

John Torrey papers, 1819-1864
1819-1864
Mss.B.T63.1

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Summary Information

Repository	American Philosophical Society
Title	John Torrey papers, 1819-1864
Date [inclusive]	1819-1864
Call number	Mss.B.T63.1
Extent	0.25 Linear feet
Extent	15 items.
Location	LH-MV-B-2
Language	English
Container	1
Abstract	These papers include letters on natural history, metals and mineralogy, botany, insects, the geological survey of New York, and analyses of distilled liquors in the cause of temperance.

Background note

John Torrey was a botanist, and was elected to the American Philosophical Society in 1835.

Administrative Information

Publication Information

American Philosophical Society

Provenance

Acquisition Information

Purchased and accessioned, 1958 (1958 160ms). See in-house shelf list for additional accession numbers.

Indexing Terms

Genre(s)

- Scientific Correspondence

Personal Name(s)

- Buckley, S. B., (Samuel Botsford), 1809-1884
- Cleaveland, Parker, 1780-1858
- Delavan, Edward C., (Edward Cornelius), 1793-1871
- Durand, Elie M.
- Eaton, Amos, 1776-1842
- Wilkes, Charles, 1798-1877

Subject(s)

- Botany.
- Geology -- New York (State) -- Surveys.
- Insects.
- Mineralogy.
- Natural History

- Natural history.
- Science and Technology
- Temperance.

Other Descriptive Information

The Torrey Papers contain at least two items which may be of interest to naval historians:

Wilkes, Charles, 1798-1877.

- 1 Torrey, John. Letter to Charles Wilkes. 1848 January. Is afraid his work will suffer since the committee refused his request for aid. 2 pages.
- 2 Torrey, John. Letter to Charles Wilkes. 1848 January 28. Concerning plants which he received from Charles Wilkes. 1 page.

Other Descriptive Information

The John Torrey Papers consist of two separate collections. The first contains original documents, often from John Torrey, a prominent botanist in the nineteenth century. Torrey's letters often discuss natural history, books, and flora. Amos Eaton is his most regular correspondent, and the letters are often of a personal nature in which Torrey gives Eaton support for his scientific pursuits. Mention is also made of temperance. This portion of the collection is relatively small. The second part of the collection contains various notes and transcriptions Chapman Robbins made for a study she undertook on Torrey. This larger part of the collection consists of over two boxes of transcriptions of Torrey correspondence and provides a far more complete picture of Torrey.

Collection Inventory

Papers

Torrey, John, 1796-1873

Nov. 1, 1817

7-3/4x6

Letter to Amos Eaton, Northampton, Mass.;

New York, A.L.S. 2p.and add. Concerning a work on botany. Refers to LeConte's collection,and comments on Mitchill, and the Pursh collection.

Torrey, John, 1796-1873

March 12, 1819

Letter to Amos Eaton, Albany;

New York, A.L. 3p., add. Comments on geological and botanical matters; particularly on grasses. Mentions Gibbs, Silliman, Cleaveland, Pomeroy, Pursh, Nuttall and Mühlenberg.

Torrey, John, 1796-1873

May 4, 1819

Letter to Dennis Cooley, Muddy-brook,
Mass.;

New York, A.L.S. 3p.add.end. Concerning collection/exchange of plants/minerals. Lyceum of Natural History of N.Y. pub. Torrey's "Catalogue... Asks for grasses, mosses,ferns. Mentions Dr. Ives,Mr. Hitchcock.

Torrey, John, 1796-1873

May 18, 1819

10x8

Letter to Amos Eaton, Troy;

New York, A.L.S. 3p.and add. (see John Torrey papers.) Concerning botanical matters. Concerning Rafinesque. Refers to Nuttall.

Torrey, John, 1796-1873

Dec. 11, 1819

10-1/2x8

Letter to Amos Eaton, Troy;

New York, A.L.S. 4p.,add.,end. (see John Torrey papers.) Mineralogy and botany of the U.S. Concerning the preservation of insects. Refers to Nuttall and Rafinesque.

Torrey, John, 1796-1873

March 7, 1820

Papers

Letter to Amos Eaton, Troy, New York;

New York, A.L.S. 3p.add & end. Concerns geology and botany; esp. mosses & grasses. Critical of Akerly's book on Geology. Mentions Gibbs, Hosack, James, McClure, Mitchell, Muhlenger, Paulding, & Pierce.

