Dear Joshua,

I just learned tomay about the AAAS prize and was very disappointed. I owe you a real apology for having raised your hopes and am terribly sorry I said anything to you about it. Yet I did so want you to be prepared to give them a strong account of the background of your present paper if you were called upon to do so, that I finally decided your should be warned of the possibility in order to make some preparation. The time I was called in I was so taken by surprise that I could hardly speak.

Of course the decision of the judges is final, but you should know, as I hope you do, that the geneticists hold you and your work in the very highest esteem. There was absolutely no disagreement among those whom I consulted before making the recommendation from the program of our society.

I know how you feel about all this and how you disapprove of prizes. I share your views to some extent, but not fully.

With very best regards to you and your wife,

Cordially,