of that work. His naming new snakes and eels from newspaper accounts related by drunken ignorant boatmen, is considered as a smack of uncommon weakness and vanity. His new names with which he is overwhelming the science will meet with universal contempt. Cannot some friend induce him to return to sober reason, and thus make himself highly useful and much esteemed? He ought to know, that he does not stand high enough in the literary world to enforce these innovations. He was never formed by nature to lead. He ought to be contented to follow.


I have Mr. Chure's geology, but never admired it much. There is a map of general facts in it, which are of use. His reflections are crude and his statements often untrue. I have given much attention to practical geology within two years, and read all the works which come to hand on that subject. Bakeswell is superior to every thing. De Luce has some good thoughts, but is a monstrous egotist. Next to Bakeswell I prefer Kirwan. Phillips & Beaveland are good as far as they go. I have given a short course of evening lectures on chemistry here. I exhibit all the usual experiments with gases, acids and salts &c. Then I exhibit minerals enough for understanding geology. I am now on geology. I have taken pains to make several accurate transverse sections in this country. I intend to send them to the Museum. My class room is crowded with the first people here of both sexes and all ages. I close next week. I have in my class, 55 ladies, four practicing lawyers, 3 students at law, three practicing physicians, 2 students in physic, then a few gen-



Thomas from Yale college, one Senator, one representative  
in Congress, one Common Pleas judge &c.

Cannot you get the members of the Academy  
to subscribe for my Manual? I shall prefer  
to take it myself, if the subscription will warrant it.  
I do not like to be dependant on speculating  
booksellers. Get all you can as soon as possible,  
for if you calculate to do it any time, you  
will never do it.

Write me any improvement, which you or  
the members of the Academy can suggest, con-  
sistent with the general plan, and not mentioned  
in this prospectus.

Bigelow says, that my *Diaba* and *Monocly-*  
*gram* is the *Siphonidium* amphibia. If so,  
the distinction between the 1<sup>st</sup> & 2<sup>d</sup> orders of the  
15<sup>th</sup> class is not so clear as I had supposed.  
I expect to see Bigelow in a few weeks. If  
you wish me to converse,  on  
the subject of your Northern States flora, tell  
me what to say - But you must write very  
soon after receiving this; for I may see him  
week after next.

Your friend,

W. J. Penn.

Amos Eaton.

I send you a Manual prospectus in  
the mail with this.

Amos Eaton  
Oct-5-1817

10/5

Doct. John W. Torrey.  
Nov 6 Care of William Torrey Esq.  
New York.

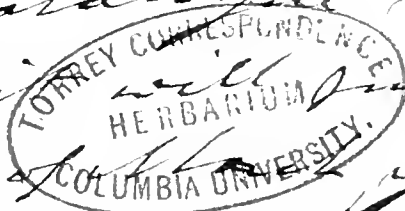


Worcester (Mass). Feb. 26<sup>th</sup> 1818.

Dear friend,

I suppose you received my Index to Geology. I do not expect to have justice done me, respecting that pamphlet by any person in N. York, but Dart & Hitchell and yourself. The labor was immense, but I shall be censured for not following European geologists in a more servile manner. To have done this, I would have shut my eyes to truth and common sense.

I want your catalogue now very much. But if it will <sup>be printed by the middle of</sup> you need not take the trouble to give me a manuscript copy.



I am now giving my fourth course of lectures in Geology and Chemistry for this winter. You Yorkers, who have every convenience about you, know very little of the immense family of children brought forth by dame Scapity. I give most of the experiments of Henry and Cutbush with about 50 dollars value of apparatus.

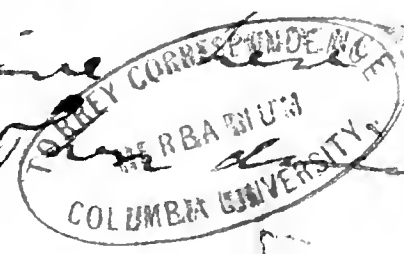
A few for packing - battle is, my phre-  
nic gas-bottle - a stone-jug and a tin  
tube, my earthen retort - a tea-kettle  
with the cover luted on, is my iron re-  
tort ~~to~~. I have a complete pneumatic  
cistern with several of my own improve-  
ments. My ~~retorts~~ <sup>retorts</sup> &c. are also regular. But  
most of my apparatus is qui generis.  
I have had in all my classes more  
than three hundred pupils. You will  
wonder why my lectures are so popular.  
I will tell you. I am perfectly acquain-  
ted with this sort of people. "I have all  
things to all men." Jethiman, Mr. Neen,  
Prisoner or Dory would do nothing here.  
I turn every thing in science into  
common talk. I illustrate the most  
abstruse parts by a dish-kettle, a warming-  
pan, a bread-tray, a tea-pot, a soap-bowl  
or a cheese-press.

My principal patrons are the  
ministers, doctors and lawyers. Ed

Governor Strong gave me a very  
flattering written recommendation,  
when I left Southampton. I al-  
ways go recommended from one ob-  
servation to another, and never get out  
for a place until I am invited by at  
least one minister, one doctor and  
one lawyer.

After all I am tired of this  
wandering life! I would prefer six  
pounded salaries a year in one set  
situation, to two thousand abroad  
in the Tartar-like life.

Write to me immediately. Direct  
to Monson, until ~~it~~ it is too  
late for a letter to arrive here by  
the 14<sup>th</sup> of March. ~~There is a~~  
Belchertown.



Your friend,  
Thomas Eaton.

Wm. J. Conway.

Amos Eaton  
July 26, 1818

Monson Mass  
July 26th

1818

Dear John Garry.

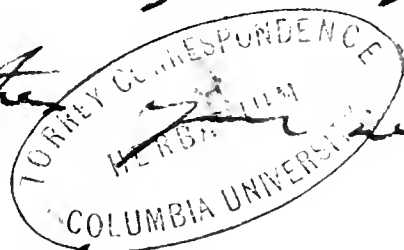
Please of Mr. Garry's Agency

New York

Brimfield. March 24<sup>th</sup> 1848.

Dear friend,

I wrote to you from Monson, and gave you time to answer me there. But I received no letter. I received one from Doct. Mitchell, directed to Leicester. Now you may write me a mere scrap, which may be lost without the loss of any good thoughts, and direct to me at Brimfield, Massachusetts. I say this, because I shall remain here no longer than the 4<sup>th</sup> of April. In this do you tell me, whether you will do as follows:



Send me a catalogue of your plants, directed to me at Albany, to the care of Messrs Webster and Skinner, Booksellers. I am to be there the 7<sup>th</sup> of April, and the printing of my manual will commence immediately. I have left several ruled lines at the end of every species, in order to insert whatever I can get from your catalogue, after I arrive in Albany. You must not wait for me to arrive in Albany. Send it in one hour after receiving this.

What is the matter with Rafinesque?  
In the March number of the New York  
Monthly Magazine we are not amused  
with the usual quantity of the new  
names and wonderful acts of M. R. written  
by himself. Now do appoint some member  
of your society to write half a dozen  
pages every month in praise of Rafi-  
nesque. Then I presume he would willing  
to devote part of his time to some other  
subject. I have defended him in New  
England, until I am ashamed to mention  
his name. His name is absolutely become  
ing a substitute for egotism. Even the  
ladies here, after adorn their criticisms  
with the name of Rafinesque, applied in  
the same. They talk of the science of  
Rafinesquism; meaning the most full-  
some and disgusting manner of speak-  
ing in one's own praise.

Since I printed my Index, I have  
found, in the Western range of porphy-  
ritic greiss, cart-loads of the most beau-  
tiful crystals of adularia imaginable,  
also vast quantities of magnetic iron ore.



South of Belchertown, in Monson, I have found abundance of arseniate of cobalt in granite.

I am now at the house of the late Gen. Eaton, who made so much noise in Tripoli. He was my first cousin. He has a very amiable family. Perhaps his two daughters (one so the other) are not exceeded in New England, either in their <sup>mental</sup> accomplishments or personal elegance. I am giving a course here in Chemistry and Geology. I started the 4<sup>th</sup> of April, and set out for W. Bay the next day.

I have devised a new way of teaching botany, which is much better for teacher and pupil. I am to take five classes for the season, in five neighboring villages - Northampton is to be my headquarters. I lecture at each every fifth week, through the season. In this way, every class will have the benefit of ~~the~~ <sup>a</sup> course, keeping pace with the progress of vegetation.

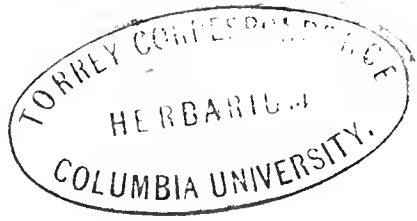
Yours friend  
Amos Eaton.

Deat. John Eaton.

Gray's Letters  
March, 24th, 1872

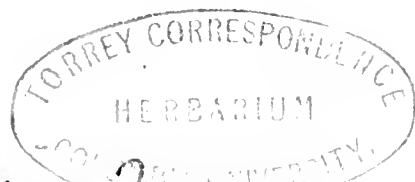
Dear Sir,  
New York, 24th, 1872

Doct. John Torrey  
Care of William Torrey  
New York.



Albany, Sunday evening, April 12<sup>th</sup>, 1848.

Dear friend,



I received your letter. Our printing commences tomorrow. But I have so arranged the work, that any thing can be added to *Species*, next week.

Do you go to the steam boat which arrives next from here and get a bundle. It leaves Albany Tuesday morning at 9 o'clock. I shall give you two or three specimens to name. ~~I shall~~ The spiked plant was sent me from Deerfield in its pressed state. The mass of carrot-like stuff grows in a swamp near Northampton. I never saw the flower - possibly you may know. The *Robinia* I want to know. It is the low bush. I could never satisfy myself about it. The umbelliferous plant grows every where; but I do not know what it is. The *Sagittaria* (or *Hydrophyllum* of Pursh) I send you, because it happened to be here.

I send you three dozen *Judayas*. I wish you get me a Pursh for a reasonable or unreasonable number of them. I have a bundle one now.

You must be a tolerable clever fellow to  
permit me to publish your new species  
first. But if the Manual is tolerable, it  
may not injure you. But I must be  
permitted to disagree with you respecting  
epochs. Had you ever been employed  
as a country teacher we should be of  
one opinion in that respect. But your  
other request shall be complied with - that  
is, the specific descriptions shall be nearly  
as long as Persons, and every species shall  
begin a new line. I follow, in one respect, the  
plan of Martin & Miller. I give the  
genera; then the species under an alpha-  
betical arrangement of the generic names.  
This may be objected to at first, on account  
of separating natural genera so far. But  
I have used such a manuscript two years  
and find it the most convenient. After a very  
little experience, a student generally knows  
the genera without reading its characters. Then  
he may find it alphabetically and search  
for the species, &c. I shall give the com-  
mon synonyms, and the authors names to  
all new species. But it seems to me useless in  
any compilation to give all the European au-  
thors. I am very particular about locality,

flowering season, ~~and~~ colour and duration. As  
to place of growth, I think you are too mi-  
nute. I give it in all aquatics &c. But  
I can find the same plant in several of  
your specified places. For example, you say *Utricularia*  
*virginica* grows in rocky woods, — in N. Haven in grass  
in a wet meadow, and in Cornwall in a sandy plain.  
and the *perfoliata* certainly grows every where. I  
think some of Pursh's places of growth often  
might be the same. He says the *Utricularia procumbens*  
grows in barren fields. In N. Haven it grows in  
a sandy plain at the foot of Pine-rock, but  
much the most common directly in the water,  
which proceeds from Ball's cold spring, and  
on the large stones in a brook under West  
I conclude to have no character for this, on  
account of its great uncertainty; but to express  
it in cases where plants always grow in water,  
or wet places.

The *Convolvulus umbellulata* grows  
every where about Williams College. It does  
then differ in habit considerably from the  
rest of the genus. Shall I follow Macf. in  
calling it *Clintonia*? I wish I had your  
opinion now; for I fear I shall not hear from  
you till Mr. C. Chapman is finished.

Yours —

Chas. J. Conway.

Amos Eaton.

Amey Eaton  
April 12. 4 1878

Doct. John Torrey.  
New York.  
Care of Mrs Long

the



Albany May 6<sup>th</sup> 1858.

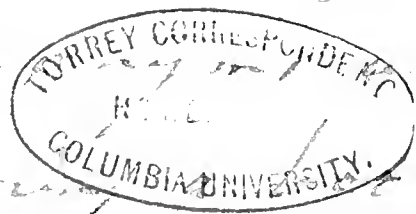
Dear friend, I send you for correction, an  
annual as far as it is, I break off.

By your letter I perceive you did not look  
at the head, where we say who then published  
it. You will begin with the Article about  
my not giving you the authority.

Edwin James is preparing a book of synonyms  
as a key to many things, the kind of  
students at first want no synonyms in  
theater. Every thing that is new I shall  
give with the author & nothing else,  
excepting what is necessary to prevent  
error.

I cannot give you credit for all you  
have done as I go along. I only give  
your name with the new things, &c. In the  
future I shall do you justice, but I will  
not disgrace you with false stuff, nor  
sland you.

You & we shall be a great back at  
last. I was intended to make a vast list.  
I merely want a book for the purpose  
of extending botany among the common  
people. I intend to omit nothing knowing.  
By I am sorry I cannot do better beyond  
the facts. I shall insert all I know, & I  
mean that I guess it, but in such a way as  
not to impute error.



You promised me a *Convolvulus*, *cooperi*, but I have received no such description. I can hardly get it <sup>in</sup> now, but you had better send it by the next boat.

Do you like to borrow *Indigo*, for Purple?

You ought by all means to listen to Hoggack. You are not bound to esteem every one with whom you have intercourse. Do him justice for his attention to you, and avail yourself of all the advantages he throws into your hands for the benefit of *Acicaria* and yourself. You are not obliged to commit yourself to a patron, if you have not full confidence in him. Neither are you obliged to publish his faults, nor to suppress all your own impressions. Treat his attention with respect. But still, essentially, be the same John Torrey forever, and go on independently. There is a way of treating that subject gracefully, right, and do not search out that way. At any rate, do not slight his attention.

The Natural orders of *Jussiaea* were not printed until the genera were finished. We could not refer to the descriptions before. So you must rip up your book and put all to rights by the pages

If I believe I shall take a step in Albany and Gray.

You will look with at some of my ex-  
otes. Now I will tell you the rule which  
governs me in selecting them. I take  
all I find cultivated in the interior of  
New England. I made Northampton  
the standard. I have not included  
a dozen which are not cultivated  
there. I added four or five, which I  
found in Albany and Gray. Do you  
know the exotic called the shell-flower?  
It is didynamous with an obscure small  
flower, surrounded by an enormous calyx,  
which is glabrous, and by the help of the  
honey resembles a feather shell. It is  
about 14 inches high. Another exotic  
I want to know, which James says they  
call matrimony here. I never saw the  
flower. He says it is of the 5<sup>th</sup> class, 1 order,  
monopetalous, and the flower resembles one  
of Sporaea, but it is rather tubular with a cleft  
limb. Maroon red, and remains after the leaves  
fall. It is a climbing <sup>hardy</sup> woody vine, and runs  
up <sup>20 or 30 feet</sup> on houses here. But it is not the Am-  
phelopsis quinquefolia, so common here. I want  
to know these two very much, before our  
book goes by them. Let me know them,  
if you can find them out.

Yours  
Dear John Torrey. Thomas Watson

TORREY CORRESPONDENCE  
HERBARIUM  
COLUMBIA

May 6th, 1818

Amos Eaton

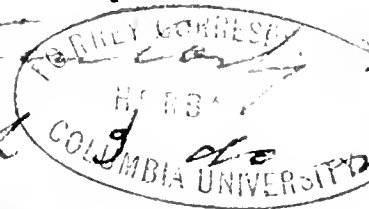
Dear John Torrey.  
Care of Mrs. Sany Esq.  
New York.

Albany, June 20<sup>th</sup> 1878.

Dear friend,

Why do not you write lately? I expected a long folding letter before this time about the Manual. I sent you 264 pages, stitched up, some time ago; now I send you the continuation to the 348<sup>th</sup> page.

I attend particularly to all your remarks; though I do not adopt all your opinions. You say Mr. De Coute has seen an *Asclepias* without the thick stigma; therefore you would return it to the 5<sup>th</sup> class. If Mr. De Coute had seen such a plant, it was not an *Asclepias*. This circumstance ought certainly to divide the genus. But with all his known accuracy, I suspect he was deceived. Where could the stigma be inserted? We must reject all analogy to place this in any class but the *Gymnomorpha*.



We have found the *Arum dracontium*  
here - also *Fedia radiata*, *Juncus vul-*  
*garis*, *Patentilla anglica*, *Mentha*  
*trifoliata*, *Eddy's Johanna strictum* &c. Your  
~~*purpureum*~~ *levigatum*, I have seen both <sup>strictum</sup>  
with very much, both at New Haven, and  
Northampton. I am glad you have made  
a new species of it. I tried in vain to  
make it a *purpureum*.

I intend to have an alphabetical ad-  
denda. This will give me an opportu-  
nity to add and correct through the  
2<sup>d</sup> part, without the forbidding effect of  
an enormous errata. I have many re-  
flections to make, and I wish you to send  
me all you know; whether to add or to  
correct. If you ascertain any extraordi-  
nary localities, I want them also.

I hope you will come and see



us in a week or ten days, in order to  
adjust about closing this thing. I have  
sent parts of the book to several folks  
who talk big about botany; and I find  
it will be well received in the country.  
Bryce's plan, it is calculated to give  
currency to the species, beyond any  
plan, which he has ever conceived of.

Will you come up next week? I live  
in the Colonic, No 82 North  
Market St. about 40 rods south  
of the Patagon. You need not  
enquire - just walk on, until you  
see a large elm tree (the only one  
in this street) standing before a  
fashioned Dutch, gambrel roof, brick  
house. Break in there, and you will  
find me. I wish you would come next  
week for many reasons.

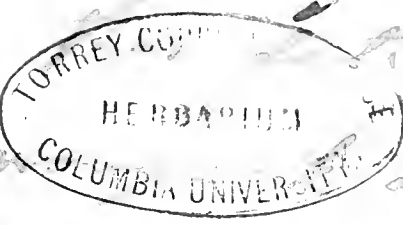
Yours  
A. L. C. L. C.

Amos Eaton  
June 20. 1817

Dear John Tarney.  
Care of William Tarney Esq.  
New York.

I have a copy of the paper of the 1st of Dec. 1841. I have a copy of the paper of the 1st of Dec. 1841.

... of the ...  
... of the ...  
... of the ...



I calculate to ...  
In about 25 days from ...  
... of ...  
... to Albany ...  
... I will be ...

... to keep ...  
... to ...  
... to ...

For example, I ...  
... the ...  
... the same. It is very difficult ...  
... to be ...  
... difficult to ...  
... But ...

I find I ...  
... and I have ...







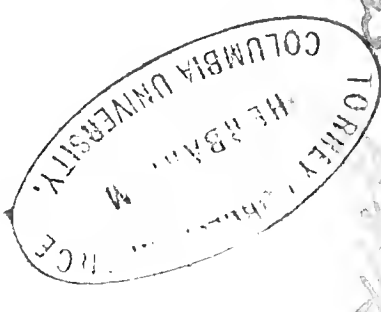
Under description lengthen for ...  
5-flower ...  
being ...

What form is this? I found several of  
similar ones. What is it still a *lignus*?

*How ...*

*... ..*

*How ...*



Amos Eaton

Aug. 4, 1818

Books for sale will be paid to ...

Albany Aug 10<sup>th</sup> 1845

B. L. G.

We have put up a few manuals  
to send to Swads, and I sent a long one for  
you. I am in an Indian Alphabet, &  
Lidum latifolium and Vallisneria spiralis.  
I put you this last to prove to you, that  
our Vallisneria is the spiralis. Curlyheads are  
now growing there, some with the pinnate  
scape 5 or 6 feet by various species.

You and E. James will be obliged to  
give up your *Monotropa procera*.

It is the *Pterospora* *Andromeda* of Nutt.  
It is now in flower.



I am just going to Iron, I wish  
time to write a word that you may  
call at Swady! You must make  
our book set. We put out a dozen to  
Swads, but was of trial. Next Satur-  
day I set out on my great eastern  
circuit. You would not do well  
than go with me. I go with a two-  
horse wagon. I shall crop all  
these interesting primitive woods in  
Massachusetts. Go to ~~the~~ ~~place~~ ~~there~~  
swims, ~~Chrysler~~ ~~of~~ ~~York~~ ~~Deerfield~~  
Fenn. ~~Cuba~~



3

Dear John Barney  
Care of Mrs. Lane  
New York


FORRELL DEPENDENCE  
HE 1884  
COLUMBIA UNIVER. LIT.

Aug 7. 10. 1884

New York (Sunday evening) Sep. 13<sup>th</sup> 1868.

Dear friend,

I have now brought home all my weeds and stones. If you will now come to Albany, you may turn over them all over and take such as you please.

I am now jawing  the Protons on Geology &c. I go up three nights each week. I expect to begin with the same trumpery here soon. I am now at Albany every day, and can conveniently quarrel with you about minerals and plants for six days in succession, whenever you please. In six weeks, I think I shall lecture in some of the more distant villages. Come now. ~~Edwin Jones~~ Edwin Jones has gone to Vermont. But I have his plants in charge and you may see all of them &c.

I want you to show me how to perform  
some chemical experiments, which I could  
not succeed in last winter. You know I  
am a peddling chemist among other  
things.

If you do not come by the next  
boat after receiving this; do not neg-  
lect to write. What has become of your  
catalogue? Will the Syceum be anything?  
Doct. Moses Hale of Troy has a collection  
of plants, collected and named in the old  
way, by J. J. Kasper himself. It  
was given him by Kasper's nephew,  
who died at Hale's house. He proposed  
to give it to the Syceum. But a  
New York doctor (I have forgotten his  
name) told him, the Syceum was a bay-  
cock thing, and would never be anything,



with notice. This disgraced Hale.  
But perhaps he will present it <sup>not</sup>  
withstanding.

Last week we found coal and  
bituminous shale in small masses,  
one mile from Troy. I believe I  
have found a mine of Manganese  
in Berkshire Co. Mass. Perhaps  
not.

Write quickly.

A. Eaton.

H. J. Young.



Amos Eaton  
Sept. 13. # 1818

Dr. John Torrey.  
New York.  
Care of William Torrey

Albany. Sep. 29<sup>th</sup> - 1818.

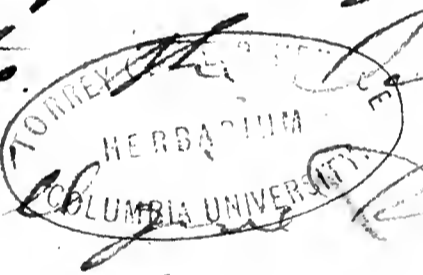
Dear friend, I have read your packages  
and letter. With respect to the one not  
directed, I shall first see whether there  
are any specimens of species, which I have  
not. Then give it to Edwin, because  
he will get the most use out of it. I have  
it. Pray will do a little, Edwin is great  
and good.

This is the same *Arum*, which we  
found at New Haven! Dr. M. B. B. B.  
named it for me, from a collection.

I gave your two packages to our  
Dr. Baile, brother to the Albany  
Bank. Tomorrow I will give one to  
Dr. Robbins of Troy. He and Dr. J. J. J.  
are one. If you propose Dr. O. B. B.  
with and Dr. Moses Hale, both of Troy,  
as corresponding members of the Society,  
you will receive a valuable acquisition  
in talents and zeal. I will be answerable  
to you for the immediate payment of  
their fees, as soon as they receive diplomas.

Why do you not elect Dr. David Hunt  
of Northampton? He would be more bene-  
fit to the Society than those of com-  
mon stuff.

I will propose your offer to Webster &



Skinner, tomorrow. I do not know how  
to predict respecting them. They think  
Beck and I know every thing. I will  
get Beck to recommend the measure.

About going to the Pacific. Cer-  
tainly go. I don't go, without pay, if  
I don't get now, if I had no family.

I will send you nothing yet.  
Because I have made up my mind  
that you shall come to Albany.  
Your expenses shall be nothing,  
while you stay at Albany. Remember  
No 82 North Market St!

This evening I begin my geo-  
logical course here. I have 6 stu-  
dents on my subscription list.  
I must talk geology to you  
before you see Hooker M. M.  
There is wrong in some things. I  
wish you to understand my Geo-  
logical whims thoroughly, before  
you get out. I tell you - Pause  
a little! But I tell you - Yes, I  
will go through it - I tell you I  
am the best practical geologist in  
the United States!!!!!!

In haste and with a burning  
hand, which will hardly write  
A. B. Bates

Dr. J. Torrey.

Names of persons for you to pay  
now, for whose fees I will be answer-  
able.

David Hunt, M. D. Northampton Mass.

Eli Burrill, M. D. Troy.

