Petersham, Mass.
July 24, 1887.

My dear Mr. Darwin:

It is too bad that you should have had to wait so long for an answer to your letter of 25th day, but I have both been away from home, and so my correspondence has fallen into arrears.

I have sent to Cambridge to be forwarded.

To make amends, as far as possible, Mr. Fiske has himself made a copy of all of your father's letters in my possession; hoping that this may save any further delay for you, should you find anything in the letters which you would like to use.

These are all the letters I have ever received from your father except one
or two which merely say, Take
such or such a train to Oxford,
v. I believe I still have
those on file in Cambridge, but
Mrs. Fiske did not find them,
and of course you would not
care for them.

In these which I send
I do not know whether there is
anything which you will find
of interest or not. It is needless
to say that I shall always
take the greatest pride & pleasure
in remembering the value which
your father (I fear, too
generously) set upon my work.
To have had him, with all his
time so fully occupied,
morely read through
my two bulky volumes of
"Cosmic Philosophy" was, I
have always thought,
thnk, the highest compliment
the book could receive.
On one point possibly you can enlighten me. I do not now understand the reference (on page 47 of this ms. copy) "main cause of Babylon," etc. I never heard from your father again on this point. The general subject of the postscript, i.e. the point to which I had called your father's attention, was my hypothesis as to the effects of the prolonged infancy of man, both in making it possible for one generation of men to vary (e.g. progressively) from the preceding generation, and also in giving rise to stable & permanent family groups. The point is stated
at length in Cos. Phil. part ii. chap. xxii., and also in my "Darwinism & other Essays", essay on Dr. Bateman & Darwinism.

Possibly you can enlighten me as to the reference in "mem. case of Baboons."

Pray give my warmest regards & best wishes (in which Mrs. Fiske joins me) to all of the family. We can never forget our delightful visit of two years ago. I remain,

my dear Mr. Darwin,

Very sincerely yours,

John Fiske.