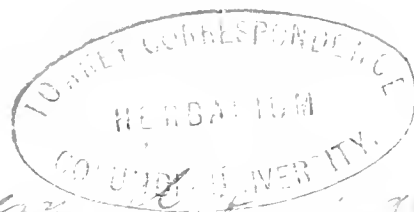


L. P. Johnson

Jan 1. 30 1831.

Wm. C. C. C.



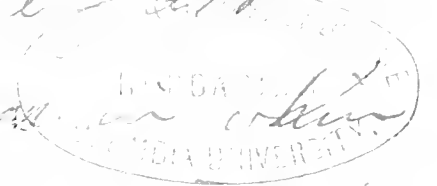
Dot Y - e

Although very much an accidental  
 person I am glad to see you set up a  
 to visit you a few times - I am sure  
 country I have been able to procure no  
 the kind (intention of what does the  
 intended for 3000 feet I sent twenty  
 miles to procure it  
 I am more - I am sure the  
 I am sure - I am sure the  
 that slavery the most waters will  
 the state in which it is used from  
 plants I am only enclosed the  
 the truth is there is no  
 a single botanical specimen -  
 about in a swampy country in the  
 my name stands pretty plain -

Corroy has been near the city  
 to board down to the  
 were taken from the  
 these they have been  
 the small red  
 a set of

Containing the two stations were over on the way  
for sending the ... the water ... with de  
form is to ... the ... a ...  
of which ... the ... the ...  
effects - then ...  
Came from ...  
to the ...  
my ...  
my ...  
Honduras, also ...  
name - ...  
without seam on ...  
it will be ...

As ...  
I have requested ...  
board for you, ...  
to your ...  
return to ...  
I should ...  
be useful ...  
shall be ...



Truly  
Yours  
E. H. ...

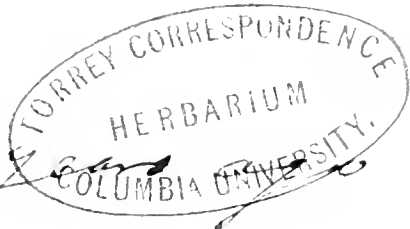
Recd. July 2<sup>nd</sup> 1845.

Ans. Oct. 24

Dear Sir

Laird

Leamington, N. H. 1840



Some four ~~years ago~~ I had the pleasure to send you some curiosities taken from what is commonly called the palace in the ruins of the ancient Talinque, but as my letter was never answered I presume you did not receive it, since that time the precarious state of my health & adverse fortune have combined to prevent my writing. Permit me now to renew our correspondence by sending you a box of parasitic plants prepared by Mr Linden of a young gentleman now in this country on a scientific commission in the service of the King of the Belgians & in favor of whom I shall take the liberty to address to you a letter of recommendation, I include a catalogue, but Mr Linden will himself give you any information you may require concerning them.

With the best wishes for you.

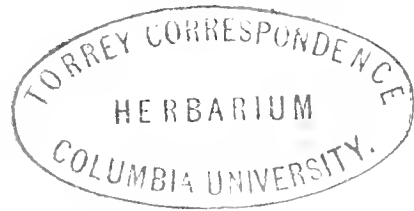
Respectfully & affectionately

I remain

Your most obliged friend  
& humble servant

*E. D. Johnson*

*S. Torrey, M.D.*



Teapa 27<sup>th</sup> May 1841

Rec<sup>d</sup> July ...  
1841.