Moses Hale, M. D. Troy.

Amatus Robbins, Physician. Troy.

---

Four better fellows never were admit-  
ted into my society. A. B.



Amos Eaton

Sept. 29. 1818



*[Handwritten flourish]*

Dear John Torrey.  
Care of Wm. Torrey. Esq.  
New York

Albany, Nov. 3. 1878

Dear friend,

Doc. Fournier called on me yesterday. I had not received the catalogue. But he soon promised it, after being set upon the track. He had an interview with Dr. P. K. Park last evening. He proposed your subject to the Websters and Skinner. This morning they informed me, they would print your catalogue immediately - it being understood, that it shall be published under the direction of the Lyceum. The Websters do not enter upon it reluctantly. The truth is, they are good, spirited fellows, and are strongly inclined to promote Science.

They are not sure, that you can be accommodated with a proof; but Mr. Skinner says, you shall have the proof of the first form at least - and perhaps of the whole. They wish for the whole copy or copy as possible. It would be well to let the whole business pass through all the forms at the Lyceum. This will have an effect upon

The country, which Yorkers are not aware of.  
The Webster & Skinner wish to announce  
the publication in their paper. You must  
send up a form for publication imme-  
diately, with all the copy papers. Any  
thing sent to Webster & Skinner, will be  
attributed <sup>to me</sup> ~~to me~~ always, unless I say  
otherwise.

I am to go ~~after~~ on a min-  
eralogical excursion in search of minerals  
for the new society at Troy, and for several  
individuals. Your proposal for spending the  
winter with Willimon is an excellent one.  
But before going there, you ought to travel  
through the New England rocks one  
day, I shall leave Albany on Wednesday  
evening, in a two-horse waggon, covered,  
and you can go with me at the expense  
of about 50 cents per day, for 14 days.  
Journal in anticipation.

— Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> — Go to Clifton Col. Co. 15 miles  
east of Hudson.

— Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> — By way of West Truckbridge  
to Salisbury, Conn.

— Friday 13<sup>th</sup> — Go Pawling town, at the southeast  
corner of Dutchess county.

Saturday - 14<sup>th</sup> - By way of Dutchfield in boat  
northward to Farmington.

Sunday - 15<sup>th</sup> - To Windsor Newbury.

Monday - 16<sup>th</sup> - By ~~Windsor Newbury~~ to Old  
Lebanon.

Tuesday - 17<sup>th</sup> - to Ashford.

Wednesday - 18<sup>th</sup> - By Shrewsbury to Plain-  
field.

Thursday - 19<sup>th</sup> - Go to Meriden and return to  
Plainfield - give a lecture to my old students.

Friday - 20<sup>th</sup> - Take Charlotte Eaton into  
waggon and go to Bethel Newbury.

Saturday - 21<sup>st</sup> - Go to Danbury - stay here  
over Sunday.

Monday - 22<sup>nd</sup> - Go to Plainfield.

Tuesday - 23<sup>rd</sup> - Go to Williams College - stay  
here till Thursday - Give one lec-  
ture to my old students in geology, in  
the Chapel.

Wednesday - 24<sup>th</sup> - Go to Albany  
Go with me this week and I will  
give you a paper at the Newbury 25<sup>th</sup>  
D. J. Ferry. Anno Eaton



Anna Eaton

Nov 3rd. 1818.

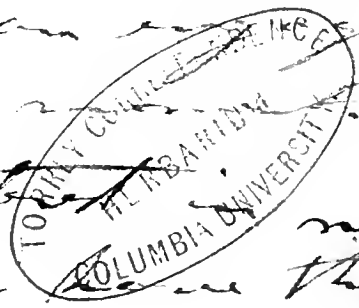
Dr John Torrey  
Care of Mr Torrey  
New York.

Albany, Nov. 13<sup>th</sup> 1818.

Dear friend, I will write a word or two, but not  
with the postage. At 3 o'clock tomorrow morn-  
ing I go. You would not fret about my  
plants, if you see me compelled to gather  
them on the run. You will never be able to  
conceive of the heap of business, which I am  
obliged to attend to.

Fewey is just as persevering and accom-  
plished as you suggest. Ives is precisely in  
character in his management with you.  
He is a clever fellow, but is forever beginning  
and never does any thing. He intends to do  
what he promises; for he is always sincere.  
But Remond did perform an experiment,  
unless he was urged at the moment.

You ~~misstate~~ your interest in not going  
with me. But you may ~~have~~ the fruits  
of my journey or part of specimens will com-  
pen-  
sate for it. But I have always expected to have  
you come here and select for yourself.





I have just seen five pages of your catalogue in type; but there is no proof yet. Beck will correct it, and then it will be sent to you.

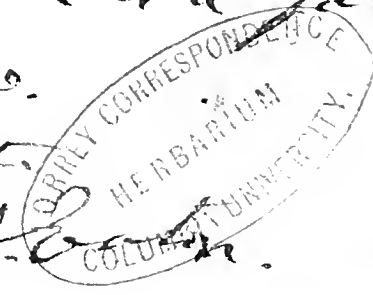
I think with you, that Whittier is of no use to botany. At first I was and I supposed the exhibition of his plates might excite a taste for botany. But I have satisfied my mind, that it is harder to get a clasp for his having been in a village near city. Botanists often encourage him (I among the rest) which induces a belief, that what he teaches is botany. What it is at best but a Jewvillous caricature of botany.

I succeeded in finding fibrous sub. phosphate of strontian in Schoharie county. I will send you specimens, with marks, when I can. The Troy folks call this

Society The Troy Lyceum of Natural  
History. I suggested to them the plan of  
forming branches to the N. York Lyceum,  
for the purpose of exchanging and loaning  
specimens, communicating facts, discover-  
ing &c. I presume such a thing might  
be made highly useful to scientific and  
to Science. The president is Dickinson,  
president of the Farmers bank. I wish  
you were roughly married to his daugh-  
ter. She is a good girl, only child of  
father worth 150 thousand dollars. And  
she has an exalted opinion of you, at  
least of your mind; I cannot say what  
effect your personal presence might  
have upon her. Dickinson is a great  
scholar and a good fellow.

Yours truly

A. S. P.



Amos Eaton

Nov. 13<sup>th</sup> 1818.

For

Dear John Torrey.

Care of William Torrey Esq.  
New York.

6-8 p.m.  
Lith. Amos Eaton  
New York  
Nov. 13<sup>th</sup> 1818

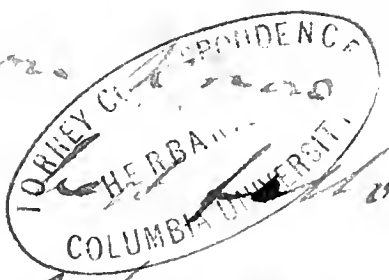
Received  
of Mr. F. Land  
2. 7. 224 -  
for the sum of  
\$100.00  
for the sum of  
\$100.00  
for the sum of  
\$100.00



Albany, Dec. 27<sup>th</sup> 1818.

Dear friend,

For some account of my journey, I refer you to Dr. Townsend. I remain with fragments occasionally. As for new things, we countrymen never succeed in the acquisition of that kind of glory. Though I am sometimes inclined to consider that blustering polygamous new. I <sup>intend to</sup> send you more fair specimens of it and quarrel with you some about it. We will call it P. natans when we refer to it, until the business is settled.

If you should finally conclude not to go to the Pacific, why cannot Edwin James go? You hint that he may be offended with you so. Now I tell you, that you are making of Edwin. To begin, he is the  fellow that nature ever formed. Liberal beyond description, noble in all his feelings, beyond all parallel, precisely his length and breadth of every thing great and good. He has been twice to Vermont, and once over the Catskill, &c. this season. He is now at N.Y. but we expect him here in a few weeks. Gov. Clinton would entrust himself in behalf of Edwin, if you should think he would be successful.

You may write to Miss White. I know that a correspondence with you would be very acceptable to her. She has learned to be a good fellow, by being so long acquainted with the White cork. She has been his assistant at Deerfield and only three years. He has now resigned his place

and entered upon the study of Divinity, <sup>in Deerfield,</sup> and Miss  
W. has returned to her home at Amherst.

I wish you would send me all the names  
you find in my Manual, as well as all the  
materials for the Dictionary. I wish to give a  
considerable Addenda & Leaningenda at the  
end of your catalogue, for my Manual.

With respect to branches to the N. Y. Assocn  
I am still of the opinion, that it would be for  
the interest of the ~~physic~~ and of Science. But  
perhaps I might differ with you respecting the  
numbers and extent of the union. I should probably  
require more currency &c. in the establishment of  
a new branch; and would require that a certain  
proportion of the members of the branch should  
be members of the N. Y. L. &c.

Jan. 4<sup>th</sup> 1819.

Every thing has intervened, which can be  
named, to prevent my finishing my letter till  
now. The Troy folks called for their specimens,  
Dr. Steel of Saratoga calls on me to name his  
rocks for him, which he intends to add to his anal-  
ysis &c. &c. &c.

When Dr. Low sent some full lot of  
Shanton to Dr. Mitchell [see note to Phil. Mag.  
Minerology, page ] who analyzed it, I have no  
doubt of its being nat. shanton, but Silliman  
says, he suspects it to be barytes. If it is, it is  
certainly a new variety. I never attempted any  
analysis. I found that the specific gravity, hadness,



colours and texture agreed with Dr. Schell's,  
name; therefore, call it so. Will you analyse  
some of that, which Pomeroy sent to the  
exam., and send me the report immediately.  
Though I am by no means responsible for  
the error, if ~~the~~ it is, however; yet I shall  
be, if hereafter I am not correct, since it  
has been questioned. Do attend to it immediately  
and be very accurate and careful. I wish, if  
possible, you could send me the result, in season  
to be laid before the Trøy Lyceum on the evening  
of Monday the 11<sup>th</sup>. Let me have it as  
soon as possible at my seat.

I believe I shall not leave Ashby  
two or three weeks. Webster says, if they need more  
send you the proofs, your catalogue could be fine  
typed immediately; but they have not enough of that  
type to keep more than two forms set up. If  
Beck and I had a few additional explanations, with  
what you have already given, there would be no  
need of ~~and~~ waiting for you to return the  
proofs. You might make the few essential  
corrections for the errata.

I am now preparing a missionary, of the  
name Levi Parsons, for examining the geology  
of Jerusalem. He and another missionary are  
to reside permanently in Jerusalem. He says, he  
will follow my directions minutely, and make  
us acquainted with the geology of Syria as fa-  
miliarly, as we now are with ~~that of~~ England.

Dr. John Tully.

Your friend,  
Amos Eaton



Amos Selous  
Decr 28<sup>th</sup> / 1818

JW

Dr. John Torrey.  
Care of William Torrey, Esq.  
New York.

TORRE CO. DEPENDENCE  
HE. PAI.  
COLUMBIA C. M.

Albany, Feb. 20<sup>th</sup> 1819

Dear friend,

I send you a Gazette, that you may know what I am about. [See the beginning of the 3 pages]

I concluded to remain here for several reasons.

- 1<sup>st</sup> A considerable proportion of the Senators and Representatives have subscribed; so that it will be a tolerably profitable course.
- 2<sup>d</sup> I have a good opportunity to spread a taste for Science; as I shall now have students in most of the counties in the state.
- 3<sup>d</sup> I shall now have collectors of natural substances spread over most of the state.
- 4<sup>th</sup> I shall secure the friendship of many influential men.

According to your statement of the 16<sup>th</sup> inst. the Mississippi expedition is <sup>to be</sup> an illiberal force. Probably the naturalists are to be considered like private soldiers to fight for the honor of Maj. Long. I presume they will receive a compliment like this:—"I acknowledge myself somewhat indebted to several gentlemen, who assisted me in picking up weeds and stones, and in catching bugs." ~~It~~ It is exactly in character. I was astonished that politicians should be so liberal as you at first represented. No, go not one step with them upon any such disgraceful illiberal terms.

I am very glad you are engaged in analyzing the Strontian, barytes, & chlorite, or whatever it may turn out to be. I am glad you intend to publish it in Dillie's journal. I hope you have seen the history of it, as published in Webster's Gazette, and reprinted in some of the N. York papers last November. The account in the Monthly Magazine by Pomeroy is very imperfect.

I should have given you some particulars of my journey had not the Troy Lyceum passed a resolution to publish <sup>extracts</sup> ~~extracts~~ from my letters, written on the journey to their corresponding secretary.

I will say a little about your correspondents, which you intend to enclose to Dr. Henshaw will be a good and faithful one. And after Williams College is removed to Northampton, his consequence in the Scientific world will be greatly increased. I know little of Lewis Mack, but J. R. Beck, though a pretty good fellow, is too much given to puffing. He expects to make ~~speech~~ <sup>speech</sup> of a few extracts and borrowed materials, respecting album, which he is now reading in a series of essays before the Society of Arts. This made me sick, but as he is a friend to me, ~~to Dr. Henshaw &c.~~ <sup>to be published</sup> I will swallow it as well as I can. Tracy is clever and will act on under part very well; but is deficient in ballast and cargo. Edwin Jones is every thing great and noble; but the royal hate, ~~writing~~ <sup>writing</sup> letters. I was never with Edwin on shore without receiving a new thought. Hitchcock is persevering and a good fellow. His advantages have been very permitted, and he is wrong-headed whenever he is set so, by a misinterpreted hint from Silliman. On the whole he is too sensible in all his views, for a naturalist. Jones is an excellent fellow. But you must be face to face with him. He will never do any thing he promises. But he will haul fifty patients and rattle over all the world with you, and do all he can with the best motives, until you are out of sight. Dr. Robbins of Troy is minutely accurate, persevering and good. Dr. Hale is a fine fellow to visit; but will never write a letter.

I wish I could see your Cooper, and several others of your corps. What has become of Stephen Pease? You say you offend the Troy Lyceum - your own papers from

Europe, but I have never told you whether they would be  
acceptable. I suppose you consider all your dreams as re-  
alities. You certainly never wrote me that you had ever  
heard of an European prof. I can assure you, they  
would be very thankfully received.

As soon as the winter opens, you must come to Albany  
and go with me to Troy. From the time you set your  
foot on the Steam-boat dock, until you embark  
from the same for home, you will not expend a cent.  
Therefore you cannot plead expense. I do not know, that  
I shall remain here after the 1<sup>st</sup> of July. The Troy folks  
are pressing me hard to remove to that town. I am  
also urged hard to remove to Utica and to Northampton.  
But I may remain here after all. I can obtain a  
decent support any where by my present occupation,  
and it is not in unpleasant course of life. Still I  
should prefer a more permanent establishment. I do  
not know a person in the world, but myself, who  
would become a successful scientific pedlar.  
I have learned to act in just a polymorphous char-  
acter, that I am, to the men of science a curiosity,  
to ladies a clever schoolmaster, to the women a wizard,  
to blackguards and boys a show-man and to sage  
legislators a very knowing man.

I am certainly, however,  
your sincerely devoted friend,

Amos Eaton.

Dr. John Torrey.

Excuse me to Dr. Townsend for not answering his  
last letter. I am sorely pressed with three lectures each  
week to the State Teachers.

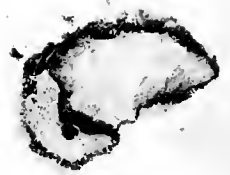
Amos Eaton  
Feb. 20<sup>th</sup> 1819

W

Dr. John Torrey.

Care of William Torrey Esq.

New York.





Albany, March 25<sup>th</sup> 1819

Dear friend, I received a letter in your hand writing, without date or signature, about a week ago.

Edwin James made a latin and an English index to your catalogue. But Skinner (who conducts the printing) was taken sick, and every thing was thrown into confusion. The proof of the index was most horrible. But Edwin James and Charlotte Eaton compared the whole with the names in the catalogue, and I believe it is now well corrected.

We take the liberty to laugh at you now, on reading your letter of last summer, censuring me for the typographical errors in my volume. I corrected about thirty errors, which you had overlooked, in your proof and last sheet of the catalogue. I have corrected more than one hundred errors in the whole catalogue. Beck had looked over the last proof.

I know how far Dilliman has examined the *Shabarichte*. And I know his analysis, if it be made, is not to be depended on, for want of that leisure which the case requires. I know he intended to



to analyse it minutely; but I preferred your doing it. Therefore I wrote him, that you would furnish him with a minute analysis. He said, in his answer to my letter, that he should be much pleased at receiving it from you for publication in his Journal, he certainly expects it. I really wish you would do it, because it is, at least a new variety, if nothing more.

You know, without telling, that I should like just a situation, as you mention, at the Botanic garden. And you are right in supposing me better qualified for this, than for any other employment. I worked on a farm two summers, I superintended the cultivation of 1200 acres for five years, and I know all about theoretical and practical agriculture as it is understood at this day. But you and I know, that I could never obtain just a situation. It would certainly be given to some boasting ignorant foreigner, as all things of this kind are in every part of the United States, New England excepted. I can procure any certificate of recommendation from 50 or 60 <sup>principal</sup> members of the

Legislature however.

I send you the Garnett you requested. The mineral in question is certainly an excellent flux in cases where a high heat is required.

I will take pains to aid you in the collection of papers. I wish you had all my bag. I presume you would find something new among it.

I have given Webster's Minerals, all your list of errors and added four to the list.

Two of the Canal Commissioners ought to be added to your list of correspondents.

Myron Holley and ~~James~~ <sup>Samuel</sup> Young. Hall

was my class-mate in college. A better fellow is not. He <sup>and Young</sup> attend my lectures now.

Young ~~is~~ <sup>is</sup> a Senator as well as economist. He is very zealous for the cause of Natural History, and has picked up considerable knowledge of minerals.

I believe I have blundered upon a new test for lime in mineral waters. It is merely a solution of indigo (made in part acid in the common way) with the addition of some of them. I will let you hear from it again, after further trials.

D = John Tracy.

Wm. A. Eaton.

Amos Sators

March 25, 1819

Dr John Sators

care of William Sators, Esq.

New York.

6/8

Troy, May, 11<sup>th</sup> 1819.

Some how I missed sending this letter and forgot it, until today. I have given four lectures in my new course on Botany here.

I wanted Pursh so much, that I borrowed Beck's and had both volumes hammered close and bound in one volume with your Catalogue — labelled ~~as~~ lettered, Pursh's Flora & Torrey's Catalogue. I must buy another Pursh with plates not colored, for Beck. You once wrote, that possibly you might exchange my Indexes for Pursh. How did you ever succeed in that traffic? For how much can I buy Pursh? and where?

Dr Townsend can tell you my proposed joint with Chancellor Lansing, &c.

If you do not go to Europe, when will you be at Troy? If you do go to Europe, when will you return?

AS



AS many persons, though liberally educated, have not made themselves acquainted with those modern sciences, in some of which I propose giving a course of instruction at the subjoined opinions of gentlemen, where I have been employed, may not be unacceptable.

Respectfully,  
AMOS EATON.

Williams College, Sep. 1, 1817.

To ALL WHOM IT MAY CONCERN.

Mr. Amos Eaton came here last March with a recommendation from Professor Mitchell of New-York, representing him to be competent to give instruction in Mineralogy, Botany and Zoology—Also with recommendations from Professors Silliman and Ives of Yale-College, stating that he had spent a year with them, and that they considered him qualified to teach elementary and practical Mineralogy and Botany. He was patronized here by the Faculty of this College, and has given a course of Lectures on Mineralogy and Botany to the entire satisfaction of the faculty and class.

From the above recommendations, and from our knowledge of his assiduity, perseverance and scientific acquirements, we feel authorized to recommend him to the Trustees and Instructors of Colleges and Public Schools, as well as to private gentlemen, who may be disposed to patronize the study of Natural History.

ZEPH. SWIFT MOORE, *President of Williams College.*  
CHESTER DEWEY, *Prof of Math. and Nat. Phil.*  
EBENEZER KELLOGG, *Professor of Languages.*

Northampton, Mass. Nov. 24, 1817.

To ALL WHOM IT MAY CONCERN.

On the recommendation of the President and Faculty of Williams College, together with that of Professors Silliman and Ives of Yale-College, &c. Mr. Amos Eaton was employed in this town to deliver a course of Lectures on Botany; and also a course of evening lectures on the elements of Chemistry, Mineralogy and Geology. He has now closed his course, to the entire satisfaction of his employers, and, we think, much to the advantage of his pupils.

As his class consisted chiefly of Ladies, and as those branches of learning have not hitherto generally engaged the attention of that sex; we take the liberty to state, that from this experiment we feel authorized to recommend these branches as a very useful part of female education.

CALEB STRONG,  
[Late Governor of the state of Massachusetts.]  
SOLOMON WILLIAMS,  
[Pastor of the Presbyterian Church in Northampton.]  
EBENEZER HUNT, [M. D.]  
DAVID HUNT, [M. D.]  
JOSIAH DWIGHT, [Esq.]  
ELIJAH H. MILLS,  
[Representative in Congress.]

Troy, November 9, 1818.

To ALL WHOM IT MAY CONCERN.

By the unanimous vote of the Troy Lyceum of Natural History, I am authorised to certify, that Mr. Amos Eaton has delivered a course of Lectures in the city of Troy on Botany, and a course on Geology and the Elements of Chemistry, commencing in the month of May last, and closing in the month of October; and that he performed the duties of Lecturer in those departments to the satisfaction of his hearers.

I am further directed by the Society to recommend Mr. Eaton, as eminently worthy of the patronage of those who are desirous of promoting the study of the Natural Sciences; as well for his indefatigable zeal and industry, as for his skill in simplifying and illustrating the subjects on which he communicates instruction.

JOHN D. DICKINSON, *President of the Troy Lyceum of Natural History.*  
R. O. K. BENNET, *Recording Secretary.*

Albany, April 12, 1819.

To ALL WHOM IT MAY CONCERN.

We certify that Mr. Amos Eaton was employed to give a course of Lectures on Chemistry and Geology, as applicable to Agriculture, at the Chambers of the Society of Arts in the Capitol, during the present session of the Legislature. We further certify, that he performed the duties of experimental Lecturer to our entire satisfaction.

From this specimen of the application of science to Agriculture, we feel authorised to recommend these branches to the attention of all Agricultural Societies, as well as to private gentlemen.

- |  |  |  |
|--|--|--|
| John Tayler, Lieut. Governor of the State of New-York. | Isaac Sutherland,  | John Lansing, jun. LL. D. former Chief Justice, and late Chancellor, of the State of New-York, |
| John V. N. Yates, Secretary of State.                  | James M'Call,  | John Stearns, M. D. President of the New-York State Medical Society.                           |
| Senators.  | Abm. Gurnee,   | John De Witt, Pastor of 2d Reformed Dutch Church of Albany.                                    |
| Samuel Young, Canal Commissioner.                      | D. M' Martin, jun.   | John Chester, Pastor of the 2d Presbyterian Church of Albany.                                  |
| Henry Seymour, Canal Commissioner.                     | Wm. Thompson,  | Myron Holley, Canal Commissioner.  |
| David Evans,   | Luther Guiteau, M. D.  | George Clark, Proprietor of the Corry and Cherry-Valley Patents.                               |
| Ephraim Hart,  | S. Watkins, M. D.  |  |
| P. G. Childs,  | David Tomlinson, M. D.   |  |
| Henry Yates,   | Stephen Warren.  |  |
| Henry I. Frey.   | Simeon De Witt, Surveyor General, and President of the Society of Arts, of the state of New-York.    |  |
| Representatives.                                       | Jonathan Eights, M. D. Recording Secretary of the Society of Arts.                                   |  |
| George Huntington,                                     | T. Romeyn Beck, M. D. Principal of the Albany Academy, and Senior Counsellor of the Society of Arts. |  |
| John T. Irving,  |  |  |
| Nicoll Fosdick,  |  |  |
| George R. Davis,                                       |  |  |
| William Billinghamurst,                                |  |  |

Albany, April 29<sup>th</sup> 1819.

Dear friend,

I have never been so overwhelmed with little entangling concerns as at present. Tomorrow I move to Troy - I have commenced another course there - I take several other classes in other towns - I am collecting bills, ~~leaving~~ ~~leaving~~ ~~leaving~~ & relics of Le Sueur, who is now dead &c. &c.

I send you a printed thing, by which you will learn my mode of doing some things, and my feelings.

You said nothing of your course - I have learnt in your last. Talk about it in your next. The Troy Lyceum do well, I believe.

I have not engaged but the Troy class. Though I have received about eight invitations from other places. I shall select among them four. I shall take classes along Connecticut or Hudson river. I spend every sixth week with each class.

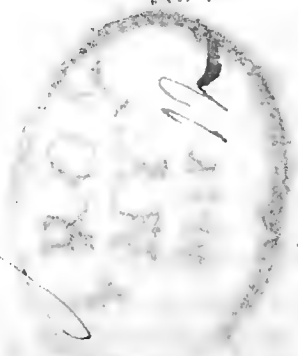
I have at this moment no recollection of my new fact worth noting, excepting that Dr. Stead of Saratoga, is publishing the Geology of that county in the introduction to the R. R. of his analysis of the mineral waters. It will be pretty accurate, and accompanied with a geological map. Yours  
Amos Eaton.



