

Tuesday Ev. Aug. 23rd 1848

Dear Doctor.

This is a busy day with you - but the bustle & confusion will be over by the time my letter arrives. As yet I am uncertain whether Mrs. Torrey will go to Cambridge. She is now at West Point, with Herbert - & will remain, I presume, till Monday. If she goes to

Boston it must be soon after that.

You are driving hard, I presume, at those Fendlerians & Unglerians. Do you wish to examine my own set of Monte-very plants? It contains many of which there are no duplicates for those army officers were obliged, in many cases, to snatch specimens while stragglers of the enemy were watching a chance to leave them! Is Englemann to do Gregg's plants? I suppose there need be no delicacy felt by either of us, if we should find new plants among them, about the right of making them public. They will hardly come in my way - but they may come ⁱⁿ your - Halsted has some more Mexican specimens for me. He had about 2000, collected around Vera Cruz, which he left, when he started for the mountains, in charge of the quartermaster - but on his return to that place, nothing could be heard of them!

Edward (ed. I tell you?) has been added to ~~the~~ California, from
Mendocino - & is now on the march. He promises to collect plants
whenever he has a chance. Fremont's project seems to be
knocked in the head, for the present. I have not heard from
him yet about those drawings - but shall write again this evening.
I hoped to have sent him a proof of the *Temonias*, by this time.
As to the description - I have been so full of business that I
could not stop any readily to draw it up - Besides - ~~would~~ might
it not lead Spague astray if I were to make some mistake about
the minute anatomy? He would, perhaps, think that he ~~was~~ ^{was} ~~was~~
I saw - & yet, he is generally too acute to be deceived in that way.
To-day I sent money for the two former illustr. to Harkness
to forward by way in New York bills. Mackenzey Field has not
paid me - but I will get it out of them.

The testimonial for Holton (J. F.) can be directed to
Robert Kelly Esq. Pres. of the Board of Education of the City
& County of New York. Ray sent it forthwith - or it may be
too late. It is said that Prof. Horace Webster, who has
just resigned in Geneva College, (& who served with us at West
Point) will be placed at the head of the Free Academy.

You did not tell me how many of that set of *Hummer*
drawings were to be printed by Spague. I trust he has the original
specimens from which several of them were taken. I don't find
in my herbarium the new *Brickellia* which he drew two years ago.

I have received no letter from Carey Ledy. Is he in
New York? I wish he would come here & spend a few weeks
with me. We could dig into some tougher genera, & therefore one
another into by working & reading together - as you & he were
wont to do! I am almost afraid to engage about *Sach. longi*,
fearing that he is beginning to run down. He will go fast when
the disease takes fair hold of him.

Every day I am amazed in studying Ricker's plants, from
the marvellous bits that he has preserved. Some cannot be
reformed with any certainty - & others must be thrown aside
from the imperfections of the specimens. I am sometimes re-
-bored by turning to the Kootchookee set of Spalding's or the
Cypress series of Fremont.

Probably I shall have the remainder of Fremont's duplicates
for you - which I mean to send with a parcel for
Tuckerman - containing Rickers, *Phanoglossa*'s &c.

I am just making arrangements for getting a supply
of *herbarium* paper - I hope to have all my plants glazed
down by Mrs. Torrey & the girls before spring.
Give my love to Sara, & believe me your most affectionately
John Torrey



Torrey, John. 1848. "Torrey, John Aug 23, 1848." *John Torrey letters* –.

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