

New York, April 22, 1845

My dear friend.

By this time you have received my letter of various dates - sent yesterday from New York. The botanical drawings were sent at the same time. I forget whether I had opened Presley's parcel before the letter was dispatched. Are they not beautiful? Surely we have had nothing like them done by our artists. Now what shall we do to secure his services? On Fremont's return I think he will have at least 100 drawings of cuttings to execute - but I should like to employ him in the meantime. His Dutch letter sent with the pictures I cannot read. This letter dropped out of the parcel when I was showing the pictures to Endicott - & he said that one of his men who was in the next room would read it for me! But I put it in my pocket. I shall have it translated by a Theol. student.

I am anxious to know more about *Dithreux*. My specimen as to habit, is just like a still poorer one in the collection - & I don't think that either has been bitten off & then taken an unnatural form.

If Harvey has got that fine *Papaveracea* I shall be vexed. Where is it described? Let me have some account of it in your next.

Did you notice in Wiley's Circular that a translation of "Schleiden's principles of Botany, by E. Lankester, F.R.S." is announced. It is in 8vo - with numerous wood engravings. I suppose it must be out in London by this time. Will you order a copy for me, when you send for one yourself?

It came just received from Fremont says. "In regard to the plates (for illustration fully his next report). Col. Benton desired me to tell you that he has no doubt Congress will pay for every thing of that kind. F. says he will send me from the foot of the mountains, through Bent's Gun Company, the plants he may collect up to that point."

Apr. 24. I have looked over your new Post Book, & am much pleased with it. The wood cuts are excellent, & the text is greatly improved. By the way I had noticed in ed. 1. a little mistake. I turned to the new ed., expecting to see it corrected. - Under *Araceae* you say *spathe* usually surrounded by a *perianth*.

Yours of Wednesday morning came in the next mail. Many thanks for the plants sent Mrs. Torrey. The report them up to-day. I shall forward them for your sake. I shall, of course, do all in my power to save the services of both Sprague & Prestele. When you send up to Bent had best better put up the rest of Fremont's people? I should like, also, to have him look at my *My. Disphyll.* & *Polem*.

The plants for drawing are in hand, & will soon be ready.

I am much obliged for your notes of the plants. My object is to describe only a few of the choicest. That *Papav.* I cannot have if it is not Bent's. Bent's *Monarda* - make that certain. Surely the *Walp.* cannot be any of *Suprem.* The way is single - which is some in that order. Just look at it again - & try also, what you can do with the *Ranunc.*

Apr. 25 If Sprague makes drawings for Fremont or me, will he do them as cheap as Prestele? Another letter from F. says, "Let us secure Prestele, & set him at work on any of the present collection that you think proper & he can be paid on my return. As many impressions can be struck off as may be necessary for present circulation." The principal part to be published in the regular report. Could Sprague make drawings this summer, (under your eye) - & send them to Prestele? Endicott would advance the money for the drawing & engraving if he could bear the printing - for this is the chief consideration with him. If the Poppy thing is new, & Sprague can draw it at once, - I wish you would see that it is done immediately.

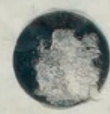
We are all quite well. but feel Margaret's absence. Mr. Kitching returned to-day - & of the young ones, we in high place. Gough spoke again in the Church, last evening. The crowd was great, & all were much pleased. More than 100 adult names were obtained.

Yours cordially
Albion Torrey

18/4



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Harvard University
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