

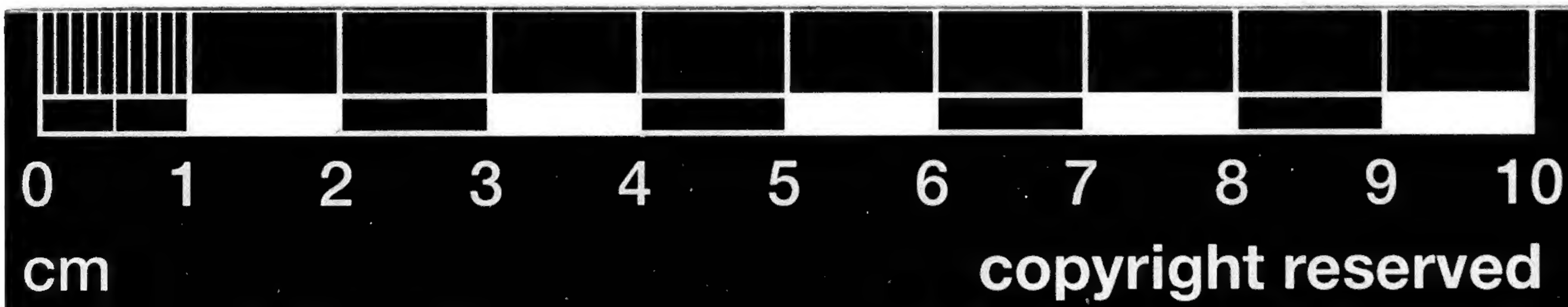
An. Lindheimer

Yonkers July 4th 1857

Received from My Dear Sir  
Lindheimer  
Sept 24

You will doubtless be pleased to hear that I am come so far on my journey without any serious accident. I have not been so successful in collecting as I had reason to expect I would be from the great number of plants I found when I was out here before. The fact is this whole country and that part of the route reaching from the Rio Grande some 150-200 miles eastward has been long unblest with rain. The streams are dried up the vegetation is parched up nearly all annual plants have failed to germinate this year and only perennials show faint signs of existence. The cactaceae & shrubbery forming the chaparral look pretty fresh but produce scanty fruit. The Yimpis when I collected plants most abundantly on my former travels over this country had lately been swept over by fire & nearly all vegetation was destroyed. The cactaceae even were so much injured that I passed over many specimens that I would under other circumstances have saved.

I do not know how long I may remain here (about eight miles above El Paso). Some think several months and appearances seem to confirm the opinion. If so I may be able to send Mr Thomas his grape vines - but I think & hope we will leave here soon for there is little or nothing for me to do here & I am not disposed to lie here in idleness. I have found but one plant that I can confidently say possesses much novelty or interest and that is a small *Boerhaavia* with round cordate obtusely dentate leaves  $\frac{1}{2}$  in in diameter throwing out prostrate runners rooting at the joints and bearing small yellow <sup>flowers</sup>.



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I find here *Behinocactus Wislizeni* at least 4 ft high & 3 in diam  
from point to point of the spines - several cerei some mammil-  
lariis and (I think) several opuntias of section *Appplanatae*  
besides two or three or more of section *cylindraceae* If we  
stay here any considerable time I intend to examine these  
plants carefully and collect a plenty of the fruit I have sent  
to Engelmann a barrel full collected here & on the way mostly  
mammillariis, cerei, & Behinocacti some of which will doubtless prove  
new My list of plants runs up to 579 including of course many  
duplicates I recognise many old acquaintances yet on the Pecos  
where I did not collect before on account of sickness I found  
several new things I have sent my dried specimens to Dr Gray

