New Haven July 25th 1819

Dr John Torrey,

Sir,

I presume Dr Barton's opinion upon your use of science as to enclose a specimen of a plant for your examination. It is a potentilla and I found it last year in Massachusetts and could not make it agree with any description I had though it came near pennsylvanica. But I supposed I should be able to identify it when I could have access to a better library. I have however found the plant at N. Haven this year and examined it with the assistance of the books and judgement of Prof. Ives, but cannot make it agree with any species in Pursh, Michaux, Willdenow, Miller, Persoon, Hitton or Ives. It comes nearest P. pensylvanica but there are enough uniform differences to constitute another species. I have not however seen a specimen of the pensylvanica or the plate of it in Gmelin's Sib. 5. 3. t. 34. Presuming you have access to both these, the specimen & the plate, and that with a glance of your eye you will be able to decide the question, Prof. Ives who is of opinion that the enclosed is a new species, recommended to me to send you the plant. And though the suspect it will prove a new species, yet if it be not too much trouble you will much oblige me by giving your opinion. The following is a description of the plant as I have it up from 8 or 10 specimens. It may not be sufficiently accurate.

Stem erect, whole plant pubescent. Root leaves pinnate; leaflets ovate, obtuse, serrulate, yellow soft, obvious, on green the lines white, except the red terminal one, which is bigger [illegible] stems, [illegible] extreme [illegible]: cauline leaves sessile [illegible] terminate. Stipules [illegible] stipulas [illegible] P. [illegible] a [illegible] the direction of the axis: larger alternate [illegible]

Edward Hitchcock

Feb. 20th 1845

John Sargent Esq

Lee Mass

New Haven Nov. 25th, 1874

Rev. and Dr.

I receive your letter of August only a few days before I left N. Haven in Sept. and on several accounts have delayed to answer it till now. You will accept my sincere thanks for the information you give respecting the Potentilla pennsylvanica. I have no doubt you are correct in your explanations: but ought not the descriptions of this plant in the books to be corrected? Such corrections however we who are tyros in botany should leave to such men as yourself.

I just returned from Lansingburgh and have brought along a box of plants from Dr. Cooley for you — and I shall forward it by the Steamboat tomorrow (Friday) evening, or next Monday. You will find 91 specimens in the box. That I put there — of such species as I did not know or felt uncertain about. If however it be asking too much of you to secure you to name them I hope you will neglect them as they are not in general of any great consequence. Dr. Cooley has made a very extensive collection of Cryptogamous plants this season and indeed I found on my return to Lansingburgh that the worms had destroyed a great part of my collection so that I have left this department with Dr. Cooley.

and none handed to him, the very few species in our collection he did not possess. Dr. C. has been indefatigable in his herborizations the past summer and very zealous in prosecuting the science of Botany. But he meets with discouragements in these researches among the people where he lives: For they generally regard his botanical exertions as labour altogether in vain; and indeed they rather disgrace him (I speak without an reason) that for the sake of botany, he neglects his professional studies and on this account are rather backward to employ him. Hence in that place I do not think he receives that support & patronage his talents & acquirements deserve. I hope you will pardon this digression - which was made incidentally -

I have just sent a box of minerals for you which I was obliged to leave in Lewisville - It will probably reach you before you see this. My duplicate specimens I found almost exhausted & my health was so poor this fall I could not procure more. I waited however a considerable time in expectation that I should effect this and on this account have not complied with your request to send specimens "soon". Should you think of sending me any minerals (though I can not see you will not regard my specimens as of much value) you would greatly oblige me by putting up the most common petrifactions and impressions with the scientific names for with this part of geology I am entirely unacquainted. Will you be so good as to send it me on the books you address? for we are frequently perplexed to determine where

our packages should be sent to me one a day or more.

I did not receive your letter in Sept. till the Steamer Boston conveying a package for Dr. I had sent to N. York. I made every effort in my power at times to find it but without success: but I believe he received it via Providence - via Boston. Dr. Torrey promised to send you his new species of plants which you requested me to send. I hope he has done it. I never entrusted my flower at that time to other hands. The Geraniums decumens is abundant in Massachusetts - and I think I have just now a specimen of the nasalis deist the Lencia lenticularis.

I hope we shall be able ere long to send you a catalogue of the plants growing in the vicinity of Dedham. In the mean time I would observe that I have my few specimens of plants pecu-liar to the Middle & Southern States. But do not wish you to send me plants until I can send you some of a little value. My demotion made by living at present, the poor state of my health and a pressure of other engagements render it difficult for me to pay but very little essential attention to Botany or Ornithology - and I hope these considerations will afford some apology for my tem-diness in replying to your letter. I shall be delay in N.Y. then until January: but I would not trouble you to write a separate letter to me on account of the plants I send. If you name them you can if you please give the list in your reply to Dr. Torrey.

