

1-1-1893

## Letter from Isabella B. Hooker, to Anne Whitney, 1893

Isabella B. Hooker

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Sunday evening. [1893]

Dear Friend. Take your time  
about the photos. - Let us have  
several kinds printed. Perhaps  
they had better <sup>all</sup> be printed in Boston  
if no Hastings would be the one to  
do it, since he prints <sup>for me</sup> at twenty  
cents apiece by the hundred. The  
enclosed photos of my sister. Please  
give this one to Miss Manning  
if she would like the autograph.

And now as to the likeness in  
front I can't understand it. I don't  
mentioned it because you wished  
to know <sup>exactly</sup> what the daughters said.

But my own impression is similar.  
The profile is perfect in feature &  
expression - especially the right side  
of the face. It struck Eliza so in  
the clay & in the marble - "this is  
my mother in her prime". And there  
is a sweetness in the lips that you  
get from no other point of view.  
The front view the likeness disappears -  
but I thought perhaps this was



because the eyes were never satisfie  
by to me in marble - so I said  
nothing until Hattie Stone made the  
remarks to me <sup>about the photo.</sup> - but we both agreed  
that it was a noble head & face &  
she wanted the photo. of it.

I am the more willing to speak  
of this now that you are proposing  
another marble - because you may  
see some way of improvement - but  
I would not have this one touched  
on any account. I should be afraid  
of losing that strong sweet charac-  
teristic face we love so much -  
& that we can always have by  
setting it up at the right angle.  
And this is life is it not? The  
point of view is everything.

Now I have a favor to  
ask. I have had the Manning  
head copied as an experiment - & it  
is so good & lovely I want to have  
your permission to keep the plate  
I have copies to give to friends from  
time to time as they may desire.  
Everyone wants mine that has seen  
it - so I hope you won't object.

Mrs Sage wished you to  
keep the marble till they  
are ready for it at Chicago  
then she will send me full  
directions - labels &c - wh.  
I am to forward to you.

The time approaches & yet  
I have had no intimation that  
the Board of Lady Managers  
are to be called together. So I  
have decided to join the first  
Raymond trip, which leaves  
Boston Friday the 28 April  
& takes care of us for ten days  
en route & in the new Raymond  
Hotel which I find is very near  
The Woman's Building. I am  
determined to be there at the  
opening unofficially at least -  
& to see Matings in their



Freshness - & My dear husband  
has reluctantly consented to  
be there with me instead of  
waiting for his regular vacation.

We are both rather tired of the  
whole thing - but feel that it is  
an opportunity for culture we  
should be sorry to have neglected.

Faithfully yrs.

Isabella B. Horner