Amos Eaton  
April 29 1819

11

Dr John Torrey.  
Care of Mr Torrey Esq  
New York.



Troy, May 31<sup>st</sup> 1819.

Dear friend,

Last evening I returned from my tour to Blenheim (between 40 and 50 miles back of Catskill) with Chancellor Lansing. I found nothing but coarse rocks, yet I never made a more satisfactory excursion. Some of my most troublesome doubts were satisfactorily settled. I was employed by the Ch Chancellor ten days at \$5 and expenses 4<sup>th</sup> day to settle the Geology of his township, Blenheim.

I have engaged to lecture on Botany 2/5 of the season till October, at Catskill and Hudson. I begin the 8<sup>th</sup> of June. I lecture here also perhaps at Waterford. When I returned Mrs Easton & Charlotte E. had received and read two letters from you. This is a liberty they always take, and also to judge me severely for any supposed negligence on my part.

Our Calendar is intended merely for the purpose of aiding students in collecting plants, by giving them localities and teaching them what plants to search for during all parts of the season. We shall probably give a more naked list of names and localities, with the running date at the left hand. If you or any other botanist will give us a few important reflections upon particular plants, we will give them in <sup>marginal</sup> notes. It will be printed in 12<sup>mo</sup> form for the pocket.

As I calculate to publish a 2<sup>d</sup> Edition of the Index in a pocket form, you may throw what you into my bookstore, to be sold on commission. But I will not to exchange them as to subject them to be diggred at book-auctions. You may give away as many of them as you can to your, or my advantage. My 2<sup>d</sup> Edition may be somewhat interesting to you. I shall be very headstrong in that; because I have no confidence in any geologist in the United States. If you would give me a written

discharge from all imputations of vanity, I would  
say; that I am now so familiar with the rocks of  
New England and all that part of the State of  
N. York, which lies to the north of the Highlands,  
that I am in no danger of erring in matters of  
fact. I have given tone to Geology in the interior,  
mostly upon principles not well according with the  
views of our cabinet geologists; and I have hitherto  
seen no cause to regret it. In this I am sure of  
making you a convert, whenever I have an opportunity.

I believe, I will talk plain to Silliman about Chap. in  
my next to him. I will try to get Beck's *Budares*. I pre-  
sume I called it a *crinoid*, if I ever saw it. I have no  
objection to Baldwin's sneering at Mitchell; though I think  
N. is an accurate botanist. I hate liberality in science.  
N. is certainly guilty of many mean acts.

We have not yet sent out for our cargo of the  
Schoharite. The *Sycium* will soon send for one or two  
hundred pounds of it. I will see whether I can find  
some for you.

I began to answer your last letter first, be-  
cause Charlotte has mislaid your previous letter.  
I have now waited an hour and she cannot find it.  
I will therefore see to it in my next. She says  
she recollects you advised me to make the next  
edition of the Manual more classical. I might  
add a few things to make it a more servile  
imitation of those who are called classical. But  
it would defeat the very object of its being  
to introduce any more technical language than  
is absolutely necessary. I studied to avoid the

use of two terms of the same import, though it would have appeared more classical to have shown the reader, that I knew a great number of hard words. The book is certainly more useful for expunging all the hardest and most unnecessary part of that forbidding terminology, at which so many students start back in terror. I think I shall change some specific names and give all the synonyms and authorities at the foot margin, in the manner of *Classical Botany*.

I found the *Prontium aquaticum* at Hudson in abundance; though I had never before seen it many miles from the sea-shore. It is the principal plant on the middle ground between Hudson and Athens. Did I ever tell you, that I found the *Simmetis* (*Plantago*) *polystachia* at Albany? I supposed, before, that this was exclusively a grass.

The mountains of Blenheim are literally covered with the *Simmetis borealis*, often for miles in extent. The thousands of *Bracera borealis* growing there renewed the enquiry in my mind, whether this is the same plant as the *Convolvium umbellatum*. The pedicels are not bracted and the keel of the leaf is never ciliate. The cilia on the margins of the leaves are always revolute. If you ever saw a *Convolvium umbellatum*, I wish you would tell me something about it.

your friend

Amos Eaton.

Amey Eaton  
May 31. 1819

11  
Dear John Tarrey.  
Learn of William Tarrey, Esq.

New York.

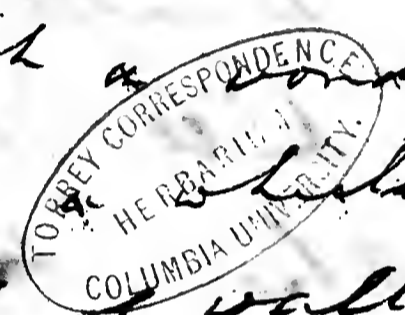




On board the *Champlain*, opposite Coxsackie.  
July 12<sup>th</sup> - 1819.

Dear friend,

I send you by Messrs Kent & Co. a little of the *Ichthyosaurus*. I found this by accident in ~~an~~<sup>an</sup> old chest, where my boys had kept a mock-cabinet. You know boys will ape their daddies. The <sup>boys</sup> *Lyons* has not yet replenished their store. "Sickness arising of his people" with joy unutterable. If I had known that your Yorkers thought stannite such a wonderful thing, I would have sent you *Stannite* <sup>from</sup> *Schubert's* lead. I have seen ten miles of wall made of stannite in *Mississippi* in *Utah*. *Monson*, *Brin*, *Wester* are full of it. By the way *Brinsford* (*Mass*) in the best mineralogical region I ever know. If a puffing Yorker should see it, "the world would not contain the books" which would be written about it. I found *adulonia* by tons there, *and* *hydn*, *phosph*, *arsenic*, of *cobalt*, *nickel* &c. The most perfect crystals of *quartz* abound in the stone walls about *Dr. Lincoln's*, near you. (*L. L.* is brother-in-law to *Charlotte*). The varieties of rock *etc.* are the most beautiful in *Brinsford* of any I ever saw. I have been tumbling my





Brimful rocks about this morning, but I see no reason. I am always robbed by the first that calls. How much do you want some reason?

I must and will visit your Lyceum soon. After all your fuss and phumery, I believe ~~to~~ we are better acquainted with geology than you are. And our Gray folks, I believe, know more American minerals than some of you. What a puffing would have been made over a locality of thousands of specimens, on one hill, of a woody plant 30 feet high, so long ~~long~~ overlooked as the *Sonchica bissecta*, had a Yorker found it. Rafinesque would have made at least fifteen new genera out of the *Xylosteum johnis*, had he first gone into the swamp 2 miles east of Williams College. You are pretty good ballast for these innovators, but even you are a little tainted with Rafinesquism.

I am far from being convinced yet that you are right about the Schorl. Not one of us is fairly committed in relation to that mineral. Dr. James experimented on it with his usual accuracy. He produced the red flame distinctly from one of its salts. I certainly produced it from both ~~minerals~~

nitrate. But I am willing to say, it is possible that my facts were imperfect & that the flame was as of simple alcohol, if such a conception is necessary. With respect to the spec. grav. I have found it under 3.5 and over 4.5 - Not one half of you know how to take the spec. grav. The thread by which you suspend it after decanting you cut a small neck on a corner of the specimen and tie a hair around it. Then let it sink <sup>several</sup> ~~both~~ times so as barely to cover the corner. Let us just consider a case. The thread shall buoy up two grains. In air the specimen weighed ~~10~~ in water the true weight is 10. The spec. grav. would be about 1.14 + But if two grains are supported by the thread the spec. grav. would be 1.11 + I find my European specimens of bayles and strontian both ~~are~~ that given in books - also my American specimens of bayles from Southampton. That from the little falls agrees tolerably well. However I have not had time to do the subject justice.

I am now on my way to Hudson. I remain in Hudson two weeks - then I am at Troy & Waterford three weeks. So I go on till October. Tell Dr. Townsend, that I received his letter, directed to the care of the Mayor of Hudson. I will write him when any thing new occurs.

I will go and send the Troy Agassiz one of your Jungermannias, mentioned in your catalogue. We will send you any thing we have, that you want. We have two species of *Syringium*, the *amblyium apatheticum*. *Syringium* Eaton.

I have your box & thank you very much for the specimens.

Doc. John Torrey

Greenwich.  
New York.  
Wps Kent Exp. / To be left with S. Mitchell  
or with Dr. J. Townsend.

Amos Eaton  
July 12th 1819

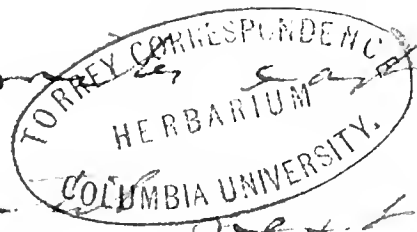


Hudson, July 20<sup>th</sup> 1819 6 o'clock AM.

Dear friend, I have just received yours, dated  
13<sup>th</sup> - it is post-marked 11<sup>th</sup>. You say you must  
have specimens in two or three days; that is, one  
or two days before your letter went to the Post office.  
Still I believe you were not born in Ireland.

Now as I do not believe any thing you say as to  
time, I will go out, as soon as I finish breakfast  
to Beecrafts Mt. two miles east of Hudson and  
pick up all the organic relics I can find, and  
send them by the next boat. As to the *Orchis*  
*leptoglossa*, it grows no where in this district  
except in a pond 5 miles east of Troy. As I  
shall not go home until next Sunday, you  
can not depend on me. If you can wait for the  
following piece you may get it. Write to Mr  
Marvin <sup>Troy</sup> and tell him you are informed that  
it is in a pond 5 miles east of Troy. That it is  
the white-flowered *Orchis*. He will send it  
as soon as it can be procured.

You have several times argued about our  
leaving; though I believe I told you all about  
it. I will tell you again. It is among the  
hobbies of the Troy folks and I ride it the  
hardest to make botany a part of common school  
learning in the summer season. We intend to have  
our Yankee girls teach it. But we think it  
worth all the while to have a little book, which



which cost two shillings or a petticoat, headed  
with the name of <sup>each</sup> month with a column of  
the days on the left, and pointing the names of  
all plants, which they are to expect to find in  
flower, set against the respective days. We do every  
thing after experience has announced its necessity,  
and such a book has <sup>become</sup> almost indispensable.

You see we do not calculate to push the  
science ahead. But we intend to make <sup>for</sup> ourselves  
scientific companions. We study to bring down  
the Leviathan to the level of lapdogs, and  
to persuade our girls and boys to throw away  
lapdogs and whistles and to adopt the play-  
thing of Mitchell, Torrey, Townsend, Knevel,  
Pierce, Mr. Nevan, Schaeffer, Cooper & as such  
others. I think I shall prefix to the little  
book some simple directions about teaching.  
We shall probably give a more naked list of names  
and places of growth. This will leave room for a  
more extensive list, than was at first contempla-  
ted. We shall probably take in the N. York  
plants and all to the north, ~~where~~ where we can be  
accurate about the place of growth and time of flowering.  
By place of growth I do not mean localities, I  
mean wet, dry, meadows, pastures &c. - so that  
students may know when and where they are  
to expect to find a plant - or rather, what  
plant they ought to look for to-day, in what  
situation, they are to expect to find it.

Now I am going down to breakfast - then after  
morning.



July 21<sup>st</sup>

I returned about ten minutes to late yesterday for the boat. A Mr. Todd, I believe, is going to-day. I wish I could have time to collect more for this morning - perhaps I may. I am going out, and if return soon enough I will send you what I find. If you know the <sup>two</sup> specimens (they are the same) marked unknown, I wish you would mention it in your report. I did not show it to De Suer. All the rest are right according to Martin & De Suer.

We are endeavoring to make up a party of Hudson girls and boys to go up to the lakes on Catskill Mt. on a botanical excursion. Perhaps we shall not go. I went up five weeks ago. The *Scorbus*, *Sinnaea*, *Troranea* etc were finely in flower.

Next Sunday I go home and remain in Troy all the nights of three weeks; but I lecture at Waterford 4 miles from Troy every other day.

We have a potato-tuber here and at Albany which wants Rafinesquing or correcting in some way. We have called it compressum; but the stem is hardly compressed and the spike has more tubercles than an allium. It is a potato.

For M. Todd.

Dr. John Torrey  
At. Alderman Torrey's

New York.

To be left with

Dr. Mitchell or Dr. P. A. Townsend.

Recd July 26th

July 20th. 1879

Amos Eaton

Hudson. July 24<sup>th</sup> - 1819.

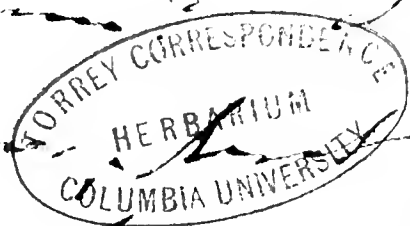
Dear friend,

I send you the plant  
by Mr. Coddington, because I  
can. What is it? I find in lakes,  
&c.

I return to Troy tomorrow.

What if I should convince you  
that I have discovered a new

Sparganium? I discovered it  
last summer.



made it the malac. Yesterday

I was at the lakes on the Catskills

at ~~Yonkers~~ and found the true

nature. ~~At~~ I know that

the Troy species is neither nature,

simply, name, nor any thing which

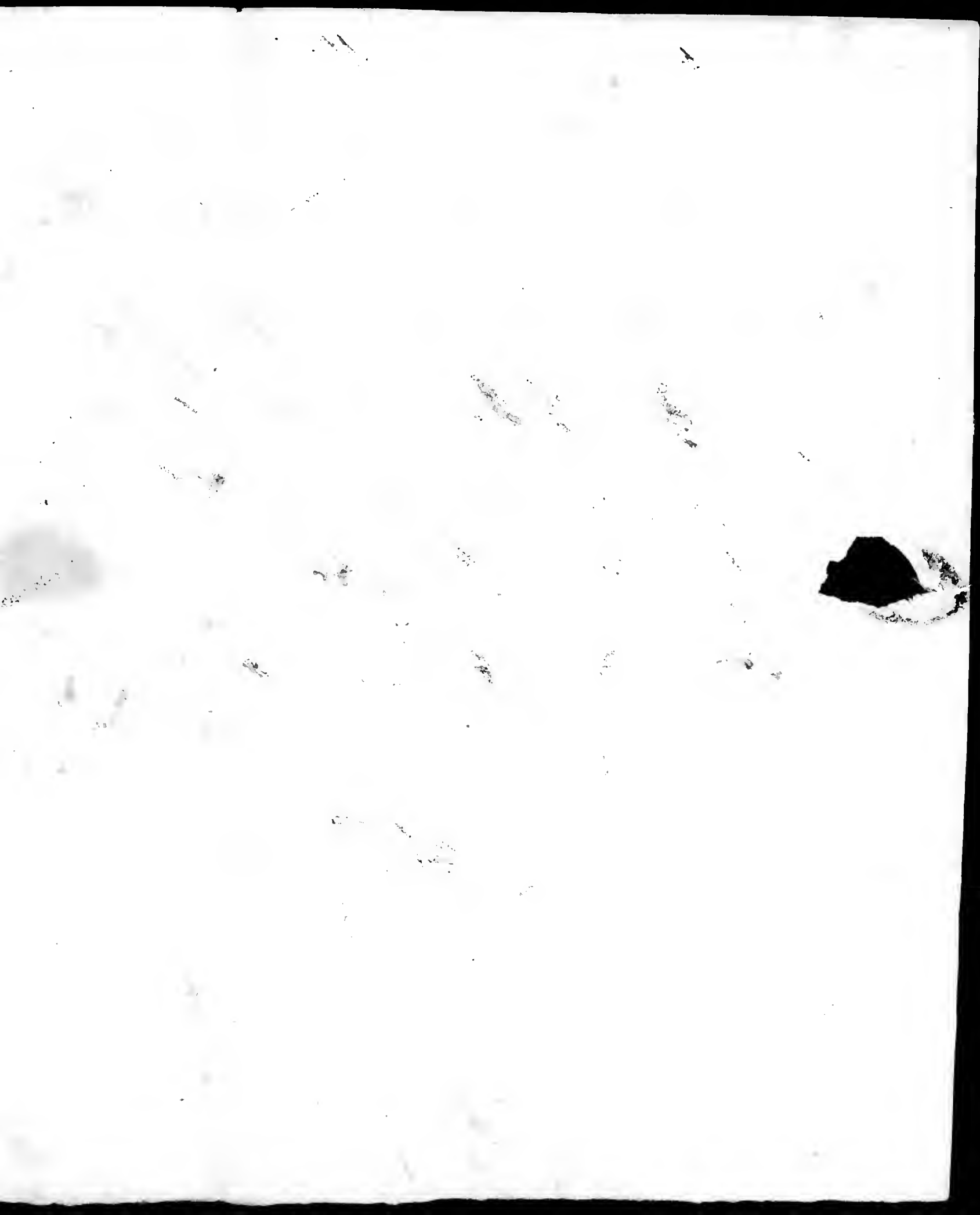
is added to the Northern States. I will  
send you some specimens from Troy.  
I shall now remain in Troy three  
weeks.

I saw thousands of Staphs  
Rubens, pygmaea at the lake.  
O fool! Do you want the tin  
man breaks in pieces?

Mr. Cuddingh will not  
see large.

A. C. C.

1. 11. 1841





Amos Eaton,

July 24<sup>th</sup> 1819

Rec<sup>d</sup> July 30<sup>th</sup>

To John Torrey, New York.  
To the Agent of the Whitehall,  
Care of Mr. Bondington.

Troy, Aug. 14. 1819.

Dear friend,

You may recollect having received a Helianthus from E. James, which you wrote him, seems not recd. We have just ascertained that it is the Helianthus laevis. Tracy first suggested the thought. I wonder we had not discovered this before. As this plant grows every where, and as it is not yet down in your catalogue, I presume you call it Helianthus frondosus.

We have found three specimens of the Campanula acuminata here. I hope to find plenty of them here, for one of our young ladies says she saw them last summer in great plenty near Lansingburgh. My boy, Dwight, found our specimens a mile below Troy.

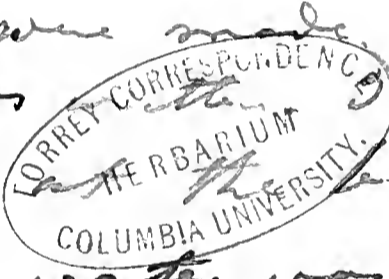
I shall send you a Scoria, to see whether it is your oxyrhoides. It appears to me to agree with Pouch's lenticularis.

The plant, which you are inclined to call Fucus, was the one about which my enquiries were made. I put in the Sparganium after the latter was <sup>other</sup> known. I found the unknown plant <sup>at the</sup> bottom of the lake on Leatkill Mt. where the water was about four feet <sup>deep. I took it for some plant of the order Algae; per-</sup> <sup>haps a Jungermannia. I found the same plant in Springham, Mass.</sup>

My new Sparganium I find described in Nuttall's under his new species americanum.

Dewey says you make a new species of my Oryzopsis, which I found at Williamstown. But E. James says it agrees very nearly with the Oryzopsis of Michaux. Ives. and I made an Oryzopsis of a plant grass I send you now. What is it? It abounds at N. Hampton and New Haven.

I have a desire to correspond with the "Great men of Europe", if I could find a really good helper. But I find most of the scientific Europeans mean and selfish. I would not send a package, unless I could do the business justly. Perhaps I may prepare something next fall.



Edwin James is giving a course of Botanical lectures at Pittsfield, Mass. He dreads writing letters to a great fault. He esteems you above measure; but he rarely writes to any one.

I believe that Cleveland solicits too many to aid him for his own interest. Because he will receive some wretched stuff and will be obliged to dispose of it, so as not to give offence. I sent him one letter full of localities and he wants more.

By your letter I presume you know Silliman personally by this time. I can tell you the good and the bad of him in a few words. He is an excellent practical chemist and a good cabinet mineralogist. With very little knowledge of geology, he affects much. He is impatient ~~and~~ when his opinions are questioned, and has very lofty conceptions attached to the staid and ponderous title of Professor of Yale College; and expects us to be ever mindful of his honorable marriage into the family of Gov. Grumbull. Still he is a pretty good fellow, though quite too formal for a man of science. Ives and <sup>Darby</sup> are precisely at antipodes with him.

We have several good fellows growing up among us here. George Marvin, Dr. Bennett's pupil, is becoming just as he should be. He is a native of Newell of Conn. His father is very wealthy there. He was educated at Yale College - attended lectures at Philadelphia last winter, and is going there again next winter. A noble spirit, a fine mind and a most persevering naturalist. Now remember him and keep your eye upon him.

You did send me the Potamogeton from Pine Barrens; but you never send me Leontopodium, which you saw. Edwin. Next week I go to Hudson again. I will go to Beecraft's Mt. and get you some Parisian. I now find that plant figured in Dr. Parkinson. How lucky I was to get Dr. Parkinson's printed 180 years ago, with four thousand specimens figured, for \$5.50 1700 pages folio. It is excellent for the origin of names.

I rarely see Beck of Newbury, his papers. I am not only <sup>not</sup> to believe, but I absolutely disbelieve, in the Schöner mineral being brought with him to Bayley, if the mineral of J. Hampton mine is <sup>the same</sup>.

I doubt its being pure Sul. Strontian however, I do not know what it is. I wish you to let ~~some~~ <sup>some</sup> person, whose trade has ade him familiar with brazing pieces of iron together, use the Schoharie mineral, <sup>finely pulverized</sup> as a flux instead of borax. Then let him use any acknowledged Sul. Bayle, in a similar experiment. You will find the latter mineral will not answer the purpose, but the Schoharie mineral will, though it will require a little higher heat. I am inclined to ~~make~~ conjecture, that the mineral may consist of Sul. Bayle and Sul. Strontian combined, or Cal. lime and Cal. magnesia are combined in dolomite, from a few experiments I have made, though I have by no means come to a conclusion. Let me tell you one fact. Pieces dug out of the rock are always blue and of a specific gravity about equal to Bayle. After being exposed to air, light, moisture &c. a while, the same mineral becomes almost white and of much lower specific gravity, certainly nothing like this takes place in the Sul. Bayle of Southampton, Hatfield or the Little Falls. At the Little Falls it is white at first and becomes reddish on exposure, without any change of specific gravity. If the Schoharie mineral contains no Strontian, he must be more than mad, who believes it contains nothing different from the Sul. Bayle of other localities. I do not believe, <sup>it</sup> is simply either Sul. Bayle or Sul. Strontian. You wonder why I will not yield. If you should see some of Sul. Bayle of Hampton, Hatfield, Little Falls &c. as I have, and then see a little work of the Schoharie mineral, you would say, one would be as excusable for pronouncing quartz and chalk the same mineral, as he who should pronounce these the same. I know there is a difference among the varieties of many species. But I know of no case, where the difference is so great. I know I am not obstinate. I am extremely anxious for the truth in this case. I am not committed at all; for I never pretended to have fairly experimented upon it. I judge merely by external characters of



best, and love you but little for the time.

Your sincere friend

Amos Eaton.

N.B. I shall go to Hudson Monday 16<sup>th</sup> and shall remain there until Sunday morning the 29<sup>th</sup>. Write to me at Hudson soon after receiving this.

Monday 16<sup>th</sup> I was on board the steam boat on my way to Hudson.

Amos Eaton

August 24<sup>th</sup>

1819

Recd Aug 24<sup>th</sup>

New York.

Dr. John Sorey

Rec<sup>d</sup> from the Steam  
Boat, 23<sup>rd</sup> Aug. 1819.  
By Ben Parker

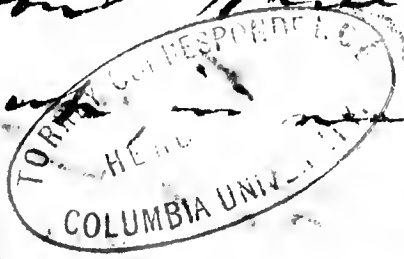
of Sidney Spurr



Wm. Brewster, Philadelphia, Oct. 6<sup>th</sup> 1859.

I did not receive your letter until I read  
the last one. Had I no matter until Sunday evening.

Your letter furnishes me with very important mate-  
rial for connecting my little books on Botany and  
Geology. Charlotte E. is about to put them all  
together in a kind of book and to make an  
index to them. She is going to Brimfield next  
week and will, if possible, collect considerable material.  
She will return in about three weeks. Then she is  
to arrange and put up in neat order all her  
my plants.



