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Papers, February 1882

W. B. ROGERS
MC 1

February 3rd 1882.

To
Professor William B. Rogers
Boston, Mass. —
Dear Sir,

I enclose a prospectus of a Company I am forming to place the above Journal on a sound financial basis, and I should feel myself under a strong obligation if you will interest yourself among those in your City who are likely to cooperate. —

It was only on the 1st of January that I was able to free myself from a troublesome connection with the Journal, which hindered any business steps being taken, and I then became sole owner — I have placed the Journal in trust with Mr F. Thurnard of Yonkers, a wealthy gentleman who will contribute capital in the future, and act as Treasurer — Mr Sidney E. Morse and Mr Abram S. Hewitt are also interested in the Company. —

With out any business effort the Journal

has subscribers thrily in every State and goes
to all parts of the world: and it is the opinion
of business publishers that it will be one of the best
paysnt Journals in the Country with suitable
capital —

Respectfully
John Nichols. —

I think there are many wealthy gentlemen
in your City or neighborhood who correspond
who would like to be connected with such
a Journal, brings many pleasant associations,
and Mr Bennett in a letter to me from Worcester
recommends this money, stated that "he felt it
a duty to cooperate apart from any business
views." —

Boston Feb 4th 1882 ⁷

Dear Prof Rogers

A few gentlemen,
myself included, propose to hold
a meeting at the Institute
building on Tuesday next at
7-30 P.M. to discuss the feasibility
and advisability of forming a
mathematical club. If you
will favor us with your

presence we shall feel very
much pleased. With kindest
regards for all I am

Yours faithfully
Gaetano Lanza

Prof. Barker, consented to prepare
Prof. Memorial of Dr. J. W. Draper

3909 Locust St.
Philada Feb. 6. 1882.

My dear Pres. Rogers:—
Your letter of Jan.

30th was received on the 1st.
I am very much obliged to
you for the compliment im-
plied in nominating me to
prepare a Biographical Me-
morial of our dear friend Dr.
John William Draper. While
I do not feel competent to do
justice to the memory of so
eminent a man, and while
my personal attachment to
him was so strong as to make
me fear to trust my judgment
upon his merits, yet I am very
willing to do what I can, espec-

as the family concur with you in making the request. I took your letter to New York on Friday and showed it to Henry Draper. His idea is, I believe, to have the memoir put in type for the meeting in April. Then after the announcement of the death and my appointment to prepare the memoir, it can be read by title and printed copies be distributed to the members. Dr. Draper thinks the reading of biographical memoirs a bore and believes they should be put aside for reference. I shall try hard to complete it for the April meeting.

Hoping your health as also that of Mrs. Rogers, is fully restored, I am cordially yours
George F. Barker.

funds so appointed at the
April meeting but as this
appointing ^{meeting} rests with the Pres-
to be made annually, I presume
I can chose this committee now
(having overlooked it last
April) to report in April next.

As the Treasurer resides in
Washington I think it would
be best to have the Committee
composed of Washington members.

Please let me know if you
think that Meigs & Gile
would be suitable for this
committee, or whom would
you recommend as preferable.

Will you not soon send
to all members of the Academy
a circular such as was agreed
upon

My. holds & ourselves, calling
~~upon~~ ^{writing} them to have their
papers ready at the Wash-
meeting in April next, in
~~addition~~ anticipation of their
being as no publication of papers
could be made in the forth-
coming report on account of
the failure of the members
(with one or two exceptions) to
furnish them to the Secretary.

W. B. Rogers.

1 Committee to investigate the experi-
mental methods & results relating to the
production of Sorghum Sugar &c
embraced in the reports of Dr. P. Collier
to the U.S. Comm^{ee} of Agric: & to
report on the same & generally on
the scientific questions involved in
the subject. Messrs Silliman Johnson
Chandler & Smith.

2 Committee on Hydrometer Scales
Messrs Hilgard J. E. Chandler &
Moston.

Boston Feb 7th 1882

copy.

X

Mass. Institute of Technology,
Boston, Feb. 8, 1882.

Professor W^m. B. Rufus,
My dear Sir —

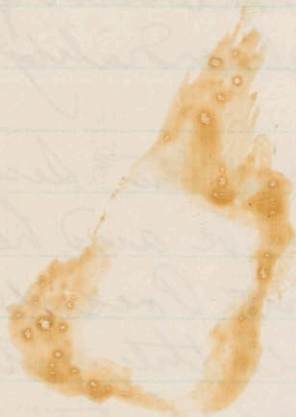
It gives me
great pleasure to communicate to
you the following resolution which
was unanimously passed at the
last Annual Meeting of the Al-
umni Association of the Mass.
Institute of Technology.

"Whereas: the Alumni Asso-
ciation wish to express their deep
sense of gratitude toward Presi-
dent Rufus for his devotion to the
interests of the Institute, and to
express to him their earnest hope
that his release from the onerous
and exhausting duties of the

Presidency of the Institution will
bring to him complete recuperation,
and whereas, further, the Asso-
ciation wishes to acknowledge Pres-
ident Rufus' warm interest in
the welfare of the graduates, and to
convey to him an expression of their
feeling of personal cordiality toward
him,

Resolved:- that the Secretary
of the Association be and hereby
is directed to invite President
Rufus to attend all the future
meetings of the Association, and
that our Secretary communicate
to President Rufus a copy of this
preamble and resolution."

Very sincerely yours
Chas. R. Ruff
Secy. At. Facin.



Nautical Almanac Office.

Bureau of Navigation, Navy Department.

Washington, Feb. 9th. 1882

Dear President Rogers,

I have supposed that the notice to members about getting their papers ready might be sent in the notification for the annual meeting which I suppose might be issued a month in advance or, at least, before the end of March. If you think this is not soon enough I will get it up without delay.

I think Meigs and Gill

would be very good
for a committee on the
treasurers accounts as
they both have plenty
of time and understand
business.

I will notify the com-
mittee as you request.
Of course the Commissioner
of Agriculture should be
notified or the chairman
at least of the Sorghum
Sugar Committee. If
you have not done this
I can notify him myself.

On my return I
found the Academy room
here lumbered up with
an enormous pile of

boxes. As it was im-
possible to know where
to look for anything
they may contain in
their present situation
I am having shelving
made to hold the
books and papers.

With kind regards to
Mr Rogers, I remain
Very truly yours,
Simon Newcomb

President W. S. Rogers,
117 Marlborough Street,
Boston,
Mass.

[Faint, illegible handwriting, likely bleed-through from the reverse side of the page.]

Boston Feb^y 10. 1882.

Dear Prof. Newcomb

Your letter of the 9th inst
is just rec^d.

I think that it would
be well to send the notice
in regard to scientific papers
by the first week of March. &
you might send the notification
for the Annual Meeting at the
same time. - I do not think it
would be too early.