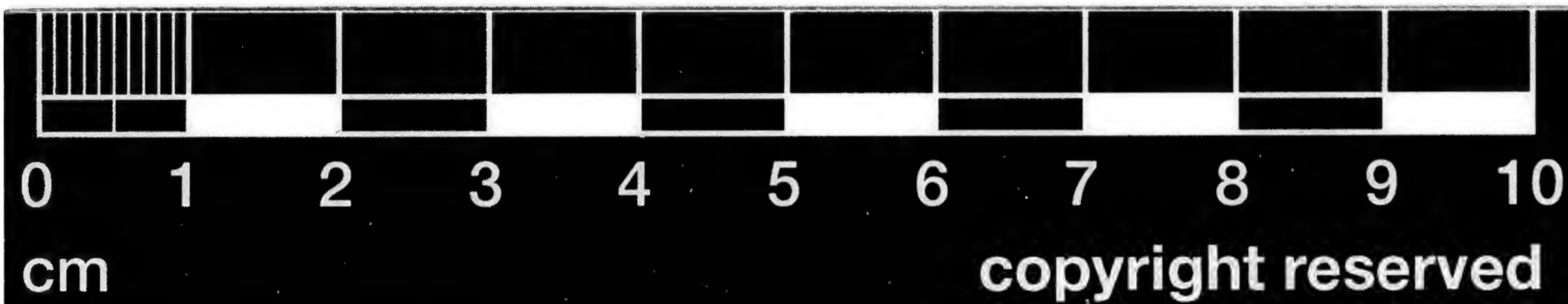
Should you meet with an opportunity of sending to me I hope  
you will improve it & give me some intelligence from the  
regions of civilisation Give my respects to Mr Millett and any  
acquaintances I may have in New Braunfels & inform them that  
I am & have been very well but am now doing little or nothing  
except writing letters That however & copying my notes has  
kept me pretty busy the last few days If any thing of interest  
happens & I have opportunity I will write you Meanwhile

I remain

Your most obt. Serv<sup>t</sup>

Charles Wright

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GEORGE ENGELMANN PAPERS



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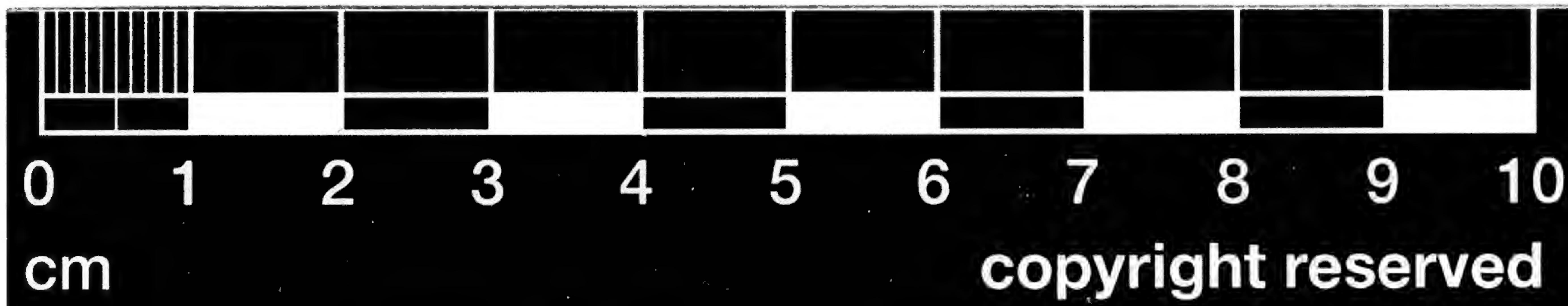
Rec<sup>d</sup> from Lindheimer Oct 31

Re Lindheimer

Coppermine Aug 5th 1857

My Dear Sir

You see I am making some progress towards the El Dorado through La Florida is the goal ~~at~~ to which I tend I believe I wrote you from the vicinity of El Paso I now I beg pardon for I intended to do so I found the Rio Grande nearly dried up & left it about in the same state fordable almost any when I found some interesting plants on my way up the river but not many I saw *Martynias* some *Portulacaceae* and *Myrtaginaceae* &c. After leaving the Rio Grande & striking westward for this place I came to a region where rain had fallen and many very interesting plants were springing up A *Cooperia* with yellow flowers is abundant near here & not rare from the Pecos to the Rio Grande I find an *Oxalis* with 7-9 cuneate emarginate leaflets situated at the summit of the petiole like the spokes of a wheel. Gl purple *Myrtaginaceae* are numerous In prairie-dog towns east of the Rio Grande I found a little *Portulaca*, 1 inch high, terete leaves, yellow flowers. & the least *Myrtaginaceae* I have ever seen *Pentstemon* are abundant with purple & scarlet flowers *Erigeron* are very numerous also *Amaranthaceae* We have three pines & one cedar with bark like a pine three oaks (2 *Emoryi* and another low bushy oak somewhat like it) one like a red oak On the mimbrés is a *Populus* with ovate leaves Along the creek we have a *Juglans* like *J. nigra* though probably distinct I have no books for determining the fact On the Mimbrés I find a *Perovnia* and a *Mimulus* like *M. jamesii* Various *Cenothera* were found on my route here, one *Epilobium* few *Daleas* & *Petalostemon* (it was too dry for them) Here I meet