Yours truly & respectfully
Edward Whitehouse

Dr. Torrey

Edward Hitchcock

Nov. 25, 1819

Rec'd Nov. 30th

PAID

10

John Torrey M.D.

NEW HAVEN
NOV 25

New York

Your box of plants found was sent by mistake last city.
evening.

Edward Hitchcock
Aug. 15th 1820
& 1821.

Recd Jan. 24th 1821.
Is there a mistake in the
date? or had the person who
put in the N.Y. Post-Office carried
the letter in his pocket a
whole year?

Mr Torrey
New York

Brattleborough Vermont 28th April, 1820

Dr Torrey,

Sir

I almost despair of ever being able to send you a box of minerals such I hinted last fall. There is almost no business communication between this quarter of the country and N. York, and besides I am at Dr. Gold's but a small part of the time and perhaps lose the few chances of sending what may occur — Have you ever given any public account of your new mineral? I shall hope to get a specimen at some future time — We have lately discovered the chromate of Iron in this quarter of the country; but I have not visited the locality yet & can therefore say little of it —

I enclose a drawing of the Adiantum pedatum taken by Miss P. White a friend of mine — She found this grass in Amherst in abundance in May last and took the drawing from it in order to get the name from some botanist.

I collect occasionally cryptogamous plants this spring and may probably trouble you with a few (such as Dr Cooley has not sent) for names. A species of Jungermannia was in flower growing in abundance on the hills here. I think it your nov. sp. rostipolia: but I have no specimen for comparison with me. Very few phanerogamous plants are yet in flower here.

Dr Cooley is expected to send you a catalogue of the plants growing spontaneously in Hartford and its vicinity in a few days — omitting however those cryptogamous ones of which he has dent specimens — Perhaps when will your Professorship expire? Such anxious times — We labour under great disadvantage in the country for want of books on botany — We are too poor to buy even the most voluminous & valuable works.

Should you have any commands [illegible] Exhibit a letter to Dr Gold when, and it will soon reach me.

With feelings of obligation for your kindness to me I subscribe myself your very humble servant

Edward Hitchcock

John Torrey M. D.

What is the name of the lichen or moss enclosed? It grows on dry hills among rocks in this place.

Edward Hitchcock
April 28. 1820.
Recd May 1st.

Pratt 29 Apl 182

John Jones M.D.
N. York
City.

Deerfield 8th September 1820.

Dr Torrey

Sir,

I presume once more to trouble you with some unnamed specimens of plants — and if the task be not too great upon your liberality the names would be very acceptable — I have resided the past summer in several places along the Connecticut River the extremes of which are about 70 miles distant and I have noticed several plants not mentioned in the catalogue Dr Cooley and myself last year — Those determined are as follows

Balbanda fragrioides
Lycopodium annotinum
Oxalis acetosella
Onosmodium hispidum
Plantago lanceolata
Lotus americana
Viola papilionacea
2 canadensis
3 lanceolata
Fraxinus juglandifolia
2 sambucifolia
Populus grandidentata

Verbena angustifolia
Galium trifidum
2 triflorum
Sagittaria heterophylla
Viburnum prunifolium
Gymbidium odontorhizum?
Lycopodium verticillatum
Valisneria spiralis.
Leptanthus graminea
Cichorium intybus
Carex acuta
Arethusa bulbosa
Arenaria lateriflora
Epigaeis convallarioides

Besides these are several others unknown which you will find among the specimens: and Dr Cooley also has I believe discovered several new plants — how many I know not —

Accept my thanks Sir, for the pamphlet Dr Aerolithes &c — I was gratified with the clearness and conciseness of the reasoning in opposition to many favorite theories — and in support of that which supposes "aerolithes in ipsa atmosphaera esse genitos". But I confess I feel very little confidence in any of them theories — I formerly felt much interested in this subject and the more I examined it the more I was satisfied that we have not yet facts enough to establish any rational hypothesis.

I have but little opportunity to attend to natural history this summer — from the want of books — as I cannot carry any with me in my peregrinations — What has become of the Prodromus? I had anticipated this much.

I am in great haste and can say no more — If you should have occasion to write me please to make the direction to this place — Your much indebted humble servant.

Edward Hitchcock

John Torrey M.D.

Edward Hitchcock
Sept. 8th, 1820
Rec'd Oct. 16th
By Mr. Cooley

John Torrey M.D.
New York

Augusta 29th December 1820.

