

Milwaukee, Wisconsin Oct. 16. 1846

Sir:

I have had the honor to receive a Diploma from the Royal Society of Northern Antiquarians, accompanied by their "Mémoires" for 1840-43, & 1844, with your "Mémoire sur la Découverte de L'Amérique au Dixième Siècle," for all which I return my most sincere thanks, to the society, and to those persons through whose influence this honor has been conferred. Mr. Seaburg ~~has translated it for me,~~ ^{who} ~~and says that~~ ^{has translated it for me.} he is acquainted with you and with the Vice President. Unfortunately ~~the~~ ^{my} name is not correct in this diploma, ~~my name~~ ^{it} being Increase (not Ingram) A. Lapham. I cannot find that Ingram is the same as ~~my proper~~ ^{Increase} ~~name~~ in any other language, and even if it is, I should doubt the propriety of the change, and must ~~therefore~~ beg the favor of another diploma in which the name is correctly written, Increase A. Lapham. I will return the one I have or destroy it, as you may direct, upon receipt of the corrected copy.

I suppose it is the desire of the society to obtain information of all kinds relative to the ancient mounds &c of Wisconsin, which have attracted some attention on account of their peculiar, imitative forms. They are very numerous and vary much in form, size, and elevation above the general surface. They usually occupy high, commanding situations

I have made careful measurement and triangulation of such as have fallen in my way, and hope to be able ^{in future} to delineate many more. ~~now~~. The accompanying figures represent some of those that exist within the limits of this city, and may serve to give you some general ideas of the whole. The form represented by figure 4 is often found - the others are more rare, or ^{are} only found in a single instance.

Many of these earth-works are but slightly elevated above the surrounding surface, so that their existence would not be suspected in many cases even by careful observers; and hence also they are very soon leveled, when the ~~plough is run~~ ~~over~~ ground is occupied for agricultural purposes. Many of them have already from this cause been injured or destroyed. To visit the places where there ^{interesting} relics of antiquity ~~have~~ are found and take a careful measurement of them so as to delineate accurately their form and proportions and occasionally make an excavation to ascertain their contents, before they are "destroyed from the face of the earth" is a ^{task} ~~labor~~ which should be ^{performed} ~~done~~ immediately, or it will in many cases be forever too late! But it is a task which it can hardly be expected an unaided individual, dependent upon his labor for ~~his~~ support "can or will" accomplish within the short time ~~necessary~~ in which it must be done.

I hope therefore that the Royal Society will deem it a duty to assist in this work. I am willing to devote the necessary time to it without compensation, provided the actual expense attending the investigation can be ^{refunded} ~~made up~~ by the society.

And as the results of such labor would form a very valuable article for your Memoirs— and might lead to important ^{conclusions} ~~results~~, it is ~~therefore~~ hoped that your society will look favorably upon the proposition here made.

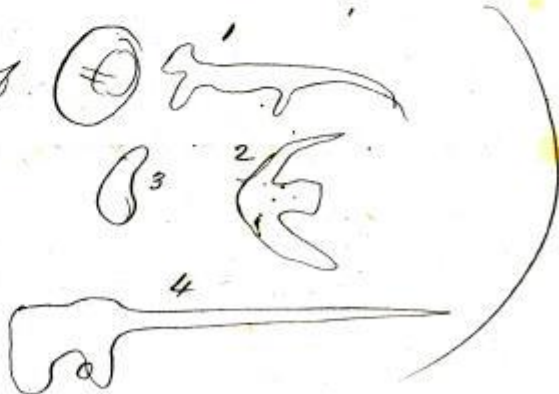
Very respectfully
Yours truly

Increase Sapham

Prof. C. C. Ruffe.

Sec. R. S. N. A.
Copenhagen

(Accompanied by figures of



Milwaukee Dec. 24th 1869

Dear Sir

I have your favor of 7th inst. requesting me to make an estimate of the probable ~~expense~~^{cost} of attending an examination and survey of the Ancient Mounds in the State of Wisconsin. It would be difficult to do so with much certainty without knowing to what extent; and degree of minuteness the investigations are to be made.

It would be best to employ a horse and light wagon, with a boy for an assistant, - the daily expense of which including tavern charges while traveling about the state, would be about four dollars. If three months are consumed, (say ninety days) and an addition for laborers to open 20 or 30 of the mounds, and another for the purchase of such articles as have already been dug out, it will be safe to estimate the expense at about five hundred dollars.

For this sum a large amount of accurate data may be collected, and perhaps as much as is desirable.

In my note book there are over fifty localities mentioned where these works

are now known to exist; extending over
twelve counties. I am not able to
say whether they extend to the northern
and more unsettled portion of our
state; but presume they do not.

Very truly

Yours

J. A. Lapham

Sam F Haven Esq
Lib. A. A. S.

Milwaukee March 12th 1850

Dear Sir

I am grateful for your kindness, and
and for the liberality of the American Antiquarian
Society for in the matter referred to in my former
letters, and will endeavour to render full satisfaction.

It will be advisable to commence operations
as soon as the roads are settled in the spring
say in May or by the 1st of June.