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*Phaseolus* *Vicia* *Galactia* &c with new forms and different flowers I collected today a showy *Silene* and *Batrachium* also *Quercus* with pointed leaves *Cercocarpus* is abundant on the hills just out of flower A *Comandra* is common here several plants apparently exotics naturalized are common on the old fields of the village One *Ranunculus* one *Thalictrum* one yellow-flowered Umbellifer with winged fruit like a *Gauschia* grow on the hill-sides

I was in hope of being able to retain possession of my collection but they are claimed by Col Graham as head of the Commission in whose service I am with a salary of \$500 per ann. I still hope to reserve to myself a set which I know I shall richly earn I spent a very idle time at Monterera for a few weeks when the dry weather had killed nearly all the vegetation With that exception I have been very busily engaged and will be again when my paper arrives

Please tell Mr Thomas that having left the grape region so early in the season <sup>and</sup> not expecting to return I shall be unable to procure him any grape cuttings this year at least and I fear I shall not have it in my power to collect seeds & roots in any considerable quantity I sent Engelmann a barrel full of Lactaceae & a small box afterwards having found apparently a new and interesting species I have collected still others & different ones since leaving Monterera besides various fruits Of *Cereus* *Greggii* I have abundance of the fruit The plant has a huge fusiform soft root *Hedyotis* *humifusa* is abundant and a few miles down the creek in sandy prairies I met another strikingly like it in habit but with long tubular flowers Enclosed is a fragment of each It should be called *longiflora*



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I have no idea when we will leave this place nor when I will be sent. It is rumored that there will be two surveying parties one for the Rio Grande & one for the Gila. The Commission are now making (I suppose) arrangements for future operations & it is to be desired that we ~~will~~ <sup>may</sup> soon be set at the work of running the Boundary. Dr. Bigelow the Physician of the Commission has collected some fine things but has been cramped in his labors for want of paper. Mr. Thurber labors under the same disadvantage to some extent. He collected in Sonora some fine things which I have not seen. Very little more has been done in the departments of Nat. Hist. by the members of the Commission except by Mr. Clark who with a little assistance from me has collected all the fishes and herps on the coast here and many birds & insects with a few quadrupeds.

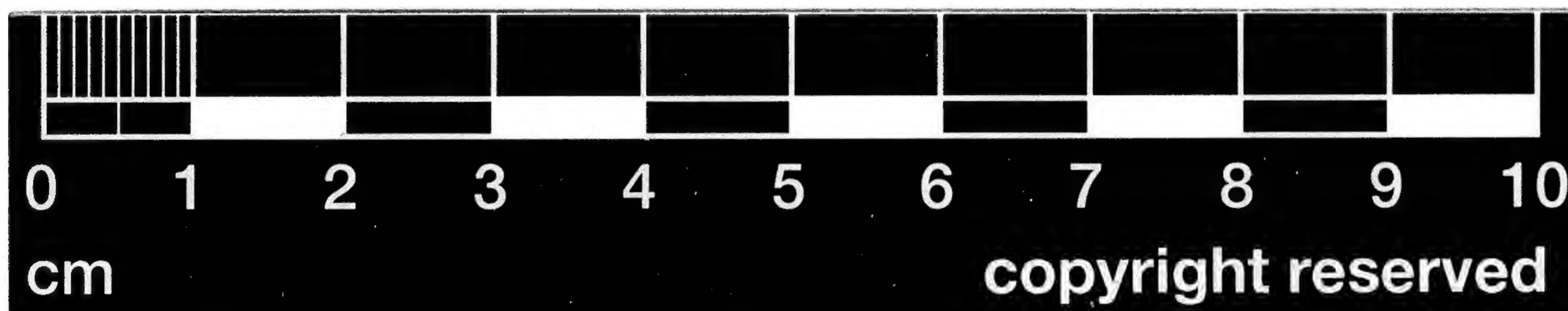
Should you have an opportunity of sending to El Paso please be so kind as to write to me & inform me what you are doing & communicate any information in your possession from Dr. Engelmann or Dr. May. I shall be most happy to receive from any friend a letter - a luxury I have not enjoyed since leaving San Antonio.

