

Ebenezer near Buffalo Feb 16th 1850.

Thos Gray Prof.

Very Dear Sir!

Your last is before me and also the 4 Drawings, and shall hasten to send you proofs. By this time you likewise will be in possession of the proofs of the two Magnolia from the improved Drawings which I trust, have turned out to your satisfaction. I shall always try to do the utmost for you to meet your wishes, and especially in this case. In reference to the impressions for coloring I would say, that it is not in my power to them some what tolerable for 6 Cts. but would remark that eight might do, if you want them done in a manner becoming. The old adage is you know "Like pay, like work", and if you still say you ^{can} not afford to pay more than 6 Cts. per piece then we must do them accordingly. Here I would also mention, that the Horticultural Society of Boston has tried to avoid painting by the process of Chromolithography but all in vain up to this day, for that it will never become a competent substitute for coloring with the hand.

In conclusion I take the liberty of informing you that I am now capable to perform all kinds of printing work as good as any one, therefore I wish to engage my printer for I had great trouble and heavy expenses in order to get him here and also for the press and I would be glad if I could get the printing of all those impressions which became colored here but the uncolored or plain ones. may be printed there at Boston. Now if you can agree to this proposition, then you will please send as soon as possible paper that I may be begin with printing and coloring of some plates which I did already, and sent proofs to
you

you viz. of the Robinia and Cerasus for which you will also
send the names of it with the exact pattern of the letters.

In future I would be very glad if you were able to put the names
on the bottom of the Drawings that I may do them when I
engrave the plants. Yet I would also mention that I am willing
if you would like it to make Original Drawings of myself
of those trees which grow here at my place, I think it may be
an advantage for M. Sprague.

Now in respect to receive soon an answer about this subject
I remain

Very Respectfully

Yours

Cordially

Jas. Prestet



Prestele, Joseph. 1850. "Prestele, Joseph Feb. 16, 1850." *Asa Gray correspondence*

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