~~In order to adapt the drawings to the size~~
~~of your volumes of "Transactions,"~~ I should like
to have one or two of the ^{volumes of your "Transactions"} ~~last~~ which you
may send say by express. It would be
gratifying also to me to be admitted as a
member of your society. I have a "diploma"
from the "Royal Society of Northern Antiquaries" at
Copenhagen.

The most convenient way to transmit
the funds is to send a draft or certificate of
deposite, payable ^{to my order} in Boston or New York: If
on N. York it can be sold here at a small premium. You
~~or if more agreeable I can draw upon you~~
will of course, deduct the cost of the 2 volumes and ~~of~~
~~or your fee and the draft can be sold~~
membership.
~~here.~~

I have applied to the Smithsonian Institution
for the use of a pair of mountain barometers,
so as to enable me to ascertain the elevation of
these "high places" above the lower regions around,
and above Lake Michigan as a basis.

Saml F. Haven Esq
Lth. A. S.

Yours truly
Increase A. Lapham

Milwaukee March 19, 1850

Dear Sir I was glad to learn by yours of 19th ult. that you had received the map I sent, before leaving Washington, and that it will be of use to you.

I have decided to spend some two or three months this summer exploring & surveying the ancient mounds in Wisconsin, and with this view have written to several persons to ascertain their localities &c so that no time may be lost in useless search. ~~this view~~ ^{now take the liberty of you} I ~~address you to~~ ask the favor, that you would give me a memorandum of the exact location of any you may have observed on your "Wolf river" expedition, or in any other part of the state, designating such as are most extensive and interesting.

I have applied to the Smithsonian Institution for a pair of barometers one to station here near the level of the lake, and another to take with me to ascertain the elevation of these "high places". Should I fail to obtain them, ~~with you please let me know~~ ^{I should like to know} whether I can have yours, (which I believe you said was spending the winter at Chicago) and what sum I must pay you in case it should be broken. Or!!

The bill introduced into the Assembly of this state for a Geological Survey, passed that body but was killed in the Senate. It provided for the appointing of one geologist who was to make the survey without making very heavy drafts on the treasury in any one year, ~~but~~ allowing him ample time.

I receive the Family Visitor & am much pleased
with it. (as well as my family). Yours truly
Ch. Whittlessey, Esq. J. A. L.

* Or ~~perhaps~~ has not Dr Owen or his assistants some
instruments that will be idle this summer, that
I could obtain by proper application. Would
Dr Owen or Dr Woodward furnish a list of ancient
works observed by them, further to the North & West?
If you think they would, can you give me their
present whereabouts & suggest the best manner
to approach them.

Chas. Whittlessey
to J. A. L.

J. A. L.

Milwaukee Apr 29-1830

Dear Sir

I have ^{is received,} your favor of 16th inst, and have to day, in accordance with your suggestion, drawn on Mr Jennison in favor of Alex^r Mitchell for the sum of three hundred dollars. I suppose the possession of the draft will be a sufficient voucher in his hands against me; if not I will send any other that may be required.

We have had a backward spring, and the roads are yet very ^{stagnant} muddy; nor have I received the barometer ^{kindly} ordered for me by Prof. Henry. I shall however commence operations immediately upon some works not far from home. This will be an advantage as I ^{shall thus} ~~learn~~ gain some experience before commencing the regular tour. I ^{have just} heard of an ^{earthwork representing a} "Massasaga" ^{rattle snake} in a marsh about ten miles from here: i.e. an embankment to represent a rattle snake. It may prove to be only imaginary

but still I shall print the spot.

Have you no suggestions to make as to any particular prints deserving special attention?

Yours truly

J. A. Lapham

S. F. Haven Esq

Summit, Wis. June 28, 1850

Dear Wife

For your gratification I have concluded to write my "pencillings by the way" in the form of letters to you. Please preserve them for future use.

After parting with you and other friends at 1 P.M. yesterday we drove out by ^{way of} the Watertown plank road, now completed about nine miles. That portion of it made of pine plank will very soon require renewal, as the soft wood is rapidly being worn away by the sharp toes of the horse's shoes. — The knots remain firm so as to leave a protuberance over which the vehicle jolts as on common road, thus losing one of the principle objects of plank roads, viz. smoothness. In this state where hemlock cannot be had Oak is the only suitable ^{timber} material for plank of plank roads.

From Fox river we took a new and more northerly road, leading more directly along the south shore of Pewaukee Lake, though the lake was in sight only at one place. Near the S.E. corner of ~~Sec~~ 23 we discovered a quarry of limestone which proves to be quite similar to that at Waukesha. It is regularly stratified, very hard, white, destitute of fossils, — lies at an elevation of 30 or 40 feet above Pewaukee Lake. It affords excellent stones for flagging, for caps, & sills &c — It is on the land of D.W. Kellogg Esq. Numerous very copious springs of pure ^{cold} water are found in the vicinity. The region of "Hills & Pot Ash Kettle" at the west end of the lake appears to be the western "out crop" of this limestone.

