

7-27-1859

Sidney Harper Marsh Letter to T. Baldwin - Jul. 27, 1859

Sidney H. Marsh

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Burlington Vt.
July 27 1859

Rev T Baldwin
My Dear Sir –

From an interview with Rev E. Johnson in Boston just before leaving I found that he did not understand my position. At least he seemed to think that there was a want of cooperation between the society and myself. Bro Haskill writes to the same effect in regard to your Mr. Edgell. I have felt from the first that I sought to get more help from the East than you thought possible. The more I have seen the state of things & come to distrust the nature of our dependence upon the East. The more anxious I have felt to secure at least \$20,000 before returning – & I believe that that amount can be raised & that too without detriment to other colleges – Indeed this plea for Pacific University is indirectly a plea for all Western Colleges.

I have met with more & more encouragement toward this as the extent of our wants has been made known – & finally the Professors of Andover & several of the Pastors in Boston signed a paper for publication commending our extra effort for the help of Pacific University which you have perhaps seen in the papers. In all this my action has only been what I am of liberty to put forth & for that which you would be glad to see accomplished & I do not see how Mr. Johnson or yourself can feel that in this there is any indisposition shown to cooperation.

Whenever I have found that the Society has a prior claim which the minister wished to assist me and I have secured our permission before attempting to do anything & have always regarded the Societies field. If at any time I have met objections against the Society I have always defended it & am not aware that I have said anything against the [illegible text] Pittsfield. I do not remember that I said anything about it except after the [illegible text] had called me to deliver. I stated that [illegible text] on the Society's list—I have not certainly wished to say anything detrimental to its prosperity.

I hope that you will not feel that in thus securing as many friends as possible for our cause that I am [illegible text] anything injurious to the society or am lacking in any just or fail feeling of cooperation.

With sincere respect
Yours [illegible text]
S. H. Marsh

Sidney Harper Marsh Papers

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