

SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION,

WASHINGTON, D. C., March 28, 1879.

My Dear Mr Marsh.

May I congratulate you upon the marked improvement in your chirography, your letter of the 28th of February being singularly legible, even at the first effort, not requiring at any point the use of a lens or a conference with Mrs Baird & Lucy!

The lecture of Mr Waldstein would, I have no doubt be an acceptable contribution to the Lyceum. but would hardly come within the scope of the Smithsonian Publications, it being neither an original article as a contribution to knowledge, nor an authoritative summation of the present state of our information, respecting some branch of physical or natural science. I think, however, that D. Appleton & Co. or some other firm would be quite willing to print it.

Matters are moving along with us much as usual. Mrs Baird is at present suffering under