

New York, November 29th, 1822

Dear Sir,

Yours of the 4th inst came in due time. I embrace the opportunity of answering it by Dr Hooker, who starts tomorrow for Dutchess. There is another letter of yours, dated Sept 17th last which I received after my return from the country, that should have been answered long since, but it got mislaid. It seems my paper on the new lichen coast too late for the last No. of your Journal. Should you incline to give it a place in the next no. my friend Dr Hooker, who is an excellent botanist will examine the proofs sheet.

I thank you for your kind attention to my friends Dr Smith of Andover; they feel much indebted to you.

You are right about that mineral, I sent you from Fishkill. It seems to be nothing more than a fine grained talc or perhaps a gray-wacke, impregnated with asbestos. It was scarcely worth your notice.

If possible I will select some Spartan minerals for you tomorrow, but it will not be in my power to send you much more. I wish Messrs Keating & Vanuxem would publish their account of these minerals, that I might see what they have to say, for I fear to send you my remarks (many of wh. I think interesting) on them for fear I shall be thought interfering these gentlemen.

Respecting my remarks on the Hoboken minerals, I would ask your opinion, whether they would be of sufficient consequence to communicate to the public if continued in the way I commenced them. If you think they would, please return what I have written by Dr Hooker & I will send you a complete paper immediately.

You have probably heard, by this time, of the fake of my new ore of zinc!
Mr. Keating has recently given a full account of it & proved it to be a
product of the iron furnaces of Anvers & Salisbury. This is really un-
fortunate for me, but did you know all the circumstances connected with
the thing, you would not think me so stupid. I knew the substance several
years - It came to me along with other minerals in a box from Anvers.
It appeared to be native, - I analysed it & discovered its nature. - All the
mineralogists here thought it decidedly native, - yet for a considerable time
in consequence of suspicions of its real nature I kept it from the public.
A gentleman at Anvers informed me that Mr. Patterson, proprietor of the iron
works, thought it an ore & ~~had~~ explored the neighbouring country for it.
He also informed me that a specimen was sent to Cleaveland, who decided
it to be a new ore of zinc! This authority I published my paper -

Major Delafield will send you a notice of a new locality of ~~zinc~~
Andalusite. It is the substance in large quadrangular prisms from Litchfield
which he showed you lately in New Haven. - I had some difficulty in de-
termining it on account of its apparent want of hardness & not having seen
~~the~~ a specimen of that mineral before. However I received just in time to
confirm my opinion, a specimen of Andalusite of Litchfield by Prof. Schueber
of Vienna. Both the German & Litchfield spec^s may easily be scratched by a
knife, yet they ~~scratch~~ abrade quartz rapidly when rubbed on it! On examining
a late German work on mineralogy - Haubach der Oryctognosie von Karl C.
Leonard. ed. 1821. p. 475. I find the following remarks - "The statements with
regard to this mineral are different by different authors - which may be explained
by the circumstance that the specimens examined have been more or less decomposed, or
have contained some mixture of zinc."

Mr. Nuttall is here -
I have given him some facts
which probably offend Mr. S.
localities of minerals &c for your next no.

I have long suspected that what has been sent from Lane's mine
is nothing but native Bismuth. What you analyzed & announced as Tellurium
certainly could have been no mistake about, but all I have ~~examined~~
named has been bismuth. The two metals have much resemblance
are probably often confounded. Can you furnish me with a specimen
real tellurium?

J. P. Silliman

I remain Dear Sir

Yours respectfully
John Torrey

You have probably heard, by this time, of the fate of my new ore of Tin!
Mr. Keating has recently given a full account of it & proved it to be a
product of the iron furnaces of Anceam & Salisbury. This is really un-
fortunate for me, but did you know all the circumstances connected with
the thing, you would not think me so stupid
years - It came to me along with other
It appeared to be native - I analysed it

mines

in

at

in

Professor William
Gale College
New Haven

Dr. Hooker

Dr. Hooker
New Haven
Dec 29 1832

New York, April 9th 1828.

My dear Sir

Will you permit me to make you
acquainted with my friend Mr. J. W. Fitch, a Student
of medicine in our College who expects to visit New York
I is desirous of paying his respects to you? Should it
not interfere with your engagements I should be gratified
if you would show him your laboratory, & afford him an
opportunity of visiting the other parts of the College &c., You
will find him an intelligent & agreeable gentleman

I have concluded my lectures on Chemistry & Botany,
& am at leisure to pursue my favorite studies - It is my
intention to finish my Northern Flora, & then to write something
on our Native grasses - I hope to send you some papers
this summer, if ~~the~~ readers of your journal are not sick
of "Cancography"

