

10-23-1891

## Ida Honoré Grant to Sis, October 23, [1891]

Ida Honoré Grant

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1861.

Quinn, Oct 23<sup>rd</sup>

Dear Sir,

I was quite quite delighted  
to get Jones and Mrs's letter.  
and know I have been  
very wrong in not answering  
immediately having no  
good excuse as my occupations  
have been really frivolous  
ones — but still I have been  
very busy — Many Quakers  
have been flying through here,  
and we have not only to do

What we caught them but do  
in a hurry, and during the  
last week our Minister to  
Greece, London Sweden (an  
old friend of Fred's) telegraphed  
that he was coming through  
and of course Fred had to wait  
him at the depot and bring  
him to our house, where he  
spent several days, and also  
of course as he was a Minister  
we had to give him a dinner -  
then all the others have been  
old friends of Fred's - for instance  
a Captain Budd a truly great

interesting, Cultivated man, With his wife her  
sister and Mother, were all here last week - He had  
never seen Fred but Miss Mough they belonged to  
the same regiment so he called him Fred all  
the time and talked about their own conjuncting  
etc. They were very nice people though, he rather  
superior to other Army Officers, than we have  
had the Apples of Washington whom we knew  
years ago - he ~~was~~ old <sup>beard</sup> lean then, He a high  
young lady, very pleasant, - then last but not  
least, the Charles Dudley Warner, wife and her  
friend, who came to see us before Dr knew  
of their being in the city - She is really very  
entertaining, we had him to dinner with one  
Minilla to Grace - They enjoyed each other -  
Like the rest of the West C. D. Warner quite  
rapt over you, told me all about how truly  
wonderful you were in every way, and as  
knowledge that he had the greatest curiosity  
to see the sides of such a woman etc.



5<sup>th</sup>-

Mrs Warner looked at me very critically several times, when I was talking and said abruptly "You do resemble somewhat your very brother" etc. - which all keeps me in rather a state of suspense, or feeling that I am being watched here, weighed in the scales of your measure, whenever I am with them. Though that is all agreeable too. They are still here, the Harpers, and so is our Consul General to Paris Mr King with his wife

and two daughters - Frank has  
just confided to me the fact,  
that two more gentlemen from  
America are calling upon his  
Excellency down stairs and I  
am anticipating a hurried  
note from Fred every moment  
telling me that two old and  
intimate friends of his are  
here whom we must ask to  
dine or lunch - You may  
see that there is no probability  
of our feeling estranged from  
our countrymen if they continue

to travel like this as we agree that we see more  
people from every part of the N. here than we did  
in New York. You know better than I how  
much of one's time all this visiting and visiting  
of notes takes up especially when it must be  
done in a hurry - though I do not feel at all  
that such fussing is an excuse for my visiting  
less of late, as your intellectual employment  
really is - In fact how you accomplish all that  
on every side is wonderful and now I think  
that you have undertaken the voluntariness of  
Mrs Grant and looking after her for several days  
with all your other duties which is really every  
kind of you and which Fred and I appreciate  
so much. I hope you will write me a nice long  
detailed letter about it all, how she was looking  
and talked, etc? - Did she speak of coming  
around and when - she is in a much better frame  
of mind with Emma's back of late as she  
has been at their country place and they took  
such care of her - I think "Lester Auntie" is for  
a few moments cast into the shade, though all

9<sup>th</sup>

our letters from Mrs G. earlier in  
the summer were about her son  
Lordy "Cecilia Annie" and how ~~much~~  
~~everyone~~ thought of her, at Santa Fe  
etc. Now it is more about her  
own children, as she was ill and  
has been more with them - I  
am so charmed to think that  
Mr Grant saw all your magni-  
ficent things - I hope you made  
her sit in the right light, and see  
the pictures and long rooms, as  
I was so anxious about that -  
do write me about it. be sure  
communicate about the

little things - Not assuming  
in direction to try to put Mrs G  
out of the whole affair, what in  
the world can be the matter I  
suppose Genl G won't have  
sighted him some time or  
some thing happened though  
He does not know what it  
can be - We shall want  
to hear all about the whole  
bit, etc, etc - I think Mrs G  
is very proud of all the im-  
provements in the County some  
which Fannie's money has  
accomplished - I was so interested  
in the action you took at the

Meeting of the <sup>18<sup>th</sup></sup> Board in Sept.  
Which meeting I read of with  
most intense interest and  
triumph. How much pride all  
your family and friends there  
must have felt in you ac-  
complishing so much and  
in the stigmatization of Phoebe  
simply by your talent and dignity.  
It was quite delightful, and I  
trust she is now forever quiet  
down — That is terrible  
work to others is simple play  
for you though I was very

