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Van Nuys Hotel, Los Angeles, Cal.,
March 23rd, 1912.

Chas. L. Hutchinson, Esq.,

My dear Sir:-

Your valued favor of the 19th inst. received. I wrote to you because of your general reputation as a citizen of Chicago, who desired for the City, some reputation other than that of pure commercialism. I knew of your active interest in the Art Institute, which certainly does you great credit, but I want to be pardoned for saying, that it seems to me, that you have apparently the Chicago fever for Chicago "congestiveness", judging by your expressions in favor of the Field Museum and the Crerar Library being located down town in the heart of the City, where everything is congested now to "beat the band".

According to my recollections of John Crerar's will, it did not provide for a "scientific" library, on the contrary, he particularly specified that "French" novels were not to be kept in the library, which by implication, plainly indicated that he expected other kinds of novels to be there, and that consequently it was to be a general reading library.

John Crerar was a South Side man, and it seems to me, that in leaving his money for the Crerar Library that he intended it as a monument to himself, and not as it is, a rarely visited and slightly used scientific institution in the upper lofts of a down-town building. As suggested in my previous communication, the North Side has its Newberry Library and the West Side its Lewis Institute, but a resident of the South Side, the reading part of whose population is mostly south of 22nd Street, is now compelled to go down to the Public Library if he wants to get something to read, unless he is in the vicinity of one of the Branch Libraries which are poorly equipped.

When I left St. Louis, Mo., to come to Chicago, in January, 1868, one of the things that I most regretted to leave, was the Mercantile Library of St. Louis, which, at that time, occupied the major part of its own building on 6th & Locust Sts., which was then, quite a distance from the business center which had a very large collection

Van Myns Hotel, Los Angeles, Cal.,
March 2nd, 1913.

Chas. J. Hutchinson, Esq.

My dear Sir:-

Your valued favor of the 17th inst. received.
I wrote to you because of your general reputation as a
citizen of Chicago, who desired for the City some re-
putation other than that of pure commercialism. I
knew of your active interest in the Art Institute,
which certainly does you great credit, but I want to
be pardoned for saying, that it seems to me, that you
have apparently the Chicago fever for Chicago "con-
servatism". Judging by your expressions in favor of
the Field Museum and the Greater Library being located
down town in the heart of the City, where everything
is congested now to "beat the band".

According to my knowledge, the Art Institute
will, it did not provide for a potential library, for
the country, he particularly suggested that
avoidance not to be kept in the library, which by
implication, plainly indicated that he expected other
kinds of novels to be there, and that consequently
it was to be a general reading library.

John Greiner was a South Side man, and it seems
to me, that in leaving his money for the Greiner Library
that he intended it as a monument to himself, and not
as it is, a rarely visited and slightly used scientific
institution in the upper corner of a down-town building.
As suggested in my previous communication, the North
Side has the Newberry Library and the West Side the
Lewis Institute, but a resident of the South Side, the
reading part of whose population is mostly south of
32nd Street, is now compelled to go down to the Public
Library if he wants to get something to read, unless
he is in the vicinity of one of the Branch Libraries
which are poorly equipped.

When I left St. Louis, Mo., to come to Chicago,
in January, 1888, one of the things that I most regretted
to leave, was the Mercantile Library of St. Louis, which,
at that time, occupied the major part of the old building
on 6th & Locust Sts., which was then, quite a distance
from the business center which had a very large collection

Chas. L. Hutchinson, #2.

of books, occupying the main library room which was on the second floor, and I should, say, was about 125 square feet with a high ceiling. The two floors above it, had halls which were used for lectures and concerts, and were extremely popular among the best residents of St. Louis. The library room was adorned with many fine pieces of statuary and with oil paintings, presented by citizens of St. Louis. This Institution was a haven for young men who preferred its quiet and elevating influences to the theatres and billiard halls. The success of this institution was so great, that the manufacturing interests started another library called the Polytechnic, which is located about one mile South of the Mercantile, and whose membership was limited to the manufacturing interests, in contra-distinction to the "Mercantile", but alas, the spirit of commercialism has so seized on the St. Louis people, that the Mercantile building has been remodeled and the library has been shoved up to the top floor, all the lower floors being occupied by a department store.

