

Spring field
Nov. 26-1856-

My dear Mr. Deane,

I return Mr. Morong's letter
with thanks. He will never hear of
his little journey from me.

I didn't tell him how much
money there was in the treasury of
the Nat. Mor. Society, nor anything
about the society itself - that there
^{no business in it}
are no meetings held, no work done,
and that the association exists only
in name, & when ~~their~~ money is gone
it will peacefully expire and never
come to life again. He naturally thinks
there is some vitality there - enough
to co-operate with him if he wanted
any help, - enough to raise whatever
money was needed. I queried with my-
self whether I should tell him all
this or get his ~~poor~~ estimate of

the probable expense first, and I
decided on the latter - You will
remember probably my mentioning to
you that \$2000 was the money
at my disposal, and when Mr. Morong
talked of two visits there, I fear the
sum would be quite insufficient.

Now I am drawn back by any
means, ^{I shall wait to get the estimate; then} if the cost is to be much
greater than I supposed, I shall
frankly tell him so. If it is to be
much greater, - if only a little
greater, I think ways & means
will be devised.

I think I had better not ask
where more the Nantucketers will offer
till I hear from Mr. Morong. I want
to put something definite before them,
but I shall do it with a good deal
of confidence that they will rise to the
occasion. Yours very truly
M. L. Owen -

P.S. Mr. Dame got into the bad
way of directing his letters to me
"Mrs. Maria E. Owens" - he knew
better or might if he had paid any
attention to my signature. After
correcting him gently, and finding
it did no good I wrote that if
he did it again, he would have
to ask for letters for L. E. Dames.
That kept him straight a good
while, but by & by the "E" bobbed
up serenely again, and I was
promptly as good as my word -
I shall be indulgent to Mr. Morong
a little while - a very little
while - for don't I write dis-
tinctly - Look.

Maria L. Owen -



Owen, Maria L. 1886. "Owen, Maria Louisa Nov. 26, 1886." *Maria L. Owen letters to Walter Deane*

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