

# Dickinson College Archives & Special Collections

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## Documents Online

**Title:** Letter from Joseph Henry to George Marsh

**Date:** August 1, 1849

**Location:** I-AsbellY-2005-3

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Washington Aug 1<sup>st</sup> 1849

Dear Sir,

I sent you yesterday  
a certificate and a note  
which I now will answer  
your number.

I now write to thank  
you for your uncalculated  
liberality in offering the transla-  
tions on which you are engaged  
free of cost to the Institution.  
I shall not fail to render you  
due credit for your labours in  
giving the results to the Public.

I trust your interest in  
the Institution will not  
cease with your absence from  
the country. Will it not be  
compatible with your views

and engagements to prepare  
for us a Report on the present  
state of the Ottoman Empire.  
If so I will make a formal  
request that you prepare  
such a Report.

I would also suggest that  
before you leave the country  
you will address a letter to me  
in favour of our friend Prof Baird  
as a suitable person should  
one be required to fill the post  
of naturalist to the Institution.

Can you not interest Mr  
Choate in his behalf?

In your letter do not neglect  
to speak of his knowledge of the  
modern Languages and the  
general philosophical character

of his mind. To carry out the  
plan of the institution we do  
not want a mere curator of  
a museum but an original  
investigator who is capable  
of extending by his own resea-  
-rches the bounds of knowledge.

The Smithsonian Institution  
in science should, aim to pro-  
duce the same results that  
the Royal Institution has  
produced by means of the  
labours of Young, Davy, Faraday  
and others.

With kind regards to  
Mrs Marsh & her sister

I remain truly yours  
Joseph Henry.

Hon George P. Marsh.

