Washington Jan 27 [1887]

Dear Marshall:

If you have Rutledge's latest address, which I do not certainly know, and cannot get him there, I can't help you. I suggest that you write to Reas of Columbia College, as the man most likely to put you on his track.

I think Holdon is just the man to impress...
those Frenchmen with
the majesty of the
American Eagle. With
all his sumptuousness
he has the coldness, the
severity, the... 'Chic' which carry a man
so far in Parisian society.
He would have the
added prestige of the
future director of the
Pier observatory. I
want such men!

sent to overcome their
fellows who think we
are a mere nation of
moneybags and indi-
nificant students.

I wanted to see you
before you left to ask you
to explain your pleasure
at our friend L's appoin-
tment, in view of the cata-
dram you looked forward
to as likely to engulf the
institution in which he was
to found. I should think
you would have wanted
a less valuable man in
The place.

I find the candidacy of our Pa friend for the U.S. is no secret in admistration circles, but said circles don't seem to consider that he has the powerful backing you mentioned. I am still skeptical about any immediate chance.

Yours very truly,

S. Newcomb
Dear March:

I have not heard whether Ralston is going to Paris or not. Glad you saw Mr. Rutherford.

Laughey seems to have been too busy here. He is very popular socially and seems to be regenerating himself!

To chief signal office
had to be appreciated. I am glad it was quickly
But there is much opposi-
tion to his continuance
from older officers who
declared against promo-
ting a man from Capt.

The last man talked
about for the B.S. is
Capt. Dyer, R.M.S.E.; he
has an influential
father-in-law who

justified him for the place in
1881, and went so far as
to get his case reviewed at
the Board of Naval
Affairs, where reported him
too young and inexperienced.

About a year ago he
published a pamphlet put
bring in to the civil service
management of the B.S.
and arguing that it ought
to be turned over to the
Navy Dept. This might
make the position a little
awkward for him.
As I have already said, I see no reason to believe that the President is deter-
mined on any change at all.

Yours etc.

S. Newcomb
My Dear Marsh:

I learn from Holden that he cannot go to Paris for want of time, he says however that Peters is going so that if Rutherford and Langley both fail you have him to fall back upon.

The committee on the Draper medal will no doubt be ready with a report at the April meeting.

I see there is quite a petition going into the President for Kimball which I believe you have seen yourself. As you know, I am skeptical about its having any great effect. The President has held out so long against universal opinion around him that I do not see why he should not hold out indefinitely. So far as I know I am about the only person in Washington who has anything but the most approbrious epithets for the present incumbent. The names his friends in the Treasury call him by are not fit to go upon paper.

Yours very truly,

[Signature]

Professor O.C. Marsh,
New Haven, Conn.
Washington Dec 16, 1887

My Dear Marsh:

Having, as you know, just given a reception to Langley, I am moved to tell you something about the aspect of his relations here.

His appointment seems to have been a capital stroke. Socially he is the lion of the hour. I had no idea we had so many nice people admiring men of brains for their own sake.

So far as I can infer from
work here, and that Laughey's popularity is merely the form in which that sentiment finds utterance.

Is there any hope of seeing you here before April?

Yours very truly,

S. Newman.
Dear Professor Marsh:

I received the diplomas two days ago, signed them, and addressed them to Professor Wolcott Gibbs, Newport, R.I. as his signature was not on them. Hall gave me to understand that I would receive them from Gibbs.

In the award of such honors as that of the Watson medal to persons abroad it is customary for some party who has been concerned in recommending the award to privately inform the recipient of that fact, and to ask if he can accept a formal invitation to be present. If you have no objection I shall do this for Professor Schönfeld. I can do this very properly, as I am on very friendly terms with him personally, and shall soon have occasion to write him on another subject.

I have been so much broken down this spring that I can hardly do anything, and expect to take a long vacation somewhere on the sea shore.

Yours very truly,

Professor O.C. Marsh,

New Haven, Conn.
My Dear Marsh:

I find it is entirely out of the question for me to attend the Academy meeting, and enjoy the hospitality of your home. I leave tonight for Asheville, N.C. to try the effect of mountain air on my weak leg.

A vote is required from the Academy about the Watson fund which Hall will bring up.

Would it not be well for the Council at this meeting to authorize the Treasurer to sell U.S. Bonds and invest in mortgages on Washington real estate? At the present price of bonds I do not believe we are gaining much over one per cent interest on our investment, and there is no trouble in gaining five per cent here on good mortgages.

Yours very truly,

Simon Newcomb

Professor O.C. Marsh,
New Haven, Conn.
Nautical Almanac Office, Washington, D.C.
8 December, 1888.

My Dear Marsh:

Hall has showed me your letter asking for reasons etc. for the award of the Watson medal to Gould, and has tried to explain the matter. So far as the minutes and records of the Academy are concerned I do not see what more can be necessary than is already there, to wit: the statement made by the Watson trustees to the Academy recommending the award of the medal, and briefly stating the reasons therefor. That recommendation formed the basis of the Academy's action, and I do not see on what grounds we can substitute a fuller statement at so late a day as this.

