

Maison Louis Latour, Beaune, France
(Cote-D'Or)
From J. Louis Latour to His Daughters
June 19, 1961

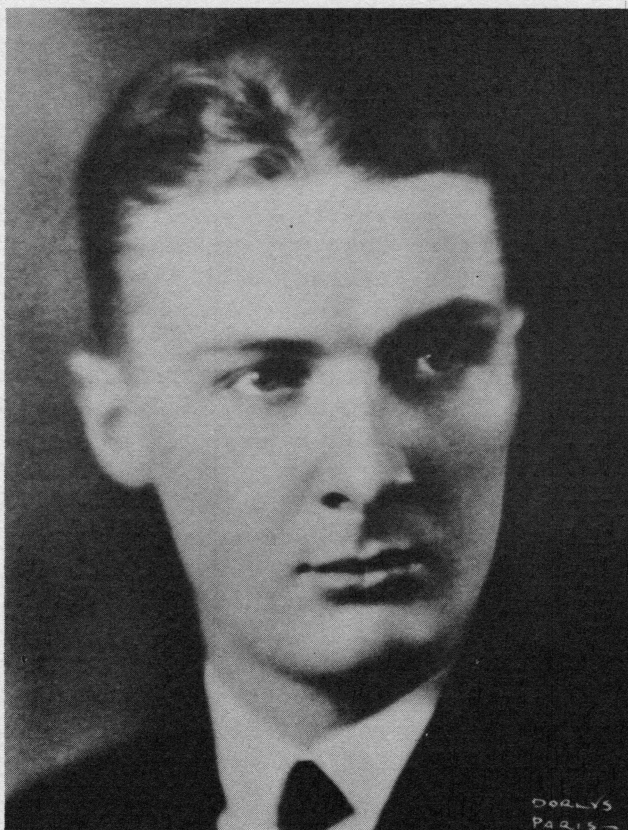
Dear Mary,

I think that you perhaps will be content to have the copy of the letter which I have sent to my daughters, the account of the wedding. You will excuse this because it is only a copy but I think that you would like to have a few details. It is a shame that you were not all there.

We were delighted by the beauty of the day. Chesley was very sweet with a robe of English embroidery. Betsy was in very good form, always effervescent and gay. Henry is very sympathetic, Louise Noel has given us news of you. It seems that your children are charming. Communicate to your sisters as this will interest them. I am afraid that Nancy is very busy these days. She was so beautiful in her lavender dress with an air as youthful as her daughters (almost). Livie left for Italy with the LaChapelles.

I say this to you very affectionately, dear Mary, and to all the Bowes, Caseys and Gwinns.

J. Louis Latour



Jacques Riboud

"Account of the wedding of Nancy's eldest daughter, Chesley, to Peter de La Chapelle. Chindrieux, Savoie, June 17, 1961,--where Nancy and Jacques Riboud were married in June 17, 1933"

My dears,

Now I come to the wedding. Now I tell you too that Fafa is admitted to the Ecole des mines and he is taking the oral examination, enters the second or eighth of July - that much about Miraille. He may leave directly for St. Briac and then Paris.

The Chauvel Family, we and the boys, spent delightful days at Chindrieux. The sky blessed us, the weather was miraculous, shining green everywhere, light and joy in the month of June in Savoy.

Having arrived at 11:20 in Fregate formation, the terrace at Chindrieux was effervescing, everyone running here and there, Chesley in her wedding gown in the grip of a photographer whose pictures we never shall see, and who got caught up by bon-Papa when things were half over (Caught up by M. Paul Riboud!)

Jean Gwinn was playing about the tables on which bon-Papa was putting menus, three tables in the form of a T, set in the middle of the terrace, all separate, with a holiday air due to a well-tailored hedge, baskets of flowers and a clipped chestnut tree.

All this resembled what it was exactly 28 years ago, so that I expected to see little Nancy with her round bouquet come down and appear on the lawn, so charming that I remember that day with an extraordinary clearness.