Among these Hills we found a large party of men and teams busily engaged in cutting down a hill and making an embankment across one of the "Kettles", for a road. Upon inquiry we were informed that this was the "Milwaukee Waukeesha and Jefferson Plank Road" and we were surprised to see so much progress - and to see it run so much out of a direct course. It starts from Walker's Point, and goes up the Menomonee on the south side via Francis W. Hawley's &c

This remarkable series of Hills and hollows extends entirely across the state from Green Bay to Illinois. It is apparently composed almost entirely of limestone gravel and boulders not much rounded by diluvial action - indeed the boulders are of rocks existing in place in the immediate vicinity, not having been transported so far as the boulders of primitive rocks. The idea suggested by a writer in the Wisconsin Farmer that they may contain iron, copper, coal &c is entirely gratuitous and not supported by any indications of such minerals. Some of the hills are very high & steep, with a narrow ridge at the summit. On each side will usually be found deep holes, as if the earth had been thrown up by some giant power from these holes to form the ridges. The hills are seldom or never conical or round topped. The holes in many cases are undoubtedly formed by washing away, lime, or fine sand

by subterranean currents, thus allowing the superincumbent earth to fall down.

After passing these hills we emerged upon the beautiful level plain on which is situated this little place called Summit where we arrived at $7\frac{1}{2}$ P.M., just in time to avoid a wetting from the rain that then began to fall.

To day - if the weather permits we will survey the antiquities about here, visit the "Nashotah House" & then pass along to Aztalan, where it will be necessary to spend 2 or 3 days.

As we passed the Nashotah Mission John pointed out the various objects of interest. The bishop has now a neat little cottage amid a grove of old bur oaks, - by its side the "old house" looking barren enough, in which he was able to live in former times - The Washing house where the students wash their own cloths - the "Blue house" where boys are put who (as John explained it) "go in swimming in the lakes without lieve!" - the baptismal platform where converts are immersed "by ducking them two or three times into the water" &c &c were pointed out. The buildings are now so numerous as to appear quite like a village. It looks quite picturesque from the road across the lake - but its beauty is impaired by a large ugly looking barn, which is the most conspicuous - And the filthy barn-yard, as if intended purposely to destroy the beauty of the place is presented toward you extending down the slope to the edge of the water! -

Now if you do not wish to be bothered with any more letters of this kind just say so in an answer to this directed to Madison where I shall probably be after a few days. —

Your truly & affectionately
J. A. Lapham



Mrs J. A. Lapham

Michigan

Wisconsin

PAID

5



From J. A. Lapham
This is a copy of the letter
sent from Madison in Box No 507
E. Ham
Postmaster

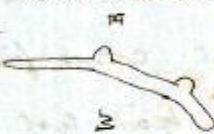
You and Amelia must keep your spirits up as well as you can in my absence — Hope you read at Messengers last evening! Be sociable with your neighbors — take good care of the children don't get discouraged — Be good girls &c &c —

It is raining now ^(7 1/2 AM) & I fear but little progress will be made to-day in my work. There are said to be some interesting animal shaped mounds here.

Aztec June 28th 1850

My dear wife

Although I suppose you are so intensely occupied both in mind & body in the all-important and all-absorbing business of "house cleaning" that you have not yet had time to go to the post office and get my letter from Summit, yet I will occupy a few moments this evening for your gratification.

We found the mounds at Summit so much injured by cultivation that a regular survey would be of no use. One mound only presented some peculiarity. ^N  ^S
What is it? - An otter?

On the S.W. 1/4 of 14 we found a knoll that will undoubtedly prove to be an excellent stone quarry when opened. This will be an advantage about which the people appear to be at present ignorant. Stone could have been obtained here much cheaper than those hauled for the Washita Mission about 7 miles over a hilly country. From here the hauling would have been only 3 miles on a level road. Mr. Spencer was kind enough to show me the principal localities - His son, a deaf mute you have seen - he is quite intelligent & his mind has a tendency to things of a scientific and important character. He will visit us in a few weeks - If I am not at home please show him the attention he deserves.

John went to Finley, 2 1/2 miles ^{west of} (beyond) summit to stay. ^{He rode with Mr. Powell.} This morning at 7 I found him still asleep - had to wait for him to get his breakfast.

We got here about noon, and after dinner went to work surveying the "Ancient city" — The modern city lies above the ancient, and its streets are named after the ancients as Arztek Street &c — Many of the mounds have been partially opened. The south part of the citadel is in a cultivated field, the north part remains, in woods.

In the Rock river woods we crossed in nine miles about 18 remarkable ridges having a N.E.S. direction, composed of light yellow clay with pebbles & numerous boulders. We looked in vain for some time for the red trap boulders that come from the north shore of L. Superior, and began to think we had got beyond them, when "lo! & behold" there they were! So our theory was quashed. They are certainly less numerous than at the Lake shore. It is probable that this peculiar rock will be the means of tracing the distribution of the boulders showing how far & which direction they have been transported.

Mr Brayton's well here shows the geological structure.



The point where the well was sunk is about 55 feet above the river, which is 190 feet above Lake Michigan. The surface of the sandstone

is therefore about 16 feet above the river. Other wells have been sunk which show that the sandstone is about level. It crops out a few miles N.W. from here on the road to Waterloo.

I shall remain here until Tuesday or Wednesday and then go on. I hope to send this by Mr Powell on his return from Madison to-day.

Ann.