Respected Sir

For all the valuable information contained in your letter of the 23d you will be pleased to accept my most sincere and grateful acknowledgements — If you will permit me to say so, I may in justice and not with a wish to flatter, that we regard your authority particularly in the cryptogamic department as the best and indeed almost the only authority this side the Atlantic. In all we suspect there is many better than we are able to give — We therefore rejoice as peculiarly fortunate in receiving [illegible] — As you will perceive from the enclosed list — [illegible] in designing [illegible] of your leaves [illegible] species of plants as [illegible] possible [illegible] by the leaves which is [illegible] — [illegible] I have collected the present season and which I have [illegible] in this [illegible]

[illegible] Lichens [illegible] already [illegible] Send you: [illegible] in this [illegible] those in your [illegible] — [illegible] with [illegible] 205 [illegible] that I have no claim upon you but if your patience is not quite

exhausted I shall refer to receive the names of the plants in this package & those mentioned in the last. When you have leisure attend to them. I send a part of the duplicate specimens as you requested in your letter. [illegible] be able to [illegible] all your wishes. You express a desire to have I will try [illegible] specimens of rare American or European plants. These would indeed be very acceptable particularly such as grow in the vicinity of N. York & which I do not know. Many of the common American plants I gathered a few years since at N. Haven. And if you think I shall ever repay you with thanks you to forward some. Should you direct a package to me as specified to the care of Prof. Silliman I think I should have it ~~them~~ in a long.

The fact is with me at present as it has been for two years back that I can do very little out of-door plants without neglecting even an effort to determine them. I am a candidate for the congregational ministry and so long as I remain unsettled am compelled to devote most generally almost every hour to sacred work or study. And carry with me even an elementary work on botany in collecting cryptogamous plants among strangers I am obliged to use accuracy and caution or they could hopefully are absolutely lost. But there is another obstacle in the way of our botanical progress in this region. Time most of us too poor to procure good drawing on the subject. [illegible] separated [illegible]

alone & all the prospects I had — I mean that this can be mentioned merely to show that it is not for want of a disposition that we do not possess a botanical library — and if proper hints & questions addressed to all the learned men [illegible] under many obligations to you & all the learned men [illegible] Editor: did he is invariably deficient. What a pity it is the American Editor: did not give a complete index of all the new genera & species & other features of all the new genera & species & other features of all the work had hitherto appeared in this country! Will you give me your opinion of the work and how far it is to be relied on —

I fear I shall not be able to forward the long ago mentioned box of minerals at the time — indeed I really regret I was sending it. But if you never get it upon loss will be the real loss & you should it seem you after it has been so long in anticipation of your receiving it. Nevertheless ridiculus mus! would exclaim "nonsense fastidious: nevertheless ridiculus mus!"

Will you tell me whether the Rev. Mr S — (name which nobody can spell) of Charleston S.C. of whom you made reference in conversation, is the man who in conjunction with Albertini published in Europe the "Conspectus Fungorum in Lusatiae Superioris &c — I have not seen that work nor do I recollect when it was printed: but the name (Schweinitz) looks to me somewhat like the one you write and I feel an interest to know where this gentleman [illegible] is so accurate knowledge of Fungi.

Lycoperdon subglaucescens is not very abundant: it grows on the banks of the Connecticut river more particularly in long shadows in conjunction with Cyperus [illegible] Gaskin [illegible] Boletus septicus (in immense quantities) and Sirpus [illegible] — And it happens that I am able to send you a number of specimens: But I should not have suspected it to be S. subglaucescens from Muhlenberg's description — For agaricus is not abundant & I cannot find an specimen [illegible] —

Permit me to subscribe myself your much indebted [illegible] be

Edward Hitchcock

Sincerely —
J. Torrey M.D.

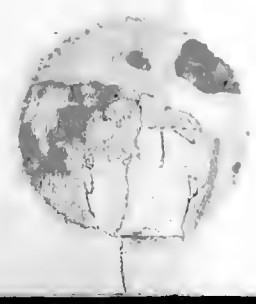
I hope ere long to see the Prodromus announced & calculate much upon the pleasure of reading it.

Edward Hitchcock
Dec 29th, 1820.
Rec'd Jany 24
1821

John Torrey M.D.

To the care of
Dr Mitchill

New York.



Conway 3d Nov. 1822.

My dear Sir,

I have neglected to acknowledge the receipt of your very valuable letter of May last because I thought you might be absent from N. York on account of the fever & because I have been so much confined as a feeble state of health would permit me to be. That letter was indeed a valuable acquisition to my knowledge of our cryptogamia — & I return you many thanks for your kindness in naming so many specimens. The new species of Sphaeria — S. curvistris Schw. is abundant exposing on rocks — or the ~~little soil~~ thin soil on rocks a scattered habit. I can find the locality again without difficulty & if I mistake not I have somewhere among my arrangement duplicates a considerable quantity of it so that if you wish I will send you some. The new sp. of Boletus — B. delicatulus Schw. is rare — I have but few specimens & it is doubtful whether I can find more.

