

8-15-1891

Ida to Sis, [August 15? 1891]

Ida Honoré Grant

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August - prob. 1891

Dear Sir - I hope that if
the Commissioners then
you see them, do not speak
of us as doing much for
them, for you will not believe
that, as they really took care
of them and showed them
every possible attention from
the moment of their arrival
until their departure from
here. The Gov. George has
not yet acted until Parlia^{ment}

met upon the invitation
to the Exposition, but had
introduced the gentleman to
the highest Minister who was
here in the "Foreign Office",
and to the Minister of Commerce
and several others - There
were no bouquets given them,
or "Commissions" appointed
of course, to go to the Fair, in-
vite the invitation he accepted
but we showed them every
politeness in their own power.
We are very much
anxious to see the statement

not out, that the Commissioners did away
by Arguments and persuasion with the
Prejudices of the Austrians, aroused by
the Mc Kink, ~~both their arguments and the~~
(backing act of 1891)
which between you and me are almost literally
and by letter, the copy of a "message" which
Fred had written to the State Dept. He had
made it the subject of one of his "despatches"
giving the reasons of their finding fault with
the "Tariff Bill" here, that is, the Merchants, and

his ideas on the subject: - He was rather
proud of his message, and to place the case
clearly before the Commissioners and the publi-
cation of affairs as well as to amuse them
in passing the time, he gave them his disputes
to read - The ideas they advance as being
theirs, are literally his; I know, as I heard him
talk over the matter with them - Of course
it is very natural for them to set them-
selves up and tell all they accom-

plected³⁴⁵ as they were sent on
on a "mission", and must ap-
pear to have filled it finely,
which they did, I presume.

I noticed when they were here
that they were very sore and
hurt, over the talk in the press
your country, about how they
had been eating and enjoying
life over here, when they thought
they had been very hard at
work all the time, etc.
Naturally when they give their
reports, it must be to the ef-
fect that they have done

a great deal and they have not
time to mention the Ministers
who helped them out in
their efforts - However, they seemed
to have especially left out -
the mention of Fred in writing
home, when they have ex-
pressed appreciation of the
politeness and courtesy of all
the other Ministers, even of Lin-
coln, though they thought
him not at all interested
in their work - Perhaps,
it is the old story of two

Much politicians not being
valued - Perhaps, Fred was
too eager and willing to
do all in his power for
them; though they expressed
themselves as very grateful
when here - Elizabeth knew
they were charmed with their
attentions received in London,
and no baquets were given
them here, or "Commissions"
appointed, naturally, as the
Government has taken no
action as yet - But all

This is entirely "entre nous"
He has said if it the better, of
course. We want to have you
understand exactly how the
matter stands and that we
really did absolutely every
thing in our power for them.
We could not stay in town,
all of August waiting for them,
and if we had there was
no one there, to visit & dine
with them, so we had them
out of Pöslau and entertain-
ed them our best. Fred
has taken the greatest interest

9th

in the Exposition Affairs and
has made several visits to the
Foreign Office especially on
that subject, and will con-
tinue to do so until Parlia-
ment acts in the matter.

He now asks me to send
for the enclosed "Clipping
from the "Vienna News" which
he thinks sounds very en-
couraging - and he thinks
it might do for the

Head of the Board Mr
Davis, and all the others
to see this - Of course, it
remains to be seen what
the Country will do. We
would not wish it in the papers
that these people are slow
to act or behind the times
or anything of that sort -
as that would hurt their
feelings and every paper
of every land is scanned
by the officials at the

Foreign Office here -
We think some action
will be taken in the
early fall, in our favor.

If Mrs Grant visits you
I do hope you will show
her every single room, every
fine picture, every piece
of tapestry and tell her
all about your things
and house. She must
stand with her back to-

The light to see it - all well, and I am so
anxious for her to realize all for
her in every way, as I take great pleasure
in that, and want her to fully realize
deeply all your magnificence how
don't be quiet and modest about it, on my
account do this - she must see everything
please her show her all - Look to all
the family Yours affectionately, Ida