

# CROSS REFERENCE SHEET

Name or Subject

J. W. Thompson

File No.

Regarding

Date

## SEE

Name or Subject

File No.

Fraternities

History

File cross reference form under name or subject at top of the sheet and by the latest date of papers. Describe matter for identification purposes. The papers, themselves should be filed under name or subject after "SEE."



Cat. No. 30-5902

For use in all Filing Systems

Chicago, Ill.

October 25, 1910.

President Harry Pratt Judson,

The University of Chicago,

Dear President Judson:-

I have succeeded in deciphering

the facsimile document sent to you by Dr. Cigrang and alleged

to be an autograph letter of Américo Vespucio addressed to

establish the fact that it is not a letter but the minutes of

a procedure concerned with an election affair in Valencia in

1491. The old hand is in bad shape owing to falling and to

cramps in the paper which make a number of words or parts of

words illegible. There are eight names attached, four of which

have been. The document, the text of which, as far as it is

possible to make out, is dated Nov. 1, 1491.

Dr. Cigrang is evidently in error. The document

itself has nothing to do with Américo Vespucio and I am of the

opinion that the possessor of it has been fraudulently imposed

upon. At the bottom of the document is another and later

hand eye added the words:

"Ego notarius olim instantis secretarius (?) Américo de

Vespucio cancell. extract. . . scripsit(?)"

The internal evidence shows that the document is not

a letter and there is nothing to show that it ever pertained to

Vespucio, beyond the statement made at the bottom. The fact

that this differs in both form of handwriting and color of ink at

once excites suspicion. It is evidently considerably later than

the original writing and I am inclined to believe was added in re-

cent times by some unscrupulous dealer who imitated an ancient

hand in order to dispose of it more readily. The history of



the MS..would indicate this, for I understand that it was bought by Mr. Ayer at the time of the World's Fair of 1893 under the supposition that it was an original letter of Vespucci.

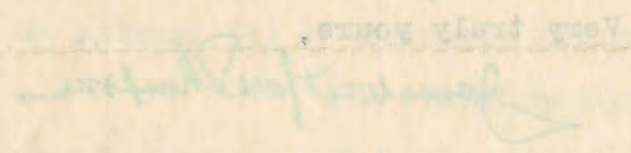
Moreover there is another sort of evidence which invalidates the authenticity. Vespucci died on Feb. 12 (O.S.) 1512 at Seville, a little over three months after the date of this document. During the last years of his life he was in the service of Spain, and from 1508 to 1511 was piloto mayor in the Spanish admiralty. It is very unlikely that he was ever in Florence during these years. Finally the endorsement in the Verso of the document (by a clerk (?)) definitely states its purport, and there is no mention whatever of Vespucci. In this conclusion I have not relied upon my own judgment alone, but have consulted Prof. Pietsch and Mr. Martin Sprengling, both of whom are expert paleographers. There is no reason whatever for Mr. Cigrand's assumption, and it would be unfortunate to have the document published as a veritable letter of the discoverer.

Very truly yours,

(Enclosures).

*James Westfall Thompson*

The MS. would indicate this, for I understand that it was  
bought by Mr. Agor at the time of the World's Fair of 1893  
under the supposition that it was an original letter of Vespucci  
of 1492.  
Moreover there is another sort of evidence which in-  
validated the authenticity. Vespucci died on Feb. 12 (O.S.)  
1498 at Seville a little over three months after the date of  
this document. During the last years of his life he was in  
the service of Spain, and from 1498 to 1501 was alcalde mayor in  
the Spanish administration. It is very unlikely that he was ever in  
Florence during these years. Finally the endorsement in the Vergo  
of the document (by a clerk (?) definitely states its purpose,  
and there is no mention whatever of Vespucci. In this conclusion  
I have not relied upon my own judgment alone, but have consulted  
Prof. Pischel and Mr. Martin Sprengling, both of whom are expert  
paleographers. There is no reason whatever for Mr. Pischel's as-  
sumption, and it would be unfortunate to have the document published  
as a veritable letter of the discoverer.