The paintings reached me safely & I thank you for the corrections of the naming of the strange unknown plants. There were some marks such as X attached to some species that I did not understand and which led me to suspect that you had forwarded a letter with them & that it is lost — And you mentioned also in your last letter that you should send a letter with the paintings — I shall regret if it is lost — I have had Persoon the past summer & though I have had little time to attend to the subject yet I find the book

much better than any thing I had before – I find many new genera ~~[illegible]~~ as Geastrum, Fuligo, Scleroderma, Tubulina, Leotia &c – the latter a curious species growing in clusters on the top of a decaying agaricus – as to the Agarici I despair of finding them out – Some genera I cannot determine – I enclose a specimen of one I found a day or two since among the decaying chips in a wood yard & about 4 or 6 inches below the surface. When first dug it resembles exactly in colour & form the roots of Convallaria multiflora – being however more fibrous – On exposure to the air it became reddish – The substance of the fungus looked precisely like the meat of a green chesnut – ~~though I mean the inside~~ although less hard – & the centre of it contains a small proportion of jelly. It is not possible I think that it should be a Spaeria! nor can I refer it more satisfactorily to a Sclerotium –

I have collected the past summer more fifty specimens of the little Botrychium of you formerly sent specimens – And I have no any doubt but it is a new species to which I take the liberty of proposing the name B. simplex – The frond is always simple & usually 3 cleft or 3 lobed – And this appears to be its chief distinction from all other species of Botrychium – I suspect and I think it is a nov. sp. that I have thought of adding a drawing of it to my Flora. I have a hundred specimens or more of cryptogamia which I wish to bind you now but really have not time to just throw up – I have been exceedingly occupied for 6 months past with a geological map & memoir of the Connecticut – It extends from N. Haven to Bellows Falls N. Hampshire 150 miles long and about 30 miles wide and has 15 different rocks coloured on it – I exhibited it to the Geological Society in September & it will appear soon I trust in the Am. Journal of Science –

Dr Cooley & myself think of offering to the Journal of Science a more list of the plants found in this vicinity in which we shall acknowledge our very great obligations to yourself—

Mr Nuttall is lecturing on botany in this vicinity but I have scarcely seen him— He is much engaged in mineralogy—

I have recently found a new locality of the new fungus discovered by Dr Cooley & named by Schweinitz Gymnodium coccineum— The physiology of this plant is wonderful— more so than any thing I have met with in the cryptogamic department of botany I have a theory in explanation of it and am almost induced to offer it to the Journal of Science— merely to explain the economy of the thing & not to attempt a scientific description—

Yours respectfully & sincerely—

Edward Hitchcock—

Torrey M. D.

Edward Hitchcock
Nov.r 3rd, 1826
Rec.d Nov.r 22nd —
By Rev. S. Fisher.

John Torrey M.D.

New York.

Please to leave this at the Post Office in N. York
or in the care of Dr. Mitchell —

Conway 6th August 1824.

Dear Sir,

I have neglected more than a year to write to you, because, though a pressure of duties & ill health, I have done so little in natural history, that I had nothing worth communicating. Your last letter contained a great deal of very acceptable information: but, if I mistake not, I have already acknowledged its receipt.

I am happy to perceive that you are progressing in your researches into the mineral & vegetable kingdoms, and especially that your valuable Flora is coming out. After the dabbling of many who have preceded you, it is really refreshing to find something on which one can depend. It must be a work of great labour, and I do not see why it will not completely take the place of Pursh, Michaux, Eaton, & even Nuttall.

I enclose specimens of what I suppose to be two species - one of Ranunculus, the other of Dianthus. To the former, I have for the present given the specific name acaulis; although I believe there is one then Stemless Ranunculus. I found it more than a year ago, on the island calmus. I found it in Massachusetts had time to of Martha's vineyard; but have not hitherto describe it. The Dianthus, also, I suppose to be new, although I have not a perfect monograph of the genus. I found it last October, among the white cedar, on a ridge of the tuff in Northampton - where it is unquestionably indigenous. I intend this year, if possible, to visit the locality earlier in the season. I have not yet selected a specific name for it, from a little remaining doubt whether it is new. Should it prove new, I have had it in mind to attach to it, Dillinea, and to the Ranunculus, Ovea; in honor of Professors Dillman & Ives. Would such a course be very objectionable? As I cannot have access, apparently, to a full description of all the species of Dianthus, you would much oblige me by giving me your opinion concerning that I send, although the specimen is poor, on account of not being well preserved.

You asked me for an account of some curious facts in the physiology of the Geropodium: But it is impossible for me to describe them without a drawing, which I am not able to send at this time. The circumstance to which I mainly alluded, was the very curious manner in which this plant throws out its powder (seeds) from the bag which cover

~~Farms~~ if I hope this summer to visit a new locality of this plant, which I discovered a year or two since, when I hope to verify my former observations upon it.