I shall close my course at Hudson about the  
23<sup>d</sup> of this month. I have about one hundred pupils  
in Geology and Chemistry in Hudson. I feel strong  
in Geology, but really I cannot possibly find  
time to examine doubtful plants, particularly grasses,  
pothos and aster as I ought. Were I settled down  
in one place, I would be very accurate - it is what  
I should please me much. I will tell you a piece,  
because it was given me as such; though I think  
it a vision. Major Sabaly, the commanding officer  
at the arsenal, and superintendent of the Northern  
States army, Vice Pres. of the Gray League, says,  
that the commanding officer at West Point, Thayer,  
intends to recommend me to fill the office  
of the professorship lately created there, of Natural

History and Chemistry. I presume he told Dalaly so.  
But you know some foreigners would be appointed  
of course. Besides Spencer, Bowdler and other would  
oppose me. Thayer was apprised of this by Dalaly.  
He said, it must be kept a secret, until the  
business was over. I make no calculation upon  
this at all. But you must keep it in con-  
fidence. The best hope with which I could  
flatter myself is, that you might possibly  
obtain the place for yourself. This would be  
next to getting it myself. Just keep an  
eye ~~to~~ open to that subject and your mouth  
shut. As soon as you settle there, I will give  
you Charlotte C. and thus bring under one roof  
the two greatest geniuses of the age. Though such  
fellows as you generally get fools for wives.

I believe I shall strike out a plan for a  
new course of lectures at the Troy Academy, as  
soon as I finish at Hudson. I mean Geography  
to be taught Geologically. Where can I get  
the best account of the geographical geology of  
the eastern continent? Kirwan gives a great  
many localities of rocks, but it is not suf-  
ficiently extended for my plan.

I wish you to send your suggestions  
to the Troy Academy, to the care of  
Dickinson. It will be more to your advantage.

take and about as much to mine. But if  
you do not send them before this month is  
out, send them to the care of the Vice  
President Major Dalaby; because Dickinson  
is going to Washington - he is member of con-  
gress. His wife and daughter will go with  
him.

Write to me at Hudson next week.

By the way, I received no box or bundle  
from you for me. I received one for Henry  
with your double letter. The package for  
Hudson I received - Henry has received his  
of it.

I sent a few things to Gibbs, directly. I did  
not send to you; because of the ~~few~~ fever, bug-  
the, and because one Folger said he could de-  
liver it to him. I had not much to send  
however.

I paid the porter for conveying the package  
to Dr. Mitchell, which you regret not paying.

Edwin James has gone to Middlebury Col-  
lege New York he was educated. The Faculty  
there intend, if possible, to get a professorship  
of Nat. Hist. & Chem. established there for Edwin.

Yours friend,

Geo. J. Torrey

Acad. Centre



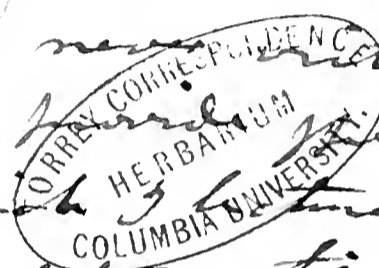
Post John Torrey

Mr. Stone with pleasure  
to have this at Dr. Williams'  
at the house of Mrs. Torrey Esq.  
Greenwich.  
New York.

Oct 11 1849  
Owen's Station

Troy, Nov. 5<sup>th</sup> 1819.

Dear friend,

I have so totally lost the course of our correspondence, that I do not know where to begin or what I have assumed. You were opposite this to me. But you would find no supporters in that opinion in Troy, Hudson or Waterbury. I will detain you with a time or two on my affairs. - From the first of May until the 23<sup>rd</sup> of Oct. I never gave less than four lectures per week and often six or eight. I collected specimens continually, and met my Super then at four times each week for examining them in analyzing plants &c. I never wrote a lecture; but I prepare notes of head, and  specimens for illustration. I have lectured in the court-houses of four counties in four successive days, and in the academy of a fifth county on the fifth day. The counties were Greene, Columbia, Albany, Westchester & Saratoga.

I calculate to be at home nearly every night until next April. I may lecture in Albany and the neighboring towns. My plants are not well managed yet. Elizabeth has gone to Saratoga, not to return until the last of this month. She went with my brother, the Obeyman. When she returns, she will arrange our plants. I give her duplicates, when I have any. I let her divide the specimens which you sent me, when they can properly be divided. She has collected about six hundred species with her own hands, in company with Miss M. Buel and others.

I have just gone through your catalogue and marked the plants, which I have not in my collection. But I have marked none of the grasses, Arctostaphylos, nor Cynopteron plants beyond ferns; because I cannot depend on my own labelling. I do not ask you to send all these; but the good such as you suppose to have to spare. When convenient I should like large specimens or branching ones to divide with Elizabeth.



*Salicornia*  
*ambigua*  
*Veronica*  
*agrestis*  
*hederaefolia*  
*Gratiola*  
*neglecta*  
*Mimosa*  
*fistulosa*  
*Iris*  
*virginica*  
*Lechea*  
*thyrsifolia*  
*Spermacoce*  
*diodora*  
*Echinum*  
*vulgare*  
*Diapensia*  
*barbulata*  
*Convolvulus*  
*panduratus*  
*Phlox*  
*setacea*  
*Sonchus*  
*gratus*  
*Hypoxycymus*  
*niger* [I do not know  
 this plant, which you  
 say is common]  
*Impatiens*  
*fulva*  
*Sabbatia* [Chionodoxa]  
*angustifolia*  
*Chloroides*  
*paniculata*  
*Hydrocotyle*  
*phytolaccoides*  
*Quercus*  
*ochroleuca*  
*angustifolia*  
*Eryngium*  
*virginicum*  
*Quercus*  
*viridis*  
*Ornithoglossum*  
*umbellatum*  
*Northecium*  
*americanum*  
*Heracleum*  
*setifolium*  
*Sium*  
*acutum*  
*Capsa*  
*nictitans*  
*Pyrola*  
*elliptica*  
*Oxalis*  
*corniculata*  
*Hudsonia*  
*tomentosa*  
*Dioscorea*  
*virginica*  
*Euphorbia*  
*speciosa*  
*Gillenia* [Spines]  
*trifoliata* [I may have  
 this, but I wish to compare]

*Agropyrum*  
*multicaule*  
*Chenopodium*  
*ochroleuca*  
*Ranunculus*  
*aquaticus*  
*Hydrocotyle*  
*canadensis*  
*Pyrenanthemum*  
*montanum*  
*Erigeron*  
*virginicus*  
*Centella*  
*ovatifolia*  
*integrifolia*  
*Bumelia*  
*dentata*  
*Sida*  
*spinosa*  
*Hibiscus*  
*moscheutos*  
*palustris*  
*virginicus*  
*Asperula*  
*perennis*  
*triflorus*  
*heterophyllus*  
*Lactuca*  
*virginica*  
*Stachys*  
*elatior*  
*Hedysarum*  
*compens*  
*virginicum*  
*Medicago*  
*setosa*  
*Eupatorium*  
*hyssopifolium*  
*tennifolium*  
*canadense*  
*virginicum*  
*trifoliatum*  
*laevigatum*  
*Baccharis*  
*latifolia*  
*Malva*  
*virginica*  
*foliata*  
*Aschillea*  
*ptarmica*  
*Helianthus*  
*frondosus*  
*Cnicus*  
*altissimus*  
*Artemisia*  
*pendula*  
*Aristolochia*  
*pentagona*  
*Rhus*  
*copallina*  
*Caulophila*  
*florata* [I believe I  
 have this, but I wish  
 to compare]  
*Sium*  
*acutum*  
*Tripsacum*  
*dentatum*

*Ceratophyllum*  
*demissum*  
*Sagittaria*  
*perfoliata*  
*fronosa*  
*Liquidambar*  
*styraciflua*  
*Picea*  
*mariana*  
*Dioscorea*  
*villosa*  
*Woodwardia*  
*virginica*  
  
 N.B. As Mr.  
 Dickinson will  
 yet set out for Wash-  
 ington next week,  
 you may as well  
 send the copy to your  
 more plants to  
 my care.  
 He intends to  
 call on you the  
 last of next week,  
 and go to the Bay.  
 His wife and daughter  
 are <sup>in N. York</sup> at  
 Mr. Bailey's, bro-  
 ther to the post-  
 master. They are  
 going with him  
 to Washington to  
 spend the winter.  
 Perhaps Julia  
 may go to the  
 Bay with  
 him. She is more  
 beautiful than  
 her sister is at best two  
 hundred times.

I have given Hudson a pretty good outlet. Young Miss Hosmer, one of the most learned and accomplished girls in Andover, had much to say to me one day about you.

She had never seen you, but said a young lady from N. York of her acquaintance represented you as belonging to a superior order of beings, &c. Many of our Troy girls talk of you in the same way. It makes me think of poor Franklin Ames' speech. When J. B. Risley [a prisoner, if he here you know him] wrote an elegant little journal to his Anna, Frank said, if he was Risley's Anna he should rather be ~~allowed~~ remain in prison and write sonnets for her. I do not mean to say that you have Risley's ponderous upper jaw, or that you have not a face good enough; but <sup>as</sup> ~~as~~ <sup>our</sup> ~~our~~ <sup>good</sup> girls have already fell in love with your soul, I do not know what the sight of your person might break up the fascination. However you must come up and see Miss Mary Buel and Le. Carter; for they are raving about you. By the way I showed them with a complaint of the Liberator they take they examined all the last bundle of plants which you sent Dorsey, before I returned from Hudson.

I intend soon to publish a 2<sup>d</sup> ed. of my Geological Index with great additions and improvements. Can you send me some useful hints? Can you obtain a few hints from Col. Gibbs? I thought some of dedicating it to him, if I could dedicate it to a respectable. I shall extend specimens to Col. Gibbs for I had no better. I sent them to let him know of the localities. I hope soon to get good specimens from Springfield, I will then send you and to him — perhaps I may not get them yet.

I wish I had you with me through our course or part of a course of my lectures. You would resign all your delicacy about public speaking, after seeing me splash along in my rough manner and finding

that this some rough manner succeed better than  
the most polished written lectures. Give your auditors  
real matter in a clear intelligible method, and  
no one will stop to criticize your style. I would like  
to see you with the materials and give them no time to criticize.  
Yours in sincerity  
Amos Eaton

Amos Eaton

Nov. 5<sup>th</sup> 1819

Rec. Nov 19<sup>th</sup>

Dr. John Torrey.

Care of Mrs Torrey Esq. at Genesee.

New York.

Troy, N.Y. 22. 1819.

Dear friend,

I never heard that Mr. Levee was making a book. He wrote to me a very polite and urgent request, that I would send him the geology of that mineral. I readily thought that you and Mr. N. were like Dickson, Robinson, Walbridge and I - that is, that you had judged your own mine, together and no one would dispute the other of us, in any way. You may rest assured I will never aid any mortal to your disadvantage knowingly. Perhaps I was rather stupid, that I had not suspected something; or he wrote me he had analyzed the mineral minutely. And I believe I did think <sup>or suspect</sup> he intended to publish something, though I could not have dreamed of his doing you injustice.

You ought always to remember exactly what I am good for, and never lose sight of it. I am a pre-eminent simplifier, or rather simplifier. I can bring down the labors of the learned to the capacities of illiterate boys and girls as well as any one. I can even do pretty well as a lecturer before the learned. But I do not aspire at any thing original, excepting in the geology of this country. On this point I am vain of my industry and success. Every discovery of yours or others, which comes to my knowledge, I immediately communicate to others for their benefit as well as mine. I have the reputation of liberality with respect to the labors of others, and I know I deserve it. But you are never to expect much of that kind of remark, which will authorize me to say, "this is new." I do not like to correspond with any European, excepting the geologists. Here I feel strong and free only. I will send you any thing in my power to aid you in your correspondence there, and you may pin me on your sleeve when you think proper.

I will send you and Capt. Gibbs a few (for I have but a few) crystals of - what? I should say sulphate of strontian, if I were not afraid to - from Wolf Island in Lake Erie, two miles west of Put-in-Bay. W. A. Bird, a member of our Legislature found them crystals in a corner of lime rock - or rather a rock of limestone.

I begin to believe I never saw the Hippuris. I have generally called the Lebanon etc, and some other things.



I do highly approve of your proposed Flora of the Northern States. I think you ought to give the essential character in Latin as well as English, that it may be current on the continent of Europe. Such a work would be purchased now if ready by almost one tenth of all our pupils.

At least that proportion now purchase Mitchell, Barton, Bigelow &c. for the sake of more enlarged descriptions than can ever be given in a school book like the Manual. Besides there will always be one hundred specimens in every neighborhood, which require a description of some length.

I never made you a definite promise about plants. Now I will. C. C. shall lay out for you, whatever we have any reason to believe you want, as she goes through our collection. I suppose she will begin next week. I do not believe we have many which you want. I do not ask for all that long list of plants I sent you; but I supposed you wished to know what I had not, that you might send whatever should be convenient. Col. Gibbs must not expect that poor folks can collect such cart-loads of minerals as he does. If we furnish him with localities, proved by small specimens, this is about all he can expect. Perhaps I am in a mistake about the vein. I will endeavor soon to procure <sup>and send</sup> that I called for. I had my boys collect about two feet crystal.

As to insects I had my boys collect about two hundred species, which I hung in the garden stuck on strings. When I returned from Hudson I found something dead eaten most of them. I wish you would be there about one fifth Calender. I really experience the want of just a book <sup>of every</sup> volume of lectures. It ought to be contained in a 18 <sup>or more</sup> in fine type. I think we shall confine it to time and habitat, chiefly. Have a running date on the left hand, and give some a number for wet dry, woods, open fields &c. The chief object being to enable students, on any day to know what to expect to find in flower and in that situation to look. I wish you could lend us your journal of plants. It would not be worth while to copy it. We would return it safely. We wish to set down the day of the month - perhaps we may divide it into weeks.



If you write any thing for Whittier I may give you a description or two. I rarely get down to correct a description.

I will now give you one or two.

*Cinnicifuga serpentina*. Class XIII. Order I.

Calyx about 4-leaved, becoming coloured before expanding, caducous: corolla 0: stamens numerous: stigma sub-peltate, curving towards the gibbous side of the germ: capsule 2-valved, dehiscent at its throat or tube. Flowered late in July.

Note. This description I took from twenty or thirty specimens, which grew from 4 to 9 feet high, three miles below <sup>the city of</sup> Hudson and fifty rods from the east shore of Hudson's river.

*Hydrophyllum virginicum*. Has <sup>leaves</sup> hirsute, in woods about Withers College and Troy; but the leaves are glabrous about old damp fields near Catskill.

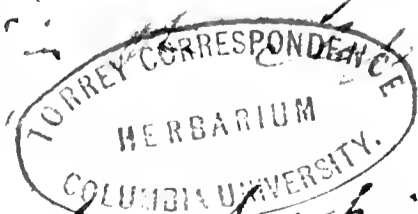
*Sponyrium andromorphum*. The nectaries are not described correctly in any book I have seen. This was first pointed out by Judge Israel's wife, of Troy.

*Heteranthera ~~virginica~~* Calyx, a spathe 2- or 3-flowered; corolla membranaceous with a border 4-, rarely 6-, cleft; tube long: anthers, 2 attached to the divisions of the corolla; and a third much larger, attached to the top of the style: capsule ovate, many-seeded: stigma sub-capitate, one-sided.

*reniformis* leaves heart-shaped, long-petioled, glabrous, bearing the flowers on the sides of the petioles and clasping the peduncles with membranaceous wings.

Note. I took this description from twenty or thirty specimens, which grow in the mud between high- and low-water mark in South Bay adjoining Hudson city. Flowered Aug. 17.

Whether this should be placed in *Triandria* or *Gynandria*, is a question.



Did you examine that plum-bog looking map, which I sent Col. Gibbs? What is it? Some of it are to be found in our gray-wake districts in this county and in Blenheim &c.

You will see some of our puffing in the Albany ~~through~~ <sup>your</sup> ~~boy~~ <sup>journal</sup> of next Saturday or of the week after.

What has become of the American Geo-  
logical Society? Who are the officers? What  
has become of Silliman's Journal of Science?  
We have seen nothing here, since the ~~paper~~  
minutes. How will I see it? How's Atoms? What  
has the Scholastic to do with it?

New York.

Amos Eaton

Jan 22 or 26, 1819

Rec'd Dec. 6th

Dr. John Torrey.

Nov. 26<sup>th</sup>

Since writing the within I have made <sup>a</sup> ~~of~~ <sup>minerals</sup> of the  
Lake Erie mineral. The dry crystals pulverized <sup>and</sup> well as  
the solution in alcohol was <sup>also</sup> ~~blended~~, when put on a condenser.  
Its specific gravity, with most pieces, is 3.85 - some are  
higher and some lower. As I know this to be sulphate of  
strontium, I have so stated in the Albany Poughkeepsy  
A.C.

Note. Capt. Douglas of West Point was with William A  
Bird, when the mineral was discovered. I think you might  
get a considerable quantity of him now; for he calls it barytes.

Troy. Feb. 27<sup>th</sup> (Sunday evening) 1820.

Dear friend,

You have just right to complain, that I have <sup>not</sup> by writing, acknowledged my obligations to you, though I am the greatest sufferer.

Since I returned from <sup>your</sup> I have given a pretty full course at <sup>our</sup> <sup>Academy</sup> on Chemistry and Geology. And have advanced a fortnight in my course in Natural <sup>Philosophy</sup>, including Astronomy with transparent paintings. I have something over 120 in my class, about 70 of whom are ladies.

This would not have occupied all my time; but I am preparing a 2<sup>d</sup> Ed. of my Geology. It will reach 250 pages 12<sup>mo</sup> with two copper plates. I intend to make a good book of it. I believe I have more materials for it, than any other person. I have finished an elementary grammar of geology, which is, at least now, in plan and execution. It will fill about 60 pages. Printing will commence in about ten days, unless I visit you first. The river seems to be breaking up; and if it does, and vessels begin to run, I now think I shall call and quarrel with you about geology for exactly six days. You know we can have many a squabble in that time. But if the weather is cold, so that you expect no Troy Schoop, you must write me immediately.

Let me know every thing, which relates to geology. I take up each stratum and say all about it - also just name the included and disseminated minerals. Provisional questions

What is Showingsunk mountain? What is the red mineral from near Lake Champlain which you said you were analyzing? I mean the one you said resembled fine grained jasper, though I should compare it to the red oxide of Cerium.

Has Col. Gibbs ever found any bismuth near Lake Champlain? We have received some from there, found in a creek. I analyzed part enough to detect the bismuth - I believe it is sulphur ore, but I have not finished my analysis.

I have sent four times for the package of plants brought up by Capt. Coffin - but have not received ~~them~~ yet. Tomorrow a fellow is going to Albany, who will hunt them up, if they are in town. I did not receive your letter till last Thursday.

I was urged very hard to lecture at the Capitol again. But I did not go, for a long train of reasons, which I have not room to write.

Our bill for incorporating us here, has gone to its 2<sup>d</sup> reading. But the quench about New York keeps all back.

A fellow just handed me a well characterized Epidote, taken from secondary sandstone near Genesee river. W. A. Bird will send you and Col. Gibbs more strontian. The specimens



you see about must come from West Point, for  
Capt. Douglas resides there, who was with Bin,  
when he found it. Bin told him it was crystallized  
borax, and this was ~~not~~ correct until they  
parted.

If your mineral is certainly new, before to call it  
Gibbsite. Gibbs will always be remembered in this  
country as the very father of correct American  
Mineralogy. There were some pretty good minerals  
gets before he began, but his cabinet first set  
us all to work, hunting up our own minerals. Besides  
his own operations, you know, are unequalled. I intend  
to send him and you a printed copy of my Ge-  
ology, before the title, preface or closing refer-  
ences, are printed; in order to obtain your  
liberal expressions of opinion &c. If Gibbs should  
be pleased with the work, I intend to dedicate it  
to him.

Dickenson has written me about E. Jones's appoint-  
ment. I am very very very glad. Several of our  
Sage come folks say, they will catch bugs for you  
next summer.

If I go to N. Y. I will carry my herbar-  
ium; but I believe I have very little, that  
you have not.

Charlotte C. has left us. She would  
have staid next summer, but a very clever  
fellow of a Dominican (William B. Sprague)  
Galtschales, who was a student of the Princeton University,  
the minister of West Springfield, bewitched  
her and she him, so he takes her. She has gone  
home to prepare for the awful solemnities. She  
is very anxious to correspond with you. And  
you may rely on her industry in collecting the  
plants of Dominick, Springfield &c. If you should  
direct to her, to the care of Rev. W. B. Sprague  
of West Springfield, all would be right and very ac-  
ceptable. You may call her Charlotte Eaton, the boys  
would next August or September, you in Boston.

I look out for Gray's paper - if  
I don't see it, I will write to you  
about it. I don't know if you  
will send me a book of  
mineralogy.



Amos Eaton

Feb 27 1820

Recd March 5 12

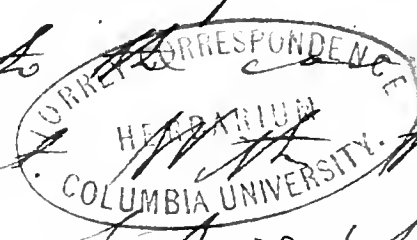
Dr. John Torrey.

Care of Mrs Torrey, Esq.

New York.

Troy, April 25<sup>th</sup> 1828.

Dear friend,

I have been engaged with my  
Geology, which I shall send you when it  
is finished, for several weeks. It is printed  
as far as 226 pages, all of which I have  
sent to Col. Gibbs, to the care of Mr. Wm  
Simmons, Dry Market.  The first pack-  
age I sent the forms of two plans of a ded-  
ication; because I wish to dedicate it to  
him by permission. I mentioned you in  
my letter, as the medium through which  
I might receive his permission.

Now attend to this — I must set out  
on my ~~itinerating~~ course next week. The  
book will be finished, excepting the title,  
preface &c. next Friday. You see I am  
pressed to narrow limits. Will you call  
on Col. Gibbs in one hour after receiving  
this, and then return home and answer  
me the same day by mail? I wrote him  
that I should request you to call on him,

in my letter of this morning, which goes  
with this. He has had full time to examine  
all the work, excepting the last 48 pages,  
which I send today.

When your book was printing at  
Albany, I found myself often obliged  
to take great liberties, which personating  
you. So do you now — keeping my  
reputation always in view. Then write  
to me immediately. You will receive this  
Friday morning. You can certainly return  
an answer by Saturday, steam boat  
mail, which I shall receive Sunday  
morning. Monday, ~~then~~, my book  
will be finished, or Tuesday at  
farthest. I hope you will not let me  
wait one day. Col. Gibb, has not seen  
the last two forms; <sup>they are your setting the type for them,</sup> but he can form  
an opinion from what he has seen.  
I give short chapters on Gypsies, Secondary  
sandstone and Alveolus.

We have got our bylaws incorporated.  
We have a rule for electing ~~good~~ members  
gratuitously, when a good naturalist does  
us many favors and is not old enough to  
make him honorary. We have elected  
you and Schoecraft in this way, with  
a "shew" about your being pretty clever  
fellows with us.

I am collecting mosses, lichens & with  
all my might for you. I am selected  
a sort of Professor of Botany at the  
Academy of Natural Sciences & the  
Columbia University. I shall collect all the  
things I can find in that winter.

We shall not publish our collecting  
school calendar until next winter, be-  
cause we are so deficient in the receipts.  
Since you sent us those specimens, our  
girls and boys here are all running  
wild for Siches, Mosses &c.

I cannot get a sight of Mr. Newman's  
Albany Book yet. Why does he not send  
some to Albany?  
Do not wait to read as far as here, before  
you see Bob Gibbs.

Amos Eaton.

Dr. John Barry  
Care of William Lowy Esq.

New York.



Amos Eaton  
April 25th 1820  
Dec. 2. April 28th



7



Troy. May 9<sup>th</sup> 1820.

Dear friend,

This will be a medley letter.  
First I wish you to deliver these books  
to Gibb, Mitchell, Akerly and the Lyceum  
as directed. Next I wish you to send these  
to Bakewell and Leuvier as directed. Next  
Third I wish you to send these three, in  
which there is nothing written, to three  
of your correspondents in Europe. Or, if  
you think best, send one to Jamieson of  
Edinburgh. Perhaps you will think  
best to send one to a Swede and another to  
a Dutchman. But I leave the three to  
your direction.

This moment I am packing up for  
Lenox Academy in Berkshire County.  
I am to lecture in Lenox, Old Stockbridge  
and Great Barrington on Botany for  
five weeks. Then I go to Vermont to  
enter upon my P R O F E S S O R  
O N A L duties. My pay will not  
be much (\$200.) but I lecture but  
six weeks, and my expenses are home.  
Beside it a great thing to be a Vermont  
Professor you know.

I send you all I care this moment  
by my hands on. Perhaps the bundle  
contains nothing you want.

I have a hundred things to say;  
but I have not a moment of time.

Write to me at Troy as usual. For  
I am moving about at such a rate,  
that I direct Mr. E. to open my letters  
and write me the contents, keeping the  
originals till I return, which will be  
in five weeks.