Is there not a record in the
Minutes of the Nov. Meeting of
a resolution or request of
Prof. Agassiz asking members to
aid the committee appointed
to make selections for nominations
as Foreign Members, by suggesting
names? If so it might be well
in the same circular to refer to
this.

Please notify each member of the two Committees mentioned in my last letter as early as you can. They are already in most cases informally aware of their appointment & I believe ready to enter on their work.

The Chairmen will be Silliman for the Sorghum & Chandler for the other Committee.

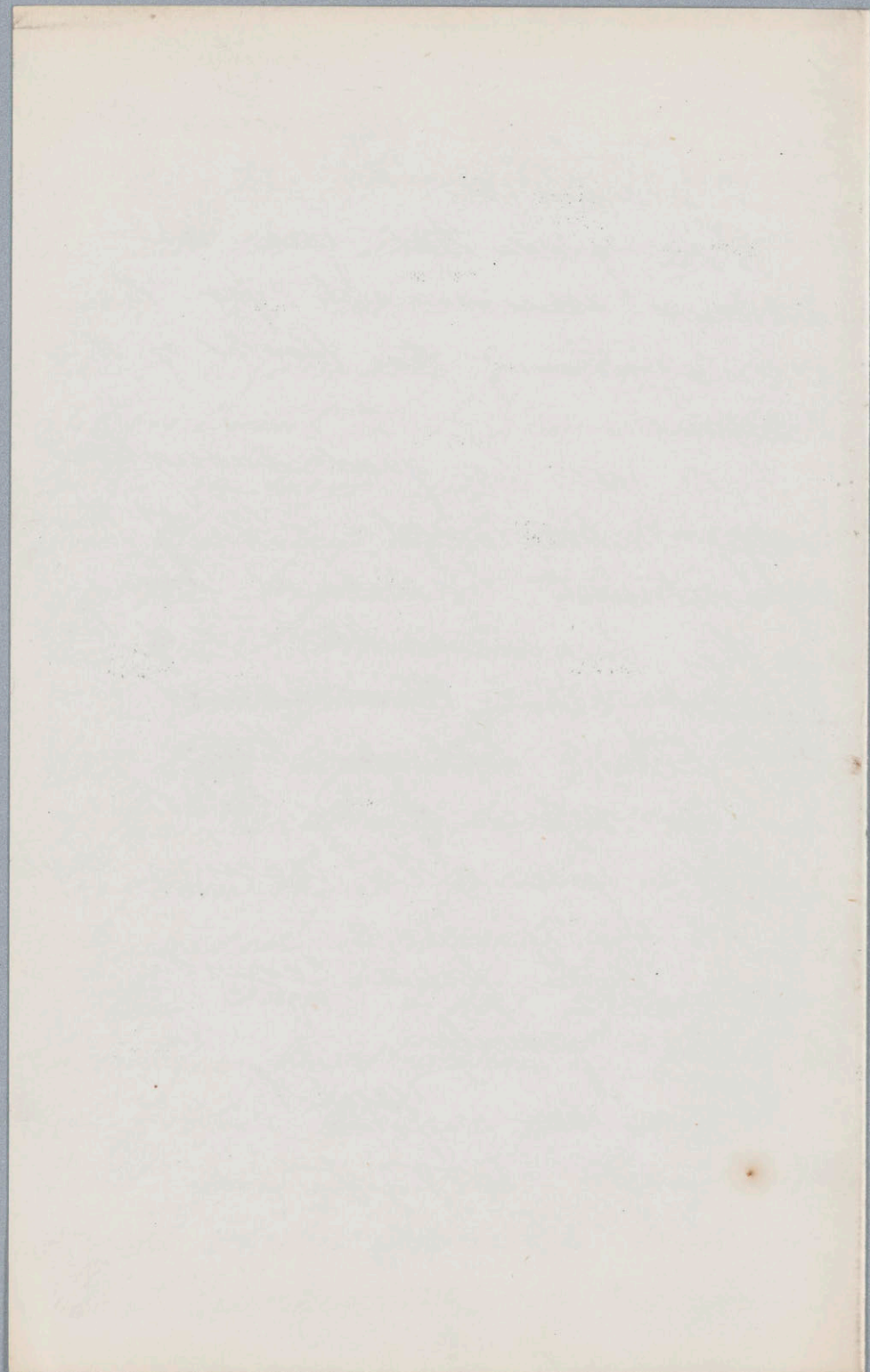
The Commissioner of Agriculture has been informed of the action of the Academy in regard to the Sorghum Sugar question & has forwarded documents for the use of the Comm^{rs}: & has requested a Scientific Investigation. It would be proper however for you to send him a notice stating the object of the Committee, such as I sent in my last letter followed

by the names of the Committee after you have rec^d from them their acceptance.

I am glad that you are making arrangements for the Accomodation of the Books of the Academy.

Will you be good enough to notify Messrs Meigs & Gile of their appointment by me as Comm^{rs} on the Treasurers Accts & if they accept place their names in the blanks left for them in my two copies of my report which you will receive next week. With kind regards to your family

I am yours &c
W. J. R.



Boston Feb^y 10. 1882.

My dear Prof^r Cope.

So very few members of the National Academy (only three including yourself) have sent in their Scientific papers for publication in the forth coming Report of the Academy, that it has been thought inexpedient to introduce this new feature into our Report until next season.

In the meantime all the members will I trust be impressed with the desirableness of embodying our Scientific Trans: in full in our Annual Report, & will have their papers in readiness for that purpose, as in the present instance you have so promptly done.

In the notes of your paper read Nov: 1880 there is a disagreement between the record of the House Sec^y & that in the American Journal of Science Jan^y 1881.

Please send to Prof. Newcomb the
exact titles at your earliest
convenience.

Hoping to meet you at
the April Meeting in New York
well freighted as usual with
the results of your scientific
work I am dear Prof.

Yours faithfully

William B. Rogers.

Cambridge Mass

Feb. 12, 1882

Dear President Rogers,

I enclose a line -
the last of several, which in
different years I have re-
ceived, from the father of
Stimpson the young
Zoologist, whose death
cut short a career of very
great promise - complain-
ing - as well he may -
that Mr. Gill of
Washington was appoint-
ed by the National Academy
to write a Memorial,
and has never done it.
He has been repeatedly
spoken to on the subject,
I think the result is
not creditable. Could

you not have ~~some~~
one else appointed to
remedy this neglect
now if many years?