I have done very little the past year in natural history, except to read some of the modern European publications & write a review on two or Combeene & Phillips Geology of England & of Buckland's Reliquiae Diluvianae — Nor shall I be able to do much in my present situation, if my health is not better. I rejoice however in learning what others are doing in bringing to light the arcana of nature —

Respectfully — Your friend

~~Fr Sumner~~

Edward Hitchcock

L. Gorney, M.D.

Edward Hitchcock -
Augt 6th 1824.
Recd Sept. 8th -
Ans. Oct. 27th 1824

John Torrey M.D.
New York

By Mr Dickinson

Amherst Dec. 24th 1825.

Dear Sir,

One year ago I forwarded to you by the way of Hartford a box of minerals containing 60 or 80 specimens — but as I have heard nothing from them since & some other boxes sent at the same time were long delayed I have been suspicious that yours might be lost. Please let me know if it is & I will look it up.

I have recently visited the localities of scapolite petalite mach. chlorite cin. marmor stone &c in the eastern part of this State & have on hand good specimens of these minerals. These I could send you if it would be pleasant to you to exchange. I need not be particular as to the things I want as I believe you already are acquainted with my deficiencies in mineralogy & geology.

I had calculated to spend a few weeks in Yorkshire the present vacation: but cir-

circumstances are such that I shall probably be prevented. I wish much to be there during the season of lecturing that I might learn something.

I letter found associated with the Franklinite & Goshen a well characterized crystal of the oxide of zinc. I have reduced it & tested the metal chemically by a variety of reagents so as to leave no doubt as to its nature. But I can find no more at the locality.

With respect yours truly

Edward Hitchcock

Edward Hitchcock

Dec. 24th 1828.

By Mr Johnson and

Professor John Gorrey

New York

City

68, 69, 70 Gynandria (Orchis) with dissections
71, 72, 73 Gynand. Polyand. (English Arum) with flowers & fruit.
74 Hyg. Polygamia Necessaria (Silphium)
75, 76, 77, 78 Dioecia diandria – flowers of the willow with dissections
79, 80, 81, 82, 83 Monoecia polyandria – flowers of Corylus with dissections.
84, 85 Polygamia Monoecia – flowers of the Pellitory dissected.
88, 89, 90 Do Dioecia flowers & fruit of the fig. (Ficus)
86, 87 Dioecia Triandria – Male & female plants of Valisneria with flowers –
91, 92, 93 Cryptogamia filices – (Polypodium) upper & under side
94 Do – Do – (Lygodium)
95, 96, 97, 98 Do – Do – (Asplenium) with dissection of the capsule.
99 – Do – Do – Gonopterides (equisetum)
106 – Do – Do – Stachyopterides (lycopodium)
107 – Do – Do – Schissmatopterides (osmunda)
103 – Do – Musci. Bryum undulatum
100, 101, 102 Dissections of 103 showing the calyptra, operculum, teeth and capsule
108 Hypnum capsule, teeth & seeds.
109, 110 Teeth of the same –
111 Polytrichum commune
112, 115 A female flower of the same
114 – Do. of Mnium hornum
113 Mnium androgynum with sphaerophylli
104, 105 Crypt. Hepaticae (Jungermannia)
121 – Do. Algae (Fucus)
118, 119, 120 – Do. Lichenes (Usnea & Cenomyce & Parmelia)
116 – Do. Fungi (Agaricus)
117 – Do – Do – (Geastrum)
122 – Do – Do – (Gymnopodium)

You will see that the Nos do not always succeed one another in regular order. This however could be remedied on a new set of drawings. I think also it would be best to use at least six sheets of drawing paper as some part of mine are too much crowded.

List of enlarged Botanical Drawings executed by Mrs H. in 1825

No 1 to 22 Illustrate the Linnaean Classes from Monand. to Polyand. & the Orders from Monogyn. to Ennea-gynia — the plants from which they were taken I do not know

No. 23 Didynamia — ringent flower No. 24 the same dissected.

25 Didynamia — Personate flower (snap dragon)

26 Order Polygynia

27 Didynamia Gymnospermia

28 Front view of No. 23

29 & 30 Dissections of No 25.

31 Didynamia — Angiospermia

32 Tetradynamia — Siliquosa

33 & 35 Cruciform flowers

34 Tetradynamia

36 Do — Siliculosa

37 Monadelphia 38 dissection of No 37.

39 Diadelphia (Lathyrus) 42 the same dissected showing the wings standard & keel.

41 Showing the double calyx of No 37.

40 Dissection of No. 37 showing the calyx & pistils

43 Polyadelphia (Hypericum) 45 Stamens of the same

44 Flowers of No 43 unopened — rather neat but I should think not of much use.

46, 47, 52 & 53 Althaea with dissections

48, 49, 50, 51 Syngenesia — the Dandelion with dissections

54, 55, 56 Syng. Polygamia Superflua (Erigeron) with separate florets

57, 58, 63 Syng. Polyg. frustanea (Sunflower) with florets

59, 60, Syng. Polyg. equalis (Cichorium) & floret.