Yours J. A. L

June 29~

I find I have misdated your last letter & came very near doing so with this. I went this afternoon with Mr J.C. Brayton to see the mounds on the East side of the river. On my return called at his home saw his wife - You called upon her some 11 years since in Milwaukee - He was an Engineer on the Mil. & R R Canal - I think just then married. He is now in the Nursery business & bids fair to become something of a naturalist & Meteorologist.

I am to tea this evening with Mr Ostrander one of the oldest inhabitants of this ancient city.

WIS. ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY,

Aztalan
Milwaukee July 3^d - 1850

My Dear Wife

My last letter was sent by Mr. Powell in an unfinished state. I had given him up, supposing that he had passed without our seeing him, & was expecting to finish the letter in the evening or next morning & then send by mail. At Mr. Ostrander that evening I met Miss Warren one of the "Gov. Slade" teachers of the last importation. She is teaching here - Is to leave this morning to spend the 4th with her cousin Mr. W.P. Lynde, Milwaukee.

* She is very lively - intelligent - & no doubt an excellent girl.*
If you should see her you may lend her Lynch's Dead Sea Expedition, and also send by her a microscope which you will find in one of the upper right hand drawers of the cabinet; I mean the old one given me by Mr. Burke, not mine. Do it up in paper & direct it "For Mr. J. C. Brayton". I intend it as a present for him.

Mrs. Ostrander set the nicest kind of a tea table for us; the cakes & many dishes were covered with little fringed napkins, ^{folded} like the enclosed paper, so as to keep off the flies &c. By taking hold of the point, these napkins could be lifted up and would naturally fold into a triangular shape. They appeared to me exceedingly neat, and in this country of insects exceedingly appropriate and proper. I spent the evening very pleasantly talking over the history of discoveries in the ancient works here, and incidents of "Old time" in Wisconsin.

She offered to mend my torn coat in the course of the evening and wanted me to take it off for that purpose. The coat was torn in the bushes that afternoon, after I was invited to tea. - Warrant she a good girl!

Sunday, I wrote a long letter to some
other persons - among them one to Sam Stone, which
you may have seen, or heard from. In the
afternoon - (there is no church here) I walked a mile
below the city to see some stone quarries and to
spend an hour in contemplation on the top of
a very high and commanding ancient mound.
The folly & vanity of human affairs is strikingly
illustrated in these monuments of the dead. They have
utterly failed to hand down any ^{certain} knowledge of the
people who erected them. They are lost - gone -
returned to dust - & are forgotten. Gophers build
their nests in these monuments - & trees send their
roots to their very centre & extract nourishment
from the decaying bodies of the honored dead!

Monday & Yesterday have been spent in opening
mounds and examination of the walls of the great
enclosure. The mounds along this wall, or
butresses as they are called, appear to be only
"burial mounds" like the other mounds of the
country. One very large mound opened
yesterday proves to have been "a mound of sacrifice"
and many a victim has been burnt upon it and
the ashes covered during the progress of the erection
of the mound.

To day I shall finish examination of the walls
& tomorrow (4th) I must spend here to finish my
survey and map. Then I shall move my camp
further west.

I would like to know whether you have a letter from William W. Allcott - also whether the maps have been sent from N. York - also whether the Barometer's have been sent. You may write me (direct to Madison) on these three points: and on such other points as you may deem interesting.

I should like to see you all again now. I have been ^{from home} gone a whole week. Not one word of news from Milwaukee have I heard since I left there. In this antiquated village but very little news can be obtained from the "Commercial Emporium" I do not think there is a person here who takes a Milwaukee newspaper. I do not expect to hear from you or from Milwaukee until I get to Madison. Kiss the little girls & boys for me. Tell Amelia to keep right side up - be of good cheer, and don't cry too much at my protracted absence. I shall be at home by the 1st of August & will remain a whole month. Think of that!

If any thing important happens ^{to you or yours} - such as marriages, births, deaths, fires, &c please telegraph to me at once; and if it is deemed necessary I will abandon my trip and return to you.

I have a nice little room here at the "Aetolian House" though ^{the house} it is not kept in the best style in the world. The luxuries here are not sufficient to induce us to protract our stay beyond what is necessary to accomplish my objects.

Yours affectionately
Ann M. Latham

Increase

WIS. ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY, Madison, July 6th 1830

Dear Sir

I am informed that you have ^{caused to be} opened some of the ~~monuments~~ ^{ancient works} at Aztalan and being engaged in an investigation of the antiquities of our state I take the liberty of asking ~~of you~~ an account of the results, of your ~~examination~~ ^{excavations} ~~monuments~~. Did they prove to be burial places? In what manner was the body deposited? What ornaments, ~~implements~~, or other things were found?

What is your opinion of the ^{general} character of the works there - are they military, ~~ceremonial~~?

Can you give me the localities of other works of interest in Wisconsin, not heretofore described by Taylor, & Locke?

I spent several days examining these ~~Aztalan~~ works and ⁱⁿ making a correct map and diagram, which will probably be published at some future ~~day~~.

Adieu - at Milwaukee

To Hon. David ~~Irvin~~ Irvin

Madison July 6 - 1850

Dear Sir

When at Astalan, ^{a few days ago} examining & journeying the ancient works, I was informed that you had made some investigations there in former times; and wishing to ascertain all the facts respecting these interesting remains I take the liberty of asking you to give me an account of the results of your examinations and reflections.