Mr. Hays informs me that he has been experimenting on
the Compounds of Chromium - Has he seen Dr. Lomonon's paper?
I have made some expts. on the same subject this winter,
& have made some interesting observations - I shall see whether
I ~~was~~ Mr. Hays has not anticipated me when his paper is
published - If he has not, I will furnish you with a few
notes, which you may publish, should they appear to be important

Yours in haste

J. Torrey

Dr. Barney on foot -

Mar. 22 1828

My dear Sir

I herewith send the Volume of Sir Humphrey Davy on the Safety Lamps &c, which I promised to forward to you on my return to New York. It is made up chiefly of extracts from his papers published in the Phil. Trans. & in Brandes Journal. . . but there is an interesting preliminary chapter which I think will please you. Dr We has garbled Sir Humphrey's statements. You will find the original to possess the cleanness of elegance which characterize every production of the distinguished author.

I send you also two or three small matters, which I beg you will accept of. The chloro-chromic acid was prepared according to the directions of Dr Thomson. It is a most active compound & must be handled with great caution. Its fumes are more annoying to me than those of any other substance, & have several times occasioned violent bronchitis, by inhaling them. Recollect that it acts violently on phosphorus, altho' Dr. Th. says it does not. To make the exp^t. put about ten drops of the acid in a strong capsule - place the vessel behind a thick screen of glass, & then plunge into it a piece of phosphorus fastened on the end of a crooked wire. You can thus witness the experiment without the least danger.

The chloride of arsenic was prepared with great care, according to the new process of Dumas, who considers it a protochloride - but it must be a deuterochloride, if the arsenious acid ~~to~~ contain two atoms of oxygen, - for each atom of oxygen will require an atom of sodium & the two atoms of chlorine which are liberated have but one atom of arsenic with which to combine. See Ann. chim. et phys.

In the parcel you will find a fragment of the mineral which Prof. Del Rio calls a carbonate of tellurium colored by nickel. I have examined it, but cannot find any tellurium in it - It appears to be only a silicate of zinc, colored by copper. A similar mineral is said to occur in "Rutland Cave mine, near Matlock, Derbyshire" (Phillips) - will you ask Mr. Shepard to see whether the foreign variety occurs in the Giffonian Cabinet, & if it does, to compare it with this small specimen -

I found no proofsheet of your chemical work, or any returns, nor have any been yet received. It will give me pleasure to examine them when they arrive -

With respect I remain

I remain
my dear Sir

Yours truly

J. Torrey

J. Torrey

Oct 6. 1838

[c. 1830]

St. Matthew of West Point will probably hand you this note - I will show you some rare chemical articles which he has prepared - particularly Aluminium & Magnesium. I believe he has the merit of being the first to prepare these metals in the U.S.A.

We are doing but little here in Science at present. - The gentlemen of the Lyceum are chiefly occupied in Geology & Zoology - My time is taken up at present, chiefly in Botanical pursuits.

I rejoice with you ~~in~~ that God is working such wonders in your College - It is reported here that a great number of the Students have become pious, & that many more are very seriously impressed. You doubtless have heard of the deep religious feeling which has pervaded our City for some weeks past. - It is still increasing

Yours in haste

John Torrey

B. Torrey

M.

B. Torrey

LIBRARY
NEW YORK
BOTANICAL
GARDEN

LIBRARY
OF THE
MUSEUM OF
COMPARATIVE
ZOOLOGY
HARVARD

New York, November 14th 1836

My dear Sir,

My time has been so much taken up, since I received your letter - that I have not been able to write you respecting Dr. Gray's paper. Some delay has occurred, also, in obtaining estimates of the engraver - we find that it will cost too much to have the plates copied by regular artists - the lowest (which was for copper plates) was 120 dollars for the engraving & printing 1250 copies. Now this will not do, & we must have the paper without the plates - unless I can have them done in lithography at West Point. Dr. Gray will send on the copy at once - Mr. Davis & Mr. Heron will see that the botanical terms are printed correctly. In the mean time I will write to my friend Dr. Bailey of West Point, who is a good botanist & draughtsman, to copy the engravings on stone - without charge - so that, if he will do this much, the only expense will be the printing & paper. They have a press at the Point, where they do work on very reasonable terms.

I have another good paper for you, on a subject allied to that of Dr. Gray, which might follow his in the next number of the journal. It is by a friend of

mine, A. J. Downing Esq. of Newburgh. The paper was read at
a late ~~meeting~~ ^{meeting} of the Lyceum, & the Society voted that it
should be offered you for publication. Tell me whether you
will receive it. I suppose it will make from 4 to 6 pages

We hear very little about the S. Sea Exped. The Secy of
the Navy wrote to me lately to make out a list of
botanical works for the Exped. He proposes to call the
scientific Corps together soon - - but he has not yet made
a single appointment! I think, however, that he is
pledged to Dr. Pickering, Mr. Dana, Dr. Gray & Mr. Rich.
I urged him to send Dr. Gray & Dr. Pickering to Europe
immediately that they might purchase books, appa-
ratus &c. & visit the principal gentlemen who have
recently been employed on similar service.