64, 65, 66 Syng. Polyg. segregata (Globe Thistle) with florets

61, 62 Syng. Polygam. Monogamia (Lobelia) & dissection

67 Syng. Polygamia frustanea (Rudbeckia) Rather pretty but not essential.

No 9

Amherst July 5th 1827.

Dear Sir,

Young Johnstone says he was at the wharf on the day in which you were to send the box of minerals by the Philadelphia & was particular in his enquiries but heard of none. He has recently had a letter from Newburgh but no intelligence concerning the minerals: so that probably the box is lost. However it is not your fault. I consider the loss as mine & do not expect you will pack another as a substitute.

I suppose ere this you are elected to the professorship in N. York as I perceive by the papers the appointment was to take place on the 2d instant. I shall be happy to send you such minerals as I have to spare — you know I believe chiefly what they are. When I have heard where to direct the box I will pack one.

Mrs H. has drawn on the first page a species of Malaxis which I have concluded to be a new one. It was found on Mount Holyoke in an excursion I took the other day with my class in Botany. It comes nearest M. lilliifolia I believe. I think the drawing however which is very correct will satisfy you that it cannot be referred to that species. I have attempted to state most of the differences I have observed between the two species on the opposite page though I have not yet had time to make out a satisfactory description. My object in sending this drawing to you is to request your opinion upon the species. I should be very glad to find it to be new & to publish it in the next No of the Journal

of science in the hope of exciting more zeal in natural history among the students here! I have almost every discouragement to contend with from being obliged to begin every thing de novo. If the species be new would M. Hoyoshea be an objectionable name? It occurs within a few rods of the spot on that mountain so much distinguished for the beauty & grandeur of its prospect — My plan would be to give a drawing of M. lilliifolia by the side of this species that botanists might judge between them. If I am mistaken however you will confer a very great favour by setting me right: as I shall depend on your opinion — If you can consistently send me a line on the subject within a few days I shall feel much indebted to you

Yours sincerely Edward Hitchcock

Professor John Torrey
West Point
New York

I found also the other day on Mt Holyoke a remarkable species of Orobanche which agrees with all the descriptions I possess of O. americana though I have never seen that species: I have numerous duplicates. Some of the stems are $\frac{3}{4}$ of an inch diameter.

Amherst May 29th 1829

Dear Sir,

As you expressed a wish to get a copy of my enlarged botanical drawings I made the enquiry of Mrs Hitchcock whether she could make any arrangement for painting them. She thinks that in the early part of the present summer she might so arrange the affairs of her family as to accomplish this object if sickness should not prevent. The drawings are contained upon five sheets of paper 2 ft 8 inches by 2 ft 3 inches attached to cloth, varnished &c — They are calculated for illustrating all of the original Classes & Orders of the Linnean system & the number of figures is 111. As to compensation Mrs H. thinks she could do them in the same style as my own for something like forty dollars — certainly not higher than this & perhaps for less. It is not an undertaking which she seeks: but if you have any wish that she should do it you will oblige her by letting her know it immediately.

I want to trouble you with about ten minutes work at your Lyceum rooms. I accidentally omitted to copy the thickness of the different rock strata on Mr Featherstonhaugh's large profile

which lies over the door of your mineral room. and I have no work in my possession that gives them all. I want the thickness of those in the Submedial & Inferior Orders only that I may make a similar sketch for my lectures and if you can send me the numbers conveniently I shall be thankful.

I went yesterday to the habitat of the Fusilago pulmonata: but find it nearly destitute of this plant. Only a single specimen had flowered the present year & I did not see more than 20 or 30 of the plants. It is in a dark evergreen swamp and as the trees are cut down the plant disappears. I shall try to cultivate it but probably shall fail.

Respectfully yours
Edward Hitchcock

Ed. Hitchcock
May 29th 1829.

Amherst Mass.
June 1

Paid 1829

Professor John Torrey M. D.
New York
City

Amherst 20th October 1829.

Dear Sir,

Your letter of the 26th ult. was duly received & for it I thank you – I am sorry you had the trouble of copying that section of rocks as I had an opportunity of getting what I wanted soon after I wrote you by a young gentleman of our College who went to N. York. My wife made a section about 10 feet long from alluvium to granite with a view of the principal divisions of the rocks attached to the side & I used it last summer to advantage in my lectures.

I will subjoin a list of the botanical drawings agreeable to your request. I think you will wish some alterations omissions & additions – certainly I should – I copied them mostly from those of Dr Ives. Mrs H. could probably paint them by the middle of February should you wish & the health of our family continue good. Whenever she sets about it she will calculate to devote most of her time to it. As to a compensation I think it ought not to exceed $40 & perhaps it might be less. We regret that poverty does not permit us to say at once that it is a present – Mrs H. does not indeed wish to undertake it in the hope of pecuniary profit but she would be happy to do it for you: though it is possible she may find it impracticable with so many family cares upon her hands.