Doctor Torrey



Sir

I take the opportunity offered by the sailing of Capt Powers to forward to you, consigned to the care of my Correspondent Messrs Goodhue & Co a box of plants, and a fine living plant, which bears one of the most delicious fruits known in this country, & I hope you will be able to treat your friends to some at your own table the ensuing year — The dry plants are not in a very good state of preservation owing to my continued absence when they required my personal attention, added to the extraordinary state of the weather, they day completing twenty one days that we have not seen the sun, a thing without example in Tabasco in the month of May, which is generally so hot and dry that the inhabitants carry in procession their patron Saint Señor de ~~Quero~~ Quero — usually twice in this month to insure a shower in their parched corn fields — I fear the remarks are very incomplete, you will therefore please to send me particular directions on this subject, I regret that I cannot send more, at present many having become black & unfit for your purpose, still I hope you will find some new ones never yet described as belonging to Mexico,

Mr Linden the Belgian naturalist on arriving at the bar found a vessel bound to his own Country and sailed in her, you would have been much pleased with him, he has spent four years in Brazil & this Country and acquired a vast fund of useful information on scientific subjects connected with his mission — He will probably be sent N. S. Wales, should you be inclined to open a correspondence with him, make use of my name, you are already favorably known to him, & he will no doubt be gratified by your overtures & be a very agreeable correspondent —

I think you must be mistaken in relation to Mr Stevens expedition to Palengue I have never heard of his being in this state — I once sent you a remarkable head from Palengue with well defined negro features, I say remarkable from its being the only one I have seen of this description, I should be pleased to know whether it was received —

It gives me much pleasure to learn that you are about to come before the world on a subject that will be sure to open to you the path to fame & honor, but I fear that its exclusive scientific character will almost preclude the hope of deriving profit or even a fair remuneration for years of toil & study — I wish I could procure subscribers, but in this country there are none who study botany, you will please to put my name down and deliver the work to Mr Goodhue who will pay for it, on showing him this paragraph, it may be of as little use



to me perhaps as to others here but I shall have  
opportunities to shew it to men of science as the  
work of an esteemed friend and a student of his.

The revolutionary state of the country will  
suspend my bolanizing excursions for some time,  
from my being a North American I am looked  
upon as a man of liberal principles & have in  
consequence become an object of suspicious vigilance  
to the central party. I will give you another reason  
but I beg you will not suspect me of boasting, I hold  
the very highest standing as a Physician in this state, Chiapas  
part of Vera Cruz & a small portion of Guatemala & my  
brethren take advantage of the political circumstances  
of the day to direct the feelings & operations of the people  
against me & were it not for my widely extended popularity  
I should long ago have been expelled the country — The  
troops of the Genl Govt are now approaching in force, the  
federalist are uniting all their troops at this point which  
will in a few days become a scene of slaughter  
and all the horrors of civil war, a ~~war~~ where  
arrays father against son & brother against brother  
in the field of death, which develops & gives scope  
for action to all the darker passions of the human  
heart — I owe you much kindness & though years  
of sorrow & sickness have rolled away & a thousand leagues  
of ocean divide us, have not forgotten that I owe to  
you much of my present respectability, & I am still  
grateful for your favors & desirous to serve you, it only  
remains for you to point the way —

Truly Yours  
J. P. Johnson

Monsieur Jules Linden

Bruxelles  
Belgium

Torrey

July 27-

~~Prof. Dr. J. G. Smith~~  
Professor Torrey  
Casselman  
Messrs Goodhue & Co.  
New York

Partners of  
Casselman

TORREY CORRESPONDENCE  
HERBARIUM  
COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY.

TORREY CORRESPONDENCE  
HERBARIUM  
COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY.

This letter has been written amidst the din of arms  
and I scarcely know what it contains  
at midnight the house is full of officers of the  
Federal advance has been frightened in for I cannot believe  
their enemies are within twenty miles - L



Recd July 1842 -

And Sept. 30 Palisades March 1842

Dear Sir

I have committed to you a box of plants through the hands of Don Carlos Guenard by the Schooner Sancerre Southern & two more to the American Consul at Laguna with directions to forward them by the first opportunity. Messrs Howland & Aspinwall are his consignees.

Among these you will find specimens of a new vermifuge, this is decidedly efficacious & sometimes produces unpleasant effects.

Among these also two specimens of the guaco, I have tested the virtues of this plant for the cure of the bite of venomous serpents fully, & the result of my experience enables me to pronounce it about equal to white clover, as a pure tonic bitter it has few rivals.

