

Elias Loomis

Biography: <http://biographicalmemoirs.org/pdfs/loomis-elias.pdf>

- Lived Aug 7th 1811- Aug 15th 1889
- Gifted in language and mathematics
- "feeble health"
- "Never thought of which subjects he was most fond of, just studied what he was told to study"
- "Retiring demeanor, concise and monosyllabic expressions"
- "Had intended to spend his life teaching mathematics, abrupt switch in autumn of 1831, when he went to Andover Seminary to become a preacher. Then, a year later, switched again to tutoring at Yale"
- Most of 1836-37 in Paris
- "Unflagging work ethic in teaching and scientific labors"
- Taught Latin, Natural Philosophy, Mathematics; also knew Hebrew
- Attention turned to sciences in 1833, observing a meteor shower (was more language focused prior)
- (Interest in Meteor Shower somewhat encourage by colleagues Olmstead and Twining)
- Studies in terrestrial magnetism, and the daily motions of magnetic field shifts
- "The daily motions of the magnetic needle were those which Tutor Loomis first studied. At the beginning of the second year of his tutorship he set up by the north window of his room a heavy wooden block, and on it the variation compass that belongs to Yale College. Here for over thirteen months he observed the position of the needle at hourly intervals in the day time, his observations usually being for seventeen successive hours of each day."

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