

Yale College Jan. 24. 1832.

My Dear Sir,

Professor Avery of Amherst College is now in Europe and has I am told made very advantageous purchases of apparatus for that Institution. That I might be better able to aid in your object, I have addressed a letter to one of their Professors, requesting him to inform me when Mr. A. is expected to return, & also what information he has already communicated respecting apparatus. Before Mr. A. left here I conferred very freely with him on the subject of apparatus - it was an object with him to make a judicious selection, & to purchase on the best terms. Should you be returned in season for you, I have no doubt that he may give you valuable information. I shall hear soon, & if it appears that he will not return soon enough for your purpose, I will proceed to make out the best memorandum I can & forward it according to your request.

I have inquired how a letter may be addressed

so as to reach Prof. H. while in Europe, then that it
may possibly be for your advantage to send your note
to him.

I shall feel much honored in your proposed selection
of a text book in philosophy.

Respectfully Yours Truly

A. Christy.

Rev. Pres. Humphreys.

Rev. Anna Humphreys
President of Annapolis College.

Prof. Brewster

Yale College March 16. 1832

My Dear Sir,

I fear I have waited so long to enable myself to give you some useful information respecting apparatus that the little I have to give will come too late for your purpose. Two days since I got a letter from Prof. Hooey dated Paris Jan. 26th. On the subject of apparatus he says, "after having examined the apparatus at London & Paris, I concluded to make my purchases here. I find a much better assortment here than at London. The instruments are also generally speaking more appropriate and less expensive. This is certainly true in regard to those which are intended merely for demonstration. As to the others, I do not think there is much difference in regard either to quality or expense; though Biot says that Gombay is the best artist for instruments of precision in Europe. I have got on the whole a very fine collection—more complete in some respects than any I have seen in America. This is particularly true of those parts which relate to Electro-Magnetism, Acoustics, Diffraction & Polarisation of light."

Prof. H. has enjoyed the best opportunities for selecting apparatus, having attended several courses of public lectures in Paris, visited all the great collections of apparatus in the capital, & become personally acquainted with their distinguished philosophers. I may add too that he would execute any trust with the utmost fidelity and I cannot recommend any thing to you with so much confidence as to send your order to him, giving

give some general directions as to the kind of instrument
you want and the amount you wish to appropriate.

I have before me catalogues of apparatus French & English
but the descriptions are so imperfect and the prices
so indefinite, that I am convinced, were I on the ground,
I could select a hundred times as well as I can
specify now. And for the same reason I think Mr
Hovey will do better for you than if left to your talent
to follow his own discretion, than if bound to a specific
task.

If you do not feel sufficiently well acquainted
with him, I will address him in anticipation of
your wishes. His address is, Professor Sylvester Hovey,
Paris, France, (via New York & Havre) Care of Mr John
Stoddards Rue de Valenciennes No 9.

I regard Atwood's Machine as among the most important
pieces of apparatus, & would recommend to you to procure
one of the best construction. I have heard of a new contrivance
for retarded motion & of a spring which lets off the
descending weight at the instant the pendulum begins to
vibrate. I think this apparatus may be put down at \$100.
In Hydraulics the French excel & will furnish a variety of
models upon reasonable terms. The most expensive of these
is the Hydraulic Ram which will cost 40 or 50 dollars.
Archimedes' Screw will cost 10 or 15 dollars. It is desir-
able to have the hydrostatic paradox, but this of is of
little use without some appendages for multiplying
the motion of the bellows. I have attached a long lever

and wheels to our old bellows which makes the rise of
the bellows very apparent by half a gill of water poured
into the tube, when the bellows is loaded with 500
pounds.

An accurate balance, true to a minute fraction of a
grain, ~~will~~ ought to be in possession of every institution
also a first rate barometer & thermometer.

Ordering galvanic apparatus can be purchased here
or in Philadelphia better than abroad - and will you
not order one of Professor Hovey's electro-magnets?
We have one which raises immense weights. - The
cost is inconsiderable - say 40 or 50 dollars perhaps less.
Address Prof. J. Hovey Albany; and if you choose use
my name, as I have the pleasure to be acquainted
with him.

With respect to Astronomical apparatus, unless you
have a professor of astronomy who can devote himself
to practical astronomy, I should recommend
delay purchasing much in this line. The cost
of such apparatus (which according to
our experience might lie idle in your shelves) could
bring you a host of articles which you would
employ daily in teaching philosophy.

I am sorry, my Dear Sir, it is not in my power
to lend you more efficient aid - be assured of my
readiness to assist you so far as I am able.

The first half of my 2^d V.R. embracing Pneumatics, Acoustics,
& Electricity is just out of press - as soon as I have a private oppor-

being I will forward you a copy.

Wishing you every success and much prosperity to your
rising Institution.

I remain Truly Respectfully Yours,

Rev. Pres. Humphreys

Alvion Hunt

Rev. President Humphreys

Annapolis

Maryland.

Alvion Hunt