Did you find the remains of cloth? Are the works in your opinion works of defense - and for what reasons? ~~Generally~~ I would be happy to receive any full information you may communicate on the subject.

I find Judge Hyer's original map requires some corrections and additions. I ~~shall present to the public~~ ^{have made} a thorough and correct one. —

Geo. Hyer.

Yours truly
J. A. Lapham

Madison July 7th 1850

My Dear Wife

It is now three whole days since I have indulged myself in writing to you & a whole week since the date of your last. I certainly felt much disappointed that the mail of yesterday (it now comes through in one day) did not bring a line in reply to my last letter from Artalam, and the Telegraphic dispatch from Jefferson. Tomorrow I must pass along on my journey, so that ~~if~~ your epistle, if indeed you concluded to write one, must be thrown among the dead letters. I have however requested the P. M. here to forward to Mineral Point anything that may arrive within 3 or 4 days.

Tomorrow we go north to Baraboo in Sauk county where we will stop with Mr Locke. There I must ^{on which to} search out three quarter sections of land ~~to be~~ locate some land warrants. The next move will be for Mineral Point where is situated the Land Office. I cannot say how long all this will occupy - it depends so much on what we find to detain us - but I fear you will not have time to answer this by letter. From Mineral Point perhaps I shall go on to Grant County & sell some of William's land. How I should then like to know whether he has written, or whether you have a letter from him.

We remained at Arctalan until evening of 3^d - then went to Jefferson where I telegraphed to my wife, and remained until after dinner on the 4th. We then took our course due west to Cambridge where there was a very pretty exhibition of fire works, considering the newness of the country and the smallness of the place. The landlord had "sent 15 miles for a ~~roast~~ pig" and then no guests honored him with their patronage! "However" said he "a number have called for supper & I guess it will be eaten before it spoils" - We had some of it for supper after 9 o'clock and in the morning the same table ^{big} ~~be~~ constituted the breakfast. - Some folks are too economical of time to take the trouble to clear off a table & set it again in the morning! July 5th we went South 2 miles to Clinton & there being no ancient works along the valley of the Koshkonong and no shoe on the "off hind foot" of Billy he was left at the blacksmith's while I examined the "outcrop" of sandstone & limestone at that place. Their junction could not be seen - and the thin layer of "Blue Limestone" (like the Cincinnati rocks) which belongs between the two could not be found -

We stopped on the evening of the fourth at Ripley Lake and went around to the other side of it through 4 gates to "see an elephant!" but he was not to be seen. unless he is among there.:



Among these we could not recognize the real critter. We were assured positively however by two persons that one of the mounds represents an elephant!

From Clinton we came here & have been here ever since.
examined the mounds about & have seen some persons
here I wanted to see. Saw Mr Thompson (of whom you wrote)
last evening - gave him an order on you for a mortgage vs. Wm
Payne which you will find among the files in the safe.
I cannot now say which file but you will soon find it by
looking where it ought to be. If you had adopted this
principle in looking for the gage stick you would have found it
close to the gage, just under the edge of the boards. You cannot
look at the gage from below without seeing the stick.

Saw Mr & Mrs Conover last evening - But you make me
feel so bad about my old cloths that I do not seek society
but rather avoid it. I have been in my room
all day to-day writing & drawing and reading - rather
than to expose my un-respectable habiliments. By the
by the people here do not seem to act upon your doctrine
about fine cloths & respectability. Some very respectable
gentlemen here - such as Judges of the Supreme Court
Chancellor of the University - United States Marshall, Secretary
of State - have shaken me by the hand and treated
me very respectably, even without that new coat
which you seem to think constitutes my claim to that
distinction!

John has been enjoying himself in the society
of an old companion Master Rott Ream.

Good bye

Ann M L

J. A. Lapham

Calder & others were my room mate.
he left last evening for home.

Adams, Sauk Co. July 10 - 1850

My Dear Wife

I shall be ready to leave here this afternoon for Mineral Point - surveying the "Animals" along the Wisconsin as far down as Helena, where we are to cross -

I see it advertised that the celebration at Beloit is to be on the 24th - just about the time I can get back there. Now I know of nothing that would please me more than to meet you on the evening of 22^d at Janesville, where you can come by stage on that day. Next day we can have just the pleasantest drive in the world down the beautiful Valley of Rock River to Beloit - Thence after the ceremonies of the 24th we can have an equally pleasant tour all the way home.

Amelia is a good girl and will take care of the children in the mean time - tell her I will do as much for her at some future time!

It will be necessary for you to engage your passage on Saturday (20th) for fear of the seats being all taken. - I have no doubt some of your acquaintances will come out in the same stage - so that your journey to Janesville will not be very unpleasant - even without me!

Of course you will bring a trunk, and of course you will bring along that coat that appears to be so necessary - also other clothes from head to foot not forgetting even boots - Unless you come out with these necessary articles I shall of course keep away from Beloit on that interesting occasion. I am rather desirous of being there - I wish to see for myself what is going on - I have no doubt that Institution will be the one we shall select to send our boys to. Perhaps this is not a sufficient reason - our boys are so young - but it is a very interesting one.

