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Frederick D. Grant to Mrs. Honoré, March 6, 1893

Frederick Dent Grant

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LEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES,
VIENNA.

March 6th / 93

Presented by
Mrs. Honore

My dear Mrs. Honore:

I have been wanting
to write to you ever since
Christmas, but various
things have interfered,
I thank you for your
nice presents to us all!
Now, though I am late,
I can tell you how
Ida and Julia have
turned out, in their
gifts and grandeur,
making a sensation
in the highest society
of Vienna, and making
us very proud. I am
sure you would feel
vain over them, if you

P.S. Tell Mr. Honore not to
people do not know their
or better because the American
tell him I wrap
with him -
Yours
G.D. 4-2

could have seen them in the beautiful Toilettes which you have given them! Julia is almost as much of a success, as Ida was and is now. Last night, we were at a "soiree" and what do you think I saw, when I looked into the "Boudoir Zimmer"? (Tell Andy not to say, Ford is bragging), my own young daughter, your grand-child, entertaining 9 of the young gentlemen of the 12 who were in the room! In other words, I may as well confide to you that our American girl is a great success among the foreign ones; just as her mama is a shining light

among the married ladies
there.

I suppose that I might
now say, something about
myself, well, I am getting
"fat"! and why? Because,
Ida is so popular, that
she is asked to preside
as hostess, by every
bachelor and widower
who gives a dinner in
society (I think many of
those who are not bachelors
or widowers would like to
have her preside) asks
her to please ^{preside} bring her
husband. I might further
say, about myself, that
owing to the very fine
and beautiful dresses
worn by Mrs Grant and
daughter, the United
States Minister in Vienna,
has the reputation of
being "possessed of great
wealth," and to my sorrow,

has a fearful number
of applications for Charity!
So continue about myself
last night, I heard an
old Prince, ask some
one, if Ida & Julia were
not sisters? I want
to thank you not only
for the Christmas presents
but also, for the portraits
of the family, which are
excellent. Speaking
seriously, Ida, I can
assure you receives more
attention than any
lady in Society here,
including Duchesses, Princesses,
Countesses and all; and
she and I have both been
very proud of Julia who
is greatly admired and is
worthy of her grandmother.
We are very sad at the
prospect of breaking
up our comfortable
home and returning from
our "Exile", next month! I
have sent my resignation
to your Democratic Prince.

and I expect to read any day now, in the paper, that my successor has been named! The comfort we find in giving up all that we have enjoyed here, is, that we will see you all at home! I hope now, that Aunt Laura's party is victorious, she will be magnanimous and forgive Lyceus for bringing a boy — and a swart one, but that? He is growing enormously, and we don't know how, or when, he will end, he studies splendidly and has become one of the best scholars in his school! Julia keeps up her studies, and has a great talent for painting portraits! We are delighted to read about Mrs Palmer's wonderful success, and

Affectionately, Melvin D. Grant

The praise and admiration she receives; she is quite worthy of being Ida's sister, and I am very proud of her. - The whole world is saying nice things about her as you will see from the enclosed clipping. Now that I am retiring, I think one of your own sons should go in for "spoils", and if he ever got the appointment to Austria, we shall sometime it besides visiting him, perhaps. I hope that you are all very well, and that Harry has quite recovered from his illness. We are delighted with his wife's picture. Please tell Mrs Palmer that I shall write to her soon to thank her for her lovely Christmas gift, in the meantime, we all join in love to you all, at home, yours