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21. 800. 1874
AL/3060

Dear Mr Hubbard

I have immediately given attention to the proofs you have enclosed me, & can as immediately say that I greatly admire what you have said on this urgent & difficult question! The manner in which it is said. Even my small experience on general points entirely endorses your view. As to the special anecdote upon art it is altogether wrongly told!

no blame to dear Mr Williams.

He rather tells the other way.
When engaged on "The History of
Engraving in Art" (Commenced
by Mrs Garrison) I wished to give
^{immense} the illustrations to be drawn on
the wood & cut on the wood
by women. A great ~~work~~ ^{str}
had been made about "Women's
work" & certainly no work can
be more congenial to them than
the minor forms of art - great
success about S: Remington Schools
& large sums drawn from the
Public in Bazaars &c especially

for the "Female School of Art" -
Not one pupil could I find
from any of these Institutions
in any way competent to execute
the commonest drawing - or to cut it.

I found a young lady, of
an artist family, but not
professional, to draw for me -
a French woman to cut the wood.
I had more to be done than
they w^d compass I was reduced
to employing men! No lady of
rank had any part in the
matter.

But this opens a question
which is wide & not foolish

as that of the helpless poor women
who want work & can do nothing
well. South Kensington Schools
are a fraud on the public; &
I heartily wish that truth might
be written on this chapter. They
even simulate a feeling for
art - the masters quarrel among
themselves - & neglect their pupils,
wh: is perhaps the best thing they
can do! Out of 300 "young ladies"
who have professedly to draw
there, they do not recommend
one one, the Monday, to copy a
simple chalk drawing. But
prizes ^{are given} and all the pompous

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parade of advertisement set in
motion for drawings like
better than old fashioned
worked Samplers. Do not
consider it possible to teach
beyond the right judgements
of art - but even for those I
know not how a girl shd.
acquire them at any public
Institution in London - or at
any School of Design throughout
the country. The models are
wretched - all taste & feeling
starved out. What I see here
is the experience of many.

(See that I have snatched up
a very soiled half sheet - may
excuse it).

How I echo what you say
concerning Matrons of Workhouses
&c. -! The low & pretensions
vulgarity of those I find in
domineering in such places is
always a grief to me.

But as regards art it is difficult
to know what to recommend. Young
beginners need the best, & the real
Artist can't give his time to the
dudger of teachers. Still I shall be
happy to overlook what you propose
to say. Believe me ever truly
Elizabethahe