I apprehend you will prove a false prophet in

respect to a monograph of the solidagoes & asters from me. I have no expectation of ever being able to do so much in botany as that. I directed my attention a little to these genera this autumn chiefly to give more interest to my botanical excursions. I have done little more however than to collect most of the species growing in this neighbourhood – a miserable state of health having prevented my studying them much. Perhaps I may furnish some assistance to a future monographist.

Prof Hovey formerly of Williams College now fills the same station here: And he wishes me to enquire of you whether you can direct him where and on what terms he can get a good Air Pump. Are they made in N. York? Do you know of any second hand one not injured?

I lately got one of Marcets instruments for showing the phenomena of high steam from B. Pike in Wall Street N. York & there is such a defect in the instrument as defies all the efforts I have yet made to make it hold steam. Is not Pike an honorable dealer? I mean one that can be depended upon?

That article in the Christian Spectator was prepared in great haste. The review in the last April No. of the N. American Review I think you will say is a more philosophical view of the subject.

If you decide to have the drawings undertaken I hope you will let me know soon as we should probably have to send to Boston for paper of

the requisite size —

Can you direct me to a man in N. York who could procure for me from the instrument makers in Paris a model balloon? The students of my chemical class think of sending for one to be kept for occasional use. I perceive by a Catalogue recently received that there are kept in Paris.

Excuse my numerous enquiries & believe me truly & respectfully yours —

Edward Hitchcock

P.S. I shall try to send the plants on books which I borrowed of you or both by the gentleman who takes this letter but may be disappointed.

Prof. Hitchcock
Oct. 20th 1829
Amherst

By Rev. A. Dickinson

Prof. John Torrey
New York

Amherst Nov. 27th 1833

Ans.d
Feby 8th

Dear Sir,

Please to accept a copy of my Report which I forward by the bearer and also my hearty thanks for your kindness in examining the Catalogue of Plants. I regret that some mistakes have occurred in it in consequence of my sickness while it was going through the press. The most important of those is the insertion in a part of it of those parallel lines which you placed against such species as you wished me to send you! There was no alternative — the printers must go on to fulfil their engagements to the Government & I was compelled to leave on account of my health — The gentleman who examined the proofs thought it safe to follow all your corrections & so put in the parallel lines!

I am directed by Governor Lincoln to express to you his sense of obligation for the kind assistance you have rendered in this matter.

In haste your friend & servant
Edward Hitchcock

Recd. Apr 21. 1834
Ans. entirely

Amherst March 27th 1834.

Dear Sir,

Your obliging letter of February 6th was duly received: but poor health & full hands have prevented an earlier reply.

I am obliged to you for your favorable opinion as to the Report. I am aware that its deficiencies are great & its errors not few: But I did what I could under the circumstances in which I was placed & this consciousness will sustain me I hope under the reviewer's assaults should they come which upon me — The Legislature have recently ordered a second edition to be printed and the work is already commenced — This will give me an opportunity to make corrections & additions though they will not allow me time & means to do this as thoroughly as I could wish — I fear this undertaking will prevent my forwarding to you as soon as is desireable the specimens of plants which you wish. Some of them I have among my duplicates: but these have not been looked over since I commenced my geological labours nearly four years ago & I know not in what state they may be — Besides my health since last summer has been extremely feeble so as entirely to prevent all extra effort

I am trying ~~hard~~ to get along with my course of chemical lectures but it is hard work. A considerable number of the grasses desired by Dr. Gray I believe I have on hand: but others I must collect. This I will do as soon as it is in my power. I fear I shall not get any subscribers for his work except myself. I mean to have it if its cost do not exceed my resources: but as I hope to come to N. York in the early part of May I will delay entering my name till that time. There is scarcely any taste for natural history in this part of the country among those who have any depth of purse and our College is so poor that I cannot get the Trustees to pay these many books.

I did not receive your pamphlet giving reasons for resigning your place in the N. Y. University: but I [illegible] one sent to Dr. Humphrey & read it with great [illegible]est. It is one of the most extraordinary disclosures of imbecility & folly to use no harder words that I ever met with in the head of a University — or even a district school. There was certainly but one course for you & your fellow laborers to adopt consistently with maintaining your character.

In disposing of the copies of my Report which belonged to me (I had no pecuniary interest in the printing) I felt bound to remember first those societies of which I was a member & then I wanted to send a few to Europe: so that before I got as far as the N. York Lyceum my stock was so much reduced that I could not do as I wished by presenting a copy to its library. Our Legislature did not order any copies to be presented to learned societies out of the State: yet I think I

can get one for your Lyceum either of the first or second edition. I should prefer to delay the application till the second edition is completed when I promise to attend to it if alive.