Very Sincerely

Yours

Charles Wright

P.S. Direct letters to the "care of Col. J. S. Graham"



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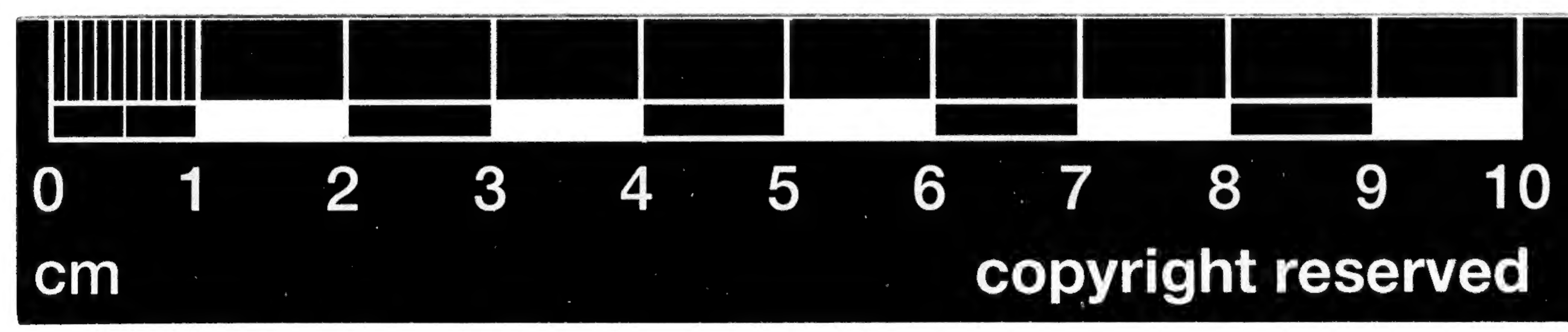
By writing my name of *Francis Y. Lincoln*  
Lincoln, at first *Francis Y. Lincoln*  
Lincoln and *Francis Y. Lincoln*  
see *Copiers' names* as *Wm. S. Wright*.

7

3  
Mr. Francis Y. Lincoln

New Braunfels  
Texas

MISSOURI BOTANICAL GARDEN  
GEORGE ENGELMANN PAPERS





Rec<sup>d</sup> from Lindheimer March 20<sup>th</sup>

Camp on Rio Grande Dec 5<sup>th</sup> 1851

Dear Sir

I have but little time and that night-time to write my letters. By day I am hard at work. I believe I wrote to you in July or August. Late in ~~August~~ July I went to the Coppermines and spent several weeks botanizing near the camp not daring to go far for fear of Indians who were beginning to be troublesome and stole many of our mules and my horse which however came back to me next morning. Late in August we started on a trip through the unsettled parts of northern Sonora, pursuing a route intermediate between the route traveled by Col. Cooke and Maj. Omory's route down the Gila. We spent six weeks on this excursion and I found many interesting & I hope new things. I made a catalogue of nearly a thousand <sup>species</sup> including of course many duplicates and not reckoning those collected from San Antonio to El Paso. We were at Santa Cruz and passed several old deserted ranchos one on a pretty running branch of the San Pedro called the Bar-bocomori and another on the Sonoito likewise a pretty stream abounding in fish and flowing probably into Santa Cruz river if there is such a river for it is only a little creek at the town of Santa Cruz. On our return we took the Omigrant road from Santa Cruz which at the San Pedro unites and becomes the same with Col. Cooke's. We had cold weather in ~~the~~ traversing



