

3-7-1890

## Ida H. Grant to Sis, March 7, [1890]

Ida Honoré Grant

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1891

March 7<sup>th</sup>

Dear Sir, I certainly am most  
grateful for the beautiful lamp  
shade which are so odd and  
pretty, whenever I go into the  
Parlor the person calling is  
standing examining the shade  
and several gentlemen have  
thought the flowers real it  
is very clever use, as our  
Parlor is really the sitting-  
room and that lamp lighting  
all the time. I am having  
the candle shades lined at

their, as one of them caught  
fire (but not at the furnace) and I  
am afraid to use them without  
the lining - About the stocking  
woman she has had a lot of  
young girls with her, and has  
all been most devotedly attentive  
to me, sending flowers, Mrs  
Stocking and the girls sepa-  
rately when I had "Influenza"  
and some of them (Miss, Mag-  
nificent Bonquets, it was when  
I had that sickness that I  
sent Mrs Stocking the spec-  
ies for honey and fat, as they

has been so polite; I had an arrangement made  
of flowers in my room at the same, they had  
sent, and that box was for Sunday night, I  
might not have cared to go if I had been  
not depending upon the flowers (it is the custom  
amongst them having the box come 4<sup>th</sup> time  
it comes sometime on Sunday) - I don't mind  
anything she said, I have to be polite and treat  
her as I do all the others, as her father, John  
Miller, wrote to Fred about her, etc. - We have  
an with just one course - Precession the  
Americano only on Monday afternoons and  
they all come and I have had most of them to  
dinner, the majority being most affectionate  
as I say, over sheltering me with flowers, and other  
and knowing as many Americans as Fred and  
I do we have to do more entertaining than is  
usual; last week two days, two gentlemen  
came in, one with letter from Matt, a brother  
in law of Minnie's, the other with letter from



3<sup>rd</sup>

Mrs Herman in Morristown, N.J.  
had to have them both at dinner  
of course, and they were seemingly  
delighted, said they could never  
forget our kindred etc. - And  
was often used to me in some  
way, how different Mrs. Form  
Mrs. Lewis in Paris, who did so  
little for America etc. and was  
so close with them. Of course  
people are changeable and  
speak differently at different  
times, but on the whole it is better for  
us to go on doing the little we  
have done, which is all we

can do, for Americans. They do  
not come in great numbers & Maria  
Mrs. Steeking is somewhat bitter  
and a little common, could  
keep putting in a little bit of  
silly, even with compliments, I  
have always known that she  
has had a very hard life and  
how being a poor widow, can't  
get on with her <sup>step-</sup>mother-in-law  
(which is the reason she is not  
at home) - Miss Baldorn, on  
the contrary (those relations  
or Mother is a member of the  
"Fortnightly" and has such an ar-  
dent admiration for ~~her~~) is a

really most interesting, agreeable, amiable person  
Says nice things about everyone, and I have  
heard very much she has said of me. There must  
always be the mean ones - I have not been suc-  
cessful at all, as far as the Americans go, but find  
it very hard to keep under my control, the mass of Eng-  
lish people here, under their leader the writer, <sup>Christy</sup> Richard  
Richards who make a dash at the American Minister,  
as their own Embassy is not open to them, the  
Ambassador feeling that she is too grand in  
representing her Queen at this Court & receive  
trades people (they are most of them electric light-  
gas, or other business). I am willing to know  
some the Gimley Richards, but all their friends,  
not - It is very trying and then they have had  
bitten up in their only other English paper here, dis-  
graceful campaigns, between my performance  
of my duties towards my country and the way the  
English Ambassador acts, all of which is sent  
to everyone and is very disagreeable to me. There  
must always have certain forces over the

9th-

American Ministers abroad  
because, they are simply appointed  
according to him of the Presi-  
dent, come on different grounds,  
and can be made to appear at  
home, very unpopular at their  
post, & they have all had to humiliate  
people whom the other representa-  
tives scorn, and look down  
upon as not fit to associate  
with, as in their case diplomacy  
is a profession, and they can  
stay in place for as many  
years as they choose etc.  
Public opinion at home having

nothing to do with their German-  
ent and family rank, and  
their profession, which only some  
fearful disgrace could de-  
prive them of. The Similes-  
Richards are received at the  
"French Embassy" and perhaps  
one other, but - France being  
now a Republic, the other Nations  
look down upon her common  
way (naturally as they took Monarchy  
to continue for ever - I enclose  
for this little item, which was  
shown by one of the Ambassadors  
to our Military Attache, of  
course, in supposed praise of  
me, but I can imagine all -

Please don't lose it - as I want to keep all  
these little things - I also, Sullivan & Clippings  
from our W. Post while it seems was written to  
the New York Tribune by a very elegant young  
German, who has been here all the winter -  
studying Medicine, which country doctors

Mrs. Stocking's mean remark - I did not dream  
of his ever mentioning at all, don't think he does  
only gave vent to this one paragraph - He  
never let us know he wrote it, or had said  
anything about us in any way - He is very kind  
but elegant, also, his wife - Dr. Kagan's visiting  
was also the consequence of our leading him  
and family one Opera-box, doing what what  
we did for the Stocking women -

The Opera-box is my greatest happiness! -  
Isn't it dreadful that poor Jack Lincoln seems  
to be putting more & more distressed his mother  
much too - The deaths in Washington have  
been so frightful - The Blaines have had  
more than their share - I am not sure I told you  
what you wrote to Mrs. C. who intimated leaving

from John or how she  
looked etc., when you saw her.  
Don't write Mrs Went & visit  
any for pity sake - I will  
make me seem so mean -

Mrs G's letters to me are  
frequent, long, and most  
agreeable - I am really  
rejoicing over her happiness  
and contentment here as the  
rose Ides of the Etiquette  
here and the life, the more  
certain I am she would  
not be happy - Besides with  
these people it would amaze  
them that she would come to a



foreign land to live, when  
they think Genl Grant was  
so high at home -

The Children are well, were  
exceedingly delighted with their  
Valentines - They had totally  
forgotten the day.

No more and have more  
hope for the future. I will  
not send them kindly long  
letters any more - They  
are disgraceful.

Yr.

Saml A Grant.