

and

New York Aug^t 24 1842

Dr Torrey,

Dear Sir,

I have just returned from Albany where I have now to see the Members, to show them the specimens of the Survey, as far as done so. All are in the highest degree, pleased and all are very urgent to have the work presented with despatch -

Dr DeKay has one volume out & bound, the quadruped, the Vertebrates report is in the binders hands - Dr DeKay has another volume nearly ready - Dr Emmons, Beck & Hall & prof. Mather are all in progress

I rec^d a letter from Miss White this morning with a request that I would drop you a line and let you know that they are at a stand for Copy, & will feel greatly obliged if you will, with as little delay as possible send them what you have ready, as their hands will be out by evening, this week

If you will forward a parcel to me for them I will see they get it without delay

I shall be very glad also to get as many of your drawings, as possible, also to get the letters for those I have, as I wish to make all the progress possible this year -

I suppose you rec^d the Gov^t: notice

recently in relation to a "discontinuance of
the labors &c" I went up to see what it
meant & he said he only meant to
notify in order to prevent disappointment
that the appropriation was exhausted that
he hoped and expected that all would go on
as he had no intention of retroing the work

There is 5 or 6000 of which he holds in res-
pe charge on the work which he is car-
rying and if your balance has not been
paid, that is a part of it, - You would
have no difficulty in getting it by going to
Albany

There is no disposition to curtail or
restrict in regard to plates - All desire
and intend it shall be complete as pos-
sible, and if you will furnish me with
materials I will have you 100 more plates
finished before a word can be said - It
rests solely with you -

I have nearly finished D. DeKay's
affairment, there is only about 10 or 15 plates
more besides the insects which are not
~~now~~ touched -

Shall you visit the City soon? if not
I will take a day next week & visit you &
bring all the proofs. I have -

Please write me & oblige you truly
Geo. Quaintance

May 20th N York

Dr Torrey

Dear Sir

Your favor was rec^d yesterday. I intended to have written you before, as to my removal, & but had nothing of a particular nature to say and being in daily expectation of seeing you -

Gov. Bouck has, I believe given to J. H. Hall a contract to do some work hereafter to be done i.e. The Fossils & An Agricultural report to be put together by Emmons. But no mention is made in his contract of any thing except what is in Hall & Emmons hands - You had better send to me what drawings you have - and then write to him something rather indefinite as to what you may have in future, if you should have any - I will consider your work done that may be in my hands and run my own risk of payment - and you of course are to know no change till Gov. B answers your letter, and gives you information that you are to send your drawings to Hall instead of me - As to "the unrivalled artist" in the "botanical" line he has lived for four or five years in this city and I never knew that he drew on stone at all, he is a painter of lions and Cat's heads and you may judge of Hall's confidence in either his

artists or his own ability by the fact that he was here last week and proposed to see me his contract — on account of ill health! We could not agree upon a price he wanted more bonus than he was willing to guarantee the work to amount to. He will get very little as Master of the Gun-Team at Albany have any confidence in his ability to perform his work —

It is understood by all parties that I am to finish the work I have in hand which includes your work as I understand it unless the Gov^r should give you special direction — I want to commence the Colony at once — am going on with DeKay and mean to do all as quietly as possible and in mean time shall purchase Hally contract if I can which will clinch the whole matter —

Dr DeKay went up week before last and got his pay. — You can do the same but Emmons and all think you had better get some of your work in the printers hands first and then you may go boldly —

Dr Emmons was here yesterday and has gone with his family to Oyster Bay to spend a short time

Let me have all the drawings you can at once

Yrs Truly

Geo Ordway

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Dr. John Lacey
New Britain
Conn. N.Y.