Have you got Ampere's great Electro-Dynamic apparatus? I have it but by mistake no description was sent with it & I find myself greatly troubled to use it — If you have a description more recent than that inserted in the 26th volume of the Annales de Chemie &c & are willing to lend it me for a few weeks I shall be greatly obliged to you if you will send it to me by mail or otherwise.

The bearer is Mr Nathan Belcher a graduate of our College & my former assistant in chemistry. He goes to reside in N. York & would be very glad to have opportunity to give some attention to natural history. He has quite a taste for this subject & I think bids fair to do something for it if he perseveres in attention to it under favorable circumstances. He is very modest & amiable.

Dr. Lovey has been obliged to resign his place here on account of his health — and I fear he may never be able to fill a professorship on this account.

Truly & sincerely yours

Edward Hitchcock

P. S. I have concluded upon the whole to spare a copy of my Report for the N. Y. Lyceum & beg you to present it when you think proper.

By Mr Belcher.

Professor John Torrey

New York

City

Amherst Dec. 16th 1836

Ans. Fernwalle in N.Y. day letter 8th.

Dear Sir,

I did not intend by the suggestions I made in my last letter respecting the cast & the lecture to lead you to be at so much trouble as you have been. I merely meant that if you should have occasion to write me ere long you might express your opinion as to those two things. When I wrote I did not know what I have since learnt from Prof. Silliman that he is going to N. York to lecture on geology in January. If I go there it must be during the same month: for our vacation commences on the 11th & closes on the 25th. I cannot go beyond those limits many days one way or the other. I suppose this fact settles the question as to my lecturing on the bird tracks. At least I see no way in which it can be done. I should be willing to give an account of all that I know on the subject if there were any opportunity & it should be thought that a lecture might be ventured on such a subject. It would be difficult however to get my large specimen conveyed to N. York now that I must probably come all the way by land: yet I could bring specim

seems that are very distinct: and I have large drawings of all the species.

Prof. Silliman kindly offered to aid me in getting liberty for me to examine birds' feet & take casts of them at some of the museums in N. York & I have requested him to make enquiry before he goes on. If he gets permission say at the American Museum I have made up my mind to come on (D.V.) at the time mentioned above: especially since you inform me that probably I might get casts of the feet of some living birds. I shall also hope to get liberty to examine your copy of Buckland's works. Since I last wrote you I have found at Springfield one or two poor specimens of the [illegible] singular footmarks which you suggest may be his Cheirotherium. Is that a biped genus? I believe all those are which I have discovered.

I am glad to learn that Mr Cooper is not yet decided as to the footmarks. From his letter I was led to infer that he had decided a priori that they could not be bird tracks or that he would serve him as Eaton did in respect to his vegetable Protelus. I blame no man for delaying to form an opinion on this subject. I did so myself till forced by the facts to adopt certain conclusions.

My supplemental paper on

The Ornithichnites is not to appear in the January No. of the Journal of Science – My hope is to get some sketches from the casts which I may obtain in N. York that they may be inserted in my paper and compared with those which I shall give of the fossil footmarks.

Respectfully & sincerely yours

Edward Hitchcock

Dr. Oswald 1874

Clemens

Geo. Lorin

City

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or that the judge should serve him as Eaton did in
respect to his vegetable protein. I blame
no man for delaying to form an opinion on this
subject. I did so myself till forced by the facts
to adopt certain conclusions.

My supplemental paper on

Amherst Oct. 28th 1848

Dear Sir,

I am very happy to send the enclosed though I fear that my opinion will not weigh much in your favour.

I am glad to learn that you mean hereafter to make N. York your permanent residence. When I have been there once or twice within a few years I could not find you upon enquiry.

I have thought it doubtful of late whether you were ever informed that the Trustees of Amherst College conferred on you the honorary degree of Doctor of Laws. I left it for the Secretary to write you but learned afterwards that he had not been in the habit of doing it. It was conferred in 1845 & your name has now been upon our Triennial Catalogue for three years with that title. It should have been done by some older College I know: but since it was not we wished to offer it as a slight tribute of respect to your merits.

A few weeks ago I sent by a young man several pamphlets relating to our College. Providence has indeed smiled upon us of late especially in the department of Nat. History. But we have had a hard struggle to go through

In consequence of my poor health & constant pressure of other duties I have been obliged to abandon almost entirely my scientific plans. But I do not think it will leave the world in total darkness though it deprives me of a great deal of happiness.

In the hospital you may be successful in your application, I remain in much haste

Respectfully & sincerely yours
Edward Hitchcock

Prof. Hitchcock

Prof. John Torrey
New York
City

Prof. Hitchcock

Catalogue