Excuse me for bothering you with all this, but it does seem to me that the Crerar Library Trustees have the money to build a fine Library Building, and that the same should be located on Michigan Ave., south of 30th Street, all of which is very respectfully submitted, by

Yours truly,

Signed

R. S. Critchell

Chas. E. Hutchinson, Jr.

of books, occupying the main library room which was on the second floor, and I should say, was about 125 square feet with a high ceiling. The two floors above it, had halls which were used for lectures and concerts, and were extremely popular among the best residents of St. Louis. The library room was adorned with many fine pictures of scenery and with oil paintings, presented by citizens of St. Louis. This institution was a haven for young men who preferred the quiet and elevating influences to the theater and billiard halls. The success of this institution was so great, that the manufacturing interests started another library called the Polytechnic, which is located about one mile South of the Mercantile, and whose membership was limited to the manufacturing interests, in contrast to the "Mercantile", but also, the spirit of commercialism has seized on the St. Louis people that the Mercantile building has been remodeled and the library has been moved up to the top floor, all the lower floors being occupied by a department store.

I would be for bettering you with all this, but it seems to me that the better library would have the money to build a fine library building, and that the same should be located on Michigan Ave., north of 30th Street, all of which is very respectfully submitted, by

Yours truly,

Chas. E. Hutchinson, Jr.

Copy-

[Handwritten signature] 7

Van Nuys Hotel, Los Angeles, Cal.,
March 15th, 1912.

Chas. L. Hutchinson, Esq.,

My dear Sir:-

I left Chicago four months ago, to come out here on account of my health. I am assuming that you will remember me. I get the Chicago papers regularly, and I see a great number of Chicago people here, and notice that a great deal is said about a deal on the part of the South Park Commissioners with the Illinois Central Railroad whereby the Field Columbian Museum is to be located on the site of the present Illinois Central Passenger Station, and the Illinois Central given a good deal of space between 31st and 51st, whereby it could have numerous tracks, and presumably an extensive storage yard for its cars on those tracks. I will venture to say, as an owner of a \$50,000.00 piece of property, located in Woodland Park, that I think that this plan would a serious detriment to my property, if carried out. The open view of the lake, which we get now, is very much of an attraction and of value.

It does not seem to me, that the Field Columbian Museum, located wherever it may be, is particularly an object of interest. It does seem to me, that if the Crerar Library people could be induced to buy a piece of ground on Michigan Ave., far enough south so that the reading community, including the University, would be nearer the Library, that that would be a great thing for the South side. The North side has its Newberry Library; the West side the Lewis Institute, whereas as it now is, the South side has nothing in the way of a library, except the Main Public Library at Randolph & Michigan and the Crerar Library in an upper loft, almost adjoining the Public Library. I have been informed, that the Crerar Library people, have over \$4,000,000.00 loaned at interest, and therefore, they are well able to buy a site and build a library building, say, at the corner of 35th and Michigan Ave., which is a very accessible point by the surface cars, and would be a boon to the vast army of intelligent readers of the South side, and the location at this point, with a handsome library building, would tend to stop, what it seems to me, is the decadence of the South side, where I have lived for many years, and in which I take an interest and a pride. If what I have said, meets with your approval, it would be a source of great satisfaction, and will I trust, cause you to use your influence in the direction indicated.

With great regard, I am

Yours very truly,

Signed

R. S. Critchell

Van Nuys Hotel, Los Angeles, Cal.,
March 18th, 1912.

Chas. J. Hutchinson, Esq.,

My dear Sir:-

I left Chicago four months ago, to come out here on account of my health. I am assuming that you will remember me. I got the Chicago papers regularly, and I see a great number of Chicago people here, and notice that a great deal is said about a deal on the part of the South Park Commissioners with the Illinois Central Railroad whereby the Field Columbian Museum is to be located on the site of the present Illinois Central Passenger Station, and the Illinois Central given a good deal of space between 31st and 32nd, whereby it could have numerous tracks, and presumably an extensive storage yard for the cars on those tracks. I will venture to say, as an owner of a \$50,000.00 piece of property, located in Woodland Park, that I think that this plan would be a serious detriment to my property, if carried out. The open view of the lake, which we get now, is very much of an attraction and of value.

