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No. 22. Lafayette St.

Washington, D.C.

Jan'y 14th 1875

Prof. O. C. Marsh.

Sir,

We have the subject of
the purchase of "Coblin's
African Collections" now
before the "Library Com-
mittee of Congress" of
which your relative the
Hon. G. F. Edmunds is
a member. There seems

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to be some doubt in
the mind of the Student
and as to the authenticity
and value of Leath's
pictures. No one's
opinion would have
more weight with
him than yours, and
I do hope that you
will write him at once,
(as time is important), your
appreciation of the labors
of a man of science

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and an artist who
devoted his life and
all he possessed in
the world to the perpetuation
of the types and
manners of primitive
man.

At the period of his life
and after alone he
visited, and painted
characteristic pictures
of all but a very few
of the ~~main~~ tribes of

17
4
American Aborigines in
their peculiar dress & g
from Alaska to
Patagonia including
those of Yucatan & the
countries bordering on the
Amazon:

There are 1200 of these
sketches - some of which
are highly finished, but
all are faithful & vigorous
representations.

Do you think a hundred
thousand dollars a
large appropriation for
a government to give, for

718.
this object?

I beg you will unite
your testimony to that
of Joseph Henry - the
late Baron Humboldt.
Baron Dupland - and
the principal institutions
of learning in our Country
in the hope that it
may have some influence
upon our Committee

Yours in great haste
I hope that you will write
to the Senator by return mail

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science and art as
well as our old
friendship.

Ernest L. Keaney