

3-29-1893

Letter from Isabella B. Hooker, Hartford, to Anne Whitney, 1893 March 29

Isabella B. Hooker

Wellesley College Archives

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Relating to Mrs. Stewie's bust.

Hartford Mich 29

1893

Dear sweet Sister

You are in

speed! - Of course the hve
photo. is the thing, & I have
found too of them, with
the dear sisters autographs
which I was purposing to
take to Chicago to give to
strangers & friends there -

But how much better to
give them to the good women
here at home who have made
it possible to have this pre-
cious bust in season for
the great Exposition.

You perceive the photos, are a gift not a sale.

You perceive the photos, are a gift not a sale.

Evidently you do not quite
comprehend the situation -
our State appropriation was
so delayed that we saw (Mrs
Smith & myself) that no help
could be had unless raised at
once - & there was no way
either - or no better way of
getting up an interest in the
Woman's Building than going
straight to the women of every
town & asking their help -
to in commemoration not only
Mrs Stone but the woman
artist who was her peer
in every respect. In this
aspect you will perceive that
the trust is a perfect success
& if you add that in profile

it is "a perfect likeness of my mother in her prime" -
what can you ask more? But you did ask
more when you said to me "there are defects in ex-
ecution which I could remedy I think - there was
some haste & the work is not entirely satisfactory
to me - if you choose to make me an offer of \$300
I will make another bust" &c &c. I grabbed
this offer (after consulting my husband) - why? Not
because I was not satisfied with this bust - but
because we could thus secure an original marble
from Anne Whitney for \$300. instead of \$1,000. Now
do you perceive? Of course we want you to take
your own time to make a bust to suit yourself -
I if you ^{should} prefer the new one to be the public's

one I assumed you it should be so - all I want is the
work of your hands & heart as an inheritance for
our children after we have enjoyed it to the end of
our lives. I trust you will not disappoint us.

I want now a dozen of No. 4 - if that is the
one the daughters liked - (I forget the numbers) -
& one a doz. of the best without shadows & then
if you will send me the bill we will dismiss
this troublesome business & begin to mail the hire
photos. To the good women who will be de-
lighted to get likenesses & autographs all in one.

I note what you say of Miss Mannings owner-
ship & preferences - I shall abide her wishes. I will
in haste but am always with much love faithfully
Leahela B. Hooker