Until I had written so far I  
expected to send this letter with the  
package. But I have concluded to  
send it with Mr. Parker's bundle  
to ~~Worcester~~. Therefore you must  
call at T. and J. Woods' Bookstore,  
for the bundle of Books, Stones  
and maps.

Wanna to write me the public opin-  
ion (I mean the scientific public) of my  
book. This is my only favorite work.  
I shall not alter my opinion of it  
for any one. But I wish to know the  
opinion of Gibbs, Pierce &c. I feel as  
though I stood on solid bottom, because  
I know my ~~opinion~~ to be founded  
upon really existing works. I have taken  
more pains

I shall collect all the Cryptogams  
I can find in Massachusetts & Vermont  
as well as grasses, and send them to you to  
be named, requesting duplicate, with pin in-  
dex numbers.

Yours truly

Amos Eaton.

Amos Eaton

May 9th. 1820.

Recd May 12th.

New York.

Miss Sarah Eaton

Dr John Gorrey.

11/11



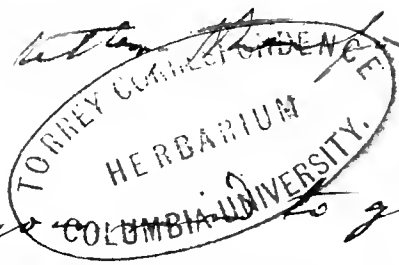
1/11/20

Troy. June 24<sup>th</sup> 1820.

Dear friend,

You say I ask you if you want things and then require to send them. Now I do not recollect any such fact. I always said whatever I suppose you want, and if you do not frequently receive something, they may come. I have collected a few things in Berkshire county, Mass. which are new to me and I will send them now, if I can find them. I will ~~not~~ look as soon as I finish this letter. I have gone to look, because, as I presume you have heard, we are all in war. My house was burned with the rest, and though my books were saved they are scattered to the four winds of the world. Most of my minerals were in the basement, but my plants were at the burned house. I cannot now find your last letter, but may omit to inform you of it.

I wish you would make up your mind to give us a system of the Cryptogamia of the Northern States. Suppose it should not be a complete system — give us at first a little book, and a small edition. Then increase and improve, so that we may have an excellent treatise for a second edition. If you were not over scientific, you could do much good by writing a 12<sup>mo</sup> book of Cryptogamia, somewhat upon the plan of my Manual. I would then leave out the whole of that class from a next edition, <sup>and reduce the price one fourth or more,</sup> and refer pupils to your book. Most students would buy both and bind them up in one cover. If you will say you will do it, I will procure and give away every thing I can find, and set all my students at work, especially in Vermont. You ought to give essential characters in a middle-sized type and enlarged description upon the plan of Bigelow, Barton &c. in a small type. But there is ~~no~~ need of so much open work as in Barton. If you ever begin the work, you must calculate to finish it. Not be forever promising it. Though this seems to be an essential characteristic of N. York writers. For example Hojack promised a treatise on Botany in 1805, 22<sup>ds</sup> in 1815,





Bogert promised a work on fossils which long ago was  
They seem to think that if a book is but announced, it will  
grow up itself without any labor. Just give us what you  
know, and tell us in your preface that it is very imperfect  
and intended as a mere sketch towards a system which  
it is intended shall be adequate after further discoveries are  
made.


You misunderstood me, if you suppose that I contem-  
plate leaving Troy. I shall go to this Vermont place, just  
while my own lectures last, & then return. I calculate to  
itinerate again next fall. I propose giving my usual  
round of Chemistry and Geology, in Pittsfield, Northampton  
and Springfield. But I have made a curious contract for  
the employment of my time during the month of Aug.  
and part of Sept. I have engaged to take a geological  
survey of Albany county at the expense of the Agri-  
cultural Society. I have estimated the time required at  
six weeks. I am very glad to see the commencement of  
such surveys and I intend to execute the task in a  
way, which shall be calculated to awaken a spirit  
for such undertakings. An elegant copperplate map  
will be struck off, exhibiting the rocks, <sup>various</sup> alluvion, quartz,  
marls, primitive grounds, &c. &c. &c.

You say but little about my geology. Now let  
me tell you a word or two. Though I have occasionally  
given a particular description of a plant, and perhaps  
the faculty of familiarizing the science of botany,  
I do not consider myself as being in the way of im-  
proving it essentially. But I think you are the most  
accurate botanist in our country, and that you ought  
to show the science ahead half a century within  
a few years — I mean as it respects our country.  
You know the only unapproved fiction in this department  
is the Cryptogamia beyond ferns. Some fool will soon  
hatch up something which will infect us a while and  
keep us back perhaps 8 or 10 years, unless you set about the work  
in earnest. I know I should succeed in getting many Vermonters &c. &c.

banked in aid of such a plan. I intend hereafter to  
tell the fellows the good you things, and correspond with  
you at their own expense - I can give them good va-  
rious fruit, and satisfactory ones. Now will you drive at  
this subject? Next comes myself. I have now  
ascertained, to my full satisfaction, that I am  
the only person in North America, capable of judg-  
ing of rock strata. Silliman does not know how  
to distinguish the Eden sandstone from the more re-  
cent (breccia), nor puddingstone from breccia,  
nor graywacke from greenstone trap. At least  
he has committed most horrible mistakes in all  
these cases. On the whole he is no geologist at all,  
neither do I know one. Mr. Cline is much the  
best I know of. His book is a heterogeneous thing,  
but I can find a better application to facts in  
his book than in all American works. No person ought  
to write a syllable on geology, until he has seen the  
rock he speaks of in fifty or a hundred localities,  
and compared all its various appearances, and the various  
beds associated in it. I could astonish you beyond  
measure by carrying you to various parts of the  
same continuous unbroken layer of graywacke or  
argillite. But after becoming familiar with such  
layers you would perceive ~~degree of~~ characteristic  
uniformity where you would not at first have  
expected any thing but confusion. Infatigable charac-  
teristics are daily presenting themselves, where they were  
not expected. I am preparing an essay upon some of  
the rocks near the west line of Massachusetts, which  
I think I shall send to Silliman, though he is totally in-  
competent to judge of its merit. I think you may set down  
as a characteristic of transition limestone that it  
is every where traversed by veins of calcareous spar. Whereas  
primitive <sup>granular</sup> limestone is never traversed by such veins. I  
have lately reviewed the transition limestone referred to in my  
book for 30 miles in extent, and shall visit the range in  
two new places within a month. I have come to a full de-  
termination to drive at geology in my own way. When  
I detect an error <sup>of my own</sup> I will publish it, but who will  
laugh. And I will yield to no authority whatever, until  
I see the proof. I know this is talking in an arrogant  
strain - be it so - I shall so prove though I shall  
not talk of myself so largely excepting to you, because  
it is not fashionable.

Amos Eaton.

I have been looking about and I have ascertained that my plants must be quietly at James' in Burlington is at the bottom of a large box in the ground. Write to me immediately at Castleton in Vermont. After that write to Troy as usual. Mr. George Marvin takes out my letters and writes me the contents. Tell me in your first letter whether you will give us Cryptogamia. I will send all Vermont in a form about the 1st of July. Do write this immediately. I go next Monday and return the 29th of July. Begin the Albany county geology the 1st day of August.

  
 Care of Mr. Torrey Esq.  
 New York.  
 Dr. John Torrey

Amos Eaton  
 June 24th 1820.  
 Recd - June -



Where did you get J. E. Brown's portrait? If you have a chance send it to me directed to the care of The Honorable John D. Dickinson Esq. It will be safe by a Troy Packet (not the common stoops) if directed to the care of D. For these trading folks think much of a rich man. Can you send with it a little platinum? I want a little for making a test. I shall test all the waters of Albany county.

Albany, Aug. 15<sup>th</sup> 1820.

Dear friend,

Now let us have a brisk correspondence for a few weeks, while I remain at Albany. I received yours of the 2<sup>nd</sup> yesterday when I was at Troy. Write to me at Albany until the 10<sup>th</sup> day of next month.

I am good for nothing, excepting geology, only for communicating to others what I receive from you &c. In this I greatly excel. I study every avenue to the mind of the ignorant. I have picked up ~~up~~ <sup>two</sup> things, which I cannot name. These I will send you soon. I will "keep an eye out," as you say; but I do not believe I find any thing new to you.

Would not it be best for you to give the Cryptogamic of our district in full, excepting ~~the~~ fungi, and to give the most common or the most beautiful of them? I believe fungi are much more abundant at the south than north.

My Manual, 2<sup>d</sup> Ed. is sold out entirely. We print another edition this fall, or the beginning of winter. I intend to give Synonyms and authorities in a fine type on the margin, in the manner of Chavannes, mineralogy. I want a list of the errors you have detected and your additional trash.

I am now printing a little book of Exercises in Botany, price to be 50 cents. This you cannot advise me about. It grew out of the necessities known only to teachers. Country people



think it too much to pay \$3. at the  
outlet for books. The Exercise will contain  
the genuine descriptions of plants most com-  
mon in all the States. Then a full list  
all species in the Manual, arranged in the  
same way, without descriptions. This is to  
relieve the teacher while his pupils are be-  
lieving plants. I find this very important. This  
little book will contain a vocabulary of its own  
terms &c.

As to a catalogue of Northern States plants,  
I should like it; but it would not sell. Webster  
sell none of your catalogues, only what I  
force upon some of my students. Few care  
about that scientific accuracy &c. &c. They  
wish to know plants, and that is all. I can  
kindle a blaze of that kind of zeal anywhere,  
and I can and do make every body respect  
and honor your name. But I can make  
no one willing to set down and search authori-  
ties.

I would write frequently to your Lyceum.  
But I see no object in it. My pieces are  
all, necessarily, on practical parts of Science,  
which, according to my view of the pres-  
ent rapid progress of Natural Science in our  
country, ought to be immediately given to tea-  
chers &c. Will you publish nothing, excepting  
now and then a piece, entirely for the benefit  
of the Author's Vanity. You know Rapin's  
makes his own books, because other books



do not comprehend their merit. I resemble  
him, ~~excepting~~ with this difference, I make  
one or two thousand of my pupils read  
mine, and he is obliged to read his too  
as well as write them. To be emphatically  
senior, the Journal of Silliman, the N. York  
Magazine &c. have admitted such juvenile  
wrecked trash, that I am heartily sick of  
American periodical works. Silliman, last  
number contained something; but he studies  
to please fools. You say I got in too many  
names. Perhaps I did, but the materials  
all essential to the object. I am  
prepar'd with the best article on Geology  
I ever wrote. But I know not what to  
do with it. Silliman will not know when  
then it is worth printing or not. He will  
print it to be sure if I send it. But he  
is a long dull mess of trash about Mesozoic, or  
Williams' toad-pole piece. The subject is  
the geology of the country along the west border  
of New England. I have studied it attentively  
more from the Q. I. Sound to near Canada.

Abner of Hudson is a very clever fellow, a  
respectable merchant, and is trying to learn.  
C. Jones wrote me from within 6 miles of Concord  
in N. H. He had slept in the woods 14 nights,  
and was in good health. He had some seeds, but  
I am not sure they were saved from the fire.  
I will look. Write immediately and I will keep  
up or break a fire as you please for 4 weeks. Boston.

3 vols sent a great deal about the geology of N. H.

Amos Eaton

August 15<sup>th</sup> 1820

Rec<sup>d</sup> Aug 21.

1/2

Dr John Torrey.  
Care of Mrs Torrey Esq.

TO THE LIBRARY OF THE  
TORREY HERBARIUM  
COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY.

1820

Albany, Aug 20<sup>th</sup> 1820. Evening.

Dear friend;

Why did I not find a letter in the post-office yesterday on my return from the Heldeberg? Why have you not sent me Smith's likeness? I shall stay out tomorrow night. After that I shall be in Albany at least every night ~~and~~ this week and next. We have examined all the distant towns.

I send you some native sulphate of magnesia. Will you send one specimen whenever you obtain ~~any~~ <sup>any</sup> quantity of it on the east face of the mountain ~~from~~ <sup>at</sup> Albany part of the Heldeberg. I discovered it last Wednesday while examining this mountain or hill. Its geological position is at the meeting of the Compact limestone and Secondary sandstone. Here is a layer of sulphate of iron in view about 5 rods in extent. It passes under the debris of the mountain, but I presume it extends to a great distance.

I send you something too, which I found in Rutland Pond, Vermont. Is it *Conferva dia-*phana? It retains its original appearance except when first gathered. This mass I found near the tumpake in Parkersburg on the highest ridge at that place in the Green Mountains of Vermont. What is it?

You give the locality of the hydrate of alumine wrong. It is Richmond Mass. in an iron mine not wrought, of the Stalactite hematite.

It is in the same range with the Salisbury  
one and of the very same kind of ore. Though  
there is more granular limestone in its imme-  
diate vicinity. You must compliment Em-  
mons' industry in searching it out. When  
he attended my lectures at Williamstown  
he was the best hunter in botany and min-  
erology I had.

You may say, that Beck and I dis-  
covered this native Epsom salt, though she  
was not with me. But he was about 2  
or 3 hundred feet below me; and the only rea-  
son he was not with me was, that he  
was afraid to climb the rocks where I found  
it. A young man, Nam Ohinda, a very clever  
<sup>and a ~~English~~ Portuguese!</sup>  
father, helped me bring down a large basket  
full of the water limestone, sulphate of iron,  
sulphuret of iron, sulphate of lime, sulphate  
of alumine, <sup>crystals of carbonate of lime in grains</sup> and ferruginous quartz, together  
with the sulphate of magnesia. But we could  
not bring much of each.

We found a few relics, which I had never  
seen before. But we found so few, that we shall  
be obliged to leave them all in the Agricultural  
Society's collection. We found one Nerite, two  
Muscinites and a few branches of ~~an~~ Arbo-Mud.  
reprints.

I saw thousands of beautiful acicular crystals  
of the Epsom salt; but it is almost impossible  
to bring them home uninjured. We have several  
other things under examination; but we shall  
not decide upon them until next week.

Put the label, which I enclosed, in with  
the Memoire you send to Genl. Gibbs.



I believe I told you, that Morse and I found a  
spring of Epsom salts in my other letter. This  
last discovery explains that. For though the  
spring is 14 or 15 miles south of it, I presume it  
is furnished with its salt from the same  
rock. I am daily confirmed in the utility  
of the science of successive unroofing of strata.  
I believe the study of this unroofing will  
finally settle the business of mining upon the  
soundest <sup>scientific</sup> principles.

Do write immediately. Also send that  
likeness by some person you know, the next  
boat. Direct it to be sent to Dr. Peck's at  
the Albany academy. His family lives in the  
academy. Can you get me a little potassium  
without too much expense? I wish you would  
send me something on general zoology. Can  
you get me Shaw's lectures, if there is nothing  
better? I recollect you got that work for me  
from the Libra, when I scoundrel told me in  
town. I think it was in two volumes. I do  
not mean the great work. Get me any thing,  
which you think will answer my purpose, if  
the cost does not exceed 10 Dollars, and I will  
return you the money and my thanks by the  
next boat. Now do attend to all my requests,  
for I shall soon be off to Vermont where I  
can get nothing. Can you send me a little  
platinum in the same package with Smith's,  
likeness, the zoology, potassium &c and send all  
by a boat this week? All expenses will be promptly  
by remitted.

Yours  
Amos Eaton.

Send me no more books - I think I have no more money left for any more books.



5 Liberty St

Rev: Beck

Dr. John Torrey. 47 White St

Care of William Torrey

to be left at Dr. Mitchell's  
Care of Mr. R. K. [unclear] New York.

If this should be left  
at Dr. Mitchell, he will  
promptly oblige a friend by  
forwarding it immediately  
to [unclear]

Geo Eaton J  
Aug 20, 1826  
Recd. Aug. 29.

Albany, Sept. 5<sup>th</sup> - 1820

Dear friend,

I received your letter, the piece  
trans. by Dr. Beck.

You need not purchase I have now  
any thing else for me, until you hear  
from me again. For I think I  
shall be at New York the last of  
next week. I am very anxious to  
see you and quarrel with you a  
day or two before I set about the  
next edition of my Manual. I  
wish to be set right or wrong on  
several other subjects. I have a son  
<sup>13 years</sup> here, who is to commence fitting for  
college the last of this month. I shall  
send him, to fit, into Normant in  
a retired village, and I wish him to  
take a peep at the ocean and to see  
a ship before he is immersed in the  
interior of Normant. So I intend to bring  
him along, and stay in the region of N.  
Y. about 8 or 10 days. I have a brother  
J. West Eaton, an enormous fat good  
natured fellow, who is to be ordained  
as Deacon of Norwalk Conn. 40  
miles east of N.Y. I may go up to  
see the place - perhaps not.

Now do you have your office swept  
out clean and two chairs for me to



bring me and a bench for my  
boy to sit on, next week Fridays  
and keep them in order until the  
Monday following. Then if I do not  
appear, you may relapse into  
your usual state, and suffer the  
sitter and dirt to accumulate as usual.

There are some difficulties in the way of  
my going now; but my wife is visit-  
ing at her uncle's in Vermont, my  
brother-in-law Lady has taken one  
son, my brother Dybbeste is soon  
to take another, and I seem to be  
rather set upon upon the world  
just now. I believe I will go, but  
I cannot know until morning (it is  
now 10 o'clock in the evening) when I  
am to have a letter from my wife,  
which will may have a material  
bearing on the subject.

You say you are poor. So you  
should be, if you are comfortable  
and not embarrassed. You will do much  
better for it. I was once rich and stood  
pretty high among political scoundrels  
and swindlers. Then I did no good  
and was worth nothing to society. Now  
I work hard and get a competency, see  
nothing and have money enough for  
all the wants of myself and family.

But I have no funds to be robbed of by  
perjured knaves and hold no place to  
excite envy. Now I verily think I do  
good to others and am not one of so-  
ciety's drones. I shall be happy to find  
you poor and contented. Though I should  
not wish to see you quarrelling with the des-  
tines of Providence; I had rather even see  
you rich.

Can it be possible that I am re-  
ally to see you at all? What impres-  
sion will your presence make on my  
feelings? Are you still that self-same  
being, who, by a kind of instinctive im-  
pulse, saved my sinking spirit from  
desperation at a time when there was  
none under the deepest obligation to  
one departed man? Were I the owner of a  
world I would give one half of it for  
the consciousness of having been the  
author of those deeds of benevolence,  
which so emphatically characterize  
those great years of your boy-hood. —

But I will stop, ~~lest~~ that enthusiasm,  
for which I have been so often checked,  
render the subject disgusting to you.

Then to business. — When you  
mentioned dedicating a plant to Buzbars,  
I presume you had forgotten that Smith  
had already honored him in this way.  
See the last supplementary number to  
Rees' Cyclopaedia.

Yours  
Amos Eaton.



Dr

Dr. John Torrey.  
Care of William Torrey Berry.

New York.

Ames Station  
No. 5th St. 1852  
No. 5th St.



Albany, Sept. 24<sup>th</sup> - 1820.

Dear friend,

I received Pearson, the plants and written directions. I have looked over Arnos' plants (he went directly to Troy) and here are all the Pterisporas I can find for you. The Comptroller has not returned, and is not expected in several days. He said, he would bring me a large quantity, and I will leave a written request at his house for him, to send half that he intended for me, to you.

I went to Jos. Chinton, last night and got his Michauxia. The Michauxia I have of Stephen Van Rensselaer. I believe I have all I want now, but your new species of *Beckia*, *Toreya*, and *Toreyas*, and the maps not in Mich. nor Decandolle. I wish you would send them as soon as possible.

Now take notice - Direct your next letter to me at Castleton, Vermont. I intend to go to Troy Wednesday, and on Monday the 1<sup>st</sup> of October go to Castleton. I received a letter from my wife, which makes it necessary for me to go. I may go down to her uncle's, where she is, for a few days. But I shall not be four days from Castleton in two or three months. I can send to Albany once or twice a week always. I will engage Beck to send your books home, and I will send them to him; unless a Castleton merchant will deliver them to you or Within

I went to the Steam-boat office, alias a nasty grocery shop, and found Dewey's box among boxes of tea and kegs of tobacco. It had lain there a month or more, and it required much fiddling to get them to look for it. Dewey had put another package and written to some person, as I partly learned, to see about it; for it seemed they had received a fiddling from some one already. I will see that all is on board in the morning.

I have been down this evening and got the keys to the rooms of the Society of Arts, where I therefore I left a complete set of geological specimens. I shall look early in the morning. I shall put them with your things, and you will give them to Dr. McNeven. You must wait, till I get more.

I have been contriving a preface to 3<sup>d</sup> Ed. Manual to lie by me to improve upon. I tell about the corrections in length, then say a word on the 4<sup>th</sup> last order with enlarged descriptions &c. making a book about the size of the Manual which has been solicited to prepare such a work. Next, I am now authorized to state, that you have consented to the undertaking &c. &c. I shall work it down about right, and then let Robbins look it over. When will it probably be ready?

I do not know how you are to get minerals from Deerfield. If you had an acquaintance in Hartford, I should think the boatmen might take them there. But it is an insulated out-of-the-way place. In your correspondence with Dewey, you should advise him to send every thing to Robbins, and let him send by a Gray Sloop. And you should send <sup>to Dewey</sup> by a Gray Sloop to the care of Doctors Burrett and Robbins. The steamboat conveyance is becoming the very worst of all for carelessness, insolence and every thing that is disgusting and unaccommodating.

Monday morning.

I have been to the Society's room and find I have not a complete set of Geological specimens for Dr. Mc Neven. Several, which would be most interesting to him are wanting. I find you and him three small pieces of beryl from Haddam, a piece of adularia from Wrentham a small piece of the lamellar beryl from the little falls, a poor specimen of fesspochite from Canaan Conn, and a piece of phurase mica from near Middlefield and perhaps in the town - Hunt collected it. I do not know that either of you want either of these specimens. Let the one take to which either of them will be of any use; or break such as may happen to be of any use to both of you. I have nothing else here in Albany - There I left when I returned here. I will send each a complete set of Geological specimens. But I believe I cannot do it until next spring. I intend them to bring 100 sets to Troy, and have them labelled with pink labels.

I have been so long at the Capitol, that I must stop short.

Yours  
Amos Eaton.

Dr. John Torrey.

I must always spell your name fully out and always say the John in conversation. For we have a fool here, Dr. Jesse Torrey, whom every body knows. He lives at New Lebanon, but he is every where peddling his books about Negroes &c.

Do get the Maps as ready immediately and write to Captain. If you find <sup>for a delay</sup> in the Maps, send the rest immediately.

J. E.

Dr. John Jarey.

No 463 Greenwich St.

New York.

Miss Eaton:

Sept. 24th 1820

Recd Sept 26th.

Castleton Dec. 27. 1820.

Dear friend,  
The first thing on my mind is you  
talk about St. Domingo. If the Admiral will do,  
I advise you to go for a year or two. I know  
Boyer. He is really a good fellow. I will give  
you a letter to him, and I assure you he will  
respect it. He may not remember my name,  
but I can soon bring to his notice what  
will interest him.

In September 1800, I was at New London  
with my first wife; a Mr. Metcalf and  
his wife (cousin to my wife) were with us.  
The Creole and French prisoners were ordered  
from N. London to Norwich. We rode  
up in company with them, and moved  
slowly to keep pace with them. I was the  
only person who could understand or speak  
a word of French. I fixed my eye on Boyer  
immediately. We travelled in company mostly  
the Royal Arch Chapter got in Norwich.  
Metcalf was a member and he introduced me.  
He having found that Boyer was a mason  
mentioned him to the lodge. The next day  
he was comfortably provided for by a com-  
mittee of Masons. I remained there three  
days - assisted him considerably in spelling  
his Webster's spelling book - advised him  
about his course for learning English &c.  
From that time I never heard from him  
until I saw the account in the papers, though  
I have often inquired for him. There was something



in his appearance which would compel you to select him from among thousands. He is familiar, affable and observing. Has a curious investigating and inquisitive mind.

I am driving the 3<sup>d</sup> Ed. of the Manual as fast as possible. But I had more to do here than I expected. I have given one hundred and nine lectures. I had not only to give my own parts, chemistry, botany and natural philosophy; but I have given a full course of medical jurisprudence and geology, with the elements of mineralogy. Now I have done, and give all my time to botany. I can't send part of your books now; but I wish to compare and review perpetually. — I intend to have a good book now.

Nuttall's language is horrible; but as you say he is accurate I adopt the substance of most of his descriptions. The Lindley's descriptions are the most agreeable to my taste of any thing I have seen.

I take Nuttall for Monokeliferous plants, but I have adopted a new method of cutting them into sections. 1<sup>st</sup> Seed prickly or hispid. 2<sup>d</sup> Seed winged. 3<sup>d</sup> Seed 3-ribbed. 4<sup>th</sup> Seed 5-ribbed or ribless. This gives 4 genera to the 1<sup>st</sup> — 7 to the 2<sup>d</sup> — 6 to the 3<sup>d</sup> — 9 to the 4<sup>th</sup>.