Very truly Yours
with great respect

Anthony

you not to be so
one else appointed to
sincerely then neglect
now of me - year

Very truly yours

with great regard

[encl. 2/12/1882]

So. Lancaster Feb 10 52

Prof Gray

Dear Sir -

I learned from my grandson Miller Stimpson that you had been to Washington & listened to the address made by Prof Gill Pres. Biological Society -

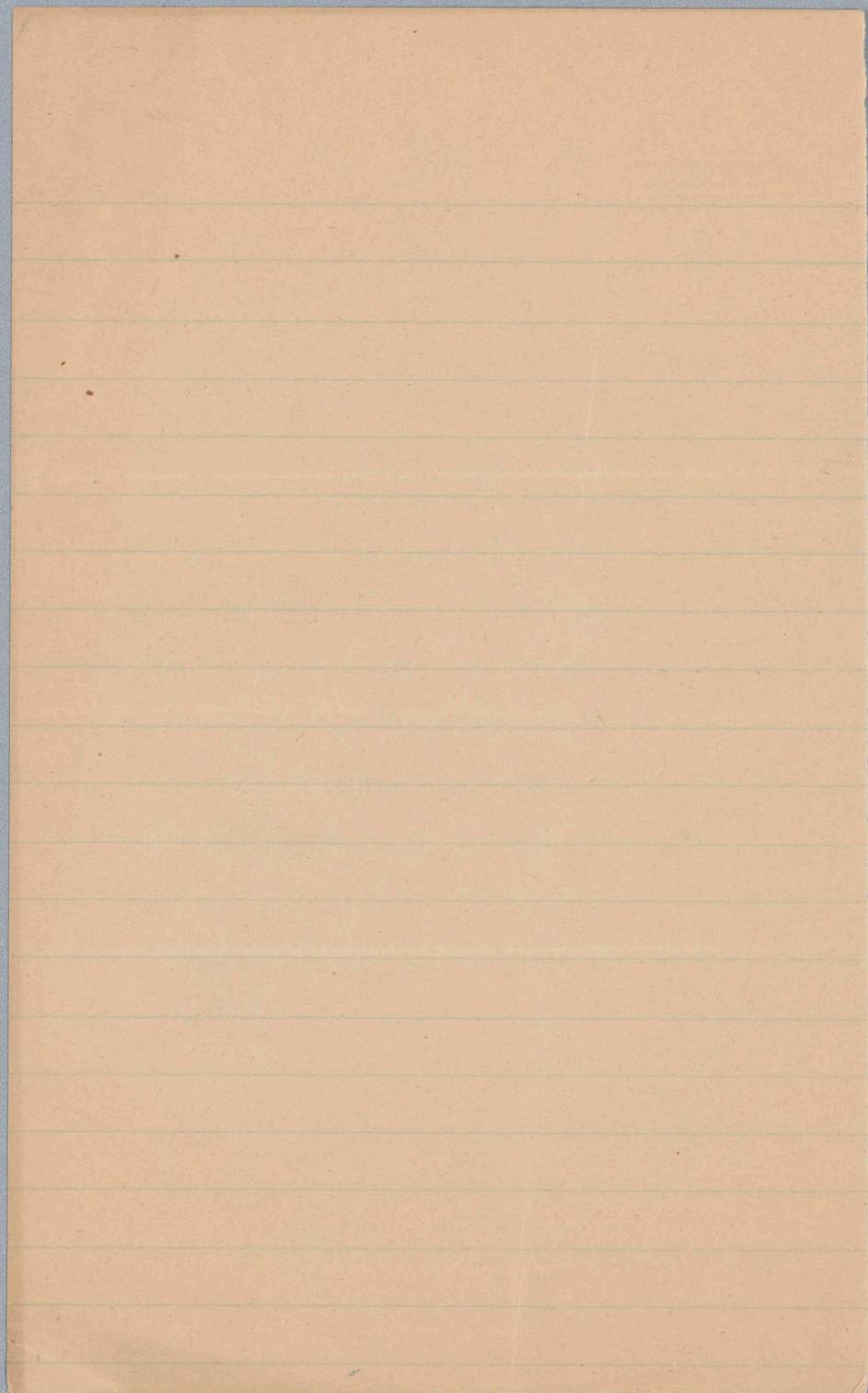
Did you learn why he has never written Williams obitography?

I think some one of the Society ought to move on the subject and that it be done by some one else if he cannot do it.

I have been confined at home sick ever since my return from the South last July -

Very truly yours

H. H. Stimpson



To. Lancaster Feb-15 1882

Prof. W^m B. Rogers-

Pres. Nat'l Academy of Sciences

Dear Sir,

I have always understood that the Academy directly after the death of Dr. W^m Stimpson - (my son) voted to publish a biography of him. Will you inform me if there is any hope that this vote will ever be carried out? My son has been dead ten years -

Very respectfully yours -

H. H. Stimpson

Feb^y 15. 1882.

Dear Prof^r Gile.

I have rec^d information that the friends of the late Prof^r Stimpson are greatly disappointed that the promised Prog. Memoir has not yet been presented to the Academy.

Such literary tasks are often onerous & you may have overlooked it, or decided not to undertake the work.

Please let me know what is your purpose in regard to the memoir, whether you intend soon to present it or would prefer to have the task assigned to some one else.

If the latter, please suggest to me the name of some member of the Academy to whom I may best apply, as I feel officially

responsibility for maintaining
this usage of the Academy.

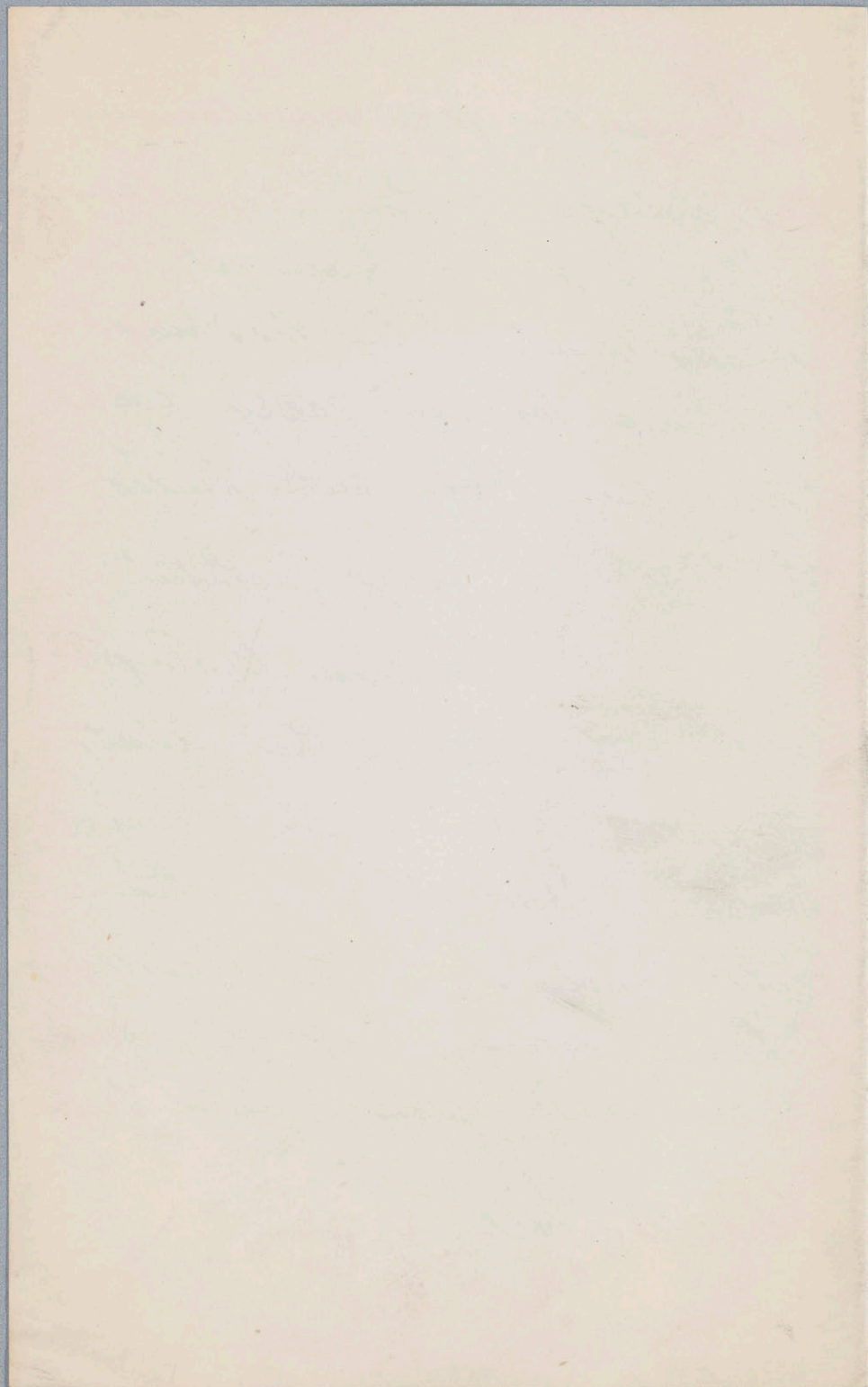
Hoping to see you at the
coming meeting in Washington
& asking for an early reply
I am dear Prof. with kindest
regards