I hope to find a letter from you at Mineral Point, forwarded from Madison.

Mr Lock has re-joined the G. of T. & it is to be hoped he will stick - ~~he is just now the highest~~
~~gracious and by the way~~ - ~~Mr. Lock's~~
~~also Mr. Lock's~~ ~~has been~~ ~~for the~~ ~~reasons~~
~~only a great deal~~ ~~more~~

We came from Madison here by a roundabout way on Monday - about 50 miles - it kept us driving until 9 o'clock evening - over rough roads - dark night &c. Yesterday afternoon had a pleasant ride with a lady who went to show me her lead mines, copper mines - stone quarries &c &c - including a town site which she thinks will soon rival this famous place of Baraboo - or Adams.

If you decide to come to Janesville please telegraph to me at that place a day or two before - so that I may know what to expect. Or perhaps you can have it done on the morning of the same day (22) When I get to some telegraph station perhaps I will send you some dispatch before that time & if so you can answer it by letting me know whether you will meet me. You have seen but little of Wisconsin yet - though you have lived in it so long. This trip will give you a good idea of it in its own dress. I suppose if any of the children are sick you will decline coming - but if they are all well it would perhaps not be imprudent or improper.

Come if you can -

Your affectionate husband
Increase

Anni McLapham.

Mineral Point July 13th 1850

My dear wife

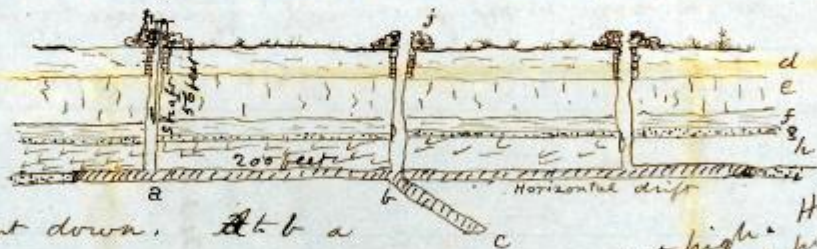
I found your letter & telegraphic dispatch here yesterday, and in order to show myself a "very obedient husband" have written a long letter to Lorrana. You are so kind in offering to forego the pleasure of a letter from me on her account that I feel it my duty to make you a suitable reward - by writing to you also. The mail goes from here in a day & a half to Milwaukee so I have some hope of your getting this before my return home, which will be in about two weeks.

From Adams where I last wrote you we went back to Prairie du Sac where we found very interesting mounds, one a buffalo  as is clear from the hump over the shoulder, a thing never before discovered in any of these "animal effigies". Thence we went over the hilly country on the north side of the Wisconsin to Helena where we crossed and found a party of 18 (ladies & gentlemen) from Dodgeville, come to enjoy a frolic & see the Shot tower - fine fun they had. We saw the process of making shot & of separating the un round ones, for they are not all perfect when first made. From the top there is a fine view of the valley above & below - and up Pipe Creek. Our Land Lord was Thomas Pound who lives near neighbors to us when I was a little boy in Galen, Wayne Co. N.Y. - He told several anecdotes of Father which I had never heard.

Yesterday we came here & I am at the Franklin house kept by Mr Skinner (late of our American) I do not see Mrs S. because, as I am told by him, a new boarder has just arrived! Nothing strange in this country.

Tomorrow I commence my retrograde motion Sugar river, and about Lake Koshkonong will keep me all this week. On Saturday I shall go to Janesville or some other point where I can communicate by telegraph with you & learn whether you are to honor me with your company at Beloit. & as for my last letter. We have been separated so much ^{of late} that I begin to feel that we are quite strangers - I want to renew the acquaintance! Writing letters is but a poor substitute for personal acquaintance! Do come if you can - if children are well - if Amelia is well - &c &c Our children are good children, if I say it who shouldn't and ^(the older ones) will be glad to show their goodness by conducting themselves properly in your absence in order to let you enjoy such a tour. After cleaning house, it will be a proper relief to get out into the country: so do come. Come on your own or on my account - or on account of the Beloit college! There is a first rate good hotel at Janesville - and probably also at Beloit. I shall have no surveying & mounds to do on the way home! We shall have the pleasantest kind of a tour. You can have an opportunity to learn how to Drive Billy!!!

You certainly would not have owned me as a husband if you could have seen me last evening in a miners trousers, frock, and cap: - the cap just fitted to cover the hair, made of a piece of deer skin. I put one foot in a hoop at the end of a strong rope & was lowered down 56 feet into the earth by a windless! John could not be persuaded to go down - his courage failed him! I wish you had been here to go down too! I know you would enjoy it. It was so romantic



a. The shaft I went down. At b a drift, or horizontal opening about 200 feet long that I went through on all fours - it was only about 3 feet high. Hit my back of the roof. The sharp points of the roof of in red clay 10 ft - yellow limestone - f blue limestone g soft rock called an "opening" h - hard rock called by miners "glass rock" - i - soft red clay rock with lead ore. b to a drift running north to find another range of lead. of ore to dig out & thrown around the shaft. It was as dark as mid night - had a candle set in soft clay for a candle stick so that I could stick it down when & where I pleased. Came out covered with mud & dirt & loaded with specimens - all the more valuable from having mined them myself. Get the magnifying glass & see me coming out again in the above figure! See that man tugging away at the windless - his hand steady & true. My life, happiness of a whole family hangs upon his nerves! Never fear he is used to it - I stop at every change of rock to study the geology of the mine - no thought of danger; am now safe again! Tell Mary John is well and is a first rate antiquarian, mineralogist &c He sees many new things in which he takes an interest. Hope she will now recover ^{from} her difficulty with her - since the abscess is removed.