Yours with sincere regard
John Torrey

I have just written a little biographical notice
of Mr. Chilton for one of our newspapers. You will
probably give some account of his life in the Journal

Dr. Torrey -
Downing's notice
Nov - 36


New York, December 3^d, 1836.

My dear Sir,

By this time you have probably received Mr. Downing's botanical paper. The first proof of Dr. Gray's piece was rec^d. yesterday, & returned by mail this afternoon. Dr. Gray's address is "Asa Gray, M.D. Lyceum of Nat. History, N.Y." He is Superintendent & Librarian of the Lyceum, & has quarters in the Society's building. Lt. Bailey of West Point is working at the plates & will endeavour to have them ready in time. The plates for Mr. Downing's paper we will endeavour to have done next week by a young artist whom we are exercising for the S. Sea Expedition. By the way, I read a letter which Dr. Gray received from Mr. Dana last evening, & I begin to feel some uneasiness about the appointment of the latter, to the situation of Geologist & mineralogist in the Expedition! Did Dr. Eight ~~recommend~~ ask you to recommend him for this situation? If he did, he has deceived me. He promised not to ask for that place, provided some of the members of the Lyceum would ask some other appointment for him. I told him that the principal naturalists of the country had united in an application in favour of Dana, & he disclaimed any intention.

tion of interfering with our plans. I wrote to the Secretary of the Navy this evening & stated these facts to him - and I strongly urged the appointment of Dana. It is strange that not one of the gentlemen who expected places, have yet received their commissions! I think you had better tell Mr. Dana's friends to bestir themselves.

I send you a list of the principal botanical works of Sir Wm Hooker. If you can make a selection from these, he will send them to you for a set of the Journal. You had better wait, however, till I get an answer from him about the matter. I don't wish it to be a mere business transaction - but I will pledge myself that he will send a full return in his works, - provided you are willing to accept of them. I think Sir William would prefer a neatly bound set of your journal, to the work in boards.

Dr. Galt's bird tracks turn out to be the King's broad arrow, made by the Mason on the Stones, when we were British provinces! The Stones were removed from some old pavement & turned upside down! They look very much like some of Hitchcock's ornitholichs. 

I think it probable that another course of geological lectures would do well here. The respectable & obliging gentlemen have engaged many gentlemen to aid them, but they only pay Mr. Murtree. You must, if it is agreed that you come here again, lecture for your own exclusive benefit. I shall soon enquire what is thought of the plan.

You have probably rec^d. my brief notice of Mr. Chilton's death. I hope you will make honorable mention of him in the Journal - & take the opportunity of informing the public that his excellent son James will conduct the business of the laboratory with great fidelity. He is almost the sole dependence of the faculty.

Flora Boreali-Americana - 4 to, with numerous elegant plates - one
vol. (6 nos.) & No 7 of vol. 2 pub^d. The work to be completed in
2 vols. The price in London is a guinea a number -

Musci Exotici . 2 vol. 8vo. 100 plates - excellent -

Muscologia Britannica - 1 vol. 8vo. . . plates.

Botanical Miscellany 41. vol. 8vo. many plates.

Journal of Botany - 1 vol. 8vo " "

Companion to the Botanical Magazine - about 12 nos. pub^d. It
appears monthly, with the Bot. Magazine, also edited by
Sir Wm. Hooker - but he has no pecuniary concern in the latter
work. The "Companion" contains 1 or 2 plates to the No.

Icones Selectae - a new work, consisting of figures & descriptions
of new or rare plants in Sir William's herb^{um}. It will consist
of 2 vols. fol. 200 plates.

Botany of Capt. Beechey's voyage . 3 nos. published - many plates.

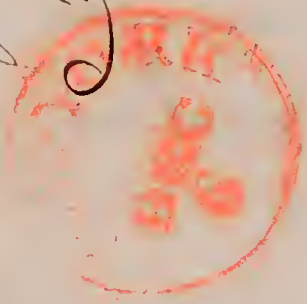
Exotic Botany 2 vol. royal 8vo. numerous coloured plates.

Most of Dr. Hooker's other works are not at his disposal - as they
belong to booksellers. - Nor am I sure that all the above can
be obtained now - for several of them may quite expended.

Mr. Thierien has anticipated me in preparing large quantities of Carbonic
acid. I should certainly have obtained the acid in a solid state had not my
apparatus given way. I could not find an artist who could make the stop
cocks & joints tight enough to resist the enormous pressure. In a few days
however. I hope to renew my attempts. Very respectfully yours
John Torrey

Yt 26-36
an
- 36

Professor Silliman
Yale College
New-Haven, Ct.