Yours faithfully

William B. Rogers.

P.S. I have taken the liberty
to choose you & Gen^l. Meigs
for the Committee on the
Trust Fund &c of the Academy
& have asked Prof. Newcomb
to learn if you would serve.

Theo: N. Gile.



117 Marlborough St.

Boston Feb. 11. 1882

Dear Prof. Newcomb.

I am sending you two
Copies of my Annual Report One
addressed to the Pres^t. of the Senate
the other to the Speaker of the
House of Rep^s. Please look over
the ~~manuscript~~ ^{manuscript} with reference
to the following Memoranda.

1. I have included in but one
of the Copies the usual Appendix
A & B. giving the ^{charter and} present Organ^{ization}
of the Academy, & beg that you
will ^{have omitted} ~~these~~ pages Copied & ~~be~~
added to the other Copy before
sending it on.

2. I shall be guided by
your judgment & that of the

printer as to different Types

to be used ~~and~~ the spacings.
I send you of the last Report of which I think
Prof. Helgard's for a great number, & his paper
between the several subdivisions.

I should recommend as in the case of
~~the former Reports~~ ^{generally}

Small Capitals for Headings, & the
initials of Committees & that
the initials for Names of Committees
the initials of Authors, B. initials, list of
the Capital of each State, & suitable.

Prof. Helgard's Statement regarding
the Washington property & your

regarding the Walter bequest
might be in small type, but

the last especially, your very
important statement relative to

"The velocity of Light Expts"
should be in large type. In

regard to this latter, would it
not be best to give it a heading
like the following?

"Report of progress in the
Exp^{ts} on the Velocity of Light"

3. I should like to have Prof.
Baird's judgment as well as your
own as to the expediency of ~~the~~
the remarks at the close of the
Report on the proposed publication
of the Scientific Papers of the Ac.
in our Annual Reports.

It seems to me that we ought
to state the reasons for this new
feature of our Reports, ^{taking} ~~although~~ ~~hoping~~
which ~~is~~ ~~being~~
for granted that it will be
admitted & provided for. It
would be mortifying if hereafter
the Acad. ^{should} ~~should~~ ~~be~~ ~~blamed~~
~~or~~ ~~criticised~~ for making
an innovation in its previous
usage involving increased
expense, without having ^{some} such
notice of the change
proposed. ^{Would you kindly}
~~show this paper to Prof. Baird?~~

I mention Pay Band especially
I because he greatly encouraged
me in attempting this
extended publication

4. Please add the names
of the Pres. of Senate &
Speaker of the House of Rep-
ublic Letters

5. I have left a space
for you to fill with the
names of State Treasurers &
Pay Roll for Commissions
Funds,

Please inform me of
the date received of the
Reports - and send me the

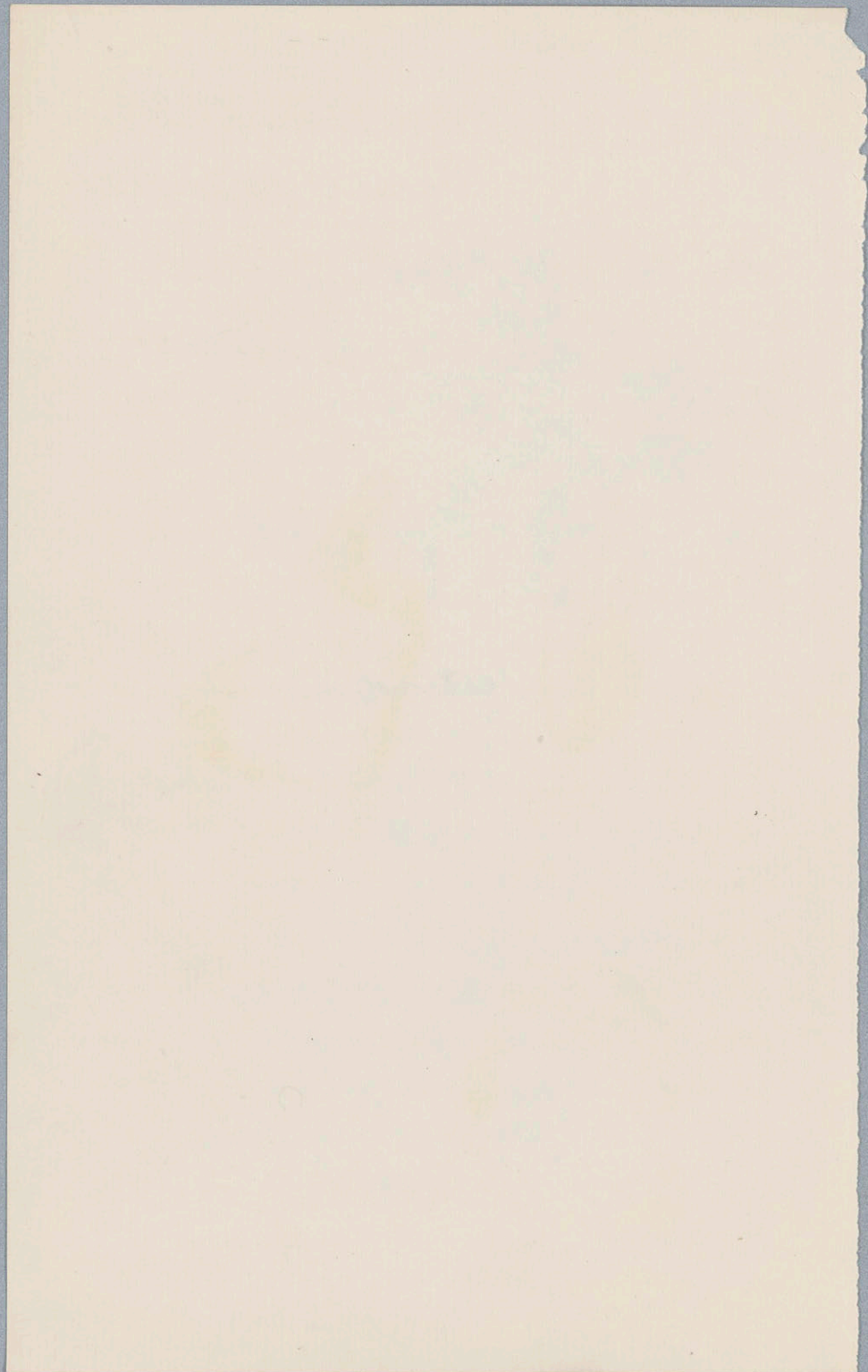
W. B. R.
W. B. R.