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the Guadalupe Pass but when once more out on the prairies the weather became moderate again. A little before the middle of September we reached the Mines again where after staying some weeks sufficiently long to enable me to glean the remains of autumnal vegetation we began our return to Frontera on the last day of October. Arrived a little below Doña Ana I was detailed as head of a party to survey that part of the Rio Grande lying between the place above mentioned and Frontera. I have been on this work now since Oct 8 and hope with good weather to finish next week or soon after. The distance by the road between the two places is called a little more than 50 miles. It would seem almost useless to try to tell you of the many things found at the Copper mines but there are three or four pines one fir & two cedars also two probably three oaks. Two species of *Phoradendron* grow on cedar. I found two sp. of *Geuchera* there and one at Santa Cruz with deep crimson flowers. Also at Santa Cruz a *Passiflora* and an *Arabis*. I have several Compositae of the *Bidentidae* which I can not identify. I found several *Cappariaceae* and *Malpighiaceae*. Several *Pentstemon*, two *Gentiana*, one with white flowers, some *Gilia*s numerous. *Euphorbiaceae* some two or three ~~sp.~~ unifoliate sp. of *Desmodium*, several *Cuscutas* & *Cucurbitaceae* the pepo of one of which bursts elastically and throws the seeds to a distance. Two small sp. of *Crotalaria* were met with and two or three sp. of *Dioclea*. I found one sp. of *Hedysarum* I think but being in fruit only I could not determine it. I find *Mimulus Jamesii* common. Two or more sp. of *Ribes* were met with and two or three of *Populus*, one *Alnus*.

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*Opuntia arborescens* grows everywhere *Echinocactus Wislizeni* grows  
on the Rio Grande & I saw it in northern Sonora I found two or three  
sp. of *Opuntia* near the Cobre seen nowhere else, and one in a  
single locality in Sonora the most spiny thing I ever saw nearly  
allied to *C. clavata* of Engellmann Unfortunately the fruit was not  
ripe and I secured no specimens and lost my knife ~~in cutting~~  
~~it~~ by leaving it where I cut off a fragment for examination  
I did not find the Cactaceae numerous though I secured fruit  
of some which I had not seen elsewhere I found a yellow-flow-  
ered *Looperia*? in various places *Goustonia humifusa* & a nearly  
allied species are abundant at the mines *Wislizenia* grows on  
the Rio Grande & I found it on high sand ridges in Sonora various  
*Chenopodiaceae* abound on these vast arid plains and in the same  
localities two or three delicate *Malvaceae* some very pretty sp.  
of *Convolvulus* were collected in many places but one in partic-  
ular appeared not to climb and flowered at midday or after  
Several had tuberous roots This reminds me of two sp. of  
*Solanum* found at the Cobre with little tubers the very  
counterpart of the *Solanum tuberosum* A rose grows on  
Coppermine Creek and the hop (*Humulus*) is found there and  
on the *Pinobes* manifestly indigenous There are two sp. of  
*Datura* <sup>not *stramonium*</sup> natives of the region about El Paso & the Rio Grande  
I observed and collected fruit of several sp. of Agave the  
Maguey plant among them of which the Mexicans make  
"pulque" and the leaves of which the Indians roast and  
use for food abounding in a pleasant saccharine  
matter Numerous *Nyctaginaceae* grow throughout this  
country also *Amaranthaceae* A beautiful little *Duonymus* is  
found on the mountain sides at the Cobre Some *Silene* grow there





one with white flowers very viscid in crevices of rocks on the summit of the mountains. Some Leguminosae near Phaseolus have huge tuberous roots so has *Cereus greggii* species of *Hoffmannseggia* have very long slender tuberous roots exceedingly difficult to dig entire from the ground. *Oenothera Jamesii* grows here if I am not mistaken I do not find many ferns though one very singular grows from crevices of vertical rocky declivities in dense tufts but not more than two or three inches in height with linear entire fronds (the edges involute)

But perhaps I have told you enough of my pickings I left my trunk at Frontera containing my pocket book & consequently the memoranda of your desiderata. When I left Frontera I did not expect to be gone long and took but little clothing but little paper and nothing else although I was more than three months away and even now it will be more than a week before I shall reach there so I have not been able to do any thing for Mr Thomas as I have not been in the vine region since July when it was too early to save cuttings and now I suppose it is too late. I am at present a bona fide member of the Boundary Commission doing active service. Whether Maj Emory who supersedes or relieves Col. Graham will retain me remains to be seen - if not I may soon be among my old friends in Texas. You now can take advantage of the new mail arrangements between San Antonio & Ol Paso & I shall be happy to hear from you. Remember me to my friends in New Braunfels particularly to Mrs Millett & family and Mr Sealough and lady. It is a gloomy rainy night & bedtime. Very truly

MISSOURI BOTANICAL GARDEN  
GEORGE ENGELMANN PAPERS

Your obt<sup>d</sup> Serv<sup>t</sup> Charles Wright



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Rec<sup>d</sup> of L. Baker - May 22<sup>d</sup>

Camp near San Ignacio Feb 10<sup>th</sup> / 52

My Dear Sir

I have just received your very kind letter of Sept 4<sup>th</sup>. It had been mislaid somewhere but we do not know how long the gentleman in whose possession it was recently found having forgotten who handed it to him or when

I don't recollect the date of my last communication to you but I think it was after the close of the botanical season & hence I can have but little to communicate. I found recently a beautiful moss with abundant fruit - one the fruit of which - though the plant abounds near you - I had heretofore vainly sought.