36
- 36
an.
Yt

New York, Dec. 7th 1836

My dear Sir

St. Bailey has finished one quarto plate

for Dr. Gray's translation of Corda's paper, & the other was nearly done four days ago. I have purchased two reams of paper

for the impressions, which shall be sent to West Point tomorrow.

The cost of printing will be \$3 per hundred for each 4-to plate.

or \$4 per hundred for the two plates. You need 1200 copies for the

Journal, & Dr. Gray wishes 50 copies for himself. I think you

will be willing to let Mr. Bailey have 10 copies for himself. I will

therefore order 1260 impressions of each plate struck off, the cost of which

will be \$50.40. To this add the cost of the paper - \$15.00, the total

expense (except some little matters for transportation) will be \$65.40.

I don't know what your engravings generally cost you, but I hope

I have not gone beyond your estimate of what you supposed this work

would amount to. Whether I can get the engravings for

Mr. Downings' paper ready for this number is not yet certain. If you

don't hear from me very soon on the subject, perhaps his piece

had better be left over for the April number. I shall request

St. Bailey to send down the engravings as soon as they are ready, & you may expect to receive them in the course of a week or ten days from this time.

36
I did not know till Monday last, that a Committee of the Lyceum had been corresponding with you respecting a short course of geological lectures at the Lecture Room of our Society. Two or three months ago it was determined that we must have an appropriate course of lectures this winter, for many of our subscribers gave us their money, in the expectation of receiving some return in knowledge, from the members of our Society. It is not the intention of the Lyceum to reap any pecuniary benefit from these lectures - but merely to satisfy our friends & patrons. The Committee spoke to Dr. Mc Murtrie ^{of myself} some time since, & enquired whether we were willing to make an engagement for the Lyceum - but no definite arrangements were made. It appears to me that you might give us a few lectures, without interfering with an engagement in some other part of the city. Our patrons are mostly up-town people, & you might deliver another course in Clinton Hall, or in Brooklyn. I don't know whether you would consider it an object to come here for our Society alone - unless you do it ~~to~~ to oblige us. It would certainly be very agreeable to me to be associated with you in a

STATIONERS HALL

245 PEARL ST

New York Dec 6th 1836

H Professor Willman

Bought of David Felt & Co.

2 Ream Royal Paper \$7.50 1500

course of scientific lectures. You may think that the tenor of this letter is different from that of my last, - but such is not the case, I advised you not to lecture for the ^{pecuniary} benefit of a society - & we certainly have no wish to make money by ~~the~~ your labours. If you should take up with our offer, would you accept of an invitation to lecture elsewhere, in N.Y. or in Brooklyn?

Mr. Hitchcock's strange tracks that he has found in Connecticut must be the *Cheirothesium* figured by Buckland! Have you the new work of this *Prince of Geologists*? It is a splendid thing - Yours truly & affectionately
John Torrey

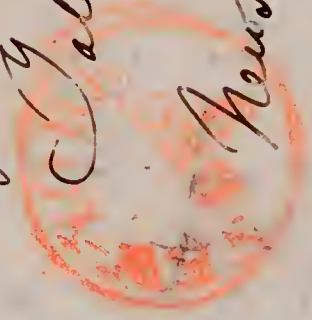
Dr Torrey
an Dec 10-36

10

Professor Silliman

Yale College

New Haven, Ct.



85/181 550

New York, March 25th 1837.

My dear Sir,

By this time I hope you have received a box containing the 1260 copies of the plate for Mr. Downings' paper, together with the lithographic stone on which the drawings were copied. I regret that it was not in my power to get the work done at West Point, as it would have cost less - but hereafter, if any thing ~~is~~ in the botanical line is needed for the journal, I hope to have it done for you at a cheap rate. I proceeded to Princeton immediately on completing my lectures at the Lyceum of the Med. College. I should have ~~it~~ declined lecturing any more at Princeton, after my course of last summer was closed, had not Prof. Henry been very urgent to me to remain connected with the College another year - if I deliver my lectures this year, in the early part of the season, ~~as~~ my time will be otherwise occupied

During the summer. I prepared several tubes
of anhydrous liquid Carbonic acid at Princeton a few days
ago, & if you wish for one, it shall be sent to you by
an early opportunity. I attempted to make
the gas come out more rapidly by plunging one
end of the tube in a vessel of hot water, while
the other was surrounded with a freezing mixture -
- but it burst - though without hurting me, as the
shock was greatly broken by the water in which
the tube was ^{partly} immersed. I found that the bursting
was owing to some of the sulphate of ammonia
(formed by the action of the sulphuric acid on the car-
bonate of ammonia) having plugged up the tube about
half way up, so that the gas which was evolved
below had not the benefit of the refrigerating process
above, - of the elasticity having been doubled, ^(= 76 atmos.) by at least
by the great heat that I employed, it is no wonder
that an explosion took place. - On Monday next

I must go to Princeton & give a few lectures more -

I send Eudicott's bill for his work on the drawings plates

Please let Mr. D. have 10 copies of his paper -

Very sincerely yours
John Torrey

BOTANICAL
GARDEN

New York. April 11th 1837.