117 Marlborough St.,
Boston Feb. 20. 1882

My dear Prof. Croft

I ^{trust} ~~hope~~ that you will not
think ^{me} ungrateful of your letter enclosing
the Resolutions of the Alumni Assocⁿ
although Circumstances have caused me
so long to delay its acknowledgment.

Let me now beg that you will convey
to the Assocⁿ my hearty thanks for the
very kind & affectionate letter in which
they have referred to ^{my} connection with the
Institute & for the privilege they
have granted me of Fellowship with them
in their Meetings - and let me
further request you to assure them that
I value their personal esteem & affection as
one of the great pleasures & comforts of my life,
& that I shall continue ever to take an
unwearied interest in the welfare
of the Institute & in the happiness &
success of its Alumni -
Prof. C. for Alumni Assocⁿ



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Nautical Almanac Office.

Bureau of Navigation, Navy Department.

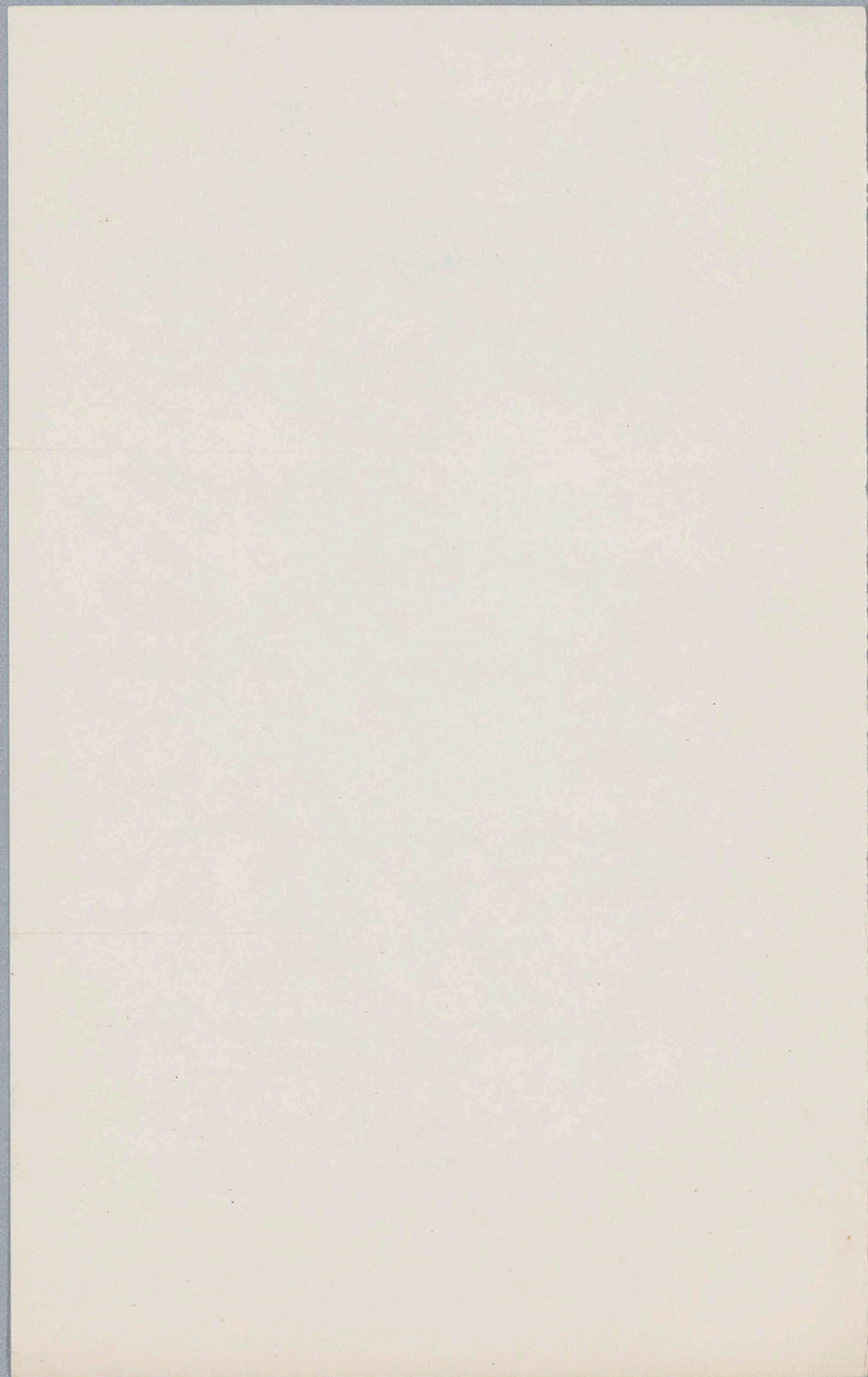
Washington Feb 20, 1882

My Dear Sir,

The reports
have come and I
am attending to your
points.