As regards the full account of Gould's work that was an entirely unofficial matter. The points were made for your address in presenting the medal, and I suppose your address is in your own hands.

If you want me to do anything more I wish you would send me those notes for I really forget all about the details.

I am not so badly off in health as you seem to suppose. I am now well almost down to the right ankle; but the ankle,
foot and toes are still a good deal as before so that I can walk but little. At the present rate of progress I shall be all right before the end of January.

Yours very truly,

S. Newcomb

Professor O.C. Marsh,
New Haven,
Conn.

My Dear Marsh:

The Watson medal is already, and is now here in the jewellers hands for a suitable case. As Coffin looked out for the last one I asked him to do the same now.

Gibbs might raise the question whether he, as Foreign Secretary, should not be the organ to transmit the medal. I had a very pleasant letter from Schönfeld a few days ago; he spoke in terms of the highest appreciation of the honor, which evidently took him entirely by surprise.

I am slowly gaining strength; but it is mighty slow work, and I don't acquire the faculty of walking. One quarter of a mile seems still to be the limit of safety, as it has been during the last four months.

Hall sent me the notification of committee of arrangements. Langley intends to offer a reception to the Academy.

Yours very truly

Professor O.C. Marsh,

New Haven, Conn.
My Dear Marsden:

You will probably have received a circular from a Committee of Assistants U.S. N.S., announcing that they are going to ask the President to appoint Dr. B. A. Gould Superintendent, and requesting the support of scientific men.
Copies of these circulars well, I suppose, reach the appointment power favorably endorsed, and, if the programme is carried out, the Assis will ask for the appointment.

I suppose we are bound to assume that the said committee knows what it is about, and is not going to have its paid...
Sir:

A meeting of the Transit of Venus Commission is called at the Naval Observatory on Saturday, April 20th at 11 O'clock, A.M.

Very respectfully,

S. Newcomb

Secretary
My Dear March:

I did not know you would want the report on the Watson medal forwarded to you in advance of the meeting i.e. before you came here. So far as I am concerned it will be ready this week. But it has got to be fixed up by the
whole Board, to I intended to await Gould's arrival here before putting it into final shape. But if you want it sent to you in advance, I will see if we can get it up by correspondence. 

Very truly,

J. Newcomb
Nautical Almanac Office, Naval Observatory,
Georgetown Heights, D.C., November 24th, 1893.

Dear Professor Marsh:—

I have just written to the Senate Document Room, asking them to send you a copy of the printing bill which recently passed the House, and is now before the Senate. You will see on page 45 that the provision for the National Academy went through the House without a scratch, and as it previously went through the Senate in the same way in a former bill, I do not anticipate any trouble.

Yours very truly,

S. Newcomb

Professor O. C. Marsh,
New Haven, Conn.
Washington, D.C.,
February 6th, 1895.

Dear Professor Marsh:-

I decided some days ago that it was not worth while, pressed as I am with work, to go to the Academy meeting on February 9th; especially as I had taken a trip East the first of January. My work here is in such a state that I can ill afford to spare the three days which it will practically take. I take it the Committee knows all about the matter, and that I could render very little help in deciding points of difference.

I have for some time had an idea in view which I wanted to write you about. The lack of interest in the meetings and proceedings of the Academy here on the part of everybody except the score of members who attend, seems to me very discouraging. Is there any reason why we should not adopt the plan of nearly all the learned societies abroad, at least those of England and Germany, and many in this country, of bringing in the social and convivial elements of interest? Briefly, what I think we should
do is to have an annual banquet, to which we should invite distin-
guished and worthy men outside the Academy as guests. The
expense should of course be paid by the individual members taking
part. I doubt not that a managing committee here could make
very favorable arrangements; it would of course be necessary to
re-establish the committee we used to have years ago to make ar-
rangements for the meeting. If you approve of this, I should be
much pleased to have you question other members on the subject.
I have already spoken to some, and find no one to take an unfavor-
able view of the case.

Yours very sincerely,

[Signature]

Professor O. C. Marsh,

New Haven, Conn.
Clifton Springs, N.Y.,
June 8, 1875

My dear Mr. Mansk:

I heartily approve of the provision to give due credit
of the proceeds to give adequate
reward of the Bennett, so as to
include Ramsey. Had I been
wiser, I should have made all
my propositions as an addition
to the committee's report. It is
quite in accord with custom
in such cases. The prize is awarded
to two people, as an individual
honour. But the evidence in
the sheels of the medall, is
given to end.

I am now taking the water treatment, and expect to stay through June.

Yours very truly,

S. Neumonit
Washington Dec 24, 1898

My Dear Manns,

Allow me to express my pleasure and extend my congratulation on the French Academy having given you two first-class recognition in the course of one year. Really, our transatlantic brethren ought to be congratulated on waking up to the fact that there are no longer the "sinus in pedei lum" of science, as the church
authorities would have called them.

With best Christmas and New Year wishes
I remain,

Sincerely yours,

S. Newcomb