Very truly yours,  


(Enclosure)



The University of Chicago

Department of History

185

CHICAGO March 20, 1910

Dear President Judson:-

I expect to move during the present week to 5730 Woodlawn Ave., where I am going to join Professors Tarbell, Salisbury and Freund. I have a large full-size replica (cast) of the famous Rosetta Stone - the trilingual inscription in ancient hieroglyphics, Demotic and Greek, discovered by the French in Egypt in 1799, which afforded the key to the decipherment of the ancient Egyptian language. It is rather large for my new quarters and I should be glad to give it to Haskell Museum, if you approve will you please advise Superintendent Maclean to communicate with me as to when he will send for it.

Very truly yours

James Westfall Thompson

The University of Chicago  
Department of Physics

Chicago, March 20, 1910

Dear President Johnson

I am sorry to hear that you are

backed to your duties in the

University of Chicago. I have a

great deal of work to do and

am sorry to hear that you are

backed to your duties in the

University of Chicago. I have a

great deal of work to do and

am sorry to hear that you are

backed to your duties in the

University of Chicago. I have a

great deal of work to do and

am sorry to hear that you are

backed to your duties in the



The University of Chicago

Department of History

CHICAGO March 20, 1910

Mr. President Judson:-

I expect to move during the present week to

5730 Woodhawn Ave., where I am going to join Professor Tarbell,

Secretary and Friend. I have a large full-size copy of the  
March 22, 1910 (cont.) of the  
famous Rosetta stone - the trilingual inscription in ancient hieroglyphics,  
Demotic and Greek, discovered by the French in Egypt in 1799, which  
afforded the key to the decipherment of the ancient Egyptian language.

My dear Mr. Thompson:-

Your favor of the 20th inst. received.

The University will be glad to accept the generous gift of the

Rosetta stone. I have asked Mr. Breasted, Curator of the Haskell

Museum, to see to the process of transfer, and asked him to attend

to it promptly.

Appreciating your courtesy, I am,

Very truly yours,

H. P. J.

Mr. J. W. Thompson,  
The University of Chicago.

The University of Chicago  
Department of Anthropology

March 22, 1910

My dear Mr. Thompson:-

Your favor of the 20th inst. received.

The University will be glad to accept the generous gift of the

Rosetta stone. I have asked Mr. Brewster, Curator of the Haskell

Museum, to see to the process of transfer, and asked him to attend

to it promptly.

Appreciating your courtesy, I am,

Very truly yours,

H. G. J.

Mr. J. W. Thompson,  
The University of Chicago.



Thompson

Pres. William R. Harper

My dear Mr. President -

The enclosed clipping speaks for itself and

(13)  
For Ackn  
approximate interest  
& congratulation

Very truly yours

James Westfall Thompson

24 Jan. 1896

has been in practical control of the laboring people about the office. They are the ones who were first to complain about the assessment for the purse fund.

#### HONORS FOR PROFESSOR THOMPSON.

##### His Thesis to Be Presented Before a French Academy.

James Westfall Thompson, assistant in history at the University of Chicago, has received substantial evidence of the high esteem in which western educators are held by European scholars. Professor Thompson some time ago sent the thesis for his doctor of philosophy degree to Professor Achille Luchaire, of the University of Paris, for examination. An autograph letter has been received by the author from Professor Luchaire acknowledging the receipt of the work, and further stating that the thesis has been so favorably commented upon as to warrant its presentation before the French Academy of Moral and Political Sciences.

Thompson

The University of Chicago

Prof. William A. Harper

1000 North Dearborn St.

The enclosed clipping contains for sale

1000 copies of  
The Harper's Dictionary

24 Jan. 1896



My dear Mr. President:-

Miss Anderson's letter of complaint

relative to the mark she received last quarter, with your request for information has been received. In reply:-

A reference to my marking book shows that on the monthly review examinations Miss Anderson received a January grade of E. C = term and examination to date; for February the grade was D. C. I invariably return all examination papers with comment and correction and Miss Anderson knew perfectly well from the marks upon her paper that it was not satisfactory. Moreover I distinctly recall that Miss Anderson was told by me, when she came to me desk to explain a late attendance, that her work necessitated improvement. As to the statement that I hardly knew the sound of her voice it is true, although the reason given ignores the fact that she rarely was able to recite when called upon. It was impossible for any student to make daily recitations for there were 39 in class - the largest I ever had but I did my best to get around, though naturally there was short time to allow a front student to back and fill. The course was not "largely lectures", save in the Monday and Tuesday before examination when I took the recitation into my own hands because it was desirable to get to a suitable terminal point and time was crowding.

