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Washington, D.C. May 31 1871



My Dear Mr Marsh.

I received your letter of the 5<sup>th</sup> of May in due course of time, & at once instituted ~~the~~ inquiries relative to the points mentioned, namely whether the right arm is used among the savage peoples of America in preference to the left, as it is among the whites. The inquiries were directed to Prof. Wyman & Mr Geo. Gibbs, both of whom are competent from their experience to speak on this matter. So far, however, I have received no reply from either, & as I expect to leave <sup>I write now to say so, and that</sup> home in a few days, I will <sup>address you</sup> again whenever any information from them reaches me.

I have acknowledged, I believe, the receipt of the Italian fishery pamphlet you so kindly sent me. I shall be glad to receive any thing bearing upon that or similar subjects, coming into your possession.

I hope to leave Washington next Saturday for the scene of my Summer's labors, at Wood's Hole, Barnstable County, Mass., & expect to remain there three or four months. In the course of the Summer we hope to have a visit from Carrie Crane, who has greatly endeared herself to our family, & to <sup>whom</sup> we look forward with great pleasure.