

# Lt. Colonel William Henry Chapman Society

Greensboro, N.C.

Spotswood Hotel 5 o'clock PM Richmond

Jan 11<sup>th</sup> 1865

My Dear Wife

As Mr. Phillip Smith will leave in the morning & promises to deliver this I will write now I tried to have the photographs to day but the Artist disoriented me so I cannot get them until tomorrow, & I will leave at 6 o'clock in the morning. Bob Angello will come up in about a week & will bring them to you. I have been solicited very earnestly to remain two or three days to attend parties but cannot stay. Gov Smith will have a reception Friday night & two or three are given tomorrow night all of which I am invited to attend so you see what you have missed by not coming to Richmond with me I know I would enjoy myself much more to have you with me, an old kinsman just while ago asked me if my wife was pretty? You can well guess my answer. He insists on my bringing you next time I come. I was invited to dine to day at Judge Ould's & promises to be there too but I have not filled my engagement. His Son is going to join us & Mrs. Ould is very anxious to see me. She came to the Hotel herself to day while I was out, so I will have to go there to night. I returned last night from Gen Lees Htd. Qrs. Had a very rainy trip but found the Gen not very busily engaged, & in a very good humor Had many inquires to make after the Comd. & the Col. You ought just to see how Mosby's men splurge(?) here, are know wherever they are seen. But with all the gaiety here I had much rather be with you. I have hunted in about a dozen stores for a comb for you found one, Josie fifty-dollars I did not buy not because it was too high priced for you but because I thought I could get a better one for less money on the Northern Neck. Gold sold here to day for \$66.<sup>00</sup> This looks like confederate money would soon be worthless. I spent a few hours at Gov Smith Monday evening Misses Lilly Marshal Smiths & Pollocks all inquired after your health, as well as your Ma & Mother's I will leave for Westmorland early tomorrow Write to me there, I will write soon as I get there, Give my best love to your Ma & Mother & Uncle John,

From your devoted Husband  
W H Chapman

I am writing at the desk of the hotel & one of the proprietors just brought me a light saying as I was writing to my sweet-heart he would give me more light, I told him the person was dearer than a sweetheart its my wife. He replied that he didn't know that I belonged to that respectable class of society. \*(being a married man himself)

WHC

Richmond on Jan 12<sup>th</sup> 1865

Since writing the above I have gotten the photographs I have enclosed them in the letter. Did not get off as I expected but will leave certainly in the morning

Your devoted Husband  
WH Chapman