# CROSS REFERENCE SHEET

File No.

J. W. Thompson

Name or Subject

Date

Regarding

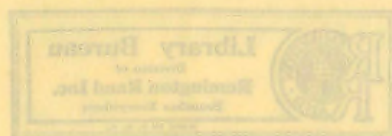
## SEE

File No.

Name or Subject

Particulars

History



For use in all Filing Systems  
Cat. No. 30-5503

The cross reference form under name or subject at top of the sheet and by the latest date of paper. Describe matter for identification purposes. The paper, themselves should be filed under name or subject after "SEE."



July 18th 1861

Dear Mr. Garrison

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 14th inst.

in relation to the matter of the Boston Convention.

I am very glad to hear that you are so much interested in the cause.

I am sure that your efforts will be successful.

I am, Sir, very respectfully,  
Your obedient servant,  
Wm. Lloyd Garrison

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 14th inst.

in relation to the matter of the Boston Convention.

I am very glad to hear that you are so much interested in the cause.

I am sure that your efforts will be successful.

I am, Sir, very respectfully,  
Your obedient servant,  
Wm. Lloyd Garrison

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 14th inst.

in relation to the matter of the Boston Convention.

I am very glad to hear that you are so much interested in the cause.

I am sure that your efforts will be successful.

I am, Sir, very respectfully,  
Your obedient servant,  
Wm. Lloyd Garrison

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 14th inst.

in relation to the matter of the Boston Convention.

I am very glad to hear that you are so much interested in the cause.

I am sure that your efforts will be successful.

I am, Sir, very respectfully,  
Your obedient servant,  
Wm. Lloyd Garrison

In conclusion, Miss Anderson's work was not  
satisfactory throughout the quarter. She knew it and the  
statement that I conferred her with another student is futile.  
On the final examination I did not feel justified in  
exempting her and in marking her there was no choice  
for she needed to take the course over and an E grade  
was the only grade possible. In figures I would not  
have rated her standing at 50 %. If Miss  
Anderson had done proper work she never would have  
needed to have spent 20 hours reviewing. I enclose the examination  
book with errors marked in red ink. Far from requiring "astute historical influences"  
you will see Miss Anderson has failed in dates & other questions of fact.  
Very truly

James Westfall Thompson

April 7, 1899



The Commission, this Commission was not  
 authorized to purchase the goods, the Commission is not the  
 statement that I cannot be sure and the statement is false.  
 In the first examination I did not find anything in  
 examination and in making for there was no change  
 for the needed to take the course and not to go to  
 the very good possible. The figures I would not  
 have been the statement at 20% of the  
 Commission had the four and the Commission  
 needed to have been as much as the Commission  
 "which is not" in the Commission in the Commission  
 You will see that the Commission is not the Commission  
 that the Commission is not the Commission  
 James M. Wall  
 James M. Wall

April 5, 1899

April, 5, 1899.

Anderson

(26)

This Dr. Thompson  
never read this!  
return of his  
counts.  
Harper.

In accordance with your request of Monday April third, I wish to state that I am for the first time having trouble with a course. I have eighteen majors and am working for the A.B. degree. Dr. Thompson did not pass me in Mediaeval History. I consider this unjust.

