

Dear Mr. Sanderson,

I have read over very
carefully & with as little prejudice
as possible the letters you left
with me. I fear that great
difficulties will arise in carrying
out such a course in connection
with the Association - especially
as it will be really impossible
to practically give more, in
10 or 12 lectures, with a large & mixed
Audience. Do not imagine that
I do not recognize the value

of Knowledge on such an important
subject as the proper preparation of
food - but I do not think that
it is to be gained by the plan
proposed - If you look over the
"Schedule of Lessons" you will see
that in scarcely any case, could
the result be obtained in one
hour or even two - What Stuff can
be prepared in a few hours.
Of course if merely directions are
given & the whole process is not
gone through, the advantage
would not be much above that
of a really good Cook Book -
Then read, the different preparations

Washby

of meat (25) all require time
& so much depends upon the
actual cooking, degree of heat, &
that this part is quite as important
as the ~~cooking~~ preparation - the
serving too of different dishes, could
not be shown - The Boston plan
is much more practical in many
respects, although it could not be
carried out here - The Illustrations
must I fear be very superficial
giving perhaps many hints to
those who already have a good
practical knowledge of cooking,
but only vague ideas to those
who know nothing of the subject,

the class whom the lessons would
be most intended to benefit.

I do not wonder at the Commissioners
being willing to take up the idea -
with all due deference to them,
feeling willing in this way has
always seemed to me very much
a "man's notion" of the question -
For the sake of the Association
I will gladly do anything I can
to carry out the plan if it is
decided on, shall certainly not
oppose it in any way, but still
I cannot think it practical &
quite within the province - it is
to some extent depending for popu-
larity - & that I do not like -

Mr. Jones
about Cookin

I send the whole of the
subjects given by the Association
from the beginning - it is the
same list as I sent last year
But B. Dawson will I hope excuse
my ^{w^d} copying it again - The books
sent me by Miss Girdner are
also inclosed - Miss Morgan &
Miss Ordner represent the very
good students of the Assn. -
The suggestions I have heard were
in favour of repeating some of
the former Courses - Astronomy
has been especially requested by
several - Chemistry has also been

spoken of, "The Chemistry of Food,"
specially — I fancy you will
have to find some subject for
Dr. McBrien, & we shall not retain
Mr. Redpath & Mr. Lewis as really
interested members.

We shall have to act with great
caution in the present state
of affairs & I fear the position
is critical —

Excuse a hurried note I only
put down a few remarks to
allow for my possibly not seeing
you to-morrow — or not having
an opportunity to discuss the

matter - With kind regards

Yours truly

Mary Mercer