The collections have been made in an irregular & hasty manner, still I hope they will not be altogether unacceptable. You will find a greater number of some plants than are necessary, owing to my being deceived by their difference in appearance in the different stages of their growth, sometimes to a desire to send a more perfect specimen & perhaps often to my having forgotten that I had already the same plant in my possession.

I mentioned one as having almost microscopic flowers, this I believe was a mistake & I now call your attention to it to correct the error & request you will favor me with its botanical name, it will probably take a place in our Dispensatory, I shall write again on its virtues when experience shall enable me to do so with a certainty that I shall not lead you into error. - The numbers

of your work on botany were duly received & it gives me pleasure to believe that it will lend a new impulse to your fame & afford a fair pecuniary compensation for years of toil devoted to this your favorite branch of science - The medical journal you mention never came to hand - I shall send you by the first opportunity a new <sup>(51)</sup> remedy for worms (.) which I believe to be the best of this uncertain class of medicines, it is almost tasteless & may be given in powder in doses of from ten to twenty & perhaps thirty grains in the morning fasting, the dose may be so regulated as to produce very mild emetic & cathartic effects, try it carefully & if your experience confirms my representation of its virtues you will readily perceive that it will be an invaluable medicine for children -

The reports to my disadvantage which you mention, have given me much pain, but the knowledge of them has brought me the consoling assurance that I have a friend who takes a warm interest in my welfare both here & hereafter, & your last letter is not one of the least of your many acts of kindness which I remember with grateful pleasure -

I have heard of Mr Jones before, with you he passed himself as an auctioneer, which I believe to be true, with others he has pretended to be a lawyer, had you found my will he would undoubtedly have found ample proof of my death, he is a villain of the blackest dye, the pitiless seducer of innocence, the unprincipled invader & destroyer of domestic peace & happiness - The man dares to calumniate, compared with such a scoundrel stands out in bold & proud relief, Dr Bolles is a man

of unwavering integrity, a humane & skillful Physician,  
to modest to make his merits felt & appreciated, a kind  
husband, a judicious father and sincere & devout  
Christian - In myself I can truly say, I am &  
ever shall be worthy of my friends, in the land  
in which I live & live with the highest, my reputation is  
without a stain & my rule of action ever has been, never  
to lose an opportunity of doing good & to refrain from  
doing wrong as much as the frailty of our nature will  
permit, - Still I must plead guilty to one charge, I have  
staked money on games of chance, but I have never neglected  
my business or forgot my obligations as a physician, the poorest man  
in Tabasco (and there are some thousands who have received my  
medicine & services gratis) cannot say that I have ever  
for a moment been detained from his bedside by play, I am  
no gambler nor do I play with gamblers, the gov<sup>rs</sup> & all  
the gentlemen of rank & station not excepting the vicar  
in their own houses, these gentlemen are my associates  
& my profession leading me daily to their houses, I have in  
a manner been obliged to participate in their amusements,  
& this to me has been an expensive diversion most certainly,  
but the limits of a letter are too circumscribed to explain this matter  
fully, when we meet you shall hear all my defence  
& decide as little as possible to my discredit -

I enclose a letter of introduction from the gov<sup>r</sup>  
of Tabasco to the gov<sup>r</sup> of Yucatan which was never delivered  
in consequence of other matters preventing my intended visit  
to the Capital of that State, I should prefer that Mr Adam  
Lozan should read it for you as he knows me -

Permit me to reiterate my acknowledgments of your kindness  
& believe me truly your friend -

