with The outjech o Samil of Coale lesy. ih. It am rate whether you intend do keep it or not I would dike My dear friend. to have it for the next John letter duly reacher spring Exhibition in Ine in Veince, and I Vew york. Therefore please Esure you That I am retained it mitte I kome greatful for The Treight O will dail for auerica foward mannen which you two which I such the work which I such to be found some time You misstook the Passine Spoke of for The Halian much teller. The Passing June, Seried Hodges miles me that it is your I of ske of in my leller is intention to bend the Sarge fish Bictury Eash and offer it for Dale an Austrian who lives in Vivice althogether and Danits Vinetian Subjects in water for ml. Ofcourse, if your are not pleased Color. He has perhapse a

greater repulation Than The Station one He is now in Paris, Dent There by the Enchewor of turties as a committy mous of awfarding medals, I did not authors your tetter at once because I thought I would be him on his return from fairs and find out what he had that might blease you. He had not returned at to the Unice Suff and as far as Il know is the Paris a letter directed in care of the fustrian Consul at Venice writted in Germans, English, or French, would be sure to reach him, Any Dervice I can be to gow while O am here will be gladly attended to by me. Holding this may find you Enjoy good health Dawn dearfried yours Sinceriles P.S. M. M. Chase our rought oner my above CHASE, William Merritt (1849-1916.) Artist. Munich

A/L.S. to Samuel A. Coale. 11 July 1878. 4p. (double sheet, octavo).

In the early 1870's, Samuel Cole and a group of three other St. Louis businessmen sent Chase abroad to study painting. This letter to his benefactor was written just before Chase returned to America, wheren he soon acquired publicity and a reputation. He mentions his "large fish picture" [probably his "The Fish Market"?], and from the tone of the letter it seems he acted as art-agent for Cole's collection.

Sam'l A. Coale, Esq.

My dear friend.

Your letter duly reached me in Venice, and I assure you that I am greatful for the streight forward manner in which you wrote me about the work which I sent to St.Louis. Some time since, friend Hodges writes me that it is your intention to send the large fish picture East and offer it for sale for me. Of course if you are not pleased with the subject I do not want you to keep it. At any rate whether you intend to keep it or not I would like to have it for the next spring exhibition in New York. Therefore please retain it untill I come. I will sail for America about 1st of August.

- You mistook the Passini I spoke of for the Italian one in Paris, who is very much better. The Passini I spoke of in my letter is an Austrian who lives in Venice altogether and paints Venetian subjects in watercolor. He has perhaps a greater reputation than the Italian one. He is now in Paris, sent there by the Emperor of Austria as a L ] on awarding medals. I did not answer your letter at once because I thought I would see him on his return from Paris and find out what he had that might please you. He had not returned up to the time I left and as far as I know is still in Paris. A letter directed in care of the Austrian Consul at Venice written in German, English, or French, would be sure to reach him..
- Any service I can be to you while I am here will be gladly attended to by me. Hoping thismay find you enjoy good health, I am dear freind

Yours sincerely Wm.M.Chase

P.S. I am very eager to see all the new pictures you have bought since my absence. C.