

YALE COLLEGE  
New York City  
New Haven, Conn.,

Dec 16 1891

My dear Prof. Marsh,

I have just received

your letter of Dec 12<sup>th</sup> relative to  
the Committee on the Barnard  
Medal. While appreciating highly

your honoring me with the appointment  
to be one of the Committee  
I feel it my duty to ask to be

excused. The range of the  
subject covered by the conditions  
in Dr. Barnard's will is far  
greater than the range of  
my studies, & I do not feel

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Competent to sit in judgment  
upon the relative merits of men  
working, — some of them, — in  
departments in which I am  
not well versed. That the  
medal must be given to the  
person most worthy, makes  
the decision far more delicate  
than if it was to be given to  
one thoroughly worthy.

Yours most truly  
H. A. Newton