E. J. Johnson

Professor Torrey M.D.  
Care of Messrs Goddard & Co  
New York

and  
Sept 3rd

Frontera 8<sup>th</sup> May 1842



I find

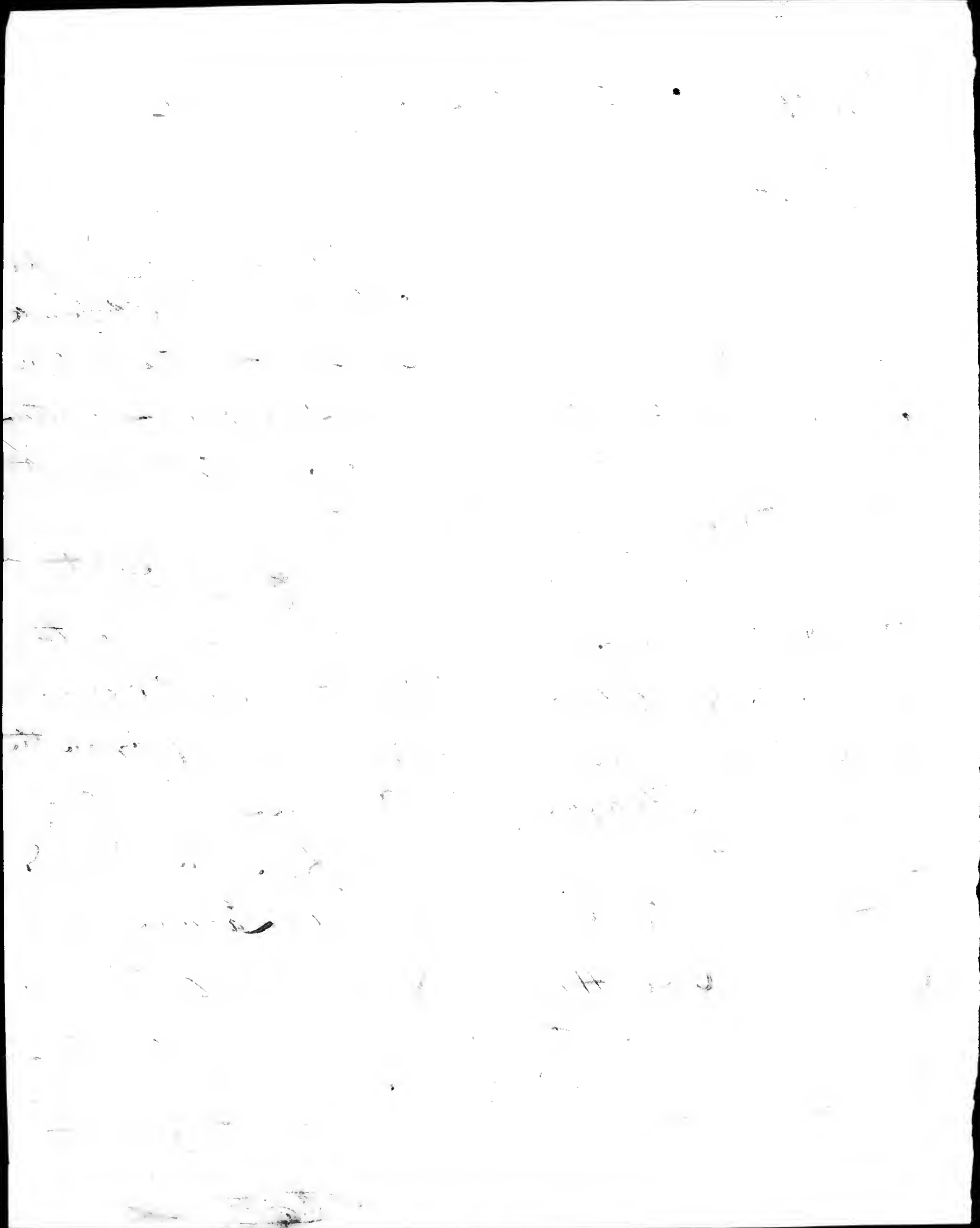
I send you by the Brig Triumph Capt Kimball, Consigned to Howland & Aspinwall a barrel containing several plants of the palm family - 2 sensitive plants, & some plant-parasites.