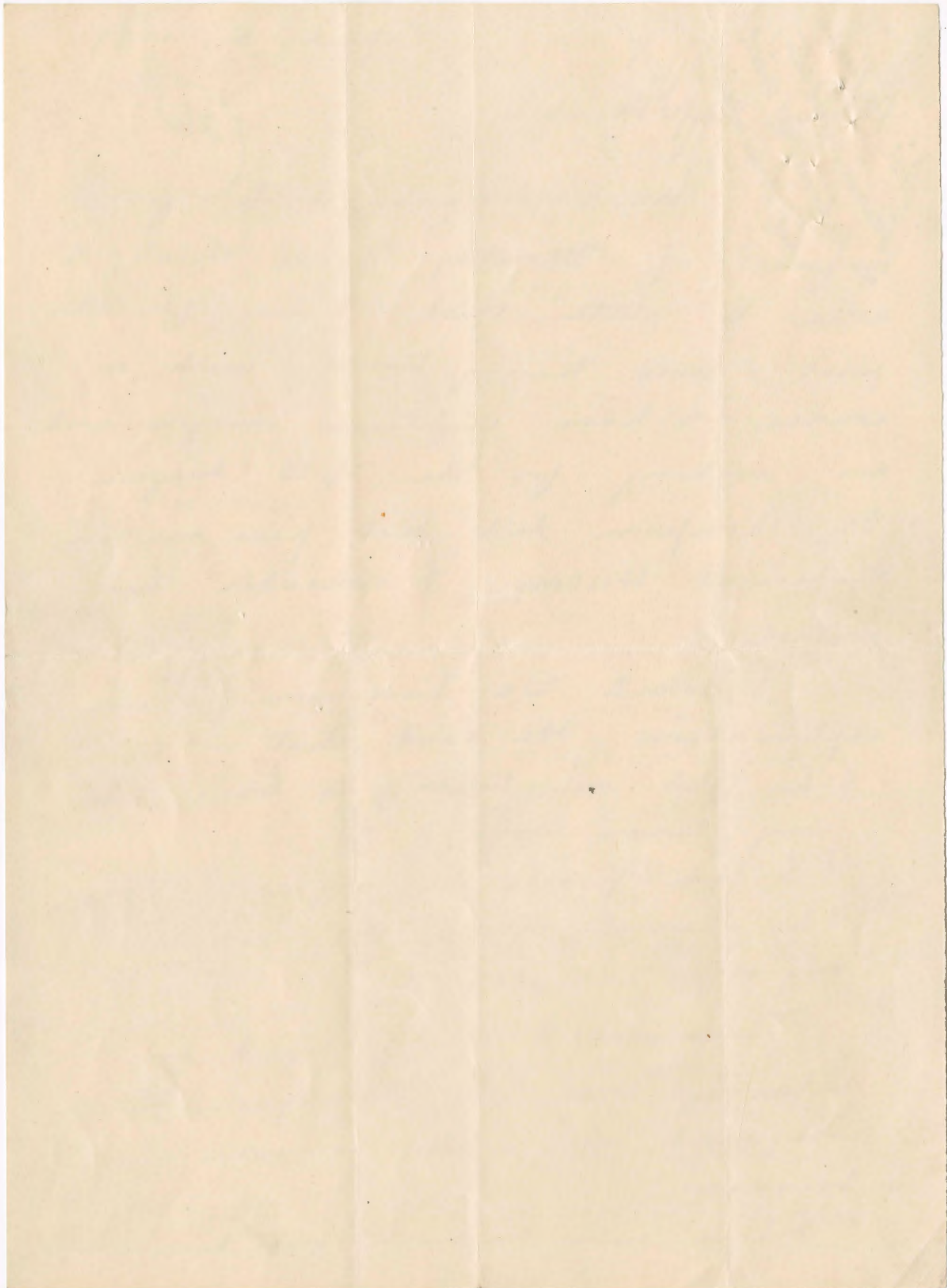
I asked Dr. Thompson for an explanation. He said that

- 1) he told me twice to brace up my term work;
- 2) I did poorly in my examinations;
- 3) he scarcely knew the sound of my voice in class.

Therefore I am justified in believing that Dr. Thompson has confused me with someone else, because-

1) I have never received from him any





indication that my work did not meet his approval;

2) My first two examinations were not discreditable. For the third and last examination, which Dr. Thompson compelled me to take although I was to receive my junior certificate then, I spent twenty hours reviewing.

3) Dr. Thompson was right in saying that he scarcely knew the sound of my voice because,

a) there were about forty people in the class;

b) a great part of the course was lecture.

c) Dr. Thompson on some occasions demanded astute historical inferences. This was my first history course.