Our Catalogue <sup>of Medical Students</sup> is in the press. I will send you one soon. We have 44 very likely young men. Common is all you know among them. We have had two good subjects

for dissection, and all the parts have been well  
given. Dr. Gallup is really a great man, and a good fellow.  
I suppose you have seen his work on Epidemics of Vermont.  
I have not seen Hayden's essays; but  
he wrote to me very minutely about his  
plans last Spring by Dickinson. In one  
of his essays he intended to prove, that  
the abolition of the Southern States was  
formed from the progress of the ocean &c.

We are only writing to ascertain whether  
it was Webster or Dana that wrote the  
article respecting the Index. I never threaten  
pecker at his own folly.

I will consider the subject of a Vermont  
collector for you. Perhaps I shall say  
Perkins of Woodstock Vt. near the line  
of New Hampshire.

I shall leave Castleton in three weeks.  
I calculate to stop one month at each  
of the following places, before I arrive at  
Troy, Rutland, Manchester & Bennington  
Vt. and Pittsfield, Mass. If you write to  
me at the place where you suppose me to  
be by this calculation I shall receive your  
letter, for the post-masters at all these places  
know me and will know where I am; of course  
I will forward it.

I will hurry through as fast as possible  
and return your books. I am very anxious to  
to have this edition accurate as possible. I will  
endeavor to send you a copy of as much of the  
preface as you will wish to see, before I have  
the preface printed; which will be the last part  
printed.

Your friend  
A. Eaton.

Dr. John Torrey.

Letter to  
Dec 27

Paid 1/8 1/2

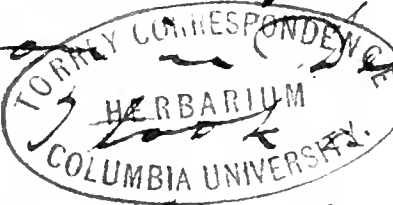
Dr. John J. Jarey.

No 172 Fulton St  
New York.

Amos Eaton  
Dec 29. 1820.  
Dec 29. Jan 2. 1821

Rutland (Vermont) Feb. 21<sup>st</sup> 1821.

Dear friend,

During all my correspondence with you, I never complained of ill health. So far as respects health, I have greatly favored all my life. Now from the second or third day after I wrote you on Dec. 1<sup>st</sup>, I have been very unwell. At first  I had some cold, had much fever (our doctor called it incipient typhus) and most distressing symptoms. Several times I partly recovered, then made no effort at business and supported a shuffler. I came to Rutland (10 miles east of Castleton) on the 13<sup>th</sup> at a friend's house, I intended to shut up in a close room and finish the 3<sup>d</sup> Ed. of the Mammals - having translated but 3 pages since I wrote you. But here a most laboring aggravação (as doctors call it) attacked me. During 38 days here, I have been able to write part of two.

I have commenced writing to you several times. I then concluded to wait the result of a day or two more. A gentleman of this village ~~told~~ me he should go to N. York about 10 days ago. I put up all my M. S. and translations together with your books and wrote you a letter of three sheets of directions, with a view to induce you to prepare the work. After he kept them two or three days he returned them, and said he should not go until April.

I am no much better. I begin to swallow a little solid food. Yesterday I wrote two letters. Next week I am going to my wife's mother in



Wallingford, 9 miles south, where I hope to be able to finish the work. I should have returned to Troy but was not able to travel so far. Besides, if I recover I wish to give lectures at Bennington Vt. and Pittsfield Mass. before I return.

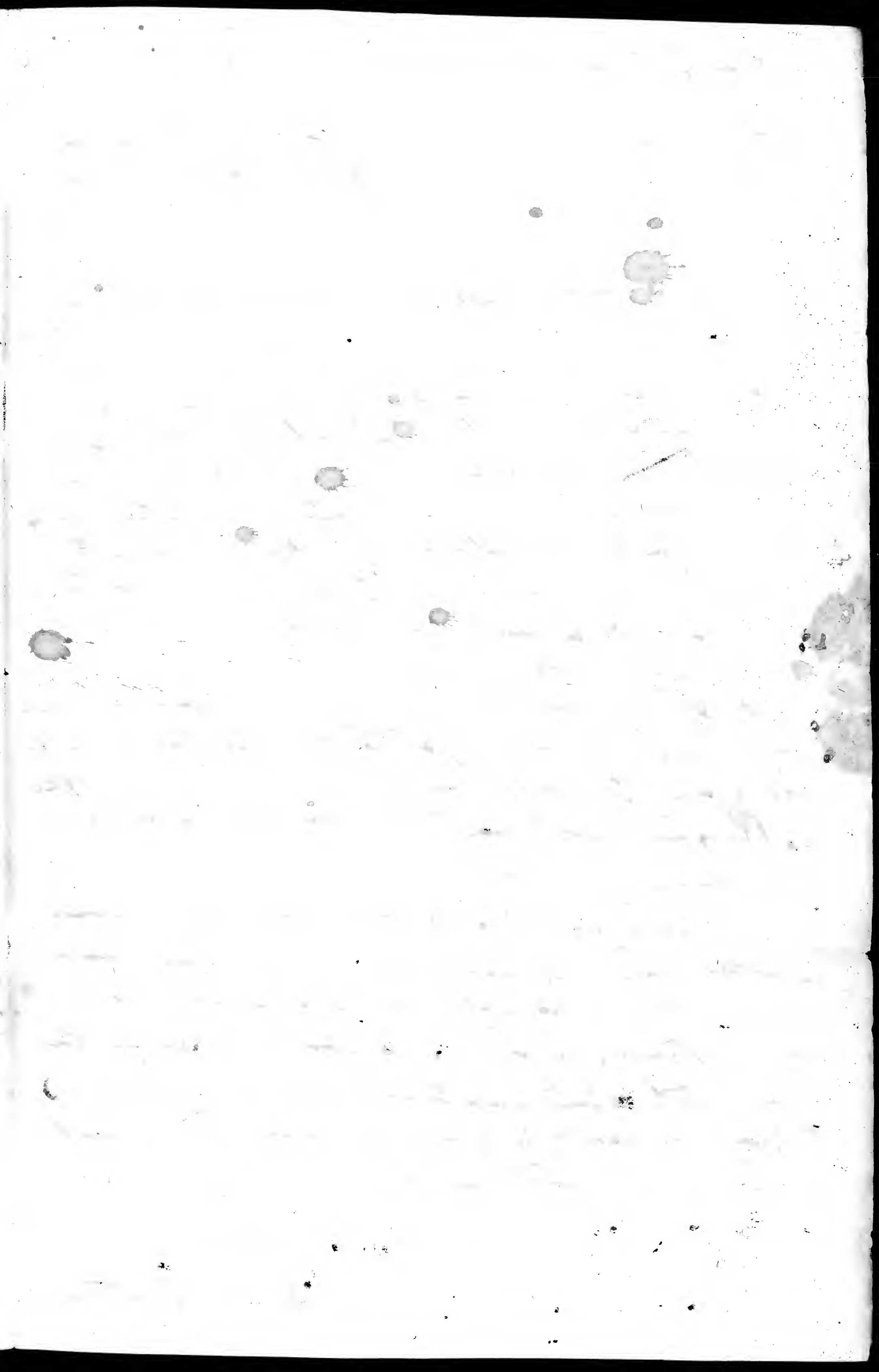
I have been guilty of being on out of impudence — I gave a speech at the Agricultural meeting in this county in one of my favorable intervals. It injured my throat very much. I do not know when to direct you to write me, unless you write immediately. On calculating the course of mail, I find that if you write to me at Wallingford, Vermont, and your letter is in the N. York Post-office by about the 4<sup>th</sup> of March, I shall receive it. I wish you would be good to write about that time, not differing more than a day or two. I may stop there twice as long, but if my health improves, as it has for three days past, I shall go <sup>west</sup> to the southern villages ~~you~~ you. I shall leave direction with the Wallingford postmaster, if I do not receive a letter from you before I go.

I have nothing to tell you, for I have neither seen nor heard any thing. More than two months have passed away, as a blank in my existence; excepting so far as extreme torture could afford materials for amusement. Today the weather is pleasant here, and I feel as though I should ride out, and again begin to think of existence.

Your friend

Amos Eaton





Paid 182

Dr. John Correy.

No 172 Fulton St.

New York.

Miss Eaton -  
July. 21. 1821 -  
Rev. S. Marsh. W.

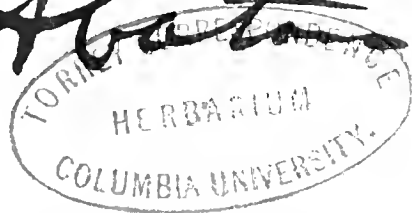
W. H. P. April 7<sup>th</sup> 1821.

Mr. Warren will deliver your  
Bridel, A. Harris and Agonh.

I will send your B. P. soon and  
De Candolle, very soon. I hope  
to write you a letter before Mr.  
N. goes - If not I will write  
by your other books.

I shall stay here at W. H. P.  
Mass. just 4 weeks from  
today - then I go to Troy.

Abraham



Miss Baker  
April 12 1874

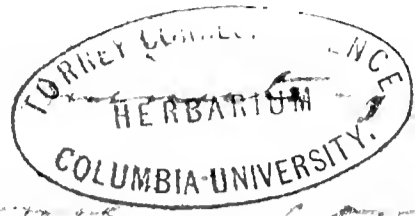
Dr. John Torrey

Yale School

N.Y.

Troy, June 25<sup>th</sup> 1891.

Dear friend,



Not half a year has  
occurred in my time since I came here, which  
was the 15<sup>th</sup> of May. Now I stay from wanting  
to write to you and your wife.

Yesterday I put the 3<sup>rd</sup> Ed. of our Manual  
as far as the 168<sup>th</sup> page into the post office  
for you, that you may see the general complaint  
and point out errors, for the next.

The only progress in the volume of 168 pages  
has not, therefore it will not be finished be-  
fore the last of July or first of August. We do  
send me any additional papers or sheets not  
marked in your books, and every thing else  
you have. This edition will cost me about  
a thousand dollars, and I wish to make it  
as complete as possible. My part made of  
giving synonyms and authorities, I presume  
you will appear in a work of this kind.  
We have so enlarged the page that in circu-  
late to have this edition ~~appear~~ quite as small  
a book as the other. We shall put up some  
in flexible or soft morocco binding, well  
beat and close cut, so as to make a very  
convenient pocket book.

Perhaps you will not approve my giving  
33 pages to English. But my experi-  
ence has placed this matter out of question.  
The quackery part of my 2<sup>nd</sup> Ed. did more  
for the extension of the study than all the  
laborious reprinting of every volume in a translation.

Off. W. I intend soon to prepare a digest of the whole of the 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> Eds. of the Manual, and to have it printed in a small volume, and to have it sent to you and your wife. We have done so many things for you and your wife, and we shall do more.



What is botany good for? is asked by every  
parent, guardian &c. If the answer is given, that  
it teaches the virtues of plants, the subscription  
is ready by fields. But if you speak of a  
downy eye, or of preserving the faculty of dis-  
cussing, being a pleasing subject to be  
discussed, as more tedious, unnecessary to see  
you are laughed at, and get no students. By  
introducing the subject of Culture in this  
way, we may effect more rapid & substantially  
useful in addition to looking out a fair &  
honest list, I have had more than two thou-  
sand students in botany among them, some  
are very correct, all have considerable taste  
for books of Natural History. More than  
2500 of my own books in botany, including  
many little ones, are now in the hands of  
or many persons. This is opening the way  
for such works as your Herbarium &  
Volumen octavo Northern States & Canada,  
to be published in numbers, with one  
or two plates to each number. You see I  
have laid out your work largely. And  
why won't you let a still larger plan go?  
I mean a plan like that of Smith  
or Custer, with a subscription list, first  
of terms. I promise to give one year at  
least in every year. Or if at once at first  
limited to 1000, all would subscribe  
for that part at least. I am five numbers  
on hand, with one or more pages in  
given figures, and in large and difficult  
one, as Agave, Pinus, Stem &c.



Miss Eaton

June 25th, 1841.

Dear Miss Eaton, II

New York.

No 172, Fulton Street


Dr. John Torrey.

PAID

*[Handwritten signature]*

Troy Nov. 1<sup>st</sup> 1891.

Dear friend,

Your letter of Oct. 22<sup>nd</sup>  remained in my absence. By the catalogue I find you, on the last page, you will see that I spend 5 weeks annually in Vermont. I return yesterday. That school flourish beyond all expectation — but my salary is small; only 290 Dollars per year for my 5 weeks, and I give more than 100 lectures. There 76 students are all full growing young men, and there is not a single fellow among them. You certainly did wrong in expecting to let me know your final determination as to your winter price in regard to your share of the Northern States. Perhaps you think you have told me; but you had a half-fear of placing the matter. I had from you. I have done something for you however, in Common's authority. I told the students that I was authorized to say that you would soon commence with a series of lectures, in some measure repeating Elliott's plan of a Southern Flora. I charged them to watch the New York papers, and whenever it should be announced the good in their names to the nearest agent. I told them it would be indispensable for you to show them the interest to be correct and accurate in the figures — that my



Manual was a mere school-book, designed to prepare students for more extensive writing. So you see, I have been compelled to dash on in the dark, on account of your negligence. In regard to the prices of your work, I think I have prepared hundreds for it. They are very greedy, even hungry and thirsting for such a work. It is very strange to see in your letter "don't be alarmed" when you know I have been urging you to this, three or four years. So from any interference, no two works can be devised, which will more effectually support each other. You ought to give it in a pretty strong type, with more on a page than Pursh gives. Then you may tell us a long story about each plant and not make the work go beyond two tolerable sized <sup>vols</sup> 8-

All I fear is your language. You will probably condemn mine, because no great man, or rather no great pedant, has written in that style. Every one prefers my manner for himself I find, because he can understand me better than he can understand any other style. But still he must tell other folks, that it is defective in a literary view &c. This is all affected sloppiness. I have considered all that those folks could say in ten years, and all their stuff is as "native as the old woman said when she "kissed the bull."



Why do you not send me the description  
of the two Trereganensis which I have  
twice written for? I received none but the  
new Equisetum.

My 3<sup>d</sup> Ed. Manual has been the  
most unlucky thing in the world. 1<sup>st</sup> My-  
self sick 4 months, then Skinner sick and  
on a journey, then Deane's debates to print,  
then to Amherst &c. &c. Now it will be  
out as soon as it ~~can~~ can be driven  
through the press; and your book sent  
home shortly.

You write like Dewey as well or better  
after a long personal acquaintance — K  
looks almost as well — Cooley writes you  
for a little by an acquaintance, but not  
essentially — Dr. Porter of Plainfield is clever, but  
I have had sent his poems, you form a correct opinion of him.

You ask for a copy of 3<sup>d</sup> Ed. of my Manual,  
and one to send to Europe as I promised, you say  
I promised you two dozen, and you will  
receive two dozen copies, as soon as the  
work is out.

The Newfane county Survey will soon be  
published and a copy will be sent you.

You ask for new things. I never find much  
new. Six feet of ground in the vicinity of  
New York, with two mauls and one stick used  
on it, will give more new genera and species than all  
the lakes and mountains of Vermont. Yours —  
Amos Eaton.

Amos Eaton

Nov 17, 1821

Free North.

New York

Fulton Street

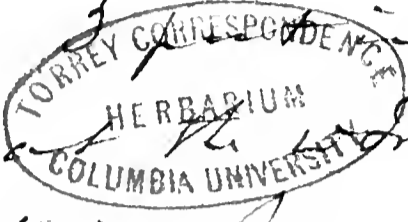
Dr. John C. Torrey

PAID



Enoy. Jan. 12<sup>th</sup> 1822.

Dear friend, I recd yours of the 26<sup>th</sup> N. post-marked  
8<sup>th</sup> inst. this afternoon.

The Manual will be out soon. Webster is now  
at work, all hands. I intended to have you tell me  
about a Riccia, which I found in your De  
Candolle & De la Marche  Riccia, but  
I forgot to write about it. Look at it now.  
I have paper Riccia, but I can correct it  
in my Addenda. I have called it crystallina,  
because I can find no other description that  
will not exclude it. But Dewey says he has  
one like it, which you call trisulca. I have  
no description of trisulca. Send me its name  
and a specific description immediately, if it is  
not crystallina. It grows in a pond in Walling-  
ford, Vermont. At the same time send me any  
errors you have noticed in what you received  
of this edition.

About the preface — I will here <sup>a copy of the</sup> say about you. I talk about two pages of the  
improvement in this edition <sup>without speaking of you.</sup> in a very plain way.  
Then I begin a new paragraph in this way —

Here I might leave the reader with a sufficient  
view of the improvements attempted; and with an im-  
pression favorable to my industry. But I am  
compelled to acknowledge, that although I have done  
all in my power, I can claim as my own but  
a small proportion of the improvement, excepting  
as it respects localities. Dr. Torrey of N. York ~~has~~  
~~advised me to mention in my preface the suggestion~~  
~~made by him~~ <sup>has</sup> <sup>suggested</sup> the <sup>valuable</sup> <sup>improvement</sup> to be found in this  
edition. And I believe I may encourage the reader  
with the hope, that the extensive collection of man-

Heriath in his possession will very soon appear before the public in the form of an enlarged system of the Botany of the Northern States. Such an extended view of the subject would be an invaluable treasure to all lecturers, private teachers, and all others, who are disposed to enter deeply into the study.

\* Dr. Torrey has almost completed the materials for his first number.

I think you are in no blarney at all. I have heard of Bigsby, but never saw him. Now for your three devils. Stay where you now are. Write your botany. Take the first respectable professorship that offers. I hardly know what to say about your attempting a professorship at West Point <sup>or near that place</sup> will do for you, a few years, a popular course of lectures. I will tell you what you are and are not, in a few words. You are made for the highest walks of science — nice accurate investigation — new discoveries and improvements — to correct the blunders of others and to keep the ship of science in trim. You ought to remain in N. York, as a kind of scientific center around which such satellites as I am may safely revolve, without danger of flying off in a tangent. You have not one ounce of that ingredient, which is absolutely necessary in a popular lecturer. I charge you, if you have any regard for your reputation, never to let yourself down by such kind of popular courses, as those which I give. I am made for noise and bustle. My part is among the rabble. And if I have any merit, it consists in the art



out of simplifying. I say this of myself in order  
to tell you what you are not. You and I are pre-  
cisely at diagonals in all our qualifications.  
You will shine preeminently as a professor in  
some of the learned institutions. But I should  
tremble for you in any other employment.  
Just look about and ask, what has brought  
you into public notice? Your personal pres-  
ence is not commanding - Your language  
and manner are not prepossessing - Your  
literature has not a classical polish. Then  
what has raised you above every individ-  
ual of your years in North America? It is  
your discriminating powers, your indefatiga-  
ble research, ~~you~~ set off to the best  
advantage by that modest confidence  
for which you are distinguished. How many  
are ruined by this destructive maxim. "I  
"am <sup>so successful</sup> ~~successful~~ in all that I have undertaken,  
"I can of course succeed equally well  
"every undertaking." Now I tell you, and  
do you hear me, to the end of your life  
pursue the same course which has  
brought you to your present elevated  
station.

My Kennebec County book is printed by Mr.  
Van Kennebec. I will send it to you soon. I have  
postponed my Gray lectures until the 12<sup>th</sup> of Feb. on  
account of my house-keeping. I received an application  
from West Point to give a short course on  
Botany. I have agreed to lecture there from the mid-  
dle of April to the 1<sup>st</sup> of June for \$300. I hope  
you will be there a week with me, after I get ac-  
quainted with the stiffness of the military walk  
so as to be able to tell you which foot to move  
first after you land.

[Turn over outside] <sup>your friend,</sup> Amos Eaton,



With respect to the value of your botany, I have con- sidered the subject a great deal, and I hardly know how to calculate. I know many who ~~would~~ would give 20 Dollars or 30 Dollars for it, rather than do without it. And I be- lieve every student I ever had, now amounting to almost two thousand, will contrive to have ac- cess to it. I think, therefore, that it will be pur- chased in every little neighborhood of botanists, also by every zealous individual, who thinks he can afford it.

A.C.

Dr. John Torrey  
Fulton Street  
New York

James Eschscholtz  
Jan 4 12 46 1822  
Recd Jan 4 21/2

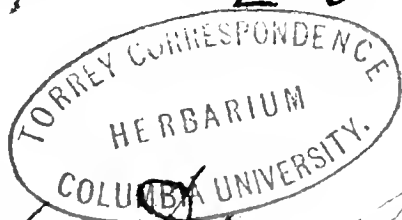


Would it not be advisable to get it pub- lished on terms, similar to those on which my other work was first published. ~~Let the bookseller have~~ Websters advanced me \$120. bore all the expenses, and paid out the edition. Then accounted to me for all beyond the expenses at the retail price, after de- ducting one third from the retail price, for their dis- count with booksellers and other trouble.

A.C.

West Point. April 23<sup>d</sup> - 1822.

Dear friend,



Capt. Douglas will tell you all I can write respecting my Herb-doctor business here.

Let me know by Capt. D. whether Webster has sent you my Manuals. They said they would send as soon as they had answered their most pressing orders. But they may want something again.

I may go to N. York, possibly before I return to Troy. But I want from you the name, size, character and prices of books, from which I can ~~procure~~ acquire a pretty con-

perfect knowledge of Insects, and  
all the subdivisions of the 5th  
Linnean class Vermes. You  
once obtained for me the poem  
of Shann's lectures in 2 Vols.  
8<sup>vo</sup> with plates. That was the  
best work I ever saw on the sub-  
ject; but I want a better. Can  
that be had? Without further  
questioning you, tell me all  
about the best books on these  
two Linnean classes.

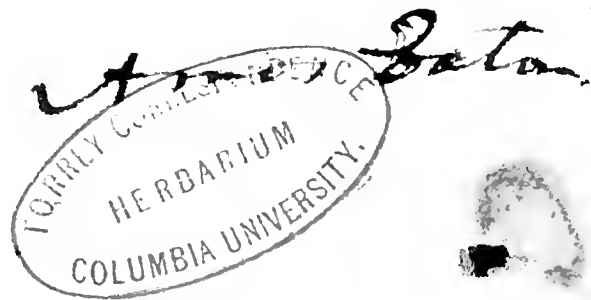
Write all you can and tell  
best Douglass every thing you  
can think of. Have you commen-  
ced a botanical course of lectures?  
Are you going on with your bot-  
any? What sort of a magazine

in Francis and Beck making?  
What day shall we expect you  
here, and how long will you stay?  
Capt. G. has a dinner of stones for  
us from the northwest.

We have found the Corydalis  
canadensis here. I never saw it before.

Your friend,

Dr. J. Gray.



Alexs Caton  
April 23<sup>rd</sup>. 1822

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Recd April 30<sup>th</sup>

Dr John Farrey.  
Fulton Street  
N. York.

Wm. B. B. B.



Newburgh, Aug. 4<sup>th</sup> 1822.

Dear John, It is Sunday  
no paper but this. It is thick & about paper,  
very well suited to a feeding subject. I am full  
of wrath, on account of your rashly treatment  
of Emmons, you, in effect, advertise him in  
Silliman's Journal, as an ignorant blockhead,  
who picks up minerals (your humble servant)  
ignorant of what he finds, and sends them to  
you (all wise and all knowing) in promiscu-  
ous, unsupported masses. Now, I assure you,  
Emmons is, in all respects, your superior  
as a mineralogist; excepting that he has not  
given much attention to the chemical ana-  
lysis of minerals. He is familiar with every  
mineral in New England, and is considered  
as a very accurate observer. He first  
showed the Richmond mineral to me.  
He told me, at the same time, that it ap-  
peared to be rare. He gave conclusive and  
scientific reasons for his opinion. I ad-  
vised him to send it to you and to Dewey.  
They treated him fairly, and acknowledged  
him the discoverer, not a more fool, who  
happened to rake up a mass of pebbles,  
most knowing whether they were quartz or  
diamond, as you did. Emmons is the real  
and only discoverer, according to all rules on  
that subject. He discovered it to be unlike  
any known mineral. His scientific eye  
alone brought it into notice.



The truth is, if a countryman has the eye  
of a Linnaeus and the science of a Vauquelin,  
every cockney of a city, whose salt

water washes the sewers, sets himself up as  
his superior. Yes! he even persuaded  
himself, that a countryman feels him-  
self honoured if he is permitted to make  
a ~~cockney~~ Cockney a present. It would be  
well for you to look about you a little.  
Who first brought you into notice? Com-  
ingmen. Who have gone all lengths and  
established your reputation among those  
gangs of the best of men, and made your  
name synonymous with natural justice  
among both sexes throughout Kent En-  
gland and New York? Countrymen; among  
whom Dumars and others of my pupils  
have been the chief. And still you take  
the liberty to advertise him a fool, who  
sawd you a prominent collection of  
minerals.