My collections are gone on (<sup>for</sup> Dr Gray I suppose) to Washington with Col Graham

I am now in the field as a surveyor from which <sup>duty</sup> I hope to be relieved when the season fairly opens. The weather is becoming warmer perceptibly, even in this elevated region I have already found one plant in flower - a Nasturtium probably. I am paying some attention to birds.

Tell Mr Thomas that I prepared for him another box of grape-vines but being encamped away from the town the only train which offered any chance of conveying it to him passed when I was not there & left it. I'm very sorry.





We have not received our last mail and we have every reason to believe that the carrier it have fallen a victim to the Indians.

Write frequently. I shall ever be happy to hear from you. I lately received two letters from Dr Engelmann, mostly filled however with directions for describing collecting & preserving bacteae.

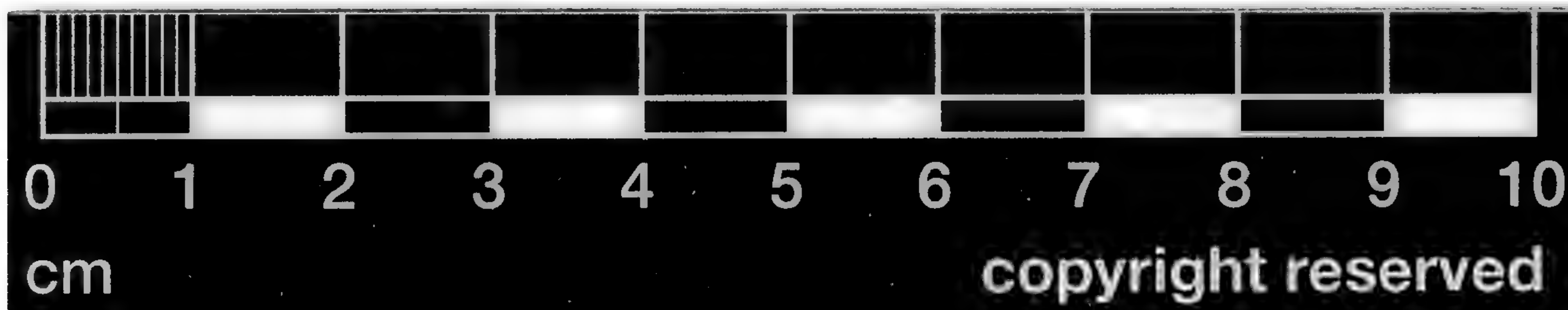
I now "Dipterandra Lindheimeri" very near Philadelphia. If so (as I judge from your description its habitus) you once spoke to me concerning it & I told you I collected it on my former botanical visit to this country. It is by no means a rare plant in these regions.