My work has been faithful.

I have ventured to trouble you chiefly because I desire to apply for the English Scholarship.

5854 Rosalie Court. Anna Cecilia Anderson.



Mr. Harper.  
President.

Lake Geneva,  
Wisconsin.

My dear Dr. Walker:

I am sending you to day your copy of  
"Stella Moberly" together with "The Yellow Wall  
Paper," the story Mrs. Thompson alluded to.  
We enjoyed "Stella Moberly," very much, although  
I fear I could not appreciate all the delicate  
psychological touches which Mrs. Thompson  
could perceive, for I have not that rare  
insight which she possesses.

Thanks to your kindness we have rented  
our house for the summer to Mr. Shirley, and we  
feel indebted to you for your kindness in the matter.  
I am just about to leave for Charleston to attend the  
National Educational Association's session there.  
I fear I shall miss the Kenwood Tennis entirely.  
With best regards from Mrs. Thompson<sup>and</sup> myself, I am  
Very truly yours

July 16, 1900

James Westfall Thompson



1840  
1841

My dear Sir,

I am very glad to hear of your  
success in the "Globe" and the  
"Liberator", and the other papers  
which you are editing. I am  
glad to hear that you are  
so successful in your efforts  
to bring about a more  
general knowledge of the  
truth, and that you are  
able to do so in a  
manner which is  
both interesting and  
instructive. I am  
glad to hear that you  
are so successful in your  
efforts to bring about a  
more general knowledge  
of the truth, and that  
you are able to do so in  
a manner which is both  
interesting and instructive.

September 30, 1910

Dear Mr. Thompson:-

The enclosed correspondence will explain itself. When it was received nearly everybody was out of the city. I am wondering whether this might be in your line. Of course we should be glad to accommodate Mr. Cigrand if possible.

By the way, the letter if genuine was written not long before the death of the author. The letter seems to be dated November, 1511, and he died I believe in February, 1512.

Very truly yours,

*A.C.J.*

Mr. J. W. Thompson,  
The University of Chicago:



February 24, 1911

Dear Mr. Thompson:-

I beg to thank you for the very beautiful volume which you sent me, and for its inscription. Let me at the same time congratulate you on an excellent piece of work.

With best regards, I am,

Very truly yours,

H. P. J.

Mr. J. W. Thompson,  
The University of Chicago.

September 30, 1910

Dear Mr. Thompson:-

The enclosed correspondence will explain itself.

When it was received nearly everybody was out of the city. I am

wondering whether it might be in your line. Of course we

should be glad to accommodate Mr. Cigrand if possible.

By the way, the letter if genuine was written not long before

the death of the author. The letter seems to be dated November,

1911, and he died I believe in February, 1912.

Very truly yours,  
A. G. J.

Mr. J. W. Thompson,  
The University of Chicago.



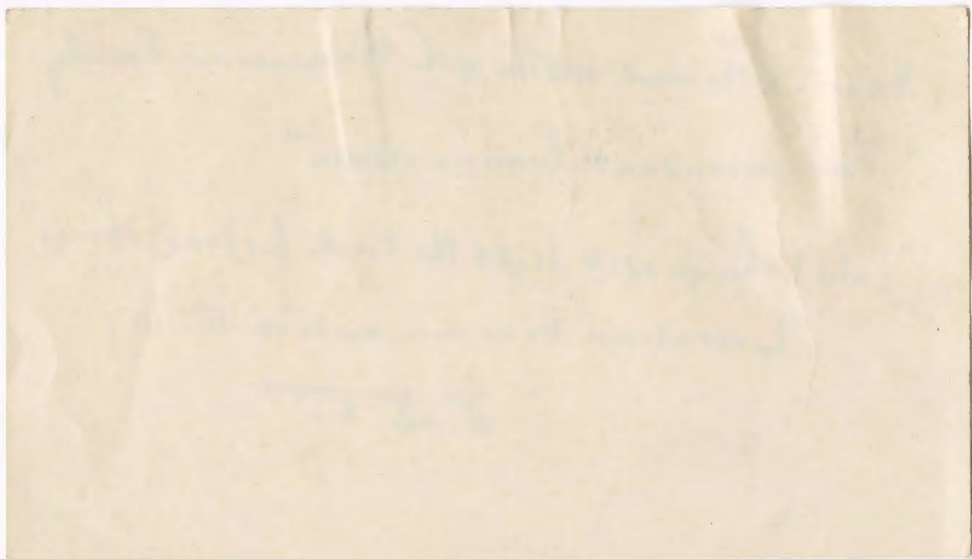
Here is the real motto of the Renaissance Society