My dear Sir,

St. Bailey of West Point, called on me today, & brought the remaining impressions of the plates of Corda. I did not think there would be so many, for I supposed that there would be the usual proportion of imperfect-queries in the two ~~sheets~~^{reams} of paper which I sent to the printer - but it seems that all the sheets were good & the whole of the paper has been used. I fear that you will not trust me again to get work done for you, as I have led you to some unnecessary expense. As, however, you promised Dr. Gray some 50 or 60 copies, & in consequence of the printer refusing to sell the Stones, it was necessary to have a considerable number of extra plates struck off. Perhaps there will not be more than 150, or 200 too many. It is to be hoped, however, that the calls for full sets of the Journal will be so numerous, that all the extra copies will be disposed of. - The account, then, for the two plates accompanying Corda's paper is as follows -

90.27	2576
66.40	2387
23.87	189

Felt's bill for paper - - -	\$ 15.31.
Paid for transportation, cartage &c.	2.96.
Mr. Bailey's postage &c.	
Aspinwall's bill - printing - - -	72.00
	90.27

By draft -	64.51	\$ 66.40
Due -	25.76	

When I rec^d. your Draft I handed it over to Dr. Gray & requested
him to attend to the money matters, & I requested Mr. Bailey to
forward the bill for printing, & it would be paid - but the
bill did not come down till to-day. I made a mem. in
pencil of the amount of your Draft, & Dr. Gray, thinking this
was safe, did not keep any himself. Finding the bill did not come
from West Point, he handed me \$47.10. - the balance of what remained
after paying Felt's bill & some small matters - now I don't feel
confident about my Memorandum - ~~figures~~ for the figures are not
very plain. Please turn to your account book & see if the
sum is correct. I am almost-certain as to the dollars. I will
send Mr. Aspinwall the money, & we can arrange the business as
to the balance - If you can trust me again after
this miserable management, I will do better in future & Mr. Bailey
is very willing to work for the mere love of science. If the stones
are sent to him he will return them ready for the printer & they
can be used in New Haven if you have a lithographer there. At
West Point the price is \$2. per 100 for printing, exclusive of the paper.
The paper will cost \$7.50 per ream (480 sheets) - each sheet being suf-
ficient for 4 quarts impressions - The other expenses are trifling.

You enquired in one of your letters respecting the rotary electro-
magnetic machine of Davenport. It has been exhibited here &
many persons have been led to believe that it will soon supersede
the steam engine! It is a mere modification of the "wiggler" invented
long ago by Prof. Henry, & reinvented by several other persons some

time after his discovery was published - in your Journal, I believe Prof. H. never believed that it could possibly be applied to any useful purpose, & merely regarded the apparatus as a "philosophical toy" - & so he told the Vermont blacksmith himself. It is surprising how people love to be humbugged.

I have not yet been able to get a mechanic to make my condensing apparatus for Carbonic Acid. The engineer of the Dry Dock Company undertook to do the work, but he has not done anything yet. Since I had the pleasure of seeing you in New York I have made many expts. on condensing gases in tubes of glass - & have succeeded admirably - I only met with one accident, which, however, did no other injury than throwing a little sulphuric acid into my face. I had a fine quantity of the condensed liquid in a sealed tube, but wishing to aid the generation of the Carb. acid by heat, I plunged one end of the tube into hot water, while the other was cooled with a freezing mixture - but it soon burst & shattered the tube & the tumbler in which it was partly immersed. I was close by it when the explosion took place, but the force of the shock was somewhat diminished by the water surrounding the tube that I was not hurt. The explⁿ would not have occurred, had not the sulphate of ammonia plugged up the tube, so that the gas generated below, was ^{not} affected by the freezing mixture at the other end. A ^{perfect} cork was fitted to the orifice of the upper vessel, & the condensing tube (containing carb. ammon. & sul. acid) was packed into it, & surrounded with snow & salt. The lower part of the tube was immersed in a jar of hot water - but I found that at (*) there was a stricture - or rather an accumulation of cryst. sul. ammon. I have a tube prepared



- the tube
another expt. " nearly an inch in the bore. I hope it will be strong enough, when
sealed up, to bear the enormous pressure of the condensed acid. - If
you wish one of my smaller tubes I will send you one with
pleasure. It shall be well proved before it is sent, so that you may
handle it without the least fear. - My lectures went off very well
- at any rate the people seemed pleased. - but the gentlemen who succeeded
me, did not make out so well. The money prizes, & the great number
of lectures that had been determined by other gentlemen were much against them.
I am, my dear Sir, as ever, your friend J. Torrey.

