

Mr R Haynes not admitted  
Mr Peale \$500 by his  
Banker J. Sully

Mr John S. Haynes  
Boston  
C. S. Pease  
Boston  
J. Sully  
Boston

MARZO



Philad. Feb 2 1830

Dear Chairman I have put off answering your letter much longer. I felt that so full and interesting a communication as the one you favoured me with, demanded some return in kind, and not having resources at hand, I had no encouragement to write - until at length it became a duty in good manners to set about it.

A friend of mine wrote me from Washington a week or two ago touching a picture which he had just seen of your execution, sent from Italy to your Father. He was desirous that our Academy should make an effort to purchase it. But alas our funds are not adequate to the current expenses of the Institution - namely Salaries of Door keeper & fuel, in fact it is much in debt, and in a very sickly state. I preferred my gallery as a place of exhibition for your copy and recommended that it should be shown to the public in different cities as a means of your benefit. I wish to be more explicit that I wish at all times to be much happy to meet your views and help to forward your interests.

It seems to me that it would be better to select such works to study from as were valuable in tone and colour, as your time may be somewhat limited, and as the composition in respect of such works as are noted in that shall may in a great degree be gleaned from good engravings, which are to found every where. I should make it a point were I in your place to make slight water coloured sketches of such pictures as were valuable for effect of colour; if I had no time to make accurate copies of them in oil; you will find on your return home such memorandums as the more parts or machinery of an excellent picture, of great use and satisfaction.

I presume you have heard of the death of Stuart? He has left many works unfinished and his family quite unprotected for, but the respect for his memory, and liberal feeling towards his excellent wife and children, have stimulated the Bostonians to aid all that might be expected his survivors. Some Stuart has finished, with much credit to himself, many of his works and by his election as a Portrait Painter contributes to the



1840  
The American National Academy of Design

support of her relations. Mr. Allston has not yet finished his long expected picture of the "Hand writing on the Wall". The American National Academy of Design established at New York is going on prosperously and is better entitled to the name than any other establishment we have in the United States.

Portrait painting is the only branch of the fine Arts that as yet has received support in our country, altho' I think a taste for the higher departments has occasionally shown itself. Allston has in fact maintained himself by the sale of small compositions while his great work has been in hands. Good copies of New York was painted much in his style has employment. Cole the Landscape painter has gone to England and I predict will be too much valued there to return to us, altho' when here he was much noticed. In fact, the judgment of the people of this country who purchase their works is not the poorest, is particularly nice - portraits find purchasers amongst all classes.

Neagle continued to improve, and must do so while he unites his fine talents with so well directed industry. Tell my friend Peale, when you see him, that Hayden recommended the contents of a letter lately received from him, and my first impulse was to write to him, to say how much I was pleased with the plan he is now prosecuting - all but the London part - that place has become so extravagant in expense that I think, even on his own account it will not repay his intended visit. Mr Peale & daughter join us regularly at Church where we have in our pew a seat always at her service.

Do not fail to cultivate the acquaintance of the excellent English artists whom you may meet in Italy; you will find their large style well calculated to guard you against the minute detail manner of the modern Italians.

Present my best wishes to Mr. Cook who, altho' I know but little of personally, I have much esteem for and desire his success and happiness.

Accept my dear sir my warm regards and unfeigned wishes for you  
Yours truly  
Thos. Ledyard



Handwritten signatures and scribbles, including a large 'S' and 'P'.



Vertical stamp or text on the far right edge of the paper.



**Chapman Family Correspondence and Other Documents**

**1791-1898**

**MSS.0048**

**Oversize: FB-363 Folder: 10**

**CORRESPONDENCE - Letter from Thomas  
Sully to John Gadsby Chapman, 1830 February 14**



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