"Res accendunt lumina rebus"

"[old] things will light the torch for [new] things"

Lucretius: De rerum natura II. 1117

J. W. T.





# The University of Chicago

Dear Mr. Robertson:

It is hard to express a preference among several attractive type faces. I offer three alternatives.

- 1-Cheltenham Old Style Italic[p.56]with Jenson capitals[P.102]  
(ten or twelve point)
- 2-Della Robbia[p.66]with Della Robbia capitals[p.98]  
(ten or twelve point)
- 3-Caslon Old Style[p.48] with Burford capitals[p.96]

Personally I do n't like old french and have a preference for Italic. The pages above cited are in the U of C. press manual.

I have been wondering if a motto would be in order. There is a fine one from old Geoffrey de Sainte Barbe(circa 1170), a famous lover of books in the Middle Ages, viz:

'Clastrum sine armario est quasi castrum sine armamentario'.

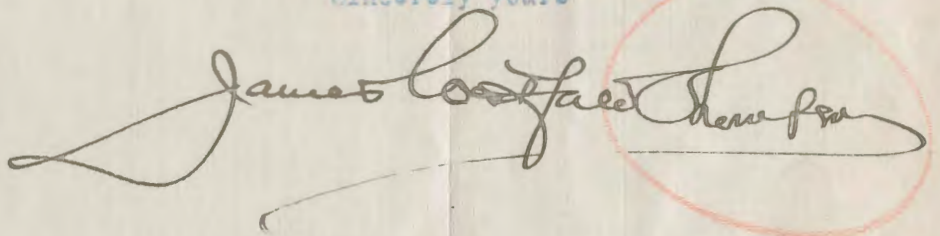
'A cloister without a manuscript room is like a castle without an armory'.

Notice the play upon words-armarium vsarmamentarium. We might substitute the word 'universitas' for 'claustrum'.

If you wish me to come to your office to talk things over, drop me a line to this effect.

Sincerely yours

May 18, 1916

A handwritten signature in dark ink, reading "James Cosgrave Hewson". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, sweeping initial "J". A red circular stamp is partially visible behind the signature.





Office of the President

Referred to \_\_\_\_\_

1924

Please

1. Dispose of as you think best.
2. Answer and retain in your files.
3. Answer and return with carbon of reply for our files.
4. Return with answer on President's stationery for him to sign.
5. Return
  - a) With information called for in writing.
  - b) With suggestion of answer in writing.
  - c) Comment in writing.
6. Return and arrange for personal interview.
7. Follow through—and report.
8. Initial and return (sent for information only).
9. Accept \_\_\_\_\_ Decline.
10. Send to \_\_\_\_\_ with covering letter.
11. File under \_\_\_\_\_
12. Make \_\_\_\_\_ copies.  
Send to \_\_\_\_\_
13. Remarks.

Li 2

JAMES WESTFALL THOMPSON,  
DEPARTMENT OF HISTORY,  
THE UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO.

Libary - 1924-25  
refile

past I have been mildly campaigning to promote  
e in the University. Oxford, Cambridge and Paris have  
ry of science, and it has seemed to me a great op-  
ago to anticipate that development in America, and  
ke a beginning I compiled a list of the most import-  
bject, and sent it to Mr Hanson in the hope that the  
s I had discovered that no department was willing  
at line. That list is still in Miss Ver Nooy's desk.  
have found that Dr Mc Lean is also intensely inter-  
th far more justice than I. I trust that it may  
ou the hope that something progressive may soon be  
Unfortunately most of the men in the science dep-  
rability of introducing such a course. It would seem  
t years has almost destroyed that common body of  
knowledge--and the relation which exists between  
them all together, has largely been lost.  
Butler in his last report gives notice that Columbia  
course as I have suggested above. The enclosed excerpt  
American Assoc. of University Professors.

