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Am

March 11th

Washington City

2nd March 1857.

My dear Sir,

Reminded of a letter sent by you in your last volume the 28th July. I have made search for it and found it among others which were received during my absence to Brit. and had seen -
 - paid notice. I have perused it & should not have given you the appearance of its loss, but so many things have required my attention that I scarcely wonder that it is -
 - copied my notice at the time of my return - On many points it is satisfactory, but there is one to which I wish more particularly to call your attention - In making

up the estimates for finishing the
publications of the book & of the Index:
it is necessary that I should be able
to know the cost of the different depart-
ments, & to finish, beyond I can
aspire to reach its relative amount
of funds, so that our appropriation
now on hand may not be exceeded.
You will therefore see the necessity
I am under to call for the amount
of text in *Op. 2nd vol.* and the num-
ber of engravings, that the illus-
trations of it may require, and
although with every desire on my
part to effect the most, I feel the
necessity of urging upon all to con-
fine the expenses within as narrow
limits as possible - and to furnish
me with the data whences to cal-
-culate and accomplish all that can
possibly be effected within our means,
which the Joint Library Committee have

pledged shall finish the work - so
that we cannot look for ~~any~~ further
aid from Congress - You would then
for oblige me by sending me the
number of pages of text which your
2nd part may embrace & how many
more plates remain to be drawn by
Sprague and engraved as soon as your
convenience can -

I have written to Sullivan to the same
effect, and if you can give me this
estimate of them in the hands of Drury
I would be obliged to you as it appears
that you have a knowledge of how
many pages & engravings he may re-
-quire.

I desire to push the Publications to an
early completion, and let the Opposition
to us converge to that length in my
power to attain.

Very truly
Yours
Charles Wickers
Prof. Massey - Cambridge



Wilkes, Charles. 1857. "Wilkes, Charles Mar. 2, 1857." *Charles Wilkes letters related to the United States Exploring Expedition* –.

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