I have not seen Dumars, neither have I  
heard from him lately. But I know he does  
not feel himself your laquay or humble ser-  
vant. And why not treat a fine fellow with  
ordinary civility? Such a <sup>as you are apt</sup> course, will beget  
hard feelings between country and town. And I  
suppose you, in such a case, the servants  
will soon kick the beam. I have the names  
of more than ~~three~~ <sup>within six years</sup> ~~thousand~~ who have  
attended my lectures, in the country. Every  
lecturer in every seaport town cannot  
produce that number. Every individual of these  
have often heard the names of Tovey, Nuttall,

Bigelow &c. mentioned in terms of high respect. Many of them know Brumms also. Now they are to see his name degraded, in a public journal, into a mere <sup>promiscuous</sup> collector for Dr. Parney.

I have a word to say in excuse for Webster. You told me they said something about foreign correspondents &c. when they sent the Manuals. I went there to see them about it. They produced a letter which I wrote them from N. York in Sept. 1820. I then say, "Dr. Parney will lend us books, which he received from his European correspondents, and will work in them American localities &c. in order to assist him in making our returns." I promised him two dozen Manuals of the 3<sup>d</sup> Edition." Now I remember that was our conversation and precisely my promise. I say this for the sake of justice. For Webster shows more liberality than all the book sellers in N. York. I wrote the letter in one hour after I made the promise, and know it was founded on our conversation. I do not say this on my account, but for the sake of justice to the Webster.

I am to stay here until the first week in September. I lecture to a large class - evenings on Chemistry, days on Natural History. Perhaps I may be in N. York before I return, but it is doubtful.

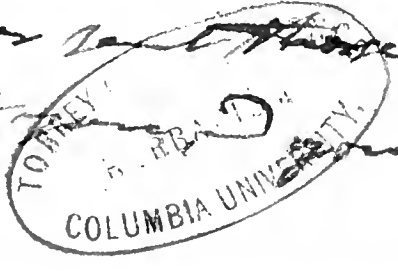
Tell me what to say to my botanical class here about your general flora of the North American States. You know I am soon to lecture to 70 or 80 Germans also.

Dr. John Torrey gives me Amos Eaton's



I have brought the sapphirine with me, which  
you ask for. I will send it by the first opportunity.  
You call it a doubtful specimen of Spinelle. I wonder  
on what authority? See my geology p. 203. A.B.

By the way, you never sent those copies of my geology  
to Europe, which I sent you promised to send.



Paul N

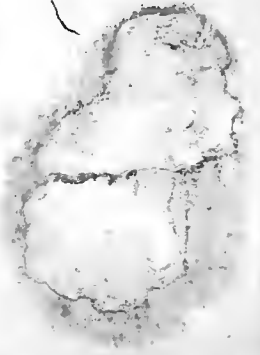
Dr. John Sorey.

Fulton Street.

New York.

August 21st, 1872.  
Recd Aug 4 1872

Amos Eaton



Tring Feb. 8<sup>th</sup> 1823.

Dear friend,

I will talk no more about mistakes. But I wish to know whether I shall strike out any new species. You know you directed me to ~~strike out~~ several from the 3<sup>d</sup> which I published in the 2<sup>d</sup> Ed. I believe all Bigelow's new species are old ones. I do is new. But if they were pure ridiculous to name them after Jefferson, Franklin &c. who never knew quanta from marble.

Was attend to me particularly, as I did to you when you were in trouble about your catalogue. I then went to Albany and spent three days with Edwin James to get your exact, indeed, de rightly, after I received your brightful letter.

My 4<sup>th</sup> Ed. Manual is now printing. 36 pages are already printed. We are going on at the rate of 72 pages per week, so as to finish by the first of April. The ommissions in species of Crypts, I had partly noticed, but not all. But I have no books to take descriptions from. Will you then send me forthwith the species with their descriptions of the following genera





as far as they have been discovered  
in our district.

*Lecanora* — *Racomitrium* — *Oscillatori*  
*Rivularia* — *Evernia* —  
*Monachella* and *Dermatium* — Also  
sending thing else, which you find  
has been omitted. How shall I get the  
localities of bryetes? You cannot write  
them off for me. I will tell you a way  
which will be practicable. Open the  
3<sup>d</sup> Ed. at any genus, for example *Opegrapha*.  
Then set down in your letter  
the page, and under it the number of  
the species counting from the top; and  
against each number any character for  
the locality. As for the localities of the  
species of *Opegrapha*, if maculans you  
in Pennsylvania, abnormis near New  
York and nivalis above Northampton  
above booby trees, set it down thus.

P. 366. Spec. 4, P. 5, C-6, N. In this way a  
vast many localities might be given in one  
letter. Remember that we want all you  
send in the order of the book, to keep  
pace with the printing.

You wrote me soon after the 3<sup>d</sup> Ed.  
was finished, that I ought to have re-  
turned to the Ed. Dutchman somewhere  
north, who has written something on the  
bryetes of this country. Do either send  
me his book by mail, if a possibility,  
or, send me such things from it, as  
I ought to publish.

I go to the new college at Durham. I am to see Mr. Webster. I will try to see you before you go to the new college. I will try to see you before you go to the new college.

I have sold this edition to Mr. Webster for six hundred dollars. Now do not let your bookseller cheat you. Make him pay well for your work. My little Manual and Exercises has served as pionsers to your work; and the way is now so well prepared for it, that a bookseller should pay a good price. Mr. Webster will send you three or four copies of the 4<sup>th</sup> Ed. as soon as it is bound. I include a Grammar of Botany and Vocabulary in this Ed. The vocabulary will all go into 93 or 100 pages. This process has much cut down the potential volume. If you would adopt the same plan of using but few terms, your work would be much more popular. To use several words for the same thing, when there cannot possibly be any thing like style at any rate, is very a bore. The fault that is of botanical style in the N. & Review, is but a fool at best. It proves that he is ignorant of the word style.

Have you read Edwin's process book? Tell me your opinion of it. You saw a copy of a little of Edwin in a letter to me. But in a biological function, he is, of himself, an excellent young man. But it is next to impossible for a younger brother to visit the publication, and daily a more active of an older one. Edwin, unfortunately, has a brother who is a downright fool. He has just been talked enough to explain in some minimal degree, the character of a convicted clergy, a convicted minister how serious you tempt to his divorce. He tells Edwin to quote no authority but in a way - he has nothing to do with the widening American, like Horner & his Review. Look to Edwin's book. Edwin does not

they know so surely as he writes; and it is  
doubtless influenced by him in a great measure.  
When I see Edwin again, I will "bear him  
to the bone!" I will tell you how inside-out  
and then him to Edwin. It is a pity he  
should suffer so severely in his reputation  
on account of that idiot brother.

*paid*

*[Handwritten signature]*  
PAID  
New York.

Dr. John Jones.  
Gulton Street



Amos Eaton  
Feb 8th, 1823  
Recd Feb 12th

When John returned from his three  
days visit in Italy, and on the Albany  
he did not know anything of granite.  
I happened to be giving a course in geology,  
and the evening learned a few things about  
geology. He had heard from Europe, and  
talked long about the geology of Sicily, Italy,  
France, &c.

Do write immediately,  
Amos Eaton.

Troy Aug. 30<sup>th</sup> 1823.

Dear John,

I received the



your flora, and the prospectus. I pro-  
mised upon it first, & in your terms.  
It is the best thing of its kind I ever  
saw. Now for abatements &c. I do not  
like the title page of the prospectus.  
Do let me make a title page for you,  
and let me see your preface proof,  
if you print them out last as you  
ought to do. Are you not at home  
to talk to me about being "read"  
because you did not send me your  
new species? You know I have no  
other ambition about botany, than  
as it respects John Torrey, & for that  
Lewis C. Beck connects proof for my  
4<sup>th</sup> ed. He has persuaded the printer  
to keep back that ed. (though printed  
3 months ago) for the sole purpose of  
giving me alphabetical appendix to  
my 8<sup>th</sup> ed. high!!! L. C. Beck & I  
are your only disinterested friends.

I wish I knew how far your work has gone  
to its last impression, or a second of the  
editions. I found the *Neubium* in the



in Tadoussac Bay by Stoyard - I will  
send you in 2 hours, about 100,  
the true genuine Hippuris, water  
on Cayuga Lake in the pond of Spring  
Hills by Stoyard. - The general  
the plants, but they are unknown to me.

I returned from the west last Tuesday  
I had been to Lake Erie, Niagara Falls,  
the whole extent of Lake Ontario.

As to subscribers, you never ought to  
have found a subscription paper. Any body  
knows that your book will go every where,  
but not so rapidly as a school book  
like my Manual. My book <sup>(all the world)</sup> is now in  
the hands of more than 3700 persons.  
One in ten will buy yours as soon as it  
can be procured - that is 370. Others will  
follow on, so that 1000 will sell in about  
three years, or perhaps some may be left  
four years. If you begin with 1000, the  
five years' last number is out just as  
he takes up. But you will hang on 3 years  
or 5 years, leaving the last number 4 or  
5 years.

We were on the lake here with persons  
that you would give us some of the letters of  
poetic language. But your language is very



plain and definite. I see you study the word  
Smith's word "fomes-hut," by substituting  
"a little." I doubt your having gained any  
thing by it. Had you ever read Smith's remark  
upon "fomes-hut" in trees? "Sub" should  
always be used if the word it qualifies, is  
denied from Latin. I have sometimes de-  
parted from that rule, but not in-  
tentionally. "A little" will not be well re-  
ceived in England, and it will nearly be  
translating from the best Latin dis-  
criptions.

I hope the two forms you sent me are  
out specimens of the paper upon which the  
book is printed. One is white and the other  
dirty yellow.

Is it necessary to quote DeCary as an authority  
for every common plant? Should it not be  
better to have an opuntia locis expro-  
prie, and cite these books for some plants?  
You are quite too certain about plants being  
introduced. I do not believe the Poa pratensis  
was introduced. Botanists often commit the fault.  
Even the hop is considered by some; though I  
have seen it in dense wood 5 miles from my  
clearing. I know the Urtica diocidica is a  
native along the south shore of Lake Erie. It grows  
along a beach, where the soil is not loose. I have  
not had time to see one of the Urtica diocidica you  
send me like a Horsetail and get to be a little  
like the Horsetail of Europe, but it is a little  
and it is not the same as the Urtica diocidica of Europe. It  
has not the same as the Urtica diocidica of Europe.

*[Faint, illegible handwriting at the top of the page]*

*1/2*

New York.

James Esdales  
Sept. 4th 1823  
Recd. Sept 10th

Dr. John Torrey.



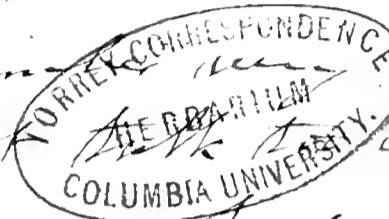
*[Faint, illegible handwriting at the bottom of the page]*

Troy, (D. Bank Place) Feb. 4<sup>th</sup> 1824.

Dear Friend,

I rarely apologize for any thing right or wrong. But I sent you Schwinia long ago. You did not get it, and I now send it by mail. I could tell you a long story about its not reaching you, but it will not be interesting.

I like your first review very much; and the Phil. & Med. book does not <sup>do it</sup> do it well about it. Still we countrymen can but say, what a fine thing to have a reviewer at our command. If Gabriel should write as good a book as he is capable of, and was no way connected with a reviewer, he could not obtain even a civil notice.



I have put into your Schwinia at the 20<sup>th</sup> page, a *Semna*, *Marchantia*, *Sicken* looking thing. Tell me what it is? I collected it at the upper ~~part~~ of uppermost of the Trenton Falls, 18 miles north of <sup>the</sup> *Whica*, on a <sup>thin</sup> black mould on damp rocks in the woods. I see spots on the leaves like the cups on *Marchantia*, where the stipes grow.

- I will put in several plants and number them
- No 1. What is this? Trenton Falls.
  - No 2. *Dod* Trenton Falls.
  - No 3. *Tonawanta* Creek - *Stromans* *Thun*, *lagnata*, 3 to 10 feet high.
  - No 4. *Thousand* along Niagara River.
  - No 5. Niagara Falls.
  - No 6. Niagara Falls.

Perhaps I might look them out, but I do not now know them. I should have sent you many western plants, but my best collection was destroyed. I shall collect extensively next summer.

I put <sup>in</sup> a *Calymene* Lake specimen of *Hesperis*.  
I examined hundreds and found all had about 10 leaves  
in a whorl. Should it not be vanity scaphyllum?

The rock part of my Canal survey is in  
the press, and the engravers are at the plate. I give  
a profile of rocks from the half foot long. I extend  
it from the Atlantic to Scheldt. I suppose I shall  
set all the Boston fools at scribbling again. How contempt-  
ible those reviews are which are written by ~~them~~ <sup>persons</sup> who know  
nothing of the subject of the book reviewed. I challenge  
all correct geologists upon the accuracy of the survey.  
But those who have no reputation to lose, are lawless.  
I have become acquainted with almost every individual frag-  
ment of rock, creek bank, and hilltop on the canal line.  
I travelled with my one horse wagon and boy more  
than three thousand miles last summer.

The first of next month I go to Amherst College  
again, to give them another howling. I shall then be  
near the head of your head man of weed, looking at the  
is this Cooley, that takes such a lead in Worcester County,  
in the general enquiry.

Remember one thing — that is, not to cite as  
your need-puller, any fellow, up this way, who sets  
any value on himself. In questionable cases, where  
I scientific knowledge would be a pre-requisite, no one  
would object to being referred to. But to hold up a de-  
cent man as your country drudge, to fetch and carry  
weed, will not perhaps be as acceptable as you im-  
agine. You know this was the way you treated me  
<sup>about the mineral</sup> me. You have been well punished by the Wor-  
shippers for that. Don't think I set it on foot. I  
scolded you; but <sup>your</sup> words and destitute common  
sense, to all but Deary, in order to smooth the matter,  
and make bungling work of it after all.

I am willing to pull weeds and pick up stones when I can,  
but recollect, I am never to be dragged before the public, un-  
less it is by way of giving my opinion in a questionable case.  
My Manual has merit, but it is not that of a botanist.  
It is that of a simplifier. Boys and girls understand all  
I write. I stand between you great folks and the common  
folks, just like a tall Sehabed Crane, when bounding  
down cooking to a short chubby kitchen girl, from a high  
upper shelf. In truth I am not an accurate botanist.  
But I do describe plants clearly, with fewer words than  
any other botanist, so as to be understood by mere re-  
cimens and kitchen drabs.

But when you come to geology, take care how you  
touch me - or rather how you point at me, for you ~~can~~  
cannot touch me. I have set one foot in the Atlan-  
tic opposite to Boston, and the other in Lake Erie, I pro-  
hibit the dilapidation tribes to play with pebble stones  
between my feet; but nobody must touch a rock  
without my permission.

Norris, Book has made an Appendix to my ~~book~~  
in which he shows in a good deal of fudge stuff, such  
as hay and provender from your book. Tell me what  
you are about, and what I must say about you  
at Amherst College. Tell me always, what new works  
in Nat. Hist. and Chem. have appeared, where I can  
get them, and how much money send for them.

Yours &c

Amos Eaton.

Dr. J. T. Jones.



James Eaton  
Feb 4, 1822  
No. 2 Myrtle St.

New York.

Dr. John Loring.



PAID

PAID

Southwest April 22<sup>d</sup> 1824.LIBRARY  
NEW YORK  
BOTANICAL  
GARDEN.

Dear friend,

As you have now become

"like one of us, knowing good and evil," I hope you will soon be freed from those fits of derangement which are so strongly imprinted on some of the letters with which you have lately honored me. In your last you attempt to reply to my remark on the subject of the geological enterprise of the Troy System, as being first and establishing principles, which have directed all subsequent writers, though they are unwilling to acknowledge it. Instead of answering these remarks, you imagine that it was plants I meant, not rocks. Therefore you say, ironically, that you will do us justice hereafter and say that we brought to light all you published in the Lib. You seem to have greatly shaped yourself about it, and to have written and scratched out some tremendous anathema. Now do read my letters before you answer them. I have received replies to more than 50 subjects upon which I never wrote you, within two years. I never made any pretensions to any discoveries in botany, nor in any thing else but geology. So far from regretting the publication of the two editions of my geology, no act of my life is a source of so much gratification to me. It contains the elements of all which has appeared in our country since its appearance. The primitive part will withstand all the criticisms of Anaxor, fools and men of sense, while an undecomposed rock is left in New England. The secondary part is defective, as I acknowledge in the last edition. How many upstarts have figured away in material drawn from that little book,

Given by A. M. VAIL. From the J. J. Brooke Collection

which they have presented as their own. Surely a  
new subject in geology has been presented. Long-  
before <sup>theory of</sup> the Tertiary and Alluvium, which is now pulled  
off or new, was fully developed as founded on a  
letter from Schoolcraft, in my chapters on al-  
luvial formations &c. &c. two years before any Eng-  
lishman thought of it. My analysis of the Lake  
Eric stratum was printed in it; so that it was  
in two, <sup>or</sup> three hundred hands, many months before  
any other person had suspected it was not bryozoa.

Through it I gave the first notice that Catskills  
and Allegany mountains were graywacke. No  
individual in N. York, Philadelphia, or N.  
Haven or Boston knew what graywacke  
was, till that account appeared. On the <sup>whole,</sup> what  
faulty or papicidal of Spurzheim has been  
so severely compressed in your head of note, or  
to induce you to suppose I regretted the pub-  
lication of that book? Why did I not stop  
with one edition? More than eighteen hun-  
dred copies of it have been sold; and there is  
nothing to take its place, unless my canal  
survey, with its proposed nomenclature, should  
be used. It has already <sup>(the two editions)</sup> yielded me a clear profit of  
more than six hundred dollars.

In regard to your plan. It is taken here by  
a college society. I have no doubt it will  
sell every where; but it will go slower than  
a school book. As soon as students have  
made a little headway with cheap books, they  
will want your plan. I was confined at home  
last winter several months with a <sup>bad</sup> cold and  
of course did nothing for you nor for myself.  
I am now going along  
the canal with two itinerating young  
botanists. I shall set them at lecturing

N.B. of the corporation of this college already have an eye upon Charles W. Shepard  
as Professor of Chemistry and Natural History, when the professorship is established, which will be soon.

and Botany &c. at two villages at once. I shall  
play between and boost them. <sup>as David Briggs in 1820.</sup> The western vil-  
lages have only had a few bungling fellows with  
them; and they have no real. If I have my  
health I will play Nettleton and Whittfield  
among them. My books never go to the west.  
But I will ~~make~~ open a passage for your  
goods and all my traffic there, if I can  
only have health. I have been put back  
in the health way for the last six months.  
I am inclined to hours of asthma. They are  
short; generally but three or four days.  
But they sometimes leave me hours. I  
am well now, however, and not hours.

Here is a fellow who will make a great naturalist,  
and a real clever fellow. He is a great favorite of Nettleton.  
He is in the junior class and will graduate in  
September. His name is Charles W. Shepard.  
His father was a Rhode Island clergyman. Since  
his death his mother moved to this place and purchased  
a house &c. He has an excellent collection of minerals.  
He starts off the first day he hears of a new locality of  
a mineral. 50 or 100 miles. He is an accomplished gentle-  
man of real genius. I wish you would elect him a  
corresponding member of the N. York Academy. I will  
be responsible that he shall pay his fees &c. Give him  
the proper notice, and let the fees be marked on the cover of it.  
I think I shall be in New York about the

20<sup>th</sup> of May. I calculate to go to New Haven by  
land in my own carriage. There to send my son home  
with the carriage, and go home <sup>myself</sup> in the steam boat. I shall  
stop at my brother's in Newwalk town, at N. York and at  
West Point. (I think it was)

L. C. Beck told me that Percival was but a temporary ap-  
pointment. That a professorship of Rhetoric and Belles Lettres was  
soon to be created there - then Percival was to fill that place,  
and you to take the Chemistry and natural history. I supposed  
you referred to this arrangement when you said you was a candidate,  
for I had heard this story two months before you wrote. I have heard  
too, that Silliman would take it, if the place should be made into a professorship.  
But he would not be "Assistant professor, acting Chem. Prof." as Lathrop was. (I think it was)

David W. B.

Amherst, Mass  
Apr 24

Dr. John Torrey.

New York

Shus Eaton  
April 22nd 1824  
Recd May 24



Newport School, N.Y., April 23<sup>rd</sup> 1887.

Dear friend,

I received your package  
after I wrote you, but I  
to tell you some words.



On opening the package I found  
an enclosed package, but as it had  
nothing written upon it, my attention  
was not called to its being in a distinct  
wrapper. I found it contained several  
of wax in what appeared to be just  
sheet waste paper, and as I saw a few  
words of the covers were put into my  
album and the paper thrown into a  
box in the front cellar, which is  
our mineral room, to wrap  
up minerals. Here I threw all waste  
paper.

I have a daughter 9 years old, who  
cuts out poetry and pastes in a  
blank book. While at this work in  
the cellar, she found these letters, sheets,  
and brought them to me. I soon



intended to send this in your letter  
to me, in forgetting. It might be  
worth taking some periodical work.  
As it contains no original work,  
the copies (well packed and the  
same) to him.

Again, I consider, with out  
in your hands; as he received  
copy from you to read. To it  
all hands. Perhaps we misapprehend  
the whole. At any rate the  
story of the journey and a few  
things, induce me to tell this story.

I have nothing more to say.  
When you read my article in  
Simons let me know how you  
would it.

Why not print your copy to  
print. The whole content is in  
earnest expectation of it.

Yours in friendship  
Wm. L. G. Jones

Dr. J. Jones.

Amos Eaton

Apr. 23rd 1827

Recd. Apr. 28th

and

123

Prof. John Torrey.

N. S. Whiting Academy,  
West Point.

Tray, Sept. 21. 1831.

Dear friend.

Why do we not correspond more? I am the only person in the world (I mean of the scientific corps) who cares much about you, at heart. And I would prefer putting my reputation in your hands ~~to~~ that of any other person on earth. We are like some old husband and wife, who fear each other, fret, quarrel, &c. But when either is in distress the other feels it to the heart - and the death of one kills the other. Then, for the first, they find that they were absolutely one, with some discordant parts.

So far I happened to talk thus - Now for a few cat's matters.

Why did not Cooper tell me about his own despotic panic about the Montrose specimen? He knew I would <sup>in the probability</sup> publish any thing he required. Did he lie out right, or has he no memory? I could put him in a bad situation, if I could; and I should, if he had not been your friend. I have two affidavits at command, that he did say Red. He thinks wealth will back him up in every thing. One of the young gentlemen, who swears he did see Red's family, can <sup>bring</sup> scores of him, if he goes on that ground. <sup>That subject</sup> The ADENC COLUMBIAN is, he knew my thing about ~~it~~, until it was published; and I feathered enough under him. He always knew every thing. Is not Cooper a milk-and-water fellow, of "easy virtue"? - always governed by his elbow fellows? What a farce he has played with us about Dr. Gates. That Gates did not know as much Natural History as worth he required to distinguish, scientifically, a rattle from a canary - a quack from phib. pudding - or a dog from a jew's hair. Cooper gives his name for him. I could not believe my own senses, when I found that it was the same Yol, whom I had seen at Whitesboro. Cooper ought to be civil, at least, after such an abominable imposition on his sense - not set up the trade of blackguard



in public journals, with a view to injure  
a real friend, to favor the ~~the~~ malignity  
of an obsolete blackguard, ~~because~~ on ac-  
count of his claiming to be the bastard  
of a British Peer. ~~He~~<sup>He</sup> may have been  
a Nobleman's bastard, or that of the  
Nobleman's groom; or both, probably, had  
access to the servant girl. However he is  
a Nobleman, of course. Talents and fi-  
delity give character; but I never heard of  
Meditation as a wonderful support into  
fame before. F. should not be lowered or  
raised on that account, but it seems the  
wise place all his strength there, as it  
was thus done in Sampson. head of St. Will  
you countenance such assumption? F. was totally  
ignorant of every thing called Science, until your  
Syceum instructed him. He has much ready percep-  
tion, and might be <sup>if he had a little modesty and a few grams of fidelity.</sup> something. He has a sneaking, and  
a taste at blackguardism. Shall he change our hab-  
its of investigation into virulent forenoon? Will you  
countenance it? Will Delapied? Will any member of  
the Syceum but Cooper? Your Syceum has now  
50 per cent by F. All our reflecting men will soon  
withdraw. Phil. And Mr. Sci. I suppose you know  
them their backs upon the blackguard  
plan. your Syceum was rising rapidly, until  
you let in this foul disgusting abstracted course  
of practice.

