



Dear Sir

15<sup>th</sup> Light Street Bldg.  
April 2<sup>nd</sup> - 1857

I received yours from Washington, yesterday excusing yourself from attendance at the contemplated meeting for the formation of an association for the Protection & Elevation of the Aborigines. I should have been happy to have received your assent. And as it is probable it will be delayed for two or three weeks to come. It may yet suite your convenience be assured Sir, there is nothing half so formidable in a New York audience as there would have been in an Oregon Legislature and has you offered to face the One you surely should not fear to front the Other.

I have been in this City since last October I had hoped to have accomplished much before now, but general ignorance of, and apathy to the condition of the Indians has caused it to be a uphill business. I have tried to keep the subject in agitation by occasional letters in the Papers, and if I could have commanded means, the whole



Subject in brief of Indian Difficulties would have  
been before the Public months ago. I have got  
a Pamphlet in prospect of being stereotyped and hope  
to have the work printed within two weeks.

Quite a number of the most influ-  
- ential Families have become deeply interested  
in behalf of the Indians and I have the  
promise and prospect of abundant help before  
long. I think of getting up a Book, between  
now and fall, for popular use in which  
some of the more prominent Characters  
who have figured on the Pacific will app-  
(I should have said a Book will be gotten up for  
another will write I only shall furnish the  
materials.) I should like if you could give  
us a few of the Incidents of your efforts to  
save the Indians from massacre, and also an  
account of the Old Chief John & Pine Mans,  
and others of Note, or any matter you  
may think of. Also any account you  
may have as to the real position of Father  
Pandozy. I suppose the Report will give  
details of the Number conditions & locations



of the various Tribes as I should also  
be obliged to you for direct information  
on these points. I thank you for the sug-  
-gestions you offer in regard to the Educa-  
-tion of the Children separate from their  
Parents. It is some what different from  
the plan I had thought of. and if there  
is no way of throwing amongst the Indians  
on their respective Reserves a good contro-  
-ling influence superior to command  
obedience and Protection both in and out  
of the Reserve I think your plan will  
be the best ~~way~~ <sup>thing</sup> that can be adopted  
perhaps both may be put in operation

It is very gratifying to be assured of the  
capacity of the Indian for development and  
of the good wishes of the best of our  
Citizens that they may be provided with  
the opportunity and means.

Mr Chamberlin wrote me from Appalachee  
was well and in good spirits. let us hear  
from you again Very respectfully yours  
John P. Mason



P.S. I hope in a few weeks we shall have an Organization and the business in some tangible form. at present it seems to rest too much upon my humble self. but I do not feel at liberty to turn from it until enough take hold to ensure success. I want My wife and son to come to the states as soon as they can sell for Cash. and raise the means as I believe I can do the most good here in getting others to work more directly in the field as well as urging on a thorough National Organization with branch associations in Every City & Town.

J.B.

1852

John Beeson

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