

The numbers came out but not in the right place, it was 557 and 575 came out with 20 pesos prize. I have often thought and said my bushes were the best lottery after all.

Glading soon to hear from you and that you will try and make the best of matters and not lose hope for the future and with much love from my wife and myself

I remain your affectionate  
brother

Conroy

Mexico Calle de Leandro Valle N: 4  
January 19<sup>th</sup> 1896  
Vivienda N: 14

My dear Brother

Yesterday I had the agreeable surprise of receiving a letter from Mr. John S. Wise and to know that the pictures I painted of Charleston Harbor were on view where they may possibly be sold, which I hope may be the case, and that the money may serve you in some way.

I hope you have by this time received the 50 dollars I sent you in my last letter, and that it may help you to keep your head above water until I can send you from time to time a little more so that at least you may have time to look around and see what it is best for you to do for yourself. If you should decide to leave every thing to fate, and come here where you will not continue to increase your debt, which eventually you will have to pay in some way or other, tell me so. I will borrow the money



to send you to come here, as soon as you let me know what you will require, if it is within possibility. I hope by my work to be gradually able to repay what I borrow and in this way, I may probably be of more service to you, than by sending you small amounts which only contribute to keeping you in the same state of annoyance and uncertainty as you must be in. What ever you decide on I will gladly conform to and do the best I can, of that be assured. You may see a prospect before you, better than any to be offered here, but quiet and repose of mind and body may do you good also the change of scene.

I will write to Dick Wise whose address his brother kindly gave me, and I am sure he will be as glad to hear from me as I would be to hear from him.

Please thank Mr. John S. Wise for having written to me and tell him that although during the war I had not the pleasure of seeing him, his family often spoke to me of him and Father on his return from America long before the war spoke of him to us as a very handsome and promising little boy. I will very soon answer his letter, which I highly appreciate in all respects. During the war and ever since I have always in mind the kindness of all those of his family I met and he has continued with one link more the long chain of friendship which has for long years united our families. I am at work on two photographs of your favorite picture of the Printemps and its pendant the Orage by C. St. and hope they may be sold next week, so that I may be able to send you something. The Lottery for you was no good.







I have little to write about but work, although I do not do over much of it. I have received from Paris two more of the same subject I wrote to you I sold after the Rose and the Baptême - "sous la Tour de" also by the same artist which were ordered of me, I have to put them on panel to morrow if possible, I have two more photographs portraits under prep and others begun, I finished yesterday a Carriage and horse and the matter of it and his two groups, as unsatisfactory a subject as you could imagine, I tried myself out at it, and got it finished by five but too late to send you the money I wanted to. The "dernieres Cartouches" are on sale at the "Esmeralda" but I have no news of it. The Orage awaits its pendant to be sold perhaps. I have two more photographs for a drawing, one the "Compable" by Coomans that you may remember and its pendant the "recreation" - I hope to sell them when finished, and one of these fine days send you something of them - I have given

up nearly playing in the lottery, but my wife continues to do so, and so as to have more luck if possible we send the bonne to try her luck, but all no go - the only time I ever won at a lottery was in Rome with N° 59 you remember the number of my Regiment, as we came out from the Theater I invested all my bajocchi in a ticket it was not much but next morning sure enough N° 59 was there first on the line. Since then never in a lottery have I won a cent - and have been plugging ever since and certainly have spent hundreds of times what I gained that morning - I have little to write about - The weather is splendid here - Forestieri about from the U.S. One found his way to my place and I think he is not unusually a call again as many used to be in Rome. This is however leaving the weather for the shop - such a thing as ice is unknown here except in ices which they have had all winter at a bajocchi a glass -



Mexico Calle de Leonardo Valtel 4  
Vivencia No 14  
March 22<sup>d</sup> 1895

having tried photograph painting. Each day I  
am more thankful for having had the  
courage to put my pride aside and  
undertake painting photographs as a trade.  
I would not have had the courage had  
I not been encouraged by poor dear Marie to  
do so. By this means I have been able to  
face many portions and critical ones in life  
and I would be ungrateful to abuse the bridge  
I have so often crossed, and we have to  
look to as a means of getting over difficulties.  
You must not imagine I am anything of  
a great worker, much of the work I am now  
resting on was done in the far past. I  
like to talk of it and think although I am  
resting to day that next week I will  
be at it again. As long as I don't bore  
you with my talk it is all right.

It seems to me as if we were almost together  
when I tell you what I have on hand and  
have to do - I often think of the photographs  
you used to take and the printing days I  
only preferred to turning the press -  
My wife joins me in love to you  
your affectionate brother Louis

My dear Brother

Just two weeks ago the same happened  
to me as yesterday. I had my work finished  
but too late to take my money to the bank for  
you. To morrow I will be able to send you  
10 dollars which I hope will come in well  
for you - I do not work as hard as I ought  
to, but some how or other I have got out of  
the way of working as formerly. I do not blame  
my wife for not encouraging me in overworking  
myself for perhaps I will be able to go on longer.