Professor Silliman

Yale College

New Haven Ct.

J. Torrey with a
notice of the con-
tribution of
carbonic acid -
Jan. 14 - 37

New York, Aug. 23rd 1837.

My dear Sir

I have been out of the city a great part of the season or I would long since have replied to your letter of April last - I sent the receipt for the lithographic printing -

You have probably seen a short notice, by Mr. Hall, of the high mountains of Essex Co. New York. A full account of this interesting region will be given by Dr. Emmons, in whose geological district it is situated - Mr. Redfield will probably write the popular account of an excursion - for he was of our party, & measured with great care, all the more important stations. It is surprising that these mountains have never been visited before. Even the old hunters of Essex Co. say that ~~the~~ no person, to their knowledge, has ascended the highest of them. The peak which we named Mt. Marcy is full ⁺ 5,300 ⁺ above the level of the sea. On the 5th of Aug^t we found plenty of ice near the summit - & in the shade, the water was freezing in the middle of the day. I found many interesting alpine plants never before seen in the U. States, except on the white hills of N. H. The geology of the region was uncommonly interesting - but of this you will be informed by Dr. Emmons. Perhaps Mr. Redfield will furnish you a paper on the heights of the mountains - the lower

of the Hudson & in the next No. of your Journal.

Have you received any letters from Prof. Henry? He was in London when I last heard from him - but he was to visit France soon - He surely attended the meeting of the British Association. America is well represented this year. Henry & Bache are a host of will do us much credit abroad -

Our new medical college will soon be finished, & then I shall commence the fitting up of my laboratory. My accommodations will be very good. I hope to have a comfortable time next winter - - but it will be several seasons before I am in perfect order.

The S. Sea Exped. is now in a fair way of sailing in a few weeks. Two of the corps are sitting on the opposite side of my table making their arrangements. The equipments in apparatus, books &c. will be complete. The scientific corps is as good as the country can afford - if they don't reap an abundant harvest they must expect no mercy on their return. I hope you will visit New York before the vessel sails, & give the "brethren" an ~~short~~ ^{short} haul.

Believe me, my dear Sir -
Truly yours

John Torrey

Dr Torrey - Am.
Sept 57

New York, October 17th 1837.

My dear Sir,

I have received from Sir Wm. Hooker some books for you, which I shall forward in a day or two, by the New Haven Steam Boat. If possible, I will avoid paying the duties. The collector gave me a free order to have the boxes (one addressed to me, & the other for Dr. Harris of Boston) delivered without being opened, - as I told him there was every reason for believing that Dr. Harris contained only insects, & mine, botanical specimens and a few books. I proposed to report to him, if there were many books. On opening the box I was surprised to find nothing but books in it - mostly for yourself - & a few for Dr. Greene of Boston & one or two others. The collector may suffer you to escape without paying anything - as the books were in effect ordered by you. The value of the volumes sent by Sir Wm. (taking them at their regular selling price in London) is considerably greater than the price of the Am. Jan. of Science. They are the Scones Filicum. 2 vols, folio, bound.

lovely bound... more than 200 plates. This is sold usually
in numbers. The London price is 24/6 per No. An unbound
copy was sold here as a bargain the other day for \$65.
- The British Jungmannia is a costly work. I know of but
two other copies in the country. A friend paid \$40 for a
colored copy - yours is plain. The Musci exotici 2
vols. 8vo. 200 plates. little known in the U. States. The
Companion to the Brit. Magazine is pub^d in Monthly nos. There
are about 20 of these & they will be continued. They contain
much interesting information on botanical matters.

Will you have the goodness to send the volumes of your
journal to New York by an early opportunity addressed
to the care of Dr. Chilton, & I will forward them with some
parcels which I am preparing for Sir William

Your kind letter of Sept 22nd was duly received. I
hope Mr. Redfield sent you his account of the
Mountains of Essex Co. Since we visited them, several
other parties have been there. A sentimental journey
& them you will see in the last three numbers of
the New York Mirror.

Have you seen the proceedings of the British Association
at ~~Bristol~~ Liverpool? They are published at considerable
length in the Liverpool Chronicle. Prof. Henry was there

but I believe no other American save a Mr. Roberts of Philadelphia. I did not see Bache's name. Many British stars were absent - but the meeting was a good one.