P.S. Don't fail to meet me at Jainesville Monday evening by
stage from Milwaukee



Mr J. A. Lapham

Milwaukee

Wisconsin

As with Lorana's, so with yours, - I have arrived at the bottom
of the 3^d page without room for my signature, and as it would not
look well by itself all alone over here, I am obliged from sheer
necessity, from propriety, & from the dictate of good taste in
letter writing, to add this sentence before I subscribe myself

Your loving husband

Roseann A Lapham

Ann M Lapham

Oct 2^d
 Milwaukee ~~Sept 24th~~ 1830

Dear Sir

You have probably expected to ~~have~~ some report of the progress made in my ~~the~~ "Archaeological Survey" of Wisconsin; & perhaps I should have written before this time.

In May I commenced operations by making sundry excursions in the vicinity and toward the last of June I commenced a grand tour extending nearly across the state - visiting Aztalan - which is now thoroughly surveyed and many ^{& interesting} new facts ascertained - ^{also} Madison - the Wisconsin river &c. I have thus gone over the southern part of the state, except along the immediate valley of the Mississippi - and it only remains to visit the central and northern portions.

I send you a few ^{hastily prepared} drawings of some of the ^{more remarkable} animals discovered.

Several mounds have been opened and their contents carefully noted on the spot.

Some excavations of a peculiar character have been found in different parts of the state, of which you will find a drawing ^{of} enclosed.

In many cases the survey was attended with much difficulty on account of the ^{dense & such growth of} underbrush, by which the mounds were covered.

The animals especially in the eastern part of the state appear to be all headed in a southerly direction; a fact ~~which~~ may suggest some theory as to their design.

I have accumulated quite a mass of notes, drawings, topographical sketches &c which will require some labor to arrange in the form of an essay. In doing this shall I make the drawings of suitable size for engraving? and if so what is the size most convenient for your "Transactions"?

I fear I shall not be able to complete the survey this season. I find it much better to work in the spring and autumn than in the summer when the bushes are covered with foliage. It is my design to devote ^{most of this} ~~the~~ month of ~~October~~ to the work.

I suppose your Museum affords some articles from Wisconsin & you may have some manuscripts relating to our ancient works; if so would it not be well to have them embraced in my ^{proposed} essay - so that the "Antiquities of Wisconsin" may ~~be~~ all embraced? appear complete

Milwaukee May 27th 1851

Dear Sir

I am engaged in making a general survey of the Ancient Earthworks or mounds in this state; and as it will be impossible for me to visit every locality it becomes necessary to ask the aid of others.

~~I can pay any personal expense you may be at in making surveys of any of the more singular or interesting forms, but cannot afford to pay for time &c.~~

Last summer I explored the southern part of the state as far west as to your old ground & I shall soon start out again in the more northern part of the state. I spent nearly a week at Aztalan & will present the "Ancient City" in a much more complete form than has been hitherto done.

My object ~~in~~ writing is to ask your assistance by ^{sending me} ~~presenting~~ any additional materials you may have collected since your publication - & also ~~to send me~~ a list of ^{the} localities so far as you can give them by section, township, & range, of all these ancient works in your part of the state.

Yours truly

J. A. Lapham

Stephen Taylor, Esq.
Richmond Richland Co. Wis.

Milwaukee June 28. 1837

Dear Sir

I found your letter of 12th inst here, ^{a few days since} on my return, from an examination of the mounds about Lake Winnebago.

The Smithsonian Institution have furnished me a sketch ^{a copy of which is inclosed} of the series of mounds laid down (without survey) by Mr W. Pidgeon in this state which is very valuable if true, as it indicates a system of mounds extending over hundreds of miles, as if for telegraphic purposes! I ^{have} suggested to the Institution that so ^{new &} important a feature in our antiquities required confirmation. x

Dr. Hoy resides at Racine, where there is a series or group of ordinary circular burial mounds. — He has furnished me with the results of his labors to be included in my survey. I visited, surveyed, and examined the same ground with him.

Prof ^{S.P.} Lathrop has offered assistance in regard to mounds about Beloit

Two or three others have furnished accurate information & surveys of mounds; and numerous persons have contributed stone axes, arrow points &c.

The University cabinet contains several articles of same kind, of which I have made drawings

"The best part of Mr P's work is now published in Squier's new work.
The best part of Squier's work is now published in Squier's new work."

In regard to my work I have visited about fifty different localities, and made ~~a~~ maps of nearly all - Measured perhaps 100 different "animal mounds" - & Opened several. My ~~manuscript~~ notes now cover about 100 pages, and 50 more of drawings, maps, sketches &c.