Your remarks
about presenting mem-
oirs seem eminently
proper

Yours &c
S. Newcomb



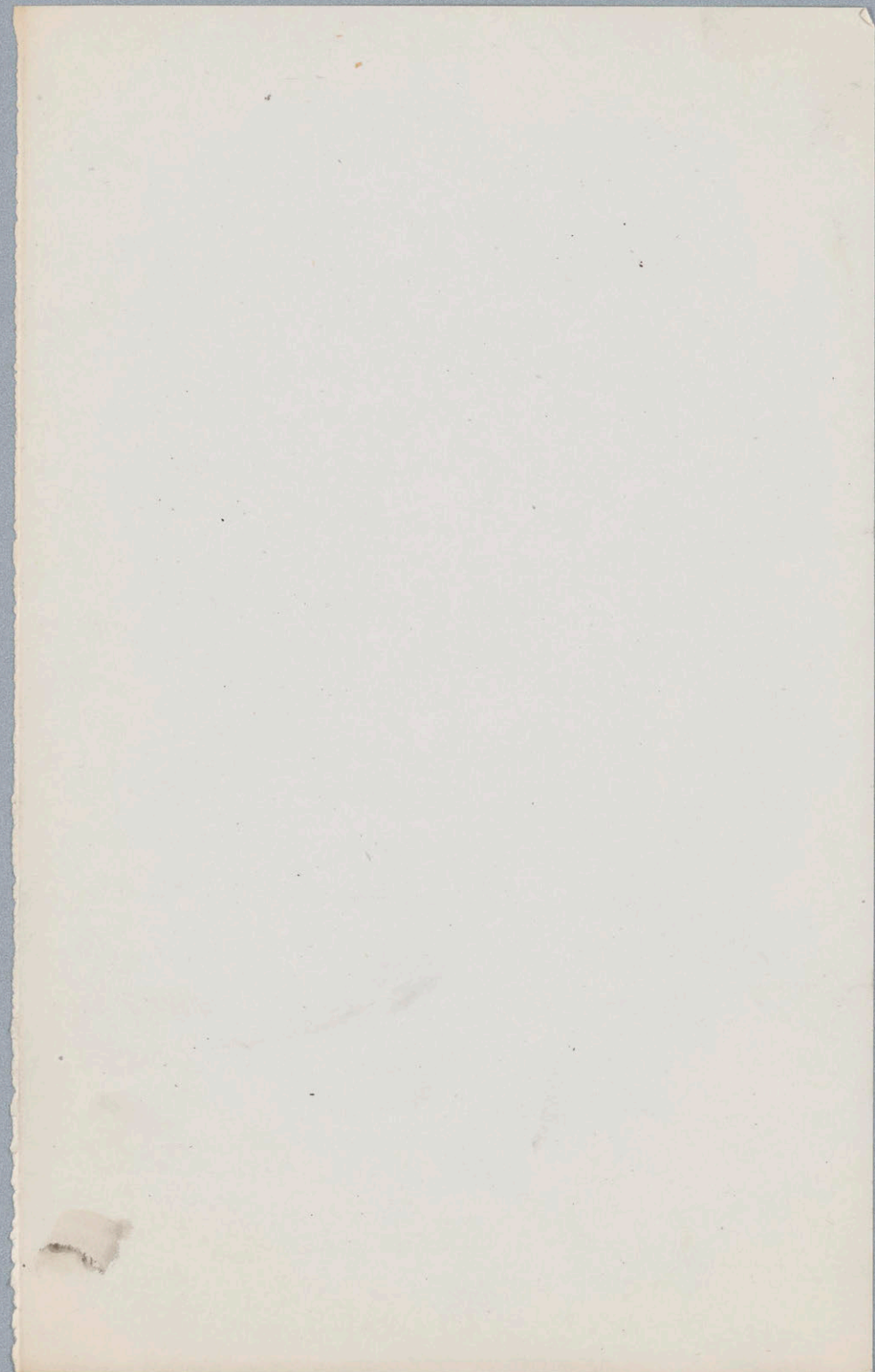
117 Marlboro' St Feb 24 '82

Dear Major Powell

At the coming meeting of the National Academy, it will be my duty after announcing the death of our friend Mr Morgan to appoint some one from the Academy to prepare a biographic-notice of the deceased, to be presented at the next meeting of the Academy.

Now I have first of all thought of you as specially fitted for the work & if you will undertake it, I shall be glad to announce the appointment at the Wash^{ton} meeting. Should you be too much occupied or otherwise indisposed to accept, please aid my choice by suggesting one or more other names that you may think suitable.

Yours faithfully
William B. Rogers.



Boston February 25th
1882.

To Hisoyuki Kato.

President of the Dep^{ts} of Law
& Science & Literature.

Tokio Daigaku.

Respected Sir,

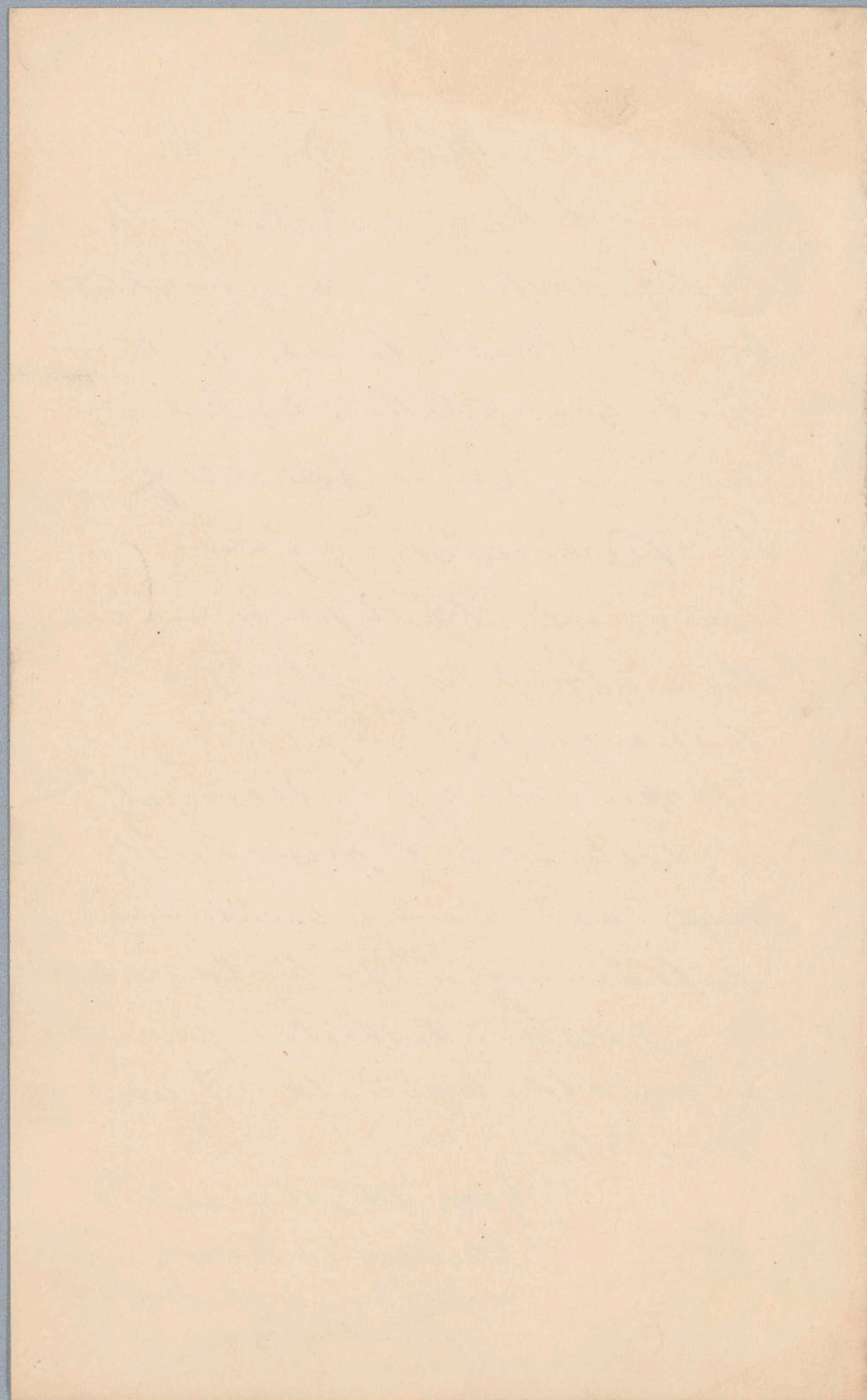
I have great pleasure
in acknowledging the receipt
of the following works, all of
which I have placed in the
Library of the Mass: Institute of
Technology.

