

Ebenzer near Buffalo Aug. 10th 1849.

To Asa Gray Prof.

Dear Sir! Yours of 3th inst is received, and I hasten to answer, first, to your inquiry respecting the proposed arrangement as to my coming to you and would say at once, that I think it an inconvenience of such a nature as to make it both ways to yourself as well as to me, altogether impracticable on account of my entire ignorance of your language. And as to Mr. Sprague's coming to Ebenzer, I take the liberty to say that I fear he would not stay many days with me on account of not being able to accomodate him with such lodging as would do for him since we are without those accomodations as yet, which a Gentleman like him ought to enjoy, and to which he is used too. But if he was to run the risk concerning these things, I will be ready for his visit, and wait on him as good as our circumstances here will allow. There is also a third way for doing our buisness still viz; I might finish the plants here without Mr. Sprague being present, if he was to make the drawings and gave me a description of the leading colours or lay them on himself. Were they then not exact enough they might be altered or improved afterwards, when I make proof sheets. Further as to your Idea of having the plates printed in colors I would remark that this might be done. But this would make the coloring afterwards very difficult and expensive. Therefore when I engrave the plants with fine lines, I can execute the coloring also very well, as you may see on the Fruits plates which I did already for the Massachusetts Horticultural Society at Boston, and can ~~do~~ therefore the plate not under 15 Cts. The *Cakesii* *Conradii* & *Guillardia amblyodon* were badly printed for coloring.

I will take pains that I may find some ~~of~~ fruits of

Magnolia acuminata. There are many young trees in our forests but few old one which bear fruits.

I have no proofs as yet executed of Prof. Torrey's plates, on account of waiting all the while for some more drawings to fill up the stone. Although now I will attend to them.

The difficulties betwixt me and Prof. Torrey have come to a close, and were amicably settled.

Very Respectfully

Your

Obed^t Serv^t.

Jos. Prestelez



Prestele, Joseph. 1849. "Prestele, Joseph Aug. 10, 1849." *Asa Gray correspondence*

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