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1321. New York Avenue.
Washington.

March: 23^d 1874

Dr. J. McLean.

Dear Sir,

I asked you this winter, when I saw you at Prof. Henry's during your stay with him, if you would kindly give us your name to attach with others to the Memorial which we were getting up in order to recommend to Congress the purchase of my father's Indian Collection. Since that time, we have at Professor Henry's suggestion, and using as he directed us to do, his own letter to the Chairman of the Library Committee, made application to all the principal Colleges in the different States, for letters endorsing the matter

of the collections, in their historical
and ethnological views, and
have now some very valuable
letters from Amherst, Bowdoin,
Dartmouth, and some fifteen
other Colleges, signed by the
Faculty of each one. I shall
present these to the Committee
when they give us a hearing - They
partly decided to let the decision
remain over till another session
of Congress, but the Chairman
has promised us a hearing.
And should the financial ques-
tion be favorably decided upon
before the close of this session,
we may be able to push the
matter through. It is essentially
necessary to us to compass this
if possible, as owing to the
loss of the old collection,

it being undecided, we may
not be able to make the same
offer to Congress another year,
and it is to our advantage as
well as to the cause of science
that the collection should be
rescued as soon as possible.

Among letters sent to Colleges,
there was of course one sent to
the College of New Jersey, and
we have so far received no
answer. There are many valu-
able names in the faculty of
that College, and I shall
regret very much not having
a letter from them - and
I also hoped that your
name would be added to
theirs. Will it be asking too
much of you, my dear sir,
in addition to your endorsement

if I should ask you to speak
a word in our favor to Dr. Mc
Cosh, who may not be personally
acquainted with my father's
works, Prof. Guyot. I suppose
is fully acquainted with their
merit.

I enclose to you the copy of Prof.
Henry's letter which he implored
us to use, and if you will write
a few words or merely your name
on a slip of paper, it can be
attached to the Memorial which
now has the names of the most
prominent men of letters not in-
cluded in the faculties of Colleges.

I hope that I am not troubling
you very much, your name will
give us valuable assistance

I remain, dear sir, yours respectfully
Elizabeth N. Cattin.



Dr. John Mc Lane
Punneton.
W.I.