



Washington October 14 1885

My dear Mr Mark

Your letter of Aug. 2. with its enclosure of corrections was duly received, with many thanks for the trouble you have taken to aid our "Catalogue"

We returned home last Monday after an absence since the middle of July. Mostly spent at Eastport, Me. and vicinity. Mary seems unusually well now, better than for several years and I trust will continue so. - Lucy is however very delicate and does not improve at all.

Repairs of the burnt portion of the Smithsonian building are progressing and by winter the tower will be finished and ready for occupancy, when we can do any thing with the main building, is hard to tell.

Mrs. Gillis has returned to town and is I hear in her own house again. I have not had time yet to see her. James was married a few days ago to Miss Annie Stelwager.

Prof Bache is I fear slowly getting worse. Mind and body. I presume there is not the least hope