Good to know that you took  
the trip to the mountains as  
I am really beginning to long  
over you, for though your mental  
strength is so great and your  
will can accomplish what  
would turn some or some  
other insignificant mortal's  
idle dream that your body  
may not be able to keep up  
with it, and you will overtake

Your strength in all you are  
doing - I hear by the way  
that the Crucifixion Millennium

is back in Vienna just now, holding a  
Meeting over her "Musical Exposition" &  
have said nothing more about writing to  
her. - You must let me hear more about  
that. - I do not know whether or not I dare  
do to let her know that you saw that letter  
she wrote to the French, promising to do all  
she could for the World's Fair here. <sup>if it is further interest</sup> <sup>of the fair</sup> - You must  
write me all about this and how she  
heard. Write to ask 'H. E. Barner &  
Langens' some questions to the World's  
Exposition. - The invitation is now before the  
Committee here, which is in session, & I tell you,  
and we will soon hear, when it is decided,  
whether they will accept of the invitation to  
the World's Fair. We hope to write you something  
soon. - Fred is just now very much interested in  
the progress he is making towards getting  
in the "Park". - The last two interviews with  
Valensky have been most satisfactory, though



of 15<sup>th</sup>  
You know that there are really  
two Gov. Gov. work on here about  
all these things and sometimes  
the very thing that sends Austin  
is most displeasing & Anger  
to be had to have patience  
He is working the North question  
I think with great success -  
Which will be nice for him, as  
this dual government is so  
slow and hard to move -  
Can we do hope now for the action  
promptly of the Parliaments about  
the Fair - I have been doing

My little shopping as yet - but -  
have had Julia fixed up for  
the winter - Had a beautiful  
cloak made for her at New  
Haven with the beautiful  
Astorhan running out of  
money you gave and I have  
had two nice little dresses made  
for her by a good dress maker -  
I am thinking of going to  
Lyons for a new winter  
suit for myself at Ducllo as  
I have worn my Green Trimmer  
both my sea other two winter  
seasons - It is very handsome

Isn't then the circle, as very small and one sees  
exactly the same people ~~every time one goes out~~ <sup>not as in New York</sup> that one sees different  
people every time - I have not even looked  
over my evening dresses yet but - I have had  
Lady Paget's 'Crazy' woman fix the long red  
velvet (you remember the one you had trimmed  
with white brocade front for me) It is really very  
stylish and she also fixed over my Salmon Colored  
Brocade the one I wore in Chicago with not the same  
color) and has also, made me a stylish Cape out  
of the dark blue poplin (silk) to match the skirt -  
You left me - This made a lovely suit for  
just now - Her specialty is making evening dresses  
in that Empire style, very plain skirts with  
flounces at the bottom and pretty shapiraish -  
She is not a seamstress at all but makes very  
very stylish, but all the time is very crazy with  
Creatures gives you all sorts of prices, sends  
on the bill twice as high as the seamstress  
very time, and puts in poorer materials than

19<sup>th</sup>  
She promises to, notwithstanding  
ing all this however she is  
so exceedingly stylish that I  
cant stay away from her. She  
makes the skirts and waists so  
beautifully and would make  
her a fetching little Toilet for a  
young lady out of any old  
thing — Her price for a  
new out dress is supposed  
to be 80 fls, but she is so  
cheatly that she must make  
down what she says — I am de-  
lighted with her though she  
is beyond all doubt a little crazy  
In some ways she is less stuffy

More graceful than Breco  
But for Cloth suits he is the  
best - Lady P. pt. her gowns  
in Paris and has little money  
for all the rest - I really have  
needed with all my Company  
what I have <sup>half</sup> her fix over already -

If I should get a new fine  
evening dress I do not know  
but that I would consider her  
though she does not have the  
same materials and Embroiders,  
that Breco has - I saw a most  
lovely delicate dress at Breco's  
which I was almost tempted to  
send to you - delicate Cloth -

214  
pale brownish yellow, exactly the  
shade of the fur which was  
put around the bottom in a  
band a quarter of an inch wide  
up from which, branched off  
of embroidery in darker  
brown like my yellow —  
Then was a mantle also em-  
broided with all of each side  
from neck down, of the pale  
yellow fur — It is quite roman-  
tically lovely, but I don't know  
exactly for what occasions!  
it never could be used here —  
but perhaps at home for afternoon

teas - I am looking forward  
with delightful anticipation to the  
opening of the box which you  
have been so kind as to send  
and for which we are most  
grateful - I have not bought  
a thing for our boys as he will  
be so charmed with anything  
Mum has had - Just think of  
those two great big Jimmy fullerton  
kings off at school - and that  
lock is now a longer - It is  
all too wonderful - So  
Mum sometimes and give this  
parcel to Ma if you think it  
is worth while - My letters must  
tell my dear to all for many  
people there - I'll write to Ma in