5 1854.3.2 dTR

Transcribed by Beth Witherell, 2020

Black text is in ink in the manuscript; gray text is in pencil. Originally-written material is in 14 point type; material added later is in 11 point type. Marginal notes and notes in square brackets have been supplied by the transcriber. Curly brackets indicate that the text is illegible or that a reading is uncertain.

The available image of the MS is poor; there may be more material in pencil.

March 2, 1854

. . .

The sand foliage is vital in its form

This is as if you were approaching the vitals of the globe

–reminding me what are called the

for this sandy overflow is something such a foliaceous mass as the

vitals of the animal body. I am not

sure that its arteries are ever hollow

they are rather meandering channels

[new page]

sharp

with remarkably distinct ^ edges–formed

instantaneously as by magic– How rapidly & per-

fectly it organizes itself– The material must be

sufficiently cohesive. I suspect that a certain

Mixed

portion of clay is necessary. ~~Cla~~ Sand & clay

being saturated with melted ice & snow–the most

liquid portion ~~th{ }~~ flows downward through

the mass forming for itself instantly a perfect

canal–using the best materials the mass–

affords for its banks– It digs & builds

it in a twinkling– The less fluid portions

clog the artery change its course and

form thick stems & leaves. The lobe

of lung brain or Λειβω Λ { } λοβος labium *vertical line in pencil*

principle a lobe ^ ~~of the~~ ear (labor–lapsus?) a *added in pencil over dash and* of

lip lap flap globe lobus globus the *cancelled in pencil*

On the outside all the life of the earth

is expressed in the

^ animal or vegetable–but make ~~this~~ a *caret written over* is

deep cut in it & you find it vital–

–you find in the very sands an anticipa-

tion of the vegetable leaf– No wonder

then that plants grow & spring in it– The

atoms have already learned the law– Let

a vegetable sap convey it upwards and

you have a vegetable leaf– No wonder

that the earth expresses itself outwardly in

leaves–which labors with the idea thus in-

wardly– The overhanging leaf sees here its

this

prototype– The earth is pregnant with ^ law–

[new page]

The various shades of this sand

foliage are very agreeable to the eye.

iron

including ~~all~~ the different ^ colors ~~which~~ all *and* which *cancelled in pencil*

~~iron assumes~~–brown–grey–yellowish iron assumes *cancelled in pencil*

also

reddish–~~&~~ clay-color. Perhaps it produces & *cancelled in pencil*

the greater effect by arranged the sands

of the same color–side by side–bringing

them together.