

My dear friend Maria

Your letter was made us quite happy. We know now that we shall have you here for a time, and in order that there may be no hurry or confusion about the best, perhaps coming in May, would be better than now. You must finish Louisa's bust while she remains with us, and another already commenced, of Mrs. Douglass who will return here from Rome in about 3 weeks.

It is not likely that I shall have any other work of the kind on hand after the first week in May. But if this should make any difference, not convenient to you, then come at once. Pay for ten days at most. You shall have as much longer for my pleasure as possible.

I am glad to hear of the success of your bust already out, and that another is forth-coming. Passed in England, and your fame and fortune will be secured. Pay what we will about England. She is still in a great degree, and looking glass, we seek to be.