

Austria

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Madame Bischoff

Universitätsplatz 2

nos. 26. Aug. 69 Wien



I. N. 158, 074



Markbeath Park, Kent

Aug. 23. Wbg

Dear Madam

I have delayed very long to make my acknowledgments to you for your kind and flattering letter and for your pamphlet. I waited in hopes of being able to give the pamphlet a more thorough and careful reading than I have even yet had time for; but I will not any longer postpone thanking you for your really valuable contribution to



the "Sociali Bewegung." The
Essay bears internal evidence of
having been written, as you say it
was, before the movement for the
political emancipation of women
had seriously commenced; but it
gives sufficient indication on which
side you would be found when that
movement did commence. The women
of Europe would, I firmly believe,
be found not to have fallen (as you
think they have) behind those of
America in readiness to make



sacrifices for the public good, if law
and opinion regarded them as members
of the commonwealth, entitled to
feel its interests their own, and
responsible equally with men for doing
their duty towards it. With their
admission to the full rights of
citizenship, would necessarily come
not only the more solid intellectual
instruction which you justly claim
for them, but a vastly more enlarged
conception of moral obligations. The
fact that women's legal position prevents

public spirit and patriotism from
being reckoned among their virtues,
is a main cause of the extremely
low state of those virtues in the
sea which is at present supposed
to monopolize them. I am

Dear Madam

very sincerely and
respectfully yours

J. S. Mill