

11-2-1891

## Ida H. Grant to Ma, November 2, [1891]

Ida Honoré Grant

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November 2<sup>nd</sup>  
1891(?)

Dear Ma

I have a great deal to thank  
you — always for, but now I  
am especially grateful for  
the very nice box of real  
comforts, and what is to me  
magnificent, and the  
new things which you  
have sent for me, and  
which came all safely and  
I am delighted to have  
assure you — Every thing

that I needed was there,  
and it is such a real com-  
fort and happiness to find  
our relations always really  
thinking of you and as we  
are all so close - I could  
not get on without the things

you sent, and am so much  
obliged indeed. - And then  
our young man is so finely  
fired out with cloth, so  
much since I am his man-  
ager buys for him, that his

head is really turned, he is as pleased as  
I am, with the rich little warm suits, satin  
lined overcoats, etc. better than anything  
he ever had before, and some of which he  
immediately got into - really needing them  
as I got nothing at all for him the fall. <sup>the</sup> prospect  
of this day from his, and now I  
think Myrce is fixed out for the rest of  
his life, from the way things look now.  
all being much dearer to him, because of  
having been worn or looked upon by the  
dear <sup>(min)</sup> Min. You don't realize how nice these  
fine things look to us, and, then, to the  
very beautiful brocaded material, and the  
soft salmon stuff, which will come in,  
most conveniently for the house and our  
elves. Julia says she thinks it too bad  
that Honore won't a girl as she could be



inheriting as fine things  
as her brother - It is rather  
hard on her that she is  
taller her arms longer, and  
she larger, in every way than  
I, so anything I have worn,  
has to be made all over  
to go for her. However in  
this making over, I and  
shall save all the extra  
things I can on to give out  
try to have so much made up  
as possible, for her before we

8<sup>th</sup>  
We must learn here, as there are  
one or two very stylish women  
who do that thing well here &  
Charge about half what one  
has to give at home. As soon  
as Julia is not old enough to  
go into Society, in another  
year she will have grown  
all that she is going to grow,  
and I'll have what is in  
hand, fixed for her before  
leaving here. I rather  
unprudently was led on, by  
the talking of our ministers

Wife from Turkey, & order last Spring,  
some handsome embroidered from  
there two crêpes, white, one worked in silk,  
the other, in pale colored flowers, (last for  
Julia) and a black but embroidered in  
colors, all of which are just now being re-  
ceived at the "Custom House," and I am  
sorry to say as they are directed to me not to  
the Minister, I fear I must pay duty on  
them — These will be very pretty all, and more  
for Julia than myself, as one can't find just  
such work at home — The prices were  
higher than I supposed they would be,  
from what Mrs Persch told me, but that  
is always the case, and the best embroidered  
stuffs are always pretty especially for a  
young girl — Julia is well fixed off for  
this year, has some new Cloak Trimmings

9<sup>th</sup>  
But Astorhan and three  
New Muscovy all she needs.  
As I keep her entirely engaged  
with her studies now and she  
is putting in good work  
not only in the Semitic  
languages but is becoming  
really most accomplished in  
German French and Italian.  
In those she will be strong,  
for the drawing it is a  
 pity her Papa cannot have  
another lesson here, where  
she can, at Leipzig find

better matters in the painting  
than one pays for over  
at home. In fact the Com  
not I, leave me there at  
all - That I am rapidly find  
ing out, and feel very much  
as well as the real question  
I know her brother could  
do no preparation for West  
Point where he hopes to go, &  
"It is", later on - For him as  
well as her, another four  
years here, would be very  
thing as Fred's position offi-  
cially enables him <sup>to</sup> <sup>to</sup>

enter the great Government School &  
What foreigners are not usually admitted  
and where he learns the particular branches  
necessary for that point especially Mathematics  
Drawing etc. - It seems too bad to back  
them up next year but office-holders are  
at heart - nevertheless not enough, -  
and certainly for the present, we do ~~certainly~~  
enjoy what we have very much. I count  
every day as precious now and try to put in  
all that will be useful for us all, hereafter  
because if we must leave next year we  
will not be able to keep up our establishment  
until the last - If we have no illness this  
winter, we must try to make it a round,  
full, useful one, in every way. It is rather  
good for our party that just now the Kinley has  
been in Ohio, so his election was a party -

13<sup>th</sup>

Measures, entirely - I have  
so enjoyed of late all the  
Newspaper articles about the  
has occurred here in Chicago.  
The working of the great  
Government how well it  
has all managed, how kind  
and nice for all men that  
Grant (who is most appreciative  
and trusted by the Union)  
he having written so all about  
it) and then all that has is

doing which seems really  
so wonderful that I have  
feared her health will give  
away, although her mind  
does seem so capable of  
all that thinking, feel-  
ing, and managing.

But I was struck with her  
good, healthy condition,  
when I saw her here, and  
as all that thinking is easy  
to her of course, it will not  
tire her or wear her out.



as it would a more dull or less brilliant  
person - I do hope the boys will continue  
to send me all that is written in this  
connection, and about every thing that  
goes on there, which in the least concerns  
our family - The letters are now, always  
severed and farther apart and I quite  
long for a few lines, sometimes - I hope Mrs  
and Lockwood do realize how I appreciate  
the letters I have had from them. - I know  
it is most selfish and unreasonable of me  
to expect her to write now, often, in the midst  
of all she has on hand to accomplish -  
It was especially pleasant to see how Mr  
Palmer appreciates her talent and ability so  
it is indeed marvellous to us all that  
such great executive talent has been  
by my hidden way <sup>it</sup> as there - his will

17<sup>th</sup>  
Have to keep on with some  
great work, even after the  
Exposition is all over.

