

Oct 1963

Mother's 50th Birthday

Scott,

I just didn't feel like stopping now. I bet you forgot Mom's fiftieth birthday. Well, I didn't. I sent her a dozen roses and signed the card Scott and Stuart. I later called her and told her you and I consulted to send them to her. It made her very happy. I shudder to think of what it would be like if we had sent her nothing. For this face saving service, please send me \$6.00. I'm almost broke because of the 30⁰⁰ I have spent on pictures etc has cut my ~~budget~~ budget's head off. I don't want you to think I'm mercenary. I am, but I am also broke.

I am enclosing Bucky Portwood's letter so you can get some home news. Also there is a photo of the dusty, dusty country near Crittendon Point Plantation. It is not really so hot for a painting, though I like the composition and subject. I just thought you would like to see a good picture of the South. It is the Overseer's House at Crittendon Point. The other photo, whose composition I really love is Longwood. Don't you like it. In my view the branch was all the way in the picture but I made the mistake of not adjusting for the difference in view and base.

Scott, keep working hard on those etchings. Your ideas and your skill are wonderful. If you knew how I felt and anxiously awaited each etching from you - why it's just like

Christmas. I always read your letter first, then I slowly with much pomp and pageantry slowly open the etching. It's a wonderful feeling, but I can't isolate the feeling because I am so immediately absorbed in the work, I forget about myself. I know you don't mind them out, but I can't wait until the next creation comes from your etching press. Scott is so proud of you, my buttons burst. He is proud of both of us. Great things are meant for you, hell maybe even for the both of us."

Scott, tell me what Mr. Blackburn has said about these two etchings. I want to know very bad. I know what I think about you is not wrong, but I want to hear what a professional says. Please don't forget to tell me. I would like to hear it very much.

Jim —

P.S. try to write more often if you can. I will answer each letter promptly and will try my best to entertain you

P.S.S. If you come down for Thanksgiving, and Christmas, we will definitely go to Hatching when the leaves are off the trees and we will get some great pictures. I have already found some good spots there and I am just waiting until I or we go back. If you decide not to come for Thanksgiving, which might be smart because I am only going to have 3 or 4 days we will definitely go at Christmas. Still, though, if you are coming at Thanksgiving we will have ample time. I would have to go back to school and you could remain at home for several days. You have plenty of time, but I don't. Still, though we ^{can} make it to Hatching on Turkey day.