

Phil^a Oct. 17/43

Dear Friend:

I have seen your letter to Mrs Nutt, dated Oct. 11th, & as it in part concerns me, I wish to say a few words in reply.

I am surprised that the Ex. Com^{ee} at New York have not issued their call long since for the Dec^r meeting. About an month ago, Jas Ribbons wrote me saying - "Please say whether it will accord with your notions of propriety for the Ex. Com^{ee} to issue the call for the Dec^r meeting in Phil^a. It is about time. The meeting will be important - we in N York think, most important, & we are disposed to make vigorous efforts. Let us hear in time for next No. of the Standard." - To this I replied at once that we were all ready - except that no house had been procured - but that they might go on & publish their call & we wd in the mean time secure a building. - We have been looking every week for the call since then, but rec^d:

I want to put it in your or promoter's hands as the same time I don't want to be obliged to address a public meeting by means of this picture to my very dear welcome. Perhaps however a further inquiry & if you object to this hire - I can't but in something wrong. - I shall hope to hear from you very soon. M. M. O'Brien

or a word have we heard on the subject till
the arrival of your letter. We have procured
a house for the meeting & are all ready
for the announcement.

You seem to think - from the language of your
letter - that the call ought to come from
Phil^a. are you not mistaken in this impres-
sion? It seems to me, ^{& to us all - I believe} that the announcement
- or call, should first come from the Com^{ee}
of the National Society; then, let us go on to
publish & advertise & take all measures
necessary to bring out a large gathering.
This certainly would be the most natural
course. I hope therefore that you will see that
without further delay, the proclamation
be issued.

Ely. Seal is mistaken, I think, in saying
that there wd "certainly be a mob". It is not
all improbable I think, but we are rather
inclined to the belief that we shall be allowed
to hold our meeting without much inter-
ruption. Whether or not, an apprehension of
the kind should not be publicly expressed; such
expressions sometimes, begets the thing feared.
- Our minds however were made up from

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the first to hold the meeting - mob or no
mob. I don't agree with you ~~however~~ in the
opinion that a "mob" ^{violence} would do good. It might
in some places; but not now in Phil^a. We
are mob-ridden in Phil^a; & have been ever since
the burning of Pa. Hall. The mobocrats had a
fair triumph on that occasion. There never was
a reaction - to any extent - in the public feel-
ing ~~after that~~. They were ^{shamefully} fairly defeated & have
never since fairly recovered. The public reaction
did not come till the mob had acquired such
an ascendancy ~~that they could not be held in check~~
as to hold the people in terror when they were
aroused to the importance of
~~disposed to~~ arresting them. The abolitionists
here, ~~do~~ do not fear the mob, but ^{they} antic-
ipate no good from an outbreak.

I think ^{however} - apart from this question - that
your proposition to hold a business meeting
of the Society - a day or two before the regular
sterilization meetings, is a good one. I am glad
to hear you talk of a business meeting. I had
a mind a month ago or more to write to
you to ~~know~~ ask you whether something was not
going to be done to remedy the failure of the
measures agreed upon last Spring. How long
is the Am. Socy to continue under its present

upside? If longer than this fall, I for one wd like to know it. The interests & objects like that of the Am. A.S. should never be identified with the interests of a single family; even if the principles & character of that family should be too to be excepted. It is no particular advantage, I assure you to the Am. Socy in Penn^a, to have the reputation of being under the control of the Hopper family. — — — — — From what you say about

Miller McKim
Decades Mut
- Ret 1843

1843

1843

Maria W. Chapman

Boston

Mass.

Is that price fair for? In fixing upon a price I must take into an attention 1st the cost: & 2nd the fact that some subscribers

a business meeting I infer that something is conceivable had bearing upon this matter. If so, & if it concerns us to know, we would like to hear from you what you are intending.

You say you have written to Mr. McKim about that mezzotint of L. Lott. I have never received the letter. I can't say ^{now} exactly what 500 copies of the picture could be put to use at, probably, however, at ^{12.50} per hundred.