I am very respectfully

Your old's serv't

Ferdinand Y. Lindheimer

Charles Wright



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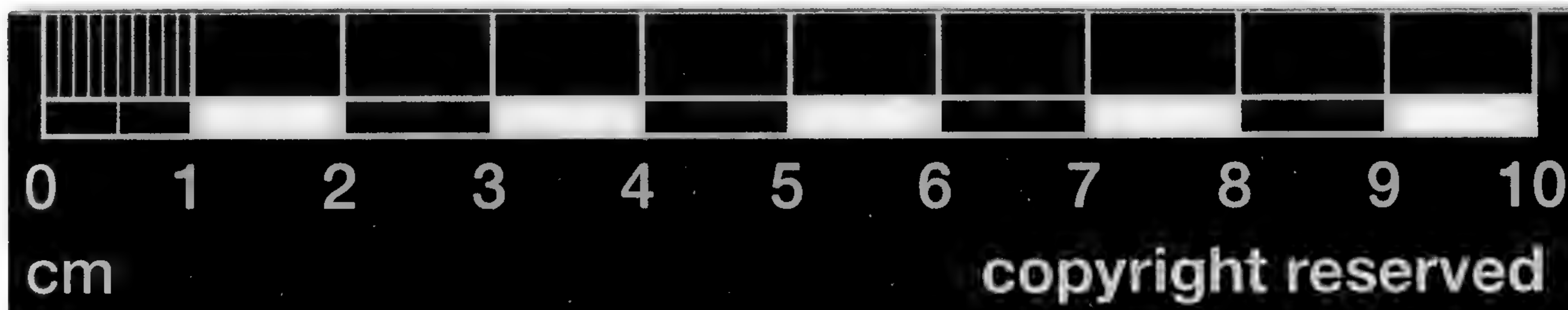
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Rec<sup>d</sup> Dec 1<sup>st</sup>  
Ans Dec 3<sup>d</sup>

Wethersfield Nov 19<sup>th</sup> 1852

My Dear Dr

I have been waiting impatiently to hear from you something relative to the Cactaceae I hope you will work them up before the close of the year or I may not have the pleasure of knowing for some time to come what discoveries I have made in that family

I am appointed Botanist to the Japan Expedition to sail the first of January or thereabouts destined for the China & Japan Seas Behring's Straits and the N. W. Coast generally I don't know that I can do much for you in the Cactaceae but if I find any Cuscutas or Euphorbias I shall think of you

I have been with Dr Torrey since I wrote to you and in distributing Dr Parry's & Dr Bigelow's plants among those of the latter were many flowers <sup>of Cactaceae</sup> & fruits, very well preserved but probably few or none which you have not from me

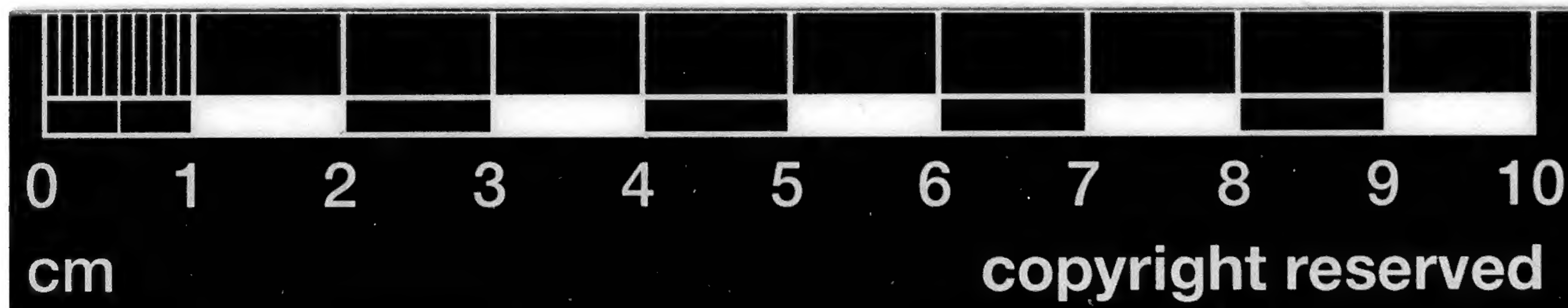
Do find time to drop me a line soon

Very truly Yours

Charles Wright

Dr Geo. Engelmann  
St Louis Mo.

P.S. Maj. Emory is expected in Washington in a few weeks C.W.



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1852

Washington Nov 11 1852

My dear Sir

I have been awaiting impatiently  
to hear from you something relative to the  
proposition I have made you will not mind me up about  
the object of the paper as I may not have the pleasure  
of presenting for some time to come what I have  
said I have made in that family.

I am extremely obliged to the Editor of the  
Littell to send the first of January or thereafter  
nothing for the Editor of the paper as I have  
thought and the Editor is most generally a  
man who can be more for you in the future.  
I am not of your any business or subscription I  
shall think of you.

I have been with the Editor since we were together  
and in consultation with George & St. Albans plants  
among those of the latter were many plants  
very much increased but probably for some time  
of the last one from me.

Believe me to be ever a true friend

Very truly yours

Charles Wright

Dr. Geo. Engelmann  
St. Louis Mo.

Dr. Geo. Engelmann is expected in Washington in a few weeks



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