I hope you are better satisfied with your  
prospects in general, and that the spring and  
summer will give you strength and hope  
for what in the future you will have before  
you. Keep up your courage and trust my  
dear brother in the Goodness and Mercy of  
God, Who never abandons those who trust in  
Him - This is my experience in life and  
in speaking to you so. I know you will  
understand me and believe me -



Mr. Lowery left for the United States to day  
I had finished for him a small photograph  
before he left. I asked him what prospects  
I might have in Washington painting photo-  
graphs, his answer was by no means discouraging.  
He liked the work I did for him and I  
may get from him further work to do after  
he gets to Washington and I have finished  
the three other photographs I have to do for  
his sister the wife of the Spanish Minister  
here. I have besides other work on hand  
the two subjects of "Sous la Tourelle" and a  
company of "Purales" which is a very picturesque  
costume here - and of which I sent you a  
small photograph amongst other two  
years ago at Christmas times. The photograph  
I have put on the Panel has over a  
hundred in it and is a very good photograph.  
I painted the same a year ago for a  
hundred dollars - which you see goes  
over the mark of the dollar ones they  
sell as bargains with frames in New York.

The one I painted last year went to Paris and  
I was told by its purchaser was very much  
admired there. I have a reputation here  
as a painter of photographs, but I do not  
find it in any way depreciates my work  
as an artist when ever I have an occasion  
to show what I can do in that way -

I hope you are getting on well with  
your illustrations - and that one of these  
days you will send me the publication what-  
ever it may be. Here we get the "Century  
Magazine" and the illustrations of it are very  
good - Why don't you paint a number of  
small sketches of Roman subjects and try the  
market in New York? I would do the same  
if I was hard pushed for money of Mexican  
French and Southern subjects and even  
Italian if I had not the photographs  
to do which for many years have served  
me well to earn my living, and I confess  
with less work and certainly more satisfaction  
than those the "Tableaux de Commerce" I used  
to paint in Paris for many years before



Mexico Calle de Leandro Valle N<sup>o</sup> 4

Vivienda N<sup>o</sup> 14

September 10<sup>th</sup> 1896

My dear Brother

I have been lately so hard at work that I have actually not had a moment to myself so as to be able to write to you as I would like to. I suppose it is has been the same with you, and I therefore have not been anxious although I have not heard from you in answer to my last to you of the 26<sup>th</sup> ultimo. You are no doubt very busy getting your illustrations in shape for the publishers as I suppose Mr. Wise wishes to get his book published for Christmas times. Much as I esteem Mr. Wise I feel much for you to have to put up for with any one interfering with your work. I have rarely had to support it but in certain circumstances like yours at present you have to. Perhaps white fences and the like is the taste down South as in the terms of your dear



father when they forced him to admire  
the shot coming out of the gun of a  
sports man. I love the south for  
many reasons and one is that they would  
as likely look at a picture upside down  
as not. This is no country for artists at every  
step one would meet some one to tell him  
to go to work - which does not mean to  
paint.

I have my <sup>little</sup> picture of the Valle of  
Puebla before me and although it is not  
what I would wish it to be it looks  
better now it has a frame around it  
While I was in Puebla and before I left  
and since my return I have had a  
long spell of hard work and but for  
being a little tired I do not feel  
any the worst for it. I have made two  
studies of flowers and fruit, besides  
the picture of Puebla and am getting  
on with my photographs. ~~As~~ As it  
is Thursday I want to begin some new  
work before Friday is down on me.

The bonnie is off to the bank in my place  
and I hope she will not make a  
mistake as last time and be back with  
the check for ten dollars and that  
I will be able to send it with this  
and that it may give you a help.  
Remember me to Mrs. Mayo when  
you see her and present my regards  
to Mr. Wise and his family.

My wife joins me in love to you.  
Your affectionate brother,  
W. Chapman  
(Conny)

P.S.

Write and tell me all that  
interest you and consequently us



Mexico Calle de Leandro Valle N<sup>o</sup> 4  
Vivienda N<sup>o</sup> 14

September 25<sup>th</sup> 1896

My dear Brother

I wrote to you yesterday afternoon on the spur of the moment tired and somewhat worried as you may well imagine after a day like yesterday hunting up money. I regret if anything I have written has given you pain, and hope you will forgive it and put it to no bad will on any part to serve you all I can. Such is my wish and always will be. I write this as an excuse for any harsh expression I may have used in expressing the facts of my position and resources. I hope you will take in account how I must have felt after sending off your money, thankful that I had been able to get it to send you, but at the same time put out as most persons would be under the same circumstances. One more reason I have in writing now, is that I fear your trouble is greater than I imagine, and



that I have been harsh when I should  
have been as kind as possible in my  
nature. Do not think of it any more  
than that I have told you the truth  
without reserve, and that as you know  
how things are with us here, you can  
~~rather~~ judge how far you can calculate on me.

