

John S. Mosby to Sam Chapman

San Francisco, California, July 25, 1897 circa.

Autograph letter signed, 3 pages.

Capt: S.F. Chapman

930 – Bush S^t. S.F.

Dear Sam –

July 25th –

I have just rec^d. the enclosed from Willie – You see that he is both improving his mind as well as filling his purse. He is fond of reading & I encourage him in it – in this way he will prepare himself for something better – There are a good many books on the steamer, most of wh. he has read. This voyage I gave him several to read, among them The Memoirs of S.S. Prentiss, whom I regard as one of the most lovable [*inserted*: & wonderful] men that ever lived – William writes me that he has been transferred to S^t. Louis – Got a letter from [Munson] a few days ago – he had not arrived but Munson was looking for him & had invited him to stay sometime with him – He will like S^t. Louis – Munson knows a great many nice people there – I had a splendid time there last winter – Shall stop there again on my way East in September – when I hope also to see you. Did you see my last article in ‘Once a Week’? I have been feeling a great deal of anxiety about Fount – he has been very sick with Typhoid Fever – but is now recovering. I don’t suppose William will take [2] old M^{rs}. Jeffries to S^t. Louis. If Jesse James were living he might relieve William of any future care over her. Haven’t heard from Major Dolly for a long time – never hear from Tom – I sent you two of Carlisle’s speeches on the silver question – You know that I have always been opposed to free coinage of silver. It is simply a new phase of the greenback lunacy – If you had one barrel of sugar & were to put enough sand in it to fill two barrels w^d. you have any more sugar? You can’t make people richer by debasing the currency. If the people want cheap money give [*inserted*: them] old Confederate notes – If the mere fiat of Government can create money why not make it out of iron, & decree that pound of gold shall be equal to a pound of iron – after the iron is coined. Cleveland has certainly done two good things – he has sat down on the silver craze, & he has broken up the Democratic party – I w^d. not be surprised if Kentucky goes Republican this fall – Willie is due here about August 14th – I have

[*struck*: had] all three of my boys ([*struck*: at here] Willie – Clay – & Ernest) at work now. Love to your family.

Sincerely –
Jno: S. Mosby

[3] Remember me to my Cousins in Covington –