It does not seem to me, that the Field Columbian Museum, located wherever it may be, is particularly an object of interest. It does seem to me, that if the Greater Library people could be induced to buy a piece of ground on Michigan Ave., far enough south so that the reading community, including the University, would be nearer the library, that that would be a great thing for the South side. The North side has its Newberry Library; the West side the Lewis Institute, whereas as it now is, the South side has nothing in the way of a library, except the Main Public Library at Randolph & Michigan and the Greater Library in an upper part, almost adjoining the Public Library. I have been informed, that the Greater Library people, have over \$4,000,000.00 loaned at interest, and therefore, they are well able to buy a site and build a library building, say, at the corner of 35th and Michigan Ave., which is a very accessible point by the surface cars, and would be a boon to the vast army of intelligent readers of the South side, and the location at this point, with a handsome library building, would tend to stop, what it seems to me, is the decadence of the South side, where I have lived for many years, and in which I take an interest and a pride. If what I have said, meets with your approval, it would be a source of great satisfaction, and will I trust, cause you to use your influence in the direction indicated.

With great regards, I am

Yours very truly,

Wm. C. Cutler

Mr. R. W. Chamberlain
Chamberlain
Chamberlain
Crerar
I think it has been arranged by Prof. C.
1610 Title & Trust Building,

100 Washington Street,

Chicago, February 23rd, 1895.

William R. Harper, L.L.D.,
5657 Washington Avenue,
Chicago.

Dear Sir:--

Under the will of the late John Crerar, a free public library is to be established in Chicago. The library, which has already been incorporated, is to be one of reference, scientific in character and scope. A committee has been appointed to report to the Board the name of some person, who in the judgment of the committee possesses the necessary qualifications for the important position of Librarian of the institution.

The committee, appreciating your interest in scientific and library matters, takes the liberty of inquiring if you are acquainted with any person whom you can recommend as competent to create, organize and classify such a library. Besides a knowledge in the lines of science and a predisposition therefor, the committee is of the opinion that the person to be recommended should possess a high order of executive ability and a thorough familiarity with the duties of a librarian.

To enable you more clearly to advise us, it may be well to add that it is the desire of the Board to create a library that is to include departments of social science as well as departments

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The committee, appreciating your interest in scientific

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library is to be established in Chicago. The library, which has
Under the will of the late John Crerar, a free public

Dear Sir:--

Chicago.
5657 Washington Avenue,
William R. Harper, J.I.D.,

Chicago, February 23rd, 1895.
100 Washington Street,
1510 Title & Trust Building,

Mr.W.R.H.2.

in what is implied in the somewhat indefinite terms "Practical Science", Popular Science, or "Applied Science", a library which will encourage and inspire not only in students, but in the general public, the pursuit of scientific work and study. We will also add that departments of architecture, civil and mechanical engineering, astronomy and kindred subjects have received the favorable consideration of the Board.

Your reply, giving such information of the person you may recommend as to age, qualifications and such other matters as you may deem advisable to communicate, to assist the committee in reaching a satisfactory decision, will be greatly appreciated and ^etrated as a confidential communication.

Very Respectfully Yours,

Huntington W. Sanborn

C.W. Blatchford.

Edson Smith

Mr. W. R. H. S.

in what is implied in the somewhat indefinite terms "Practical Science", "Popular Science", or "Applied Science", a library which will encourage and inspire not only in students, but in the general public, the pursuit of scientific work and study. We will also add that departments of architecture, civil and mechanical engineering, astronomy and kindred subjects have received the favorable consideration of the Board.

Your reply, giving such information of the person you may recommend as to age, qualifications and such other matters as you may deem advisable to communicate, to assist the committee in reaching a satisfactory decision, will be greatly appreciated and treated as a confidential communication.

Very Respectfully Yours,

Wm. R. H. S.
Chas. H. S.
Wm. R. H. S.