

June 3, 2024

Dear Anita

Thank you for your acknowledgment, deed of gift, and receipt for my Book(s) of the Chicago worlds fair.

I think they were bound by my Grandfather, Ottomar H. de Castongrene. He was a bookbinder by trade. And his family Crest is on the front cover of both volumes.

He was originally from the Alsatian region of France. He come over the the US in late 1800s, and worked in Ohio for awhile. Was listed in the Typographical Journal, Vol. XIV, January 2, 1899.

He then moved to Toronto, Ontario where he met my Grandmother, May Smith, and they were married in the 1800s. ( newspaper notice)

He was listed in Men of Canada 1902. After that they moved to Chicago, Ill. Where he was in the Book publishing business.

My Father was born in 1903 in Chicago. Later they moved to St. Louis, Mo. Where they owned a house in Kirkwood Mo. Just outside of St. Louis. Sometime later, during the depression; they moved back to Chicago, where he died in 1940 at the age of 67. He is buried in Toronto, along with My Grandmother and Aunt Lillymay.

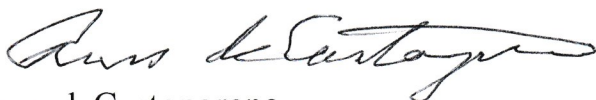
The books have been in storage boxes since they left St. Louis, as far as I know. Book was stored in boxes until about 2021.

I believe the book was published and distributed as individual chapters, which he then bound together

I'm enclosing a Table of Contents which I've prepared, since the books do not have one! Maybe you can put it with the books.

I'm looking forward to visiting your museum sometime. But, I unfortunately, have no idea when

Yours sincerely



Russ deCastongrene

PS: The Fair was depicted in the recent movie: The Current Wars, in 2017. About Edison, Tesla and Westinghouse as the first to use electric lighting. The Colombian Exposition. 1893.

My grandfather had an extensive collection of books in various stages of binding and various cardboard pages for binding. We just recently unpacked all of the stored items.

Book binders museumletter

# The Book of the Fair.

## Book One.

### Table of Contents

Preface		Page 3
Chapter the First	Fairs of the Past	Page 5
Chapter the Second	Historical sketch of Chicago	Page 29
Chapter the third	Evolution of the Columbian Exposition	Page 37
Map of the Fair -	Ground Plan Colombian Exposition	Page 54-55
Chapter the Fourth	The Site, the plan and the Artificers	Page 52
Chapter the Fifth	Exposition Management, Congress auxiliary, and Finances	Page 69
Chapter the Sixth	From the Dedication to the Opening – The Naval Review.	Page 86
Chapter the Seventh	The Government and Administration Departments	Page 99
Chapter the Eighth	Manufactures of the United States	Page 136
Chapter the Ninth	Foreign Manufactures	Page 179
Chapter the Tenth	Liberal Arts	Page 231
Chapter the Eleventh	Women's Department	Page
Chapter the Twelfth	Machinery	Page 305
Chapter the Thirteenth	Agriculture	Page 341
Chapter the Fourteenth	Electricity	Page 399
Chapter the Fifteenth	Horticulture and Forestry	Page 421
Chapter the Sixteenth	Mines, Mining, and Metallurgy	Page 467
Chapter the Seventeenth	Fisheries and Pisciculture	Page
Last Page Book I		Page 542

## The Book of the Fair.

### Book Two

#### Table of Contents (Continued)

Chapter the Eighteenth	Transportation	Page 543
Chapter the Nineteenth	The Livestock Department	Page 609
Chapter the Twentieth	Anthropology and Ethnology	Page 629
Chapter the Twenty-First	Fine Arts	Page 665
Chapter the Twenty-Second	State Exhibits	Page 765
Chapter the Twenty-Third	State Exhibits	Page 801
Chapter the Twenty-Fourth	The Midway Plaisance	Page 835
Chapter the Twenty-Fifth	Foreign Exhibits	Page 885
Chapter the Twenty-Sixth	The Worlds Congress Auxiliary	Page 921
Chapter the Twenty-Seventh	Results,, Awards, and Incidents	Page 956
Chapter the Twenty-Eighth	The California Midweather Exposition	Page 975
Index		Page 993
Last Page	Book II	Page 1000



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