

William H. Chapman

William H. Chapman Letters relating to S.F. earthquake, May 24, 1906
BANC MSS 93/62 c : letters; May 24, 1906

The Bancroft Library
University of California, Berkeley
Berkeley, California 94720-6000



**The Bancroft Library
University of California, Berkeley**

BANC MSS 93/62 c : letters; May 24, 1906

William H. Chapman Letters relating to S.F. earthquake, May 24, 1906

May 24

My dear Margie —

Rec'd your letter sent up by Mrs. Lewis this evening. I wish that you could come up. I have not yet said anything about it before because I did not see how you could leave the baby but Mrs. Lewis says that she has offered to take care of him. So can't you accept her offer and come up and stay overnight and go back the next day? I know that you want to see San Francisco and that would give you time to look up some of your friends besides seeing the ruins and having a little visit with. I hope that you will consider the plan feasible and come. Phillips [sic] bedding roll is here and I can use that and let you have my bunk.

In regard to paying Haas I think it best to pay him if we can spare the money now. It will be best however to have a check cashed and send a money order as he will probably charge exchange on a check. The bill is in my desk, \$65.00 less 10 percent \$58.50. If you think we can spare the money get a money order and send it to me and I will write a letter explaining the delay so that he will accept it as a cash payment. You want to remember that the box of silver will be along soon with about \$18.00 or more charges upon it. I will send you a check for \$150.00 the end of the month if I am not home before that time.

Yesterday afternoon I went over and took dinner with Ervin. It is certainly a journey over there. I walked down Lombard to Fillmore [sic] and then took the car nearly to the end of that line through Fillmore [sic] St. Church St. and 16th down to Bryant and then a Bryant St. car to 24th St. and then a four block walk.

Ervin and Coffee 2" Cav. Are boarding at 1333 Utah St. and Capt French 7" Infy. has a room in a house across the street and messes with them. I asked about 10 street car men where Utah Street was and none of them knew. I was not surprised when I saw it as it is a little narrow street only three blocks long. Ervins [sic] room is about 2 by 4, but clean and comfortable. The family seem to be very decent sort of people and set a very good table. The three officers have the dining room and table to them selves [sic]. Ervin says that the hard part of their work is about over and they hope to be sent home about June 1st. He seems well except that he has a boil on his neck. I think that he has had enough of San Francisco and wants to get home. I did not get back to camp until after tattoo and was surprised to learn that the 1st Battl'n was to leave this morning. I knew that there was talk of sending them but did not think that they would go so soon. I think that we will go in a week so if you decide that you can come up pack your grip and come and wire me when you will arrive. Mrs. Lewis and Harriet struck a disagreeable day for their trip and it began to rain early this afternoon and is still at it. It must me rather embarassing [sic] for Smee to have both of his girls here. He has pretty nearly lived at the Davis' house since he has been here. I played rather a mean trick on him this evening. He brought Harriet into the mess for dinner and seated her in his chair and pulled mine out for himself when I slipped into it. He sure

looked sort of blank when he found that he could not sit next to her. Smee has asked for a leave to take effect Nov 15 and if he is ever going to get married I think he will do so then. He has been buying furniture and I think Elizabeth has been helping him select it and that looks as though there was something doing.

Mrs. Lewis says that roller skating is all the rage now at Monterey. When I get back we will have to try it. I would like to see if I can do anything on skates after not having had them on for twenty years. I think that you would enjoy skating and if I can still skate myself I could teach you in a couple hours.

We must train Norverto to look after the baby evenings so that you can get out two or three times a week you have been tied down so close for the last two years and we are not old enough to give up all the fun yet. I think that you [sic] scheme of going to San Jose is a good one. There is no chance to get anything here as far as I can see and you surely need some clothes. Will you have money enough to get clothes for yourself if you pay Haas? If not let Haas go and we will sacrifice that 10% and pay him on the installment plan. I did not get down town [sic] today on account of the rain and will not be able to go tomorrow as I am officer of the day but will try to if I can find out anything from Shreves about that bowl. Perhaps you had better send the purchase slip if it is among the fragments of the bowl. Their affairs are probably so mixed up that it may be some time before they will do anything.

Am sorry to hear that pup is such a nuisance I will have to take him in hand when I arrive and see if I can do anything with him.

George, I hope we don't go to American Lake in July. I wish that they would hurry up and decide. If one battalion stays back I think that it will surely be the 3rd as we were the only ones who went in 1903 and are the last to get home from this trip.

Good night, a great deal of love to you and the three boys. I hope that you will come up and if you do, come as soon as you can for we may be ordered home.

Will