They must be taken out carefully to prevent the earth falling from the roots,

I sent you some plants by Capt Ramsdell, Shover & Southard, Consigned to Bonchard & Thebaud - some the st which I presume you have as also my letter of march from the Tinto, twelve leagues from Palenque, I also sent you two boxes of plants from the Palisades to the care of the American Consul Laguna, his Consignees are Howland & Aspinwall there are or should be in one of the boxes a face & a whistle taken from a large indian mound at frontera, some of the plants were collected more than 100 miles from where the others were

I truly yours  
E. D. Coles





Ans. Sept 3rd

New York August 18th

Dear Sir



In my arrival here I was unable to obtain information concerning your place of residence until my recent return from Connecticut too late unfortunately to allow of my making you a visit. The war movements in Mexico render my prompt return to that country very desirable & necessary & the departure tomorrow of the Berque Louisa for Campeche affords me an opportunity to embark. up to yesterday Mr Goodhue & rather the persons at the store could give me no account of your whereabouts. I regret very much this hasty movements preclude the possibility of my seeing you as I have much to say & am very anxious to discuss many matters with you.

Mr Bonshand has had a box of plants several months for you, if you leave your plants in this way untouched I should suppose the damp & insects would render them useless. Mr Howland should see two more

write to me by the usual Channel & let me know what I can do for you

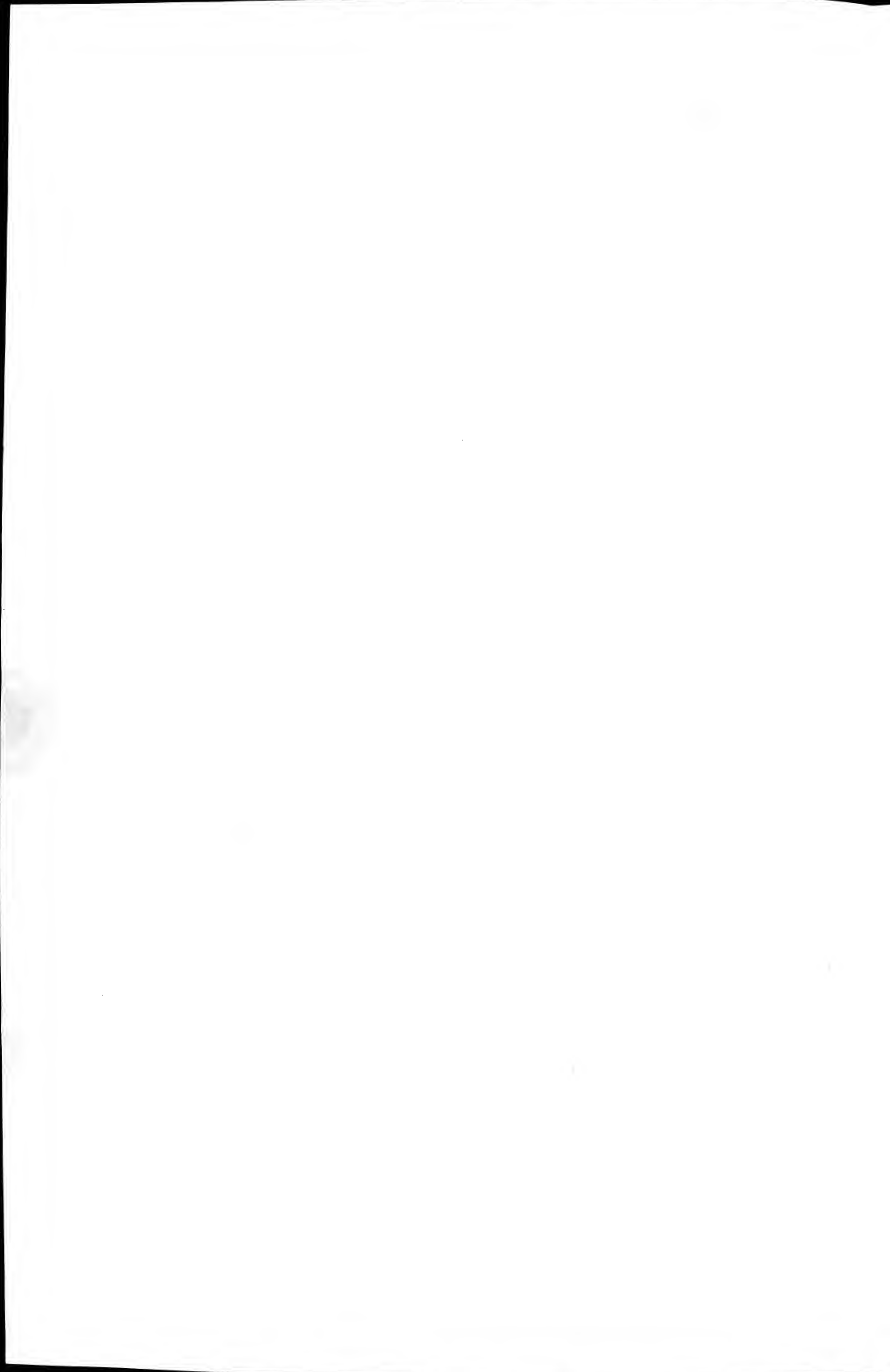
I have passed three times through Princeton without knowing that you were there, I think the little plant for intermittent fever is amongst them at Bonshand's