1. The Calendar of the
Departments of Law, Science and
Literature for 1880-81.
2. Geology of the Environs of
Tokio by David Brauns Ph.D. &c.
No. 4 of Memoirs &c.
3. Measurements of the Force
of Gravity at Tokio &c.
by J. C. Mendenhall Ph.D.
No. 5 of Memoirs &c.

While thanking you in
my own behalf & in that of the
Institute for this very acceptable
gift, I wish to express the
high gratification we have
received from a perusal of
the Curriculum of your
University, which, for extent and
thoroughness, is worthy of
admiration.

Hoping that your University
is destined to a permanently
high rank among institutions
of learning in the world, I write
my personal respects to yourself
& your able Associates, I am
Dear Sir

Your Ob^t. Servant
William B. Rogers,
Late Pres^t, Man^g. Inst^t
of Technology.



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X

ALLEGHENY OBSERVATORY.

ALLEGHENY, PENNSYLVANIA.

Feb 4 27th / 82

My dear Sir

I had written
Mr Lowell, and received his
acknowledgment of my ac-
ceptance before receiving
your letter. The delay was
owing to the sad errand
which took me away, and
I am obliged to you for
your kind expression of
sympathy in it.

To owe to you
the occasion to lecture in
Boston, next winter, is to
add to the pleasure, I
have in the prospect,
I have not decided on

the title, but the subject will be connected with Astro-physics.

I have been occupied since my return from California in the preparation for publication of the results of the Expedition, which involves a great amount of labor.

The publication will probably be by the Government through the Signal Service, but if I offered any paper for the Transactions of which you speak it would be in connection with these

researches which seem to me to be of deep interest.

All students think this, no doubt of their own studies; but here the results, if true, are of such importance that I may hope others will care for them. I had supposed that in announcing that the ^{earth's} temperature under a mid-day sun at the Equator, would not rise to -40°C . in the absence of the quality of selective absorption in our atmosphere; that owing to this, we had supposed the sun white, when it was blue; etc., &c. should have the air of uttering somewhat of a novelty.

But as no one appears to pay much attention, I shall be glad to say it again - louder - in the

"Transactions" ; you speak of
if such opinions, can find
admission before so orthodox
a Scientific body.

Will you please
present my best respects
to Mrs. Rogers. ?

Believe me, most truly Yours
S. P. Langley.

Prof. W. B. Rogers.

X
University of Virginia. 27 Feb 1892

My dear Mr Rogers,

The sight of the well-known hand-writing gave us a general feeling of delight. Even before the seal was broken, the good long letter, written all in your own hand, satisfied us that you were well and strong. Your cordial references to and inquiries about "the University" and its recent history show, to our great pleasure, the continuance of that interest of which you have given us so many proofs in the past.

A committee was appointed by the Board of Visitors last July, to take charge of the matter of finding a suitable nominee for the directorship of the Wilson Smith Observatory, and also to superintend the work of preparing the foundations of the Observatory building.

As to the latter part of their duty, they, with Prof. Asaph Hall, examined the various localities in this neighborhood, & when the old Observatory mountain had been unanimously selected as on the whole the best available position, they proceeded to test its steadiness, during the passage of freight trains on the neighboring

railways. by observations on images of stars
in a mercurial horizon, or by substitutes of
a lamp & collimating telescope. on cloudy nights.
The best being satisfactorily borne, the outlines
of the foundations of dome & pier were marked
and the excavations made & brickwork carried
up to the level of the ground. in accordance
with specifications made by our Prof. of Engineering
It was interesting to find in making these excavations
that, from the remains of an old wall underneath, the
center of the new dome will be only a few feet
away from that of the small Edifice, erected
there, according to tradition, by Mr Jefferson
for an Observatory. The Committee think it
wise to proceed no farther at present with the
building, on the hope that an Astronomer will
be selected, in time to superintend the further
progress, before the building season shall have
passed.

As regards this more important function of
the Committee (the discovery of a suitable suc-
cessor for the new Chair), you are aware that
we tried hard, last session, to induce Prof Hall

to accept the plan, but without success.
The Board then, under advice, named the following
list to be tried in order, Genl. Bunker
Stone & Holden, Dr Ford was telegraphed
& also written to, He telegraphed back
"Probably no", & promptly wrote a con-
tinuous letter, at some length, saying that he
was compelled to remain at Cordoba for
perhaps nearly two years yet, & in effect,
that he did not wish to bind himself to accept
the place then; but he gave us good reason to
think that he would be glad to have the "refusal"
of it, we were much disappointed, on the 20th,
we will remain to several years, we believe he
will make a first-class Director.

Inquiries were then (late in November) set on
foot with reference to Mr Stone, (Mr Bunker being
thought to be unacceptable on other & perhaps
not as well versed in mathematical Astronomy
as was desirable). We did not feel authorized
to open negotiations with him personally, in view
of the impending change of the Board, by act
of the Legislature. Our inquiries were answered
rather vaguely on some points, but on the whole

satisfactorily - so that if matters move on smoothly
in the next few weeks, I should not be surprised
if the Committee were to make the offer to Prof.
Stow & in the event of his consenting, send in
his name to Mr. W. Cornwell for nomination
to the Board - Time will soon decide.

I was asked to make inquiries in England
with reference to this chair. It was thought that
a fit incumbent might readily be found there,
But to my surprise, I soon discovered that
^{Conspicuously} every "good man" was in demand at home,
The Astronomer Royal took a very kind interest
in the matter, but after a week or more of
reflection & inquiry, could only suggest one name
- that of Al. Tappan, he was highly spoken of also
by Prof. Fair of Edinburgh: but in consequence of
my missing a letter of Mr. Chyette's, which
contained Col. I's address, I failed to get a personal
interview with him, & thus got no description
or testimony of my own in regard to him. When
I returned home - subsequent inquiries through other
channels in regard to the gentleman, were not
thought sufficiently promising to warrant our
departing from the list named by the Board of
Visitors. We are only waiting now till our fate

[2/27/1882]

with the Legislature, is settled, to decide upon the next step. The session of the Legislature expires with this week, and the Governor will not (probably) call an Extra session. The "university bill" (expiring the present board & providing for a new board: whose of course he shall justify) may not be reached. Should it be passed however, we would not feel authorized to move in the matter. Before the new board shall ^{have} indicated their will.