We have now here a very  
interesting Cultivated man,  
Mr. Lee who seems to be  
really working in the interest  
of the "Exposition", not father-  
tising perhaps, so much as  
those others who were here  
last summer. He is to  
dine with us tomorrow  
evening, when we shall

also, have with us Charles  
Audley Warner and wife  
with a talented young  
friend of theirs - We  
have been doing our usual  
amount of entertaining  
since our return to the city  
and especially, of receiving  
Americans who are always  
passing through. We often  
say we meet more of our  
countrymen, from every  
part of the United States, here

in Vienna than we did in England.  
And they deem my Optimistic theory  
little attractive for business as entirely  
overdone. Having seen more of the  
State of our little West of the world,  
they agree with you in thinking we a  
great overdone little West of the world  
the business the business the business  
the business the business the business  
the business the business the business

for some Acknowledgment in the States -  
We have quite forgotten them, as they are not  
only unimportant and latent defects, but  
unperceived and most ignominious.

Dear Mr. Fish, I have not yet  
sent you my 1st No. of the  
new edition of the  
New York City, as I have not  
yet received it.

2/24

to lead me in to asking them  
We enjoy our position and  
home here more and more,  
even the moderation and  
receptiveness of society being  
pleasant to me. I am sorry  
that we do better in every  
way here than in paying  
some four salary but  
I have given in that better  
management under the  
circumstances for an  
American Drivels is im-  
possible and that the Govern-

most grieve this balance because  
it is needed - No one could  
have made me believe that  
we should, (after being always  
limited in our means) spend  
all that we do but it is a  
fact of which I am ashamed.

Just days before we must  
draw in the last year to fresh  
and get home - As with the  
coming and bringing things  
over and then the return  
4 years does not seem <sup>long</sup> so  
I am for another year, but

With our right - to expect it. I am sure  
you will congratulate us when you know.  
But the building where our things were  
stored in "Normanton" (silver pictures, carpets,  
furniture & all were there) has been burned  
down and everything in it lost; since  
our coming, so we must have  
had no small <sup>loss of</sup> <sup>your furniture</sup> <sup>left if we had not</sup>  
brought all to Keina, where we have  
had great satisfaction in the use of all.  
I should like so much to see your new  
house, which must be from all accounts  
very handsome and I am, truly interested  
in hearing of the building you have been  
doing & such must have been a great  
undertaking but will be most satisfac-  
tory in the end of course. It is so nice  
to think of Aunt Larra having the house  
also, on Michigan Ave. and a beautiful



horse and carriage.

You have had the Soft  
Coza's Must - Take care this  
Winter as it is creeping in  
in Europe, here, again,  
existing already to a bad  
degree in some places -

Of course, it was worse in  
London and Paris than  
anywhere except Lima,  
as those were very large  
places, but it seems that  
wages were in America

even - I wonder what  
he and the boys think of  
Blaine now? Suppose no  
one will know until the  
springtime how affairs  
will turn out and who will  
be nominated for the  
Democrats I suppose there  
is not stronger than Cleve-  
land in New York. We  
shall be reading the papers  
later on, with great interest  
Bro Russell Garrison and Mrs  
the Lee Lane both written to us,

Since reaching home - We thought them  
very pleasant. We are sorry to have accounts  
from Genl. Inreue of the death of his wife -  
I suppose he did not know her -

I shall be always watching anxiously for  
letters and even papers which <sup>will</sup> tell me  
what you are all doing about at home and  
what you are doing there - The only little  
English newspaper that was edited here, is  
now stopped at the Editor, Drimley Richards,  
is leaving Keima so our news must come  
from England or the other side - Hence  
tell us I am delighted with the Calico Laryngis and  
have selfishly appropriated them to my own  
room which has always been most uninteresting  
heretofore - We have had snow already  
here and all are wearing winter  
clothing - We have infinite comfort here  
and everyone does, in the beautiful sick

Wrote you made not only  
the embroidered Crazy  
quilt but the "boy" one in  
Latin's Chick I make a great  
show of antiques, of the  
delicious Composites Aunt  
Laura sent me - We have  
the Datofaster in done on  
every bed, and they do  
so fine and some like  
over here - We have all been  
remarking them especially  
of late, since the Cock  
beaters have brought them  
out. I wish you and Aunt

Lama could manage  
occasionally find a  
moment for writing to  
me - I suppose you know  
you wrote me one letter  
last year - till I ought  
not to trouble as you do  
so much in every way  
for all I see, you ought  
to be allowed to rest from  
the writing, though I think  
you have one out more  
than you ever do the others.  
Who are away from you - the  
all joining in love for all

P.S.

My letter as usual too  
the fault of being long -  
drawn out with nothing  
of interest in it. I must  
now add a line to tell  
you that I have not the  
least idea of the numbers  
of your house. Please  
tell it to me? I am  
kindly awaiting this  
hearing it will not hurt  
you - Please all my love  
and you in most love for  
all at home. Mrs. W. H. -