Do write and tell me what is passing  
with you — I am behind hand in  
my work by my trip to Pisetta and am  
now only finishing work I received before  
leaving — I will be working for some  
time for daily expenses and paying for  
the money received which I sent you which  
I have promised <sup>to pay</sup> before the end of the year  
but in the mean time if I can send you  
even five dollars at a time, I will try  
and manage to do so. This I cannot  
promise, but hope to do as soon as I  
get through some of my work. Depend on it  
if I ~~can~~, it is that I cannot — and

to run myself deeper in debt I do not  
think I have the right to do —

I hope that the next news I  
have from you will be more comforting  
that the first two words of your  
telegram —

Pray God bless you my dear Brother  
is the sincere prayer of your affectionate  
brother

My wife joins me in love to you

Your affectionate brother  
W. Chapman.  
(Cooney)

P.S. Please present my best regards to  
Mr. John S. Wise with my excuses for  
having taken the liberty of sending your  
money to his care —



Mexico Calle de Leandro Valle N<sup>o</sup> 14

Vivienda N<sup>o</sup> 14

April 4<sup>th</sup> 1898

My dear Brother

If you have not answered my last short letter of the 30<sup>th</sup> ult in which I sent you a check for five dollars, do not write, as there is no security of your letter reaching me. If things take a sudden turn which may almost be expected, I may be on the move - As soon as matters are more settled I will write to you - Until then I hope all will go well with you. I hope you are well and getting on all right with your man Friday -

My wife and myself are quite well, with our love, <sup>to you</sup> I remain

Your affectionate  
Brother

W Chapman

(Cosmy)



may be in the future for both  
of us

Try and get me some work to  
do - even if you have a day or  
so to do it -

Write to me when you have  
a spare moment - and I hope  
you will take care of your man  
Friday and he will take care  
of you

My wife joins me in love  
to you

Your affectionate brother  
E. W. Chapman  
(Cory)

May God bless you and  
us all -

5 East Cary Street  
Richmond Virginia  
May 19<sup>th</sup> 1898

My dear Brother

Your letter received this morning  
gave me much pleasure to know that  
you had received money - I hope that  
you will get on well and am much  
obliged for your trying to get me work.  
I hope that having the sizes with the  
prices you will be able to get me some.  
I painted Mr. Wise the photograph he  
gave me to do and I think he and Mrs  
Wise were pleased with it as they gave  
me a second one of the same to do -  
this is the only work up to the present I  
have had given me to do here yet, but I  
hope <sup>that</sup> when my work is better known I  
will get more to do - I have written to  
Mexico and sent all the work I brought  
with me and hope to have some more  
to do as also from Paris, but if you could  
get me work from New York or elsewhere  
to do I would be very glad to do it.



Now often in a few lines, <sup>the word</sup> work comes  
in, as it is, <sup>word</sup> that I want, the word  
comes frequently. I hope you will  
send me some, at first I may not  
be able to spare any of the quatrains  
as I need them but later on I will  
be able to leave you something of the  
proceeds of the work if it comes.

I expect to remain where I am  
and will try all I know how to  
get along. My trust is in God, my  
wife as well as myself are delighted  
with Richmond its trees its streets  
its houses, but ~~about~~ all its dear  
inhabitants, if this land is forsaken  
where ~~is~~ the land that is not?

It is blessed with quiet happiness  
and as much prosperity as mortals  
generally we have. The poverty  
does not exist at least to view.

Here at least it is no disgrace  
to be poor. I shall never regret  
I believe coming here and my wife  
either.

It will take courage to face what  
may come up, but my wife and  
myself have it. Some day if we  
meet I will tell you of our entry  
in Richmond and the downs we  
have, <sup>had</sup> here, but as all Richmond  
is up and downs it is what could  
be expected. All the old fellows in  
the streets are former guards and  
the boys going into soldiering are  
the same as our fellows if I could  
go back thirty odd years and imagine  
myself as young as they now are.  
Our turn the old fellows may come  
and many are already waking up at  
the noise the young ones are making.  
We shall meet again my dear  
brother I feel sure, but doubt if  
it will be in New York. I have  
never wished you but good and  
your happiness is a pleasure to me  
as your distress has always be distress  
to me. I am glad that help has  
come to you by my work when I  
could not help you. Better times



1708 Massachusetts Avenue,

Washington, D.C., March 5, 1896.

Mr. J. Linton Chapman,

Baychester,

West Chester Co., N. Y.,

My dear Sir:-

On my return from New York I find the picture of the Moore house, which was left at my home during my absence. I do not quite understand about it. Is it for sale, and if so, what price have you set on it? I was under the impression that it had been presented to Captain Wise. If I was mistaken as to this, I should think your best chance of selling it would be to some branch of the Daughters of the Revolution. It is very interesting.

Unless I can see the Marquis de Chambrun shortly, I will return the sketches of Yorktown to Captain Wise.

Yours very sincerely,

*Thos Adams Page*

*P.S. I have seen the Marquis de C.  
since writing the above and he  
promises to call and see the  
pictures. J.N.P.*



**Chapman Family Correspondence and Other Documents**

**1791-1898**

**MSS.0048**

**Oversize: FB-363 Folder: 8**

**CORRESPONDENCE - Correspondence between Conrad  
Wise Chapman and John Litton Chapman, circa 1890**



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