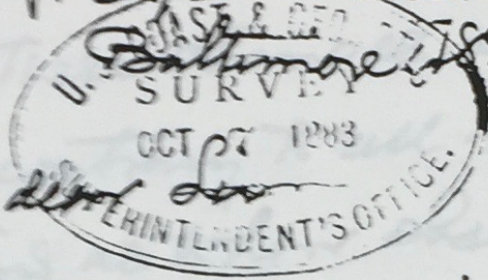


A-272 N. Calvert St



Baltimore 1883 Oct 3.

My dear Sir

I very particularly regret that my wife was taken yesterday so very ill that I am warned that I must remain here and that I cannot go to Washington today & probably not tomorrow.

I desire to see my manuscript. If Mr. Furgurson has really made all the alterations in it of which he speaks, it is the greatest outrage I ever knew to be perpetrated upon an author and I shall call

ask you to protect me
against such a wrong.

These changes are absolutely
contrary to all my convictions
as to how observations
should be treated. They also
involve striking out portions
of the work. In short, they
leave it in such a condition
that it can no longer be re-
cognized as mine.

However, I must suppose
that these are mere suggestions
and that the manuscript
itself has not been so tam-
pered with.

Mr. Fawcett in his letter
also complains that I have
not included some work

done by my party. I wish³
to know whether you ever
authorized him to pass
such judgments upon me?
Is it his business to say
when I shall bring out the
reports upon the work done
under me?

He calls the determina-
tion of the longitude Ebers-
burgh-Allegheny his and
Mr. Ferry's. I should like to
know whether I had no part
in that work or if so whether
I was merely Mr. Fargher's
assistant or what.

The truth is that in regard
to that work and other work

for which he thinks I ought
to have done him credit, I
should be glad to escape the
responsibility. During that
whole year, the condition of
my health forced me to leave
more to my assistants than
I should have wished to do.
Not more than I should wish
to leave to assistants generally,
but more than I should wish
to leave to unskillful assistants.
Consequently, I am obliged
to bear the responsibility for
some things of which I am
not at all proud. I should
only be too glad to say, if it
were consistent with my
self respect - "So and so

was done wrong but⁵
I couldn't always detect
all my aids' blunders." On
the whole, I judge that it
is best, kindest, most dig-
nified, to silently accept
the work & simply with-
hold any particular expres-
sion of praise.

I did give Mr. Tangher
credit for the method of
observation invented by
him & used along with
the old way at York. I
even wished him at one
time to write a paper on
it; but as the results

turned out not very good,
- in fact, not good enough,
I dropped that suggestion.

I said, I believe, that the
observations ~~were~~ ^{at York}
were made by Mr. Far-
gusson under my super-
vision. He complains of
that word; he thinks I did
not supervise the work
enough. Perhaps not;
in that regard I had a
distinct understanding
with Captain Patterson.
But, at any rate, he was
not left to do just as he

liked. He was told 7
just what things to
make, just what me-
thods of observation to
make, ~~just~~ (with an ex-
ception to be noted present-
ly) just how many tran-
sits to take, when to take
them etc. In short, every-
thing was regulated by
me down to minute
details & I went several
times to look to see how
the work was going
on. With regard to the
method invented by Mr.

Farrington ~~next~~, he, was
allowed to develop it free-
ly under some slight
guidance & restriction,
and to use it in a cer-
tain part of the observa-
tions.

Mr. Farrington of course has
a right to make complaint
if he thinks himself badly
treated; and to make that com-
plaint behind my back, al-
though there is no reason why
he shouldn't expect to be
attentively listened to by
me if he'd chosen to ad-
dress me in the first
instance. But what he

certainly had no right
to do so as to make ex-
tensive and radical changes
in my paper when he
knew that they are such
as I should be opposed
to in consequence of my
^{general} views in regard to the
methods of reducing
observations.

Yours very respectfully
Prof. Hibbard
Superintendent
M. T. C. A. G. S.