Uncle Jacques was tying a cravat which he pretended was the same one he had 28 years ago. Jean Jacques has become a young man and everyone is astonished over the height of Bruno.

The Mass was very much like what you'd expect with a cure who makes the questions and answers with a great deal of ceremony--and he skips the collections! The cure speaks very sweetly, he clearly remembers LaFayette and Washington and the 17 of June 1933, but that does not resemble at all the majestic and very liturgical ceremony of last Saturday with its severe sermon and the explanations of everything in French.

We came out rather quickly after some short congratulations. There were very few present except ourselves. At the door Jean Gwinn put his heart into throwing dragees to all the kids. (candied almonds).

At the house, we took our places for lunch. It was well served by Sautier and was delicious. Aunt Nancy complained because she thought it was too slow. I think that is a reflex of the lady of the house because we were very comfortable in the shade of the trees and I know that I often find the service slow at our house!

I was next to a gentleman who had 15 children which I found a bit overwhelming! He was a La Chappelle, a German cousin of Richard's, the father-in-law of Chesley. They didn't know each other but they were delighted to meet finally

and to discover family ties. They live nearby at Maximieux. Others also were there who live at Rosillon and occupy the chateau of their ancestors which has been in the family for three hundred years. They have a genealogical tree and are very busy about it. He was very sympathetique and though an American, very "old France". It resembled rather Franco-American families at the time of LaFayette.

Mr. de La Chapelle is distinction and warmth itself. He would do well in the cinema, the Victorio de Sicca type and as nice and kind as possible. These different American elements are charming. There was Peter's best man, typical, Kitty, Chesley's friend and Anne and Frances de La Chapelle. Frances is to enter the Sacred Heart, September 8. They have a charm and gentility typically American. There was also a childhood friend of M. de La Chapelle from Lyon, an American called M. Poncet. His daughter was there too. One or two young people, Chapelle cousins and Mille. Jeanne, Les Drevet, Maria-France Bastard. I think if you count also Aunt Nini and Ginette, you would count almost thirty people.

Chesley and Peter occupied the center of the table shaped like a T and were radiant, Peter very much moved.

About five o'clock, the guests who were strangers to the family dispersed and the French de La Chapelle's took the American family to renew their acquaintance with other guests in the chateau of their ancestors. I forgot to tell you at desert, your father (I) made a toast which we all joined without too much emotion but we were careful to get in a word about the anniversary of Jacques and to welcome Peter who is so gentle and kind that we wanted also to discretely recall the good relations which we have always had with the Gwinns and everything that Aunt Nancy has always been for her French family. But there was no need to remind anyone...There was also a good word for bon-Papa, who well merited it, for it is he who had arranged everything, as you know, having all the repairs made and giving himself all kinds of trouble for weeks with constant trips to and from Paris.

He was delighted furthermore, and very happy to hear your father speak exactly as he would want to do it himself, to render hommage to his dear Nancy, though he did not wish to pronounce discourse himself. He was delighted with everyone's pleasure and with the nice party at Praz and I was very happy for him.

He presided at one of the big tables with Aunt Nini. Of course our Chauvel Family have increased and no one wanted to believe that la Puce had three children. She always had such a boyish air (This is news for Marie Claire who might doubt it).

About five o'clock the people from Praz arrived and the old insupportable friends such as Edouard Nelva, Rossillon himself. It made about thirty people, all in Sunday clothes. We all sat down again about the tables and they served us an excellent tea; it was all very cordial and very sympathetique, in an atmosphere as agreeable and relaxed as those of "a fine party for the personnel", as we do it.

It lasted about an hour, after which we went on a tour of Lac LeBourget with the rest of the wedding party, to see and admire the setting sun. It was 8:30 and when we came back we went to bed at the Hotel Sautier where we slept well.

But first we had to say au revoir to the young newly-marrieds on their way to Corsica, and to our Armandine (whom we will see when?)

.I think you are now caught up.

Louis Noel Latour



Mme. Paul Riboud



Nancy and Jacques Riboud
Chindrieux, Savoie
June 17, 1933