How much of a volume I shall be able to make is uncertain; but it will probably not ~~equal~~ ^{be more than half} that of Sq. & Davis.

As to the publication I have no preferences, except that I should not like to have it done in a style inferior to the Smithsonian Contribution. The size of their volumes is better adapted to the necessary plates than yours, and if the expense ^{is} ~~was~~

~~I have endeavored to enlist as many persons in the cause as possible and have encouraged Surveyors to send drawings of mounds in their vicinity.~~

~~By that Institution~~
~~incurred by them~~ it would leave your funds to be applied in making further surveys.

It has been my design in case you refused or neglected to publish, to offer my work next to that Institution.

Prof Henry spoke to me on the subject at Cincinnati last month, and seemed quite anxious to obtain the privilege of publishing. I told him ~~that~~ I had engaged to furnish the matter to

Your Society, and that he must confer
with you on the subject.

If you arrange with him please not
to forget that a number of copies are to
be furnished me, as a sort of compensation
for my labor. You only pay for my actual
expenses — not for my time & labor.

It will probably soon be necessary
for me to draw upon your ^{treasury} for the two
hundred dollars.

Very truly yours
J. A. L.

S. F. Haven Esq.

Milwaukee May 24. 1852 -

Dear Sir

I am now ready to start on my long delayed final tour of exploration among the ancient works of this state & have accordingly drawn upon the Treasurer of the An. Society for the remaining \$200 appropriated to pay my expenses.

The work so far, has been reduced to proper form for the press and occupies 49 plates, of the size adopted for the Smithsonian ~~Illustrated~~ Contributions, besides a number of drawings: ~~of~~ I shall have much

to add on my return, as I propose to go to the upper
part of the Neenah (Fox) river, thence across the Wisconsin
^{up the Lemmon river} & strike the Miss. at La Crosse, - mostly on new ground.

As I have never had the benefit of a
collegiate, or classical education, it will be
proper to have ^{my} ~~the~~ Ms. revised before it goes to
press. This I presume will be done by the
~~publisher~~, Dr. Institution

Yours truly
J. A. Lapham

S. F. Hawes

Milwaukee July 20th 1852

Dear Sir

X { I have now completed my report
of ^{the} survey of Wisconsin with regard to
the ancient works. The Mss. covers
about 340 pages of the size ^[marked on] of this sheet,
with 51 plates of the size adopted for the
Smithⁿ Cont. 1 of double that size for
 Aztalan & 1 of 4 times the size (in area)
being a map of the state showing the
localities of all known works. —

There are also 97 drawings intended for
wood cut illustrations. ~~of things~~

X { I intend to take this document
with me to Cleveland ^(Aug. 18th) and deliver it
to Prof. Henry or send it to you as
you may direct by letter addressed to
me at that place.

I have endeavoured to prepare
the work ready for the printer and engraver,
and for this purpose several of the plans
have been ~~copied~~ ^{plotted} 2 or 3 times to get them
on ~~the plate~~ ⁱⁿ of proper scale for the ^{size} adopted
~~for the plates.~~ The Mss. is not so
clean as I could wish, but I cannot
find time now to make another copy.

The expenditures fall a little
short of the \$500. & the difference will
be refunded if required. I think
however, under all the circumstances
that I should be allowed to retain
this sum.

In the preface, after speaking of the
~~exp~~ surveys I had made &c I add: "The
Am. Ant. society having placed at my disposal

the means of paying the actual traveling & other expenses, these investigations and surveys were greatly extended, and the results are now offered to the public in the hope that they may have their use in the settlement of many important archaeological and ethnological questions of great interest & importance."

I have packed up a box full of articles collected, including some from Ohio, and will send them to you by some safe opportunity, or by express, if you so direct. Of several things there are duplicates which I propose to deposite with the Sm. Inst.

Very truly yours
J. A. L

S. F. Haven Esq.
Worcester
Mass

To S. F. Haven
July 30 - 1852

Milwaukee Aug. 14. 1832

Dear Sir

I have sent to Mr Haven
of the Am. Ant. Society at Worcester
my manuscript Antiquities of Wisconsin.

about which we have had some correspondence, and

It covers about 390 pages of the size marked
on this sheet, and 57 plates of the size
adopted for the Smithsonian Contributions,
besides 1 of double that ~~size~~^{width} & 1 of four times (in area)
that size being a map of the state showing
the localities of all known ancient works in
this state. There are also 97 drawings
intended for wood-cut illustrations. I
have endeavoured to prepare the work ready
for the printer & engraver, and for this purpose
several of the plates have been platted 2 or
3 times to get them on the proper scale
for the size adopted. The MS. is not
so clean as I could wish, but I cannot find
time now to copy it. I must rely upon
your proof reader to see that all is right,
& to correct ~~if necessary~~ any literary defects
awkward expressions &c. Not having had
the advantage of a classical education, I
fear many ^{such} defects may be discovered, & hope
they will all be corrected.

I hope you will find this document
up to the standard required for admission
into the "Contributions." It ~~is~~ ^{is probable that} Mr
Haven will communicate with you on
the subject.

Very truly yours
J. A. Lapham

J.
Prof J. Henry
Geog. Inst. Institution
Washington

To Prof J. Henry

Aug 14, 1882