Prof Fontaine had me last summer that the printing of his work on Fossil Plants of the Mesozoic, and the engraving of his elaborate drawings was all satisfactorily provided for, thanks to your kindly exerted influence. I presume the work is in progress now. His Campaign last summer along the Potomac from Balcony Falls to Turk's Gap, was productive not only of benefit to his students but helped him to a clearer view of the exact position & relations of the Archæozoic & the Primæal rocks, especially in that part of the Ridge near Turk's Gap. I understood him to say

that he had found an trustworthy criterion
of the base of the Principal Rocks. I fancied
from his remarks that he had light upon
your P. Compromises, I hope he will
write to you on the subject, if he has not
done so already.

Our two daughters, Ellen & Selma are
now in N. York, 27 N. Washington Square,
they have been there for a month & will
re-emain probably till May. They are
hard at work, Ellen at her vocal music,
for which she has shown some talent, &
Selma at her painting. Their mother & I
both thought it prudent for them to
prepare themselves for earning a subsistence
in case we should be deprived of our home
here. I am glad to say they are very zealous
in their work, and are, I believe, making com-
mendable progress. They will be delighted to
hear that Mr. Rogers has enquired after them.

and will be glad to call upon her, if she
visits N. Y. and will kindly let them know
her address.

Selma's portrait of yourself hangs now in
the Library next to that of Mr. Bumpcastle.
Your friends all profess to find it an ex-
cellent likeness. I thank myself that it
shows to great advantage ^{as a mezzotint} by the side of the
rather second rate paintings that are said to
'adorn' our rotunda, I thought the expression
she gave the portrait was rather too stern,
but she shut my mouth, by showing me the
photograph which was sent to her as a guide
and telling me that Mr. Rogers had expressly selected
it, preferring it to the profile likeness which I
liked so much, Col. Venable too set me down
by saying that he much preferred the painting
as it is. It bears the modest inscription in
small gilt letters on a separate shield beneath the frame.

Prof. W. B. Rogers.

Presented by C. S. Y.

I am very sorry to say that your attached little
friend Mary, has been ailing for several days with
a return of her old pain in the back. It is not an acute
attack however for the first she has had since last year

to hope she will be out shortly. She sends abundance
of love to Aunt Emma & Uncle William. She was delighted
by your kind thoughts of her last Christmas.

I congratulate you on your relief at last from
the burden of the Presidency of your great Institute
and upon your good fortune in getting such a successor
as Gen. Walker. For it would have been scarcely a
relief to you, had you been followed by an ordinary
man - I look upon the continued usefulness & Expansion
of the Institute, as virtually insured by this happy appointment.

I must refer to you directly. The thanks I sent last
Summer by Harry, for your valued letter of introduction
to Sir W. Thomson, I was so unlucky as to miss Sir Wm
both in Paris, & Glasgow - I found out too late that I was
in Winter Instrument Shop, one day when he was also there
& standing near me - I left the letter for him. I saw his
Lecture room & Laboratory minutes, with the aid of his
Obliging Assistant - I examined also particularly Prof. Fairbairn's
Equipment at Edinburgh, & the Cavendish & Cavendish
Laboratories at Cambridge & Oxford. I may say that I saw
^{almost} nothing superior to what I had seen in our own Country, and
nothing quite so good and convenient, as I think a laboratory
ought to be. Indeed I came home quite well persuaded
that in Scientific Equipment, one need not go abroad
to see ^{all} ~~most~~ that is excellent. The day I spent at Mendon
was one I shall ever mark with delight. Prof. Jauncey is a
glorious old man - & the frst is building him a fitting palace
on the old royal site. It will be a magnificent observatory -
He loaded us with photographs & monographs, to our delight. When
we left, he talked French & we talked American & we got
along very pleasantly. The Elec. Exp. was a disappointment. I spent
a great deal of time there - in immense mechanical detail - but little that
was new in development of principle. The historical collections

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was to me the most interesting part of the display, Pacinotti's anticipation of the Gramme-Armature, Volta's Condensers & Electroscopes & piles - Faraday's plain and even humble contrivances, & coming down to recent times Cornu's apparatus for velocity of light.

Edison's rooms appear to be the most attractive part of the Exhibition. Dr. Barker, whom you probably remember E. alluded to in one of his publications - in the familiar nickname of 'Bartkey', was frequently in the apartments & seemed to know all about E's secrets. Indeed I feel obliged to him for explanations of several interesting inventions of "the inventor" as he is most commonly in England.

I went abroad by medical advice, and cannot reproach myself with having neglected exercise; or caution in regard to every thing but fatigue, but I did not get rid of my old enemy. I have however been stronger this winter than the last, & have missed no lectures from sickness. I did not expect to get so great a benefit as the Dr. looked for, from my journey: ~~but~~ so cannot say that I am disappointed.

Please say to Mrs Rogers, with my affectionate remembrance, that the schoolmaster is abroad and has reached the wilds of Texas; as witnessed the following postal which came today

Prof of Nat. Phil. Univer. Texas 17 2 1882

Dear Sir Does motion travel?

Yr respectfully
Jno Y. Moses.

This is very encouraging. "We owe much to the Jews" as Charles Lamb said, - I believe I will refer him to his ancestor, the wandering Jew. I have been trying to abstract motion from mass. The result I have come to it, is the shadow of a flying bird or ball, & next to that, wave-motion.

The puzzler of the ignorant very often resemble the Sublimities of the student. I think I could match many of the hard nuts of the Synod of Dort and the Westminster divines, with the original theological troubles of the Reverend Thornton Jackson, a woolly headed African preacher of this place, who has a skull shaped like the Pyramid of Cheops.

Mrs Harrison, to my great comfort, is now living with us. She and many, with the rest of us

1054
have lately had a great sorrow in the death of Charles Carter Harrison, 3^d son of Dr Sepner Harrison, he left a widow but no children. He had been farming near Howardville Pa. Since the war -

It was in nursing the sea through a critical attack of Camp fever in 1862, that Dr H. contracted the disease, which killed him.

Mr Harrison & many brethren, most affectionately join me in saluting Mrs Rogers & yourself and wishing you health and happiness -

Your old & obliged pupil
Francis M. Smith

1854

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 10th inst. in relation to the above matter. I have the pleasure to inform you that the same has been forwarded to the proper authorities for their consideration. I am, Sir, very respectfully,
 Yours obediently,
 J. M. [Name]