

Burlington, Vt. 21st March 1877.

Mr George F. Marsh, Rome, Italy.

My dear Sir, You will doubtless be somewhat surprised when you recognize the hand writing of your old correspondent and co-adjutor in the Ethan Allen Monument and Statue Campaign, which closed with a great celebration on the 4th day of July 1873. After waiting for the publication of the 'Proceedings' for more than one year, I obtained a copy and forwarded the same to you by mail without an accompanying letter, which I endeavored to supply by a letter commencing on the 24th November, 1874, which, through a lack of interest in the subject matter, *vis inertia*, constitutional cacoceter non scribendi, and a little touch of Octogenarianism, I failed to accomplish. I might add in explanation of my subsequent negligence ^{the fact of} a severe attack of pneumonia and a constant and threatening cataract, which Dr. Thayer cannot cure.

I have been induced, in the face of all these obstacles, with an unwillingness to interfere with your time, to write you of an interview I had with Governor Peck yesterday, on the subject of the contemplated statue of Senator Collamer, which this State has ordered and is about to be constructed by Powers, the artist. Gov. Peck showed me a photograph of a bust of Collamer made by the artist, as the model, to be put in marble, if approved by the Governor, who, as I understood, having no decided convictions himself, would abide your opinion and taste. I understood that you sent the photograph to Gov. Peck, but did not understand that you expressed any opinion about it. I must confess