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SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION,

WASHINGTON, D. C., March 27 1872

Dear Mr. Marsh:

Your letter of the 5th March is just at hand. Thanks for the promise of information in regard to the beads. I mail you herewith all I have in hand in regard to the discoveries in the Gulf Stream. I have now under contract a superb sea-going steamer to cost \$175,000. to be constructed expressly for practical researches into the fisheries of the coast & general