

New York Jan. 5. 1886

My dear Sir

I am in receipt of your favor of yesterday, and have sent the enclosed letter to Mr. Mitchell, to whom I mentioned your warm feelings towards him. I must tell you that he does not believe in our organization, that is, he thinks it is not likely to do any good. However that prejudice, I trust, will be overcome, when he sees some of the fruits of the ~~Association's~~ Supreme Directory's labors. Much now depends on it. But if he does not hope for much from us, his hope in the cause itself never was so strong. I hope you will see him. Indeed I think you will, for he intends to lecture in Philadelphia,

where I hope our organization will assist
in every way to give him an overflowing
house. The sooner measures are taken
with this view, the better.

As regards the other newspaper editors,
I cannot control them. My own silence
does not prevent them keeping up the
fight. Mr. Lynch is showing the
worst possible spirit; but this ~~is~~ is
only carrying out a conspiracy long since
~~formed~~ concocted. He is in league with
them to do us all the mischief he can.
Cummins, in my opinion, is manifestly
a traitor, and I think ought to be expelled
the body by the Supreme Directors.

I have had several applications for
charters; but I believe none are yet
printed. I have written to the Secretaries

to that effect.

The Massachusetts Convention was a
sorry affair. The attempt to upset what
was done by the General Convention is ridiculous,

and as for the Committees of Experience
proposed by Lyoch, they are if possible
still more absurd. The best of the joke
is that he leaves on these committees the
very ringleaders of the late disturbance.

I have felt from the beginning that much
depends on you in carrying this organization
to a successful issue. You will have

in Lumsden an energetic powerful
and upright cooperator. You may depend
on him. It is a pity he is so far away.

As for Mr Crocker, I know nothing of him,
but voted for him in preference to Cummings
who, I saw some, was a very unfit man.

Dr. H. G. of Providence writes me that

You and he & Dr. S. would meet immediately
in New York. If so, I have very things to
say to you that I do not wish to commit
to paper. I think it is important that
the Directors should meet soon.

Is there any truth in the report that John
McKeon has received orders to prosecute the
"Irish filibusters"?

I agree with you that the President's
message is most hopeful for the good
cause in which we are engaged. We soon
grant that our hope of another struggle with
England may be realized soon!

I had a letter from Harris the other
day asking me to tell him who informed
me that he was a British spy. Of course
I would not tell him. But I think my
Philadelphia correspondents are probably mistaken.
With all the good wishes & compliments of the season,
Yours faithfully,
J. W. Cleveland