

Washington Aug 3. 1866

To Ladies of Treasurers Department

Last evening I found on my table an elegant gold headed cane, accompanied by a letter signed "Ladies of Treasurers Department", informing me that it was a "token of their gratitude on account of my efforts to raise this Saloon". This mode of presentation, was adopted I presume, because having undoubtedly heard of the movement I desired that it should be omitted. As I can not now decline this beautiful present without the fear of giving offence, I desire to express my gratitude for the kindness which it be a token. In explanation of my intention above referred to, I desire to say, that I can not approve of the practice of making presents to men in public stations, who have the power of carrying favors and the

donors. When made by the employees of the Government there is not much danger that the amounts would influence the action of the reports, except as creating kind feelings.

My chief objection is that it will create rivalry in the different departments, unless the value and frequency of the presents will be made burdensome. Whether the value be great or small it is a decided pain to herold coming and frequent savings of the individual classes. Their generosity, sometimes however unbecoming, often impels them to give. Hence they can ill spare.

In desiring to raise the pay of the lower class clerks and employees I did not deem that justice I know there are at present enormous rates of rent & living in Washington, those especially who have families could not live there if

on this present voyage. I am wond  
that other thought that the  
higher Salons should be vain  
While the smaller ones were am-  
ple. I was not able to under-  
stand my talk with these than  
doctors a good should look good  
While those of twelve hundred  
and less with as many children  
should have ample to support  
himself and family. It is true  
many of the lower class <sup>the former</sup>  
there by necessity I kept there  
by favour to others, have  
as much company, and more  
industry, than some of the  
4<sup>th</sup> class; ~~and~~ these many ladies  
do as much work as any  
of the males.

I know not whether  
this will reach the Ladies who have  
the honour of me as their  
modesty prevents their alluding

Ladies, <sup>their names to the Ladies</sup> ~~of the~~ <sup>of the</sup> ~~of the~~  
Ladies, <sup>of the</sup> ~~of the~~ <sup>of the</sup> ~~of the~~

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