Torrey, John, 1796-1873

Dec. 28, 1820

10x7-1/2

Letter to Parker Cle[a]veland, Bowdoin college;

New York, A.L.S. 4p.,add.,end. (see John Torrey papers.) Mineralogical sources in the U.S. Refers to Jacob Bigelow.

Torrey, John, 1796-1873

Jan. 11, 1827

9-1/2x8

Letter to Parker Cleaveland, Brunswick;

West Point, A.L.S. 2p.and add.,end. (see John Torrey papers.) Concerning mineralogy. Refers to Nuttall.

Torrey, John, 1796-1873

April 10, 1828

7-3/4x4-3/4

Letter to ----;

New York, A.L.S. 1p. (see John Torrey papers.) Forwards package of pamphlets. Friendly letter.

Torrey, John, 1796-1873

Sept. 10, 1831

10x8

Letter to T. A. Greene, New Bedford, Mass;

New York, A.L.S. 2p.and add. (see John Torrey papers.) Concerning botanical specimens of the U.S. Orders certain items.

Torrey, John, 1796-1873

Oct. 29, 1831

Letter to Professor A[mos] Eaton ;

New York, ... fungi published by A.P.S. 1. Botany--Kentucky. 2. Eaton, Amos, 1776-1842. 3. Le Conte, John Lawrence, 1825-1883. 4. Lindley, John, 1779-1865. 5. Rafinesque- Schmaltz, Constantine Samuel, 1783-1840. 6. Schweinitz, Lewis David von, 1780-1834.

Torrey, John, 1796-1873

Feb. 1, 1834

10x7-3/4

Papers

Letter to E[lie Magliore] Durand,
Philadelphia;

New York, A.L.S. 1p.and add.,end. (see John Torrey papers.) Concerning certain botanical specimens which they have studied. Refers to Nuttall.

Torrey, John, 1796-1873

Feb. 19, 1834

10x8

Letter to E[dward] C. Delavan, Albany;

New York, A.L.S. 1p.and add.,end. (see John Torrey papers.) Concerning his analysis of whiskeys for the temperance cause.

Torrey, John, 1796-1873

June, 1836

Letter to Prof. Henry

Photo of A.L.S. 1p. and add. From original in University of Amsterdam Library.
Item previously cataloged as: B T63.2

Torrey, John, 1796-1873

July 3, 1838

8" x 10"

John Torrey to John Vaughan,

New York, 1 p. and address. A.L.S. Introducing Mr. H. J. Jones Brydges, of England, "an interesting scientific traveller." At work with Dr. [Asa] Gray upon The Flora of North America.

Torrey, John, 1796-1873

April 4, 1840

10x7-1/2

Letter to W. W. Treadway, Albany;

New York, A.L.S. 1p.and add.,end. (see John Torrey papers.) Forwards his account for serving as botanist in the geological survey.

Torrey, John, 1796-1873

April 6, 1840

10x8

Letter to J. W. Bailey, West Point;

New York, A.L.S. 4p.,add. (see John Torrey papers.) Concerning natural history and how it should be written up. Refers to Henry and Gray. Concerning certain laboratory experiments on metals.

Torrey, John, 1796-1873

Feb. 2, 1841

10x8

Letter to Jo[h]n K[irk] Townsend,
Philadelphia;

Papers

New York, A.L.S. 1p.and add. (see John Torrey papers.) Concerning a possible subscriber to the expedition. Refers to Nuttall.

Torrey, John, 1796-1873	March 10, 1841	10x7-3/4
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Letter to S[amuel] B. Buckley, Allentown, Ala.;

New York, A.L.S. 3p.and add. (see John Torrey papers.) Concerning botanical matters of the U.S Concerning his forthcoming publication.

Torrey, John, 1796-1873	Jan. 28, 1848	7-1/4x4-1/2
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Letter to ----;

New York, A.L.S. 1p. (see John Torrey papers.) Concerning plants which he received from Charles Wilkes.

Torrey, John, 1796-1873	Jan., 1848	7-1/4x4-1/2
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Letter to Ch[arles] Wilkes;

New York, A.L.S. 2p. (see John Torrey papers.) Is afraid his work will suffer since the committee refused his request for aid.

Torrey, John, 1796-1873	Oct. 15, 1864	8x5
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Letter to ----;

New York, A.L.S. 1p. (see John Torrey papers.) General news. Refers to Henry.