I call to see you, when you was in  
N. Jersey. I regretted that I could not  
see you. I can present you with many  
astounding facts, in relation to your  
late degeneracy at the Syceum, and  
the views of the best men in the community in  
relation to that subject. It is not an easy matter

\* If public forenoon becomes a habit, it will be a step of progress. But if some owners to receive that practice, I will try it on printing more respectable than F.

to put down D and active zealots in science.  
Did you see any letter to your Prest? Did  
you see his answer? Take the two letters,  
and I appear to be some begging wretch  
and your Syceum a dispensing soup-house.  
Perhaps I may have one dish of soup, if I  
will be about the door two or three frosty nights,  
and beg well. I proposed presenting the Syceum  
with the most perfect pair of American Geolo-  
gical specimens, and with them to illustrate my  
views of geology. Presuming, that I should be  
treated with civility, I gave my students na-  
ture of it. Six or eight fine young fellows came  
on your Syceum keeper. He told them, he  
knew nothing about it. I read your Prest letter  
long after I had seen them - it seems to have  
been delayed without any apparent cause  
probably the Holloman had not given his an-  
swer in season. Fudge! Fudge! Fudge! Fudge!!!

Henry and the Weeks, alone, are doing more  
than all of your Syceum, excepting you. Y.  
Much is done by the Showers and other or  
apt. Liberalists will not do at this day. Our  
country folks are outrunning you, excepting what  
depends on foreign correspondence - I mean such  
as getting themselves selected members of foreign  
societies. Mr. Brooks is member of the  
Linnean Society in Paris. This was right. He  
is married to a sister - she is an excel-  
lent botanist, and had sent 300 drawings of  
American plants to the Society. He told me, he  
scarcely knows the meaning of the word bot-  
any, and his appointment was his wife's. All  
this is right in N. York!!! The day of imposition  
is almost over. Doctors Graham's will not  
be so common hereafter; even if in N. York.  
I sent for your Nat. orders last week - not  
out - I want it much. All you do alone in  
your own office, is well done, so I still may stay  
dearly. Your affectionate friend,  
Amos Eaton.

These specimens are correct and just  
but the rest of publishing them would not  
be just. Therefore this letter is interposed.

Amos Eaton

Sept. 24th 1831

New York.

Prof. John Torrey, M.D.

R



To Proctor & Correy

Mr. Ball is arranging to deliver you his... Proposition in his eyes... attention to the... about to leave before week... district. He will be expected to... view for decision... new things I had had...

My kind regards... with a... and kept... being at the... which left Gray... suddenly. With... I got... after receiving... your friend



James G. Thompson





Your letter is very a piece of  
men of what I should have  
the of yours. I would find  
for a comment of  
could necessarily upon your  
for the present ~~was~~ to be  
I hope will a ~~very~~ ~~very~~  
I hope to see you all very  
all want a ~~very~~ ~~very~~  
absence of ~~very~~ ~~very~~  
with by ~~very~~ ~~very~~  
I. E. gave me ~~very~~ ~~very~~  
at ~~very~~ ~~very~~  
I hope to see you all very  
connection for ~~very~~ ~~very~~  
was not ~~very~~ ~~very~~  
I hope to see you all very  
a more ~~very~~ ~~very~~  
nearly ~~very~~ ~~very~~  
was ~~very~~ ~~very~~  
fair prototype of the ~~very~~ ~~very~~  
I hope to see you all very  
journey which ~~very~~ ~~very~~  
I hope to see you all very

Amos Eaton

Oct. 1<sup>st</sup> 1831

Prof. J. Gregory  
New York

Dear Sir  
I have the honor to receive of you  
the inclosed bill for the amount of  
\$100.00 for the purchase of  
books for the use of the  
Academy of Arts and Sciences  
in the City of New York

Hall of Tammany, N. York, Nov 4<sup>th</sup> 35

My dear friend,

Have I not a small cause of complaint? Let me  
say why, in my own style. Had you said to me what  
God more severe — all would have been accept-  
able, and even pleasant to my feelings. Your  
long experience, your almost unequalled strength  
of intellect and our habits of unregarded cor-  
respondence — (above all your kindness to me  
when perjury and bribery had the foot on  
my neck) — all are calculated to make  
any liberty taken with me most accept-  
able. But ought you to have countenanced  
Mr. Gray in his vituperative and consummately  
impudent course with me? I will  
not call him a concerted "upstart," be-  
cause he has obtained your patronage.  
Had he told me, that my erroneous views  
would be discouraging to his efforts — had  
he questioned me in his pedagogue-like  
style, or, under any other circumstances,  
he would have met his reward. But it  
was in your presence, in your house;  
and seemed to be, in a measure, coun-  
tenanced, at least tolerated, by my  
most valued friend. I was questioned  
by him, in lofty style, like a poor  
trembling wretch, cringing under  
the birch. Perhaps I felt it too  
much from you — but I beg you  
not to believe, that I could be  
brought to resent any thing from  
Mr. Gray, after he had given me  
a small specimen of his exuberant  
ity. — Contempt was my highest  
as to him personally; though I was predisposed

to set a high value upon him, as my students well know.  
You did grieve and distress me,  
by seeming to countenance Mr. Gray  
in his unprecedented impudence.  
But you cannot weaken my  
most affectionate  
regard, and my deep-  
rooted interest in your well-earned  
fame; even though you charge me with them. I  
will never forget your kindness, when the world forsook me.

I ask no reply to this — it  
is the vehicle of effusion for  
wounded feelings. I simply asked  
for direction and aid in procu-  
ring the printed works, containing  
discoveries in Botany, since my  
6<sup>th</sup> Dec. went to press — several  
times I repeated, that I desired  
merely to keep pace with published  
discoveries. Mr. Gray (unmasked) in-  
terfered, as if he — though he said  
we — had the destinies of the sci-  
ence in his hands, and that the  
"ground whereon he stood was Holy."  
"Take thy shoes from off thy feet,  
and put on the sandals of the  
Natural Method, and we will  
begin to hear you."

This may be the effusion of  
dudgeon; but, some love, I am



unhappy; and my unhappiness  
is caused by your countenancing  
unjustifiable liberties in one who  
has no right to treat me thus.

Your affectionate and  
unchangeable friend,  
Amos Eaton.

To Prof. Searcy.

(which I did not expect, without)

P. S. I believe I have pre-  
pared all the printed figures I need.  
As to Mr. Gray's improvements  
in Submiferæ, I did calculate  
late to publish them; but it seems  
I was not to be permitted. I re-  
gret this, as a disagreeable re-  
sult of my failure will  
probably be indispensable. As  
my preparation will not be prin-  
ted until the last of Feb. I may  
devise some scheme for dis-  
missing that public expectation, which  
Mr. Gray's extraneous announ-  
ment of his remarkable discov-  
eries, has excited. A. C.

Mr. Searcy's letter from the morning. I have always  
been happy to receive any attention from your  
at my own place in paper. F. C.



min  
life

Prof. J. Torrey.  
Care of W. Douglas & Prince  
N. York.



Troy, March 26<sup>th</sup> 1836.

To Dr Torrey,

Dear Friend,

As ill health necessarily excluded me from even being a "talked of" candidate for the proposed scientific survey of this state, I claim the right to give my opinions freely on a subject which most deeply interests me.

You know Gov. Marcy was of Troy, and was Vice President of our Lyceum. He has considerable taste for Natural Science, and possessed strong powers of mind. I can consider the report of the committee on the subject as you may think fit to use it.

as you may think fit to use it.

and in the best possible manner. Here two alterations I make & am, done 1. & 2. & 3.

3. Men of real science ought to be perfectly unbiassed in a determination to have it the most perfect survey ever made on earth. As the honor of the whole scientific corps is at stake upon it, private interest ought not to govern.

4. Individual species in all the branches of Zoology and of organized remains, are better understood by some individuals in the city of New York, than elsewhere in the State.

5. General views of the geology of this State is

better understood by several country geologists, than by any individual in the city of New York. This I say confidently; because I am perfectly acquainted with every attempted general investigation.

6. Pterogamous plants and Ferns are perfectly understood (as far as the state of the science will warrant) by several individuals in both city and country.

7. Cryptogamiae below ferns are better understood in the city than in the country.

8. Critical comparisons have been better made with Pterogamous plants, by one individual in the city, than elsewhere.

The following is my inference, A committee (or self-appointed individuals) from our scientific institutions here and in New York, ought to come to an understanding as follows: that — 1. General geology, and the collection of Pterogamous plants, should be in the hands of country naturalists, with Emmons at the head in geology — perhaps David Thomas as colleague.

2. Cryptogamiae and Critical Botany, Zoology and the more recent organic remains should be in the hands of city naturalists, with Serry and Cooper at the head.

3. Mineralogy should be committed to both sets — in this I would include the organic remains, older than the Cretaceous group. James Hull should be the <sup>leader.</sup> country ~~leader.~~ I know of no one who should have the preference in New York, in this department.

4. The general plan to be adopted, that shall be best calculated to promote harmony and to enlist the feelings of all our citizens, requires much deliberation.

I consider J. Borneya Beck as better qualified to hold the place of Chairman and to receive and digest all collected facts than any other individual known to me in the State.

Yours Truly

Amos Eaton.



N.B. Though I have interchanged thoughts freely with many (not the least informed on the subject) I do not feel at liberty to give a one's thoughts but my own.

A.

Gov. Marcy intimated to Mr. Van Rensselaer, that he should confer <sup>and advise</sup> with gentlemen from various parts of the State, who were conversant with Natural History, ~~as soon~~ <sup>after</sup> the bill should become a law. Among those named, you was particularly mentioned. You may receive this as literally correct.

A.?

paid

as n  
Phenog.  
salists,  
vid ?

Prof. Geo. Torrey, M.D.

Corner of Prince & M<sup>th</sup> Street.

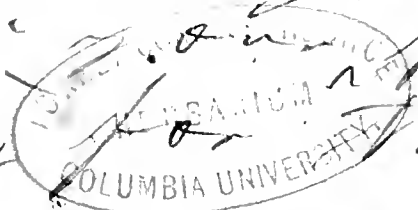
New York.



Gray, Aug. 2. 1838.

My dear friend,

Exercise and hard work chain  
me down to the school. I hardly  
write a note but on business  
I was delighted to receive <sup>long wished</sup>  
yours. I send you \$5 for the  
first volume — 4 for  
present postage, & 1/6 for  
me No 1 for the month — I am  
greedy to see it



Can I get Gray's papers?  
I am now preparing my 8th  
Ed. of Manual. It will be printed  
next March. I will send it to you by sheets,  
you know it is  
every body's business. ~~But~~ Over  
1500 copies per year have  
been sold for last 6 or 7 years.  
What shall I say in the  
preface about your Flora? I  
will print (verbatim) what you  
write for it, to the amount of

a page. What a book Hartington  
has made!! Is he not all industry  
and fidelity?

Tell me any thing about  
any of the Co. I will obey any  
thing; only I will retain the  
Artificial System.

I think I shall see you  
in Oct.

Yours, without  
doubt,

B. J. Foy.

Amos Eaton

To Assistant Engineers, and other business men.

To accommodate you in extending your knowledge of Mathematics, during the leisure of the winter season, a By-law was passed, since the notice was printed, to the following effect:

A winter term (wholly devoted to practical mathematics) from the third Wednesday in November to the last Wednesday in March, annually, is now established. Degrees of Civil Engineer may be conferred on all who attend either the winter or summer course, and are found, at the public examination, to be well qualified. Hereafter there will be two regular examinations in each year—one in March, the other in October; at both of which degrees may be conferred. But no one will hereafter receive the degree, until he has performed the duties of practical engineer three months on a Rail-Road, Canal, or at the Rensselaer Institute; and shall exhibit fair specimens of qualifications for linear and perspective drawing.

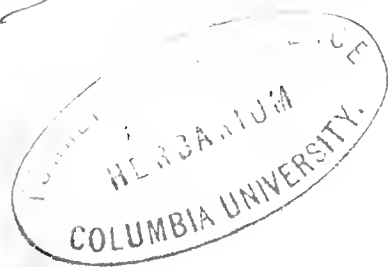
MARK TUCKER, Secretary  
of the Rensselaer Institute.

Rensselaer Institute,  
Troy, Feb. 21, 1837.

The summer term will commence on the 26th April next.

AMOS EATON, Agent,  
and Prof. Civil Engineering.

All degrees are conferred by Res. B. Vail,  
of Schenectady, Cal.



Gray's foolish impudent article,  
was most sarcastically treated by a  
great man. But I prevented its  
publication. I confided it to a boy's  
wife, which he will regret, when  
he goes to market.





Prof. John J. Torrey, M. D.

New York.





It is almost a P.M. — time to send this to D. C. Post  
I will make a fugitive memorandum for you — not to go into  
my own journal. Learning that Mr. Gray's name was to be associ-  
ated with yours, two years ago, ~~and~~ <sup>nevertheless</sup> I might esteem him, for  
the sake of your great work I felt it my duty to treat his name res-  
pectfully before my classes. As numerous teachers go from this  
School, I after effect purposes through them. I put 24 copies of  
his history into the hands of my students, and it is our physi-  
ological text-book — <sup>in many of my students' schools. His great</sup>  
He forced in a kind of <sup>unwelcome</sup> ~~unwelcome~~ <sup>for review</sup> ~~for review~~ <sup>for the purpose of</sup>  
exhibiting his honorable name, set off by a spasmodic throw with abortive witteigms.

I received your first number. I sent Mr  
Willard your address circular. My daughter  
was braver - after asking her my opinion of  
the ~~book~~ to her she would be a subscriber.

I shall soon send you a long letter.  
I shall demonstrate that *Beckia*, Ma-  
nincula *Chintonii* is a distinct spe-  
cies, and absolutely new. I was the  
discoverer, but I was wrong in sup-  
posing it the prostrata. I am right  
in my *Lonicera hirsuta* - right in  
my *Polygonum phytolacca* - right in  
in saying that the *Heteranthera*  
of South Bay at Hudson is a  
combination of the *obliquifolia*  
and *gymnophylla* of Linnaeus.  
As I write you ~~the~~ years ago.

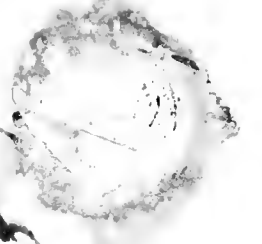
Yours truly,  
Amos Eaton.

N. B. You know I referred all genera to the  
Natural Order, even in 1st Ed. 1816. The differences among  
botanists have prevented my departing from the  
100 orders of Jussieu, subdivided according  
to modern rules. No it is my 5th Ed. 5<sup>th</sup>  
with to conform to your views for the sake  
of uniformity. But how can I do this?

10 cents

Prof. John Torrey. M. D.

New York.



Troy Feb. 10 - 40

My dear friend,

Your letter, this moment



\* Hosford told Hall that I intended his having got minerals yet  
sent to the student. After a few weeks he  
of the Museum's expense. He had  
the amount of \$1000. He had  
along all expenses. He had  
received a state appointment,  
and was to go to  
New York.

received as developed a mystery, heretofore  
known to me. I have recd. numerous  
hints of a low conspiracy, which I was un-  
willing to admit. It was, that Jas Hall,  
and Hosford, with the aid of J. W. Barn-  
well were making me enemies, with all  
possible zeal. Hall I made into some-  
thing, out of a very clear fellow, who  
had been a marked fisher, below  
Boston. As he was abjectly poor, and  
appeared to be honest and industrious,  
I enlisted the newspapers in his fa-  
vor. But Mr. N. K. gave up all hope  
of his appointment, <sup>at state solicitation</sup> after he had  
succeeded for Emmons. They were both  
proposed to me by myself. I  
persevered and got Hall in, it made  
gossip, Hosford, was a enemy of  
Hall. He set about, and succeeded  
in exciting Hall's jealousy also  
leaves. The same engine was phid  
with you, as I now see, by them.  
on their chartered machine. I will  
stop here - But I assure you  
that he told me, that you opposed  
some application of his, on account  
of your opposition to me. He  
brought in May, some how,  
I have now forgotten how.

I solemnly declare, that I never  
uttered a disrespectful syllable in re-

guard to you, <sup>knowingly</sup> before my students ~~non~~ <sup>non</sup> ~~else~~  
when I expressed ~~to~~ yourself in a letter, and  
to three or three of our mutual friends, my  
dissatisfaction in the matter of the very  
unprovoked (and I must say ungentlemanly,  
as our friends did) attack upon me by Mr  
Gray, through Silliman's Journal, I wrote  
a severe <sup>which you would say would have put him in "bad odor."</sup> ~~second~~ <sup>second</sup> ~~thought~~  
I should have demonstrated, <sup>that he knew his insinuations to be</sup> ~~that~~ ~~he~~ ~~knew~~ ~~his~~ ~~insinuations~~ ~~to~~ ~~be~~ ~~false~~,  
I suppressed it, this is all. But I have  
often been accused of being so devoted to you  
as to give evidence of want of decision and  
of self respect. So much for a few ipse  
dict, explosive, specimens of <sup>my</sup> ~~my~~ ~~term~~ ~~agony~~.

You may, on receiving the sheets, I in-  
tend to send you ~~within~~ a day or two, sup-  
pose that I am making idle enqui-  
ries, after advancing so far <sup>in printing</sup>. You will  
recollect that I placed my Natural  
Orders at the last of the 7th Edi-  
tion, in a part of grammar. This is  
now my intention, and I wish to make  
it as perfect as I can. Kindly send me  
by Dr. Alex. N. Kennerly, a thin book,  
printed in 1835, containing the same  
(with few alterations) which you published be-  
fore ~~this~~ Natural Orders in 1831. — Also  
containing a systematic arrangement of  
his Natural Method; differing in some  
respects from that which you edited. Is  
this method the same with his 2d Ed? I  
have studied that considerably.

You will perceive by these printed  
sheets, that I set <sup>in</sup> abbreviations of the or-  
ders, adopted in your catalogue; but re-  
fer to them by Jussieu's Ed hundred num-  
bers. You see, also, that I use abbreviations  
for extracting the substance of Lind-  
ley's Medical Flora of 1838, which you  
advised me to purchase in Nov 1838. If this  
is quackery, it is fair quackery, as it costs  
the reader nothing.



I am Jarry Steele of Albany, has become tired of book-trades. I suppose he is very rich; but he inherits his property, and does not wish to remain in business, ~~longer than~~ <sup>than</sup> to find a man to sell out. Three years ago, he would have been the very book-seller you now want.

I cannot obtain the new species. But if I can obtain any within the U. S. I will print them in an Addenda — or important ones far away. We add some localities; and I have authorized John Wright to introduce such new expressions as you advise. I have sent you Gates' circular, by which and by the sheets I shall send, you will see how we are going on. As I have left 32 pages for abbreviations, artificial classes & orders, &c. and shall take full room for the Natural Orders, <sup>at the end</sup> I want all I can get, that I can use in accordance with the same familiar manner you see. The new words — Jeparis, akenes, paleps, &c. I shall put in a small compass in one view, to avoid frightening the students.

It is now Wednesday, Feb. 12. I have put up all the genera, and the species as far as Argalea. We have printed as far as Catalpa, page 184. But Gates is an ultra or a neat book-seller; and he will <sup>not</sup> let me send any more until it is pressed. After his next pressing I will send again.

If you had one or two new things <sup>for me</sup> of particular interest — guess the rest.

As Gates says he will have the 2000 copies ready for market early in April, all must go rapidly. Wright, and his Michigan student, Bull, examine every proof — also my niece and daughter, and my sister-in-law (author of the Botanical Teacher, & Johnson's paper) — not

of the copy, I hope, it may come out well. We  
rely chiefly on Wright for selecting things. Bull has  
made a full index to your botany 1<sup>st</sup> ed. & I  
put a copy of his index into mine, which I find  
very convenient.

Do send me the name of the plant, which I pub-  
lished under the name *Toreya* in a former edi-  
tion. I sent your letter on that subject, and I can  
not find it; though it may have been re-  
turned. You will see how I differ of it at p. 63.

Hand

PAID  
John Torrey, M.D.  
New York.



You must give me some items of what  
I must say about your botany in my preface.  
I will burn your manuscript, and do right.  
I never puff in my old age. Though I am  
now wheezing with the tiresome ~~business~~  
~~of some unoccupied~~ ~~for~~

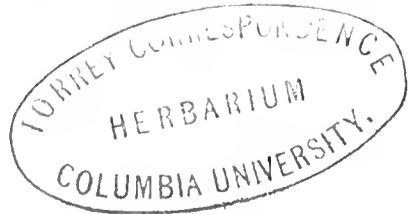
I should be very glad of your 7<sup>th</sup> ed notes.  
How soon I get it. I have just corrected proof to  
a fellow to copy this. I have waited to this 18<sup>th</sup> Feb. for  
a fellow to copy this. I have not done.

To Dr. J. Torrey, I present to your acquaintance Mr. Wallace, a friend and formerly a student; now a merchant in New York, who will call on you. He can conveniently send any package to me, <sup>at any time.</sup> The 5th copy of proof sheets, ~~of~~ 7<sup>th</sup> Ed. he will send to me. I should be pleased to read your ~~MS.~~ notes before our ~~Adenda~~ is printed. He is at No. 38 Front Street.

Mr. Gates sends you our sheets regularly. I hope you receive them promptly. I heard <sup>today</sup> that Dr. Wright had a letter from you; but he has been very sick about a week, and I have not seen him. Geo. Bull, his assistant as botanist in Michigan is at his father's (Judge Bull of Gay) and at leisure. He corrects all proofs, and under the doctor's direction, collects and arranges the new species. He is a very faithful and accurate botanist. He collected alone last summer in Mich. and has brought some duplicates of, perhaps, about all the plants of that State.

I devote my attention chiefly to the student, and to the application of all I can get from you and Seidley to the Natural arrangement and properties of plants.

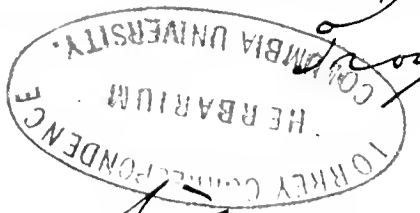
Mr. Wallace is in haste.  
Yours truly,  
Amos Eaton.



For the family  
near or on  
Princes Street  
or Westborough  
St.

To be retained  
by Mrs. Wallace,  
of New York,

March 7 - 1840



207, June 26<sup>th</sup> 1940.

Dear Sir, I send you this little book as a curiosity for you. It has been considered as a curiosity by many — as very useful by others — as troublesome by some — and as sufficient for a flora by a few. Just look at it. Several large schools have been taught well with it, without my other book. An excellent school of botanists are now learning with it, under a Mr. Avery, in the Town of Mexico on Lake Ontario.

Please to read all of the two pages of Notices — also all of page 8. See page 19. See at page 147 and on to 252, as a good exercise for young birds. See the fly-card at the end of the book, &c.

Dr. Wright received a letter from you, pointing out objections to 8<sup>th</sup> Ed. Not accounting for removed species was a great error. It is too little, however, to the beginning of the species. We heard that your 3<sup>d</sup> No was printed in April, but have not seen it.

I think, I am on the decline of life, without hope of full recovery. I give my school lectures and attend a common round of duty. But since my spasmodic symptoms of asthma have nearly ceased, I feel more <sup>emphatically</sup> the debility of age. I am but little over 64, and might yet be strong and somewhat efficient. I am endeavoring to leave this institution, and shall do it, as soon as it can be put in a situation to dispense with my services.

I have always carried it on my back, with a few nominal assistants, since A. C. Beck left it. I shall not leave it, until it is placed on a more permanent foundation. This is in a train to be effected within a year, I hope.



I hope you will not tire in the cause  
of the Modern Sciences. I believe you <sup>have about</sup>  
~~twenty~~ years yet left behind my number.  
This appears to me a very short period, when  
I consider that I have been in Gray 22  
years. Gov. Morgan Lewis was here last Wed-  
nesday. He says, he is 22 years older than  
I am; and he could tumble a room full  
of such as I am, out at the window. Am-  
brose Spencer is yet strong; and many others  
of my acquaintance of great age. But I have  
out-lived most of my generation. Very few  
of the companions of my youth are now  
in life. In my native parish I can find  
but about a dozen of my years. I had  
a severe attack of bleeding at the lungs  
about two months since; and a few slight  
attacks since. I have all my life been  
exceedingly temperate in drinks—never  
once in my life in any degree under the  
influence of strong drinks. But in early  
manhood I always took too large a quan-  
tity of food. I learned the ill effects after suf-  
fering 50 years.

Why cannot we have a kind of Manual  
of N. American Zoology. The plan of my  
little Zoology of 1820, would be a good  
one. When I made that, I was assured  
by many, that a suitable manual  
could be prepared within 4 or 5 years.  
I think you spoke of a Mr. Stewart.  
We have no Mineralogy nor Zoology  
suitable for schools. Mr. S's plan will  
never be received. It is too tedious and  
nothing is gained. The number of species,  
hardly equalling the species of one genus of plants,  
cannot require such a hideous nomenclature.

Yours truly, A. Eaton



D. V. J. J. J.

Torrey.

30 Maryland Street

Care of D. C. Eaton,  
of Robinson &  
Eaton, N. Y. Road

New York

