

Transcribed by Scottsdale Art Auction

This is not exact. ____ indicates a word we cannot transcribe or recognize. In our opinion what's written is:

Dear Mr. Chapin,

I've let you have a good long rest now, and haven't bothered you much with letters.

So I'm hoping you won't feel too kinky when after this long while you find this letter on your desk –

First I want to say that the Sunset is going to publish that article on humane stuff next month or so – It'll be cut down some.

And another thing that's come to my mind is that there's been many people who've bought my book and wants me to draw em pictures, from that I thought of drawings of bucking horses and goings on in range life would sell pretty well on exhibition.

Two of the biggest art stores here are willing and anxious to take on a few but I thought this was – I hate to sell a drawing to a individual – a good drawing of some certain ____ and they never see it again – I figger there might and will come a time when I can use them drawin mighty well –

I been thinking of many things so regards to the different books I want to put out – some big ones with all drawings and little writing – I want to put our a book of bucking horses and outlaws. And here's where these exhibition drawin come in – couldn't I send em on to you, have em reproduced in good big size so they could be made smaller in ease there's a need to and then just put the plates away and keep a copyright on all the work? When we'd need em we'd have em – and I figger it'd be a heap easier to ____ a book from the material when it's all there to look at that way – you could send me one proof of each picture – and after they're all printed and on hand to use whenever they're needed I could then take the originals and put em out on exhibit –

I'd like to put out many books of drawings with as little or as much writing as we see fit – describing the range life and letting the pictures do most of the talking – the way my imagination works sometimes I feel I could write a book on ____ ____ and a good book at that. So that's where I get the feeling that these drawings I spoke of would be mighty worth while having – everyone and all of em could be used and would sure illustrate the point or a may could make the writing for the drawing as well as the other way –

When I look at these pictures I've already made I can see a big story in each and I sure hate to see em go out of my sight without a proof or even having it appear in a magazine –

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I don't know how many I'd be sending you, maybe about ten or fifteen, it may be that you folks could exhibit em down there too – that is if you're satisfied with the sale of them that appeared in books – anyway I'd sure like to know what can be done on that subject.

I hear my book is on second printing – did you get the chance to put in my photo as you said you'd want to? –

Been in San Francisco for about a month where I sure hear how well my books have been going – expect to go back to Nevada in a few days –

I'll be glad to know just how many books has been sold – when the checking info comes –

Sincerely –

Will James

Franktown, Nevada