

4-6-1890

## Ida H. Grant to Sis, April 6, [1890]

Ida Honoré Grant

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1890

Sunday April 22<sup>nd</sup>  
Easter -

Dear Sis, —  
I, this morning,  
received your letter, which  
gave me a delightful surprise  
to me, as I have not heard  
from you all for so long. —  
Except a short letter from Ma,  
a few days ago, in which she  
did not mention the great  
news, which you seemed to  
think I had heard already,  
that she had bought a  
house expected to live in it,

That Aunt Laura had sold  
hers (I hope for the increased  
amount she wanted) and that  
Mr Jones had given Miss  
Dice blue home - All this  
was entirely new to me, but  
I can realize just how busy  
you are and how much you  
have on hand. I almost  
might infer that Ma does  
not dream of coming <sup>over</sup> to  
see me, some thing I have  
written her about over and  
over again, without the least  
notice being taken of my

letters - would you not write me, more often  
it all - Does Ma really intend to keep house  
I think it might interest her, more than  
she thinks, though I shall deeply regret  
that she does not think of coming on.  
How is it? Her wife if Aunt Sarah told  
that she wanted for hers, and if she sold  
all her furniture and misc things, what  
price she do say as this? What is Harry  
and Bebe's house? I remember the one  
Ma has bought - where is Bebe's -

About the glass, I am too mortified and  
sorry that it has happened as you have  
not got it yet. It seems too bad. I enclose  
you a letter the firm have received in refer-  
ence to it, and the last three days being  
hete day I have not been able to see about  
it, but as soon as the store is again opened,  
I will see the man and write for further  
He sent the invoice, however, putting down



5<sup>th</sup>

Each little Trifle I had  
gotten so that cannot be  
the cause of delay - Fred  
says, the law must have been  
changed, that the things  
should have been delivered  
in New York all this time  
for you to send the papers;  
besides I gave the order to  
Lob meyer, to send the whole  
in bond to you in Chicago  
I only hope excepting is  
not broken and destroyed  
before you get it. I am

giving one or two little  
dinners in return, & the  
Ambassadors, who visited us  
to their great palaces, and  
you can't imagine what a  
comfort and delight to us,  
it is to have the only candle-  
shades, which are really  
novelty here, and no one  
else has them - I know  
we seem very simple com-  
pared of course to the Am-  
bassadors, and the only thing  
left us of the original  
or had some little individuality

The Shades have been truly admired here, as they are so odd, our floor ware is also lovely and unique, no one else having it, and our China is more beautiful than anywhere else - We only dine ten at a time, the others always have from 20 to 30 - but that makes it all the nicer for us & has even things so dainty and odd, that we do have.

I am in a chronic state of dreading that Mrs Chew, our Secretary's wife, will copy the pretty things we have. She is very rich & has taken an apartment a little larger than ours, right next door, and tries not only to do as well but one better than I do always, so I have kept my candle shades entirely out of her sight, as they are a real novelty here now - We like Vienna more and more and only try to realize that we will not have all this nice comfort and state for long. Our plans, are, to remain quietly here, until

9<sup>th</sup>

The first of July, until  
which time our children  
will be busy studying, and  
the city is very pleasant as  
well as our apartment.

Then Fred will take his  
leave, of 60 days or two months.  
When we want to travel, in  
Germany, Denmark, Sweden  
and perhaps in Russia, or  
perhaps home by Paris, as  
many tell us that Russia is  
so hot in the summer - I

Course, My object is to see  
all we can in the two months  
as I have never been in Eu-  
rope, and it will be of great  
advantage to John and the  
rest of us. We shall not stay in  
any one place more than a  
few days, and go very cheaply  
with very little baggage, so that  
I suppose we could not go at all.

I want to simply travel and  
see so that I can feel that  
I know some thing about  
the world. Of course thou

Who have already been abroad, can afterwards take things easier, and see more and know better where they want to stay. I appreciate the great advantages the children have here in studying regularly, indeed they could not keep up if all were not regularly done. I want to travel hard when Mr. & Dr. travel and then come home, which it is a much greater variety to me to have than to be staying in some hotel crowded in blue rooms, spending all we have for nothing - I hope indeed J. & Will all come over and make us a nice long visit, then travel with us at least part of the way to Rio de Janeiro, though of course, it would be going over, some of it, a well beaten track for J. & Will - & come over it would be lovely - part if not all the summer. I am writing to Mrs. Grant that we will be delighted to have her come over, for a

13<sup>th</sup>

With an or we shall do  
all we possibly can for  
her, but I shall not rely  
upon her doing so too much,  
as it is a great responsibility  
and I would not know if  
she would be happy for  
very long. I want her to  
know, that we should be  
always so glad if she would  
come. - To tell the truth I  
don't want any of her family  
as I am not dependent of  
them as I am of her, and

If she came without them  
perhaps she would be unhappy  
after being here, a while,  
so I leave it all to fate -  
not trying to arrange or  
plan in any way for Mrs G.  
at all, only assuring her of  
how glad we would always  
be to see her, so she will  
feel and know that. - I think  
it is my sweet and kind  
of you to invite her to Chicago,  
then and I appreciate it, and  
if she acts peculiarly it will



be all because of her relations - It is a  
pity that she cannot wish to be with her  
Daughter instead of Mrs G. or some other &  
but that could never be - so I leave it all  
as I think your advice to me was, but ask  
Mrs G. always to visit us - I cannot decide  
for anyone else what they must do in life  
and especially Mrs G. who seems uncertain always.  
We hear from everyone how well and  
happily she is - which is good news -

I shall be waiting now for letters, as you will  
have more time to write, and you must tell  
me all your plans etc, and when we may  
expect you, as we are really so anxious to hear  
and want to see you all so much - Do you think  
St. Petersburg will be so endurable in summer  
time? You ought to know - We can't stay in it  
in July & August and I would rather be travelling  
than in a Villa - There is a great number of  
Americans here now passing - and we hear  
them almost all here - Do write soon and  
tell me all the news, affectionately I am & I want.