You shall hear from me again on my arrival, did you get the live plants I sent by Capt Kimball - Do not forget to write -

Yours truly

E. P. Johnson







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N

Professor Torrey -

Princeton

New Jersey



Recd San Juan Bautista 29 Oct 1842

Nov. 3rd 1843

I for and March 13th 1843

Your favor came to hand yesterday & it gives me much pleasure to learn that some few of the plants I have from time to time admitted have been received by you. The box I mentioned is at the counting house of Messrs Bonchard & Thebaud 35 New Street, you say nothing of the small plant which I mention as likely to take a place in our Pharmacopoeia, I shall send you a plant, and beg you will tell me what it is & if there is any notice of its having been used medicinally. In my hands it has proved very efficacious in intermittent fevers.

Did you receive the Yava? - the bark for worms, - tell me what you think about it. The tree which produces it has never been described, I now send you a description with the leaves & bark, it flowers in June, small white flower 5 petals, tree large.

When the warm season comes on I shall take much pleasure in attending to your request in favor of your friend Dr Gray & hope he

will succeed in his laudable endeavors,

There is some mistake in the dates of your letters - on the 8 May I must have been at sea - That letter in March was written at that time, but no opportunity offered of sending for a long time - it was subsequently copied & some additions made & it should have borne a different date -

I certainly did learn before I left New York that you were at Plimpton & should have paid you a visit had I not so unexpectedly embarked for this country leaving all my business unsettled after having travelled so many thousand miles to regulate my affairs,

I saw but few persons whom I had previously known, I called twice on your brother but did not find him at home

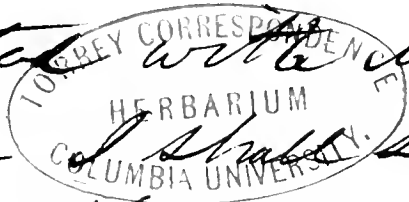
This letter & the Yawn will probably go by the Lakoka Capt Power consigned to the Messrs Howland -

The circumstances which in person

years obliged me to play, no longer exist. I cannot therefore plead them in excuse for the continuance of the habit - I have not come to a positive determination to shake off this most enticing of all vices, but I feel truly grateful for the kind interest you manifest for me & hope to give you a better account of myself in my next letter -

I scarcely know what to think of Florida, the first Northerly have brought on a renewed attack of Herpes - from the bump from which I obtained relief yesterday

My affairs here are unsettled the last revolution cost me more than \$5000 & I have as much more due me, with very little prospect of recovering one half - The will may be destroyed, my circumstances are very different from what they were when it was written & a new one was made & deposited with Mr. Gordon when I was in New York - I shall send what I have collected of the few plants, I beg you will not forget to write about



Truly yours

E. P. Johnson

The plants were sent by the trumpets perhaps the Capt did not take the trouble to preserve them -

Bookkeeper Torrey  
Care of Messrs Goodhue & C

New York