The place selected for the next meeting is Newcastle-upon-Tyne. Dr. Locke arrived here a few days ago - but I have not seen him. Faraday, you know, is now

Sir Michael. I saw Mather the other day. He was right, I think, in making a temperate reclamation of Featherstonhaugh's geological map. Mr. M. was pleased when I told him you would republish his paper.

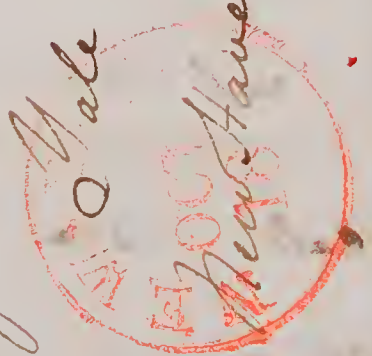
I hope you will call & see me when you come to our city. My laboratory is nearly completed, & I shall commence the arrangement of the apparatus shortly.

We are all mourning here in consequence of the dreadful news of the wreck of the Home. My friend Mr. Croon, of Charleston, a zealous botanist, who spends his Summers in New-York, & was almost daily in my study, was returning to his home with his wife & three children - one a blooming young lady who had just completed her education here - & all perished together! My friend had nearly finished the printing of a botanical work - but was obliged to sail before it could be published. He left it for ^{me to} take care of. & it will be a fortunous work! How vain all our scientific pursuits appear under such awful circumstances as these, - & how important that we should be prepared & watching!
your sincere friend
J. S. Torrey

11

Professor William

Male College
New Haven Ct.



Dr John Torrey -
arr. Oct 23, '72

64.64
43.86
84.50
41.30
3.20

61.50
67.50
63.80
3.64

80.
16.14
63.86

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84
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64
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6

80
16
64

Alb Aug 20 1838

New York, Aug^t. 8th 1838.

My Dear Sir,

I send you a prospectus of the Flora of N. America, - a work which has occupied a great deal of my time for many years past, & in which my friend Dr. Gray has labored for the last five years. Part II will be out in September. Dr. G. has resigned his place in the U.S. Exped. - & has accepted the appointment of Prof. of Botany in the new University of Michigan. As he will not be occupied in teaching for a year, at least, he will probably visit Europe in the Autumn, & then make arrangements for stocking the Botanic Garden of the Univ. with exotic plants. He will also purchase books. This is the best appointment, in botany, that they could have made.

We print the Flora on our own account, & the expenses are very heavy - we have paid already at the rate of \$1000 a volume for the printing & paper. If we don't get many subscribers the work can hardly go on. You must induce your library of scientific institutions to take it.

I became much interested in the study of numerology last Spring so that I spent almost every afternoon on the subject. Dana has given us a book that is honorable to him & to our Country.

Did you ever see the action of Sodium on mercury? I was surprised the other day to find that an explosion invariably followed when the two metals, in a clean state were brought into contact. Berzelius seems to be the only writer who has noticed this fact. Potassium has such effect - but it runs about strangely on the surface of the mercury.

I have just had a very neat apparatus ~~described~~ ^{made} for the
preparation of oxygen gas. You shall see it when you
come to the city. You are aware that Mitchell of
Philadelphia has obtained solid Carbonic acid. What
a pity I could not succeed in making my apparatus
eight or ten years ago! My plan was almost ex-
actly Tollens' & I name the apparatus yet which I
published in my lecture a long time before he
made his discovery.

It is understood that Dr. Darlington is to write a notice
of the fluid for the use of you I send -

Believe me, my dear Sir -

Yours with much esteem

John Torrey

One Aug 15 - unrecd
by Dr Torrey
- 28 Torrey

Dr Torrey - Aug - 38 -
Pre. water in Sodium

LIBRARY
NEW YORK

New York, May 28th 1839.

My dear Sir -

I have just received from
Sir Wm. Hooker, the accompanying Nos.
of the Annals of Natural History, in
which you will find some very inter-
-esting articles -

Have you seen the fine fossil Infusoria
from Stamford? A student brought me
a large lump of it, but knew nothing of
its nature. As I had examined such matters
a good deal, I knew what it was at the
first glance. It consists entirely of fossil
silicious shells of infusoria - exactly like those
figured by Bailey. I send you a sample.
They show finely under Raspail's microscope. I
have ^{just received} some splendid fossil infusoria, from Dr. Gray
- among them a new one discovered by Ehrenberg
at Eger in Bohemia, when it occupies a space

