

James Chillman Jr
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Porta San Pancrazio
Roma 29

Dear Mr. Watkin:

Your cable was received a few days ago and I did not cable a reply as there were a few things necessary to mention at length.

Naturally your cable did not permit details so as nothing has been said to contrary in your letters I am assuming that my plan for resuming my work at the Institute on the beginning of the winter term is satisfactory. I am also assuming that my salary will start with the academic year, that is October 1 1922.

If I am right in these assumptions you may consider the matter closed, at least for the coming year, though your offer seems a bit low, due to the fact that Houston is so far from the Eastern centers, certain connections with which I feel that it is necessary to keep up.

If my salary was not to commence until my return to Houston in January or if you expect me to resume my duties within the fall term then my acceptance must be a tentative one.

The whole matter is based purely upon financial reasons and if these can be overcome you may be assured that I will be more pleased to be working with you again than you may be in having me do it.

If you have on file my letter of last spring you will find the reasons why I feel it inadvisable to try and take up my courses during the Fall term, so I shall not bother to repeat them. (I shall return sometime in late November.) On the other hand it becomes necessary to have certain funds at my disposal beginning October first. As you may realize my stipend as Fellow of the Academy is not quite sufficient to meet all expenses consequently my necessary trips to Greece, France and England have caused me to draw to the limit of my own financial resources. Also the tying up of a few hundred dollars in the Banca Italiano di Sconto failure has not helped matters any. The result is that not only will I arrive in the States

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in need of ready money but I shall need a bit more on this side before starting.

If, then, it is not possible for you to start some payments of my salary by October first then it becomes necessary for me to accept one of the positions in the East which are open for me, but I could hardly do this without tying myself up for a longer time than that which intervenes between my arrival in the States and my return to Houston. The deduction is obvious.

On my part, if you can grant my request satisfactorily, I can promise that I will accept no other offer unless it be greatly in excess of your figure and then not before consulting you.

I have yet to receive definite figures from Carnegie Institute but I know they will closely resemble yours, if not exceed them. Again the same figures would be actually worth more to me if for no other reason than the difference in the expense of a night trip and one of two days. I beg you to take this into consideration in your reply to the above paragraphs as well to the few following ones.

I presume that you are offering me an instructorship, if so may I not reasonably expect an assistant professorship with a minimum salary of \$3000 in the near future?

Can you, familiar as you are with conditions in Houston, assure me of a chance for architectural work either in connection with your office or others?

I ask these questions looking to the future for unless I can distinctly better myself in the Southwest it would be foolish to leave the East especially as the Academy has such a strong group working hand in hand in New York and Philadelphia. I trust however that I may have a reply from you as soon as possible. If the assumptions at the beginning of this letter are correct, or can be arranged for, simply wire O.K. and we will consider all matters settled.

I am also anxious to have the details of the courses made clear as soon as you find it convenient to do so. I am looking forward to the history courses and in that connection expect to spend some of my time immediately on landing in getting together some additional slides from my own photographs.

I hope you will find it convenient to make the trip abroad next summer and

if you find that you can take the Spring term as well, all the better. I hope that I can at least take care of such little things as your class work and so make things a bit easier for you to get away.

I trust that my statements will not seem unreasonable to you and that we may meet again in the not too distant future

Very truly

James Chillman Jr.

Rome March 20, 1922.