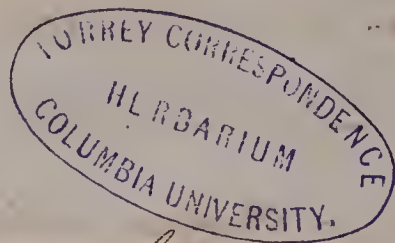


Toury Esq. D. M.
New York.

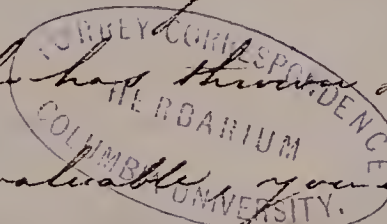
Geneva 12th June 1826.



Dear Sir,

I have felt long ago a strong wish to correspond with you
I have delayed beginning in hopes that some favorable opportunity might offer to procure me
introduction; This expectation having failed I have determined to take my chance
to address you without any medium, thinking as I do, that the object of this
correspondence being solely of a scientific nature, you will readily excuse my intrusion
perhaps feel some disposition to encourage it.

Botany is at present my favorite pursuit, and being desirous of extending my
researches, I am desirous of possessing as an extensive and numerous materials as
possible. That part of the United States which you inhabit furnishes a great deal,
and when coming from an author who has thrown so much light upon them as
you have done, they become the more valuable, you will therefore bestow on me
a very particular favor, if you will accept the offer of exchanging the plants of
the United States for those of France, Switzerland and Savoy.



To begin I have put up a small collection which shall reach you by the packet
following the one bearer of this letter; Inclosed you'll find a list of them; they
have been all compared to the types of Professor DeCandolle, you may therefore look
upon them as being perfectly authentic. I have made my selections among
the several orders contained in DC's Prodromus systematis naturalis regni
vegetabilis, excepting the Saxifragae which, tho' not yet publish'd, are ready for
the press.

Should my proposals prove satisfactory, and on your making me acquainted with
your acceptance, I shall immediately proceed in sending you successive parcels to fill up

the list of individuals belonging to the several Genera of which but an incomplete
has been put up for the present, and include the very interesting order of Leg
which has been omitted, in toto, on account of the whole of my collection being
my friend Professor DeCandolle's for comparisons.

In case you should think advisable to return some of your valuable plants
leave to point out the Phlox in particular, belonging to the Colemosiacea in
of which I am engaged. Otherwise, I have no particular preference, and
you may send shall be most gratefully received; As much as you can, and
like Leguminosae, Cruciferae and Umbelliferae to be both in bloom and fruit
at all events, in the latter state in preference to the former. I shall also thank
for as many duplicates as you can conveniently spare. You'll say if you
like to have a good supply of duplicates too, in which case I would send you
many as you wish.

Mr. Seringe has put in the box a parcel containing his Salix with some
publication. and Mr. Koepfer begs you to accept the number of Mr. Seringe
containing his Memoir on Inflorescence, and to know if you have received the
Enumeratio Euphorbium. and Mr. DeBingins his Memoir on the Verticillata
which they have both sent to you.

You will be pleased to direct your parcels to Monsieur Ledouble at
Durovray near Flavre, par Mons. Ph. Mercier a Senneve.

In hopes of a favorable answer, I remain respectfully

Dear Sir,

your humble and devoted
Ph. Mercier

FORBES CORN
HERBARIUM
COLUMBIAN

Handwritten circular stamp or seal, possibly containing a date or location, though the text is illegible.

John D. Jones

Faint, illegible handwritten text, possibly a list or notes, located on the right side of the page.

Ch. Mercey

June 12th 1826

Rec^d Aug 1st 22nd

Contains a list of plants which
he sent to me, but which I never
received.

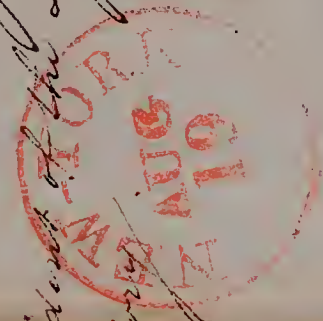
forwarded by.

John Torrey Esq. D. M.

President of the Lyceum Natural
History

West Point
~~New York~~

M.D.



Month of June.