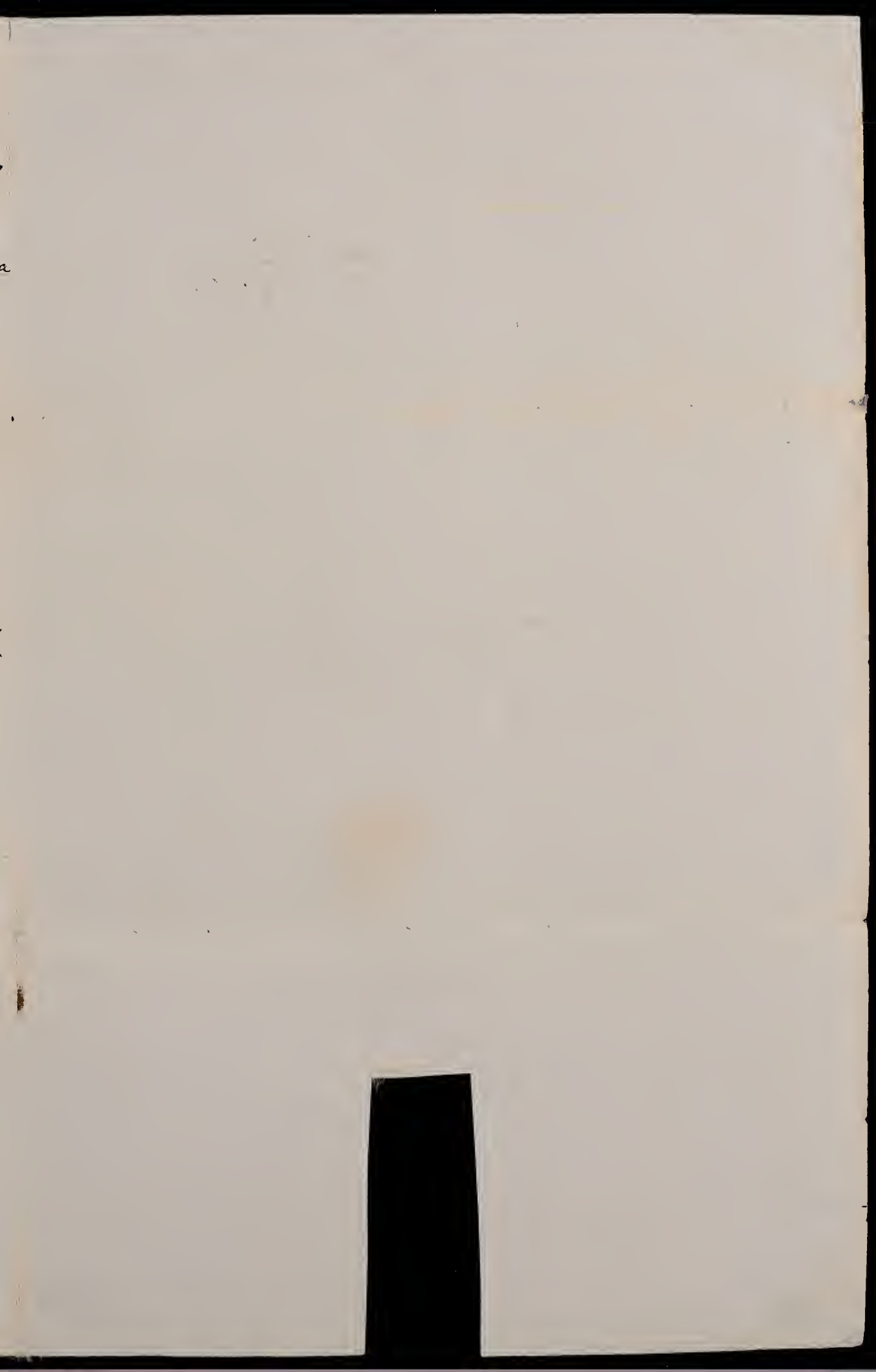
2 miles long & 28 feet thick - 10 feet of which
consist of the fossil infusoria alone, & the remaining
18 feet of ~~animal~~ infusoria & fossil pollen!

The species is named by Ehrenberg Campylodiscus clypea
Prof. Bailey has also received the same ^{& others} from Mr.
Duckett of London, & will probably give
you an account of them.

Mr. Probst is working at another Carb. Acid
apparatus, & when it is finished you
shall have an opportunity of seeing
it used if you happen to be in New York
about the time it is ready.

Yours very truly

John Torrey



Dr Torrey -
Notin of Infusoria
1843

7.50
3.
4.50

Wm. S. Williams

Infusoria

Dr Torrey

LIBRARY
NEW YORK
BOTANICAL
GARDEN

New York, May 12th 1862

My dear Professor -

This will be handed to you by
my friend & former pupil A. M. Edwards
Esq. who expects to visit New Haven on
some business. I wish to make you ac-
quainted with a view to ask your
advice in a project of his. I hope you
will give him a favorable hearing. Please
make him acquainted with Prof. Bush - to
whom I would write were it not that I am
just engaged at the Army Office &

Yours very cordially

Wm. H. Murray
Prof. B. Willman Jr.