Very truly yours

Westfall Thompson

"The College Faculty is now prepared to go a step farther, and as soon as the material is prepared, to introduce a second course of this general character in the form of an Introduction to Modern Science. This course will offer to the undergraduate a systematic and well-knit exposition of the fundamental assumptions, laws, and methods of modern science, and will serve as the best possible introduction to the closer study of some particular science. It is often remarked that while for sixty years past immense sums have been spent upon natural science, and while the natural sciences have in that period rendered service to mankind that is literally enormous, no substantial headway has been made in bringing the general or popular mind under the influence of scientific ideals. It may fairly be asked whether an explanation of this curious result is not to be sought in the fact that the study of science has been and is so highly specialized."...

N. M. BUTLER, President.



JAMES WESTBROOK THOMPSON  
DEPARTMENT OF HISTORY  
THE UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO

1. Dispute of as you think best.  
2. Answer and return in your file.  
3. Answer and return with carbon of reply for our file.  
4. Return with answer on President's statement for him to sign.  
5. Return  
a) With information called for in letter  
b) With statement of action in return  
c) Comment in writing  
6. Return and arrange for personal interview  
7. Follow through and report  
8. Initial and return (sent for information only)  
9. Accept \_\_\_\_\_ Decline \_\_\_\_\_  
10. Send to \_\_\_\_\_ with \_\_\_\_\_  
11. File under \_\_\_\_\_  
12. Make \_\_\_\_\_ copies \_\_\_\_\_  
13. Return \_\_\_\_\_

course abroad and receive credit for this work, completed, toward the baccalaureate degree. We anticipated and in some measure met all, or near all, the difficulties which present themselves in such a plan.

"If one of our specific aims is to create, eventually, a body of college trained business men upon whom the government may draw for work that involves a knowledge of the languages and customs of other countries, we must be sure that they are likely to go into business when they finish their education."

"We therefore conclude that any plan for foreign education to reach significant numbers, and is to be sure to result in a business man, must be made available for *undergraduate* education, not depend upon scholarships or fellowships. The undergraduate course has become the accepted period of non-business education for the average American. At the end of the undergraduate course the boy is going into business, he wants to get away from the college and he wants to get his money's worth of education."



Li 2

JAMES WESTFALL THOMPSON,  
DEPARTMENT OF HISTORY,  
THE UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO.

Library - 1924-25  
refile

Dear President Burton:

For two years past I have been mildly campaigning to promote an interest in the history of science in the University. Oxford, Cambridge and Paris have each established chairs of the history of science, and it has seemed to me a great opportunity for the University of Chicago to anticipate that development in America, and be the first so to do. In order to make a beginning I compiled a list of the most important works, standard works, upon the subject, and sent it to Mr Hanson in the hope that the General library might acquire them, as I had discovered that no department was willing to expend its appropriation along that line. That list is still in Miss Ver Nooy's desk.

Now to my Great delight I have found that Dr Mc Lean is also intensely interested in promoting the matter, and with far more justice than I. I trust that it may not seem bold of me to express to you the hope that something progressive may soon be done for the history of science here. Unfortunately most of the men in the science departments are indifferent to the desirability of introducing such a course. It would seem that intense specialization in recent years has almost destroyed that common body of scientific interest and scientific knowledge--and the relation which exists between the various sciences, the content of them all together, has largely been lost.

I observe that President Butler in his last report gives notice that Columbia is about to introduce just such a course as I have suggested above. The enclosed excerpt is from the last Bulletin of the American Assoc. of University Professors.

Very truly yours

James Westfall Thompson

satisfactor  
think that April 24, 1925

ly all, of t

ally, a great

commerce a

nowledge of

t reach the

ie college co

oreign study

include the

graduates an

he four-year

professional

d of four y

start to 'ge

11 1-

Dear President Wilson:

For two years past I have been actively engaged in promoting an interest in the history of science in the University. During this time I have been especially active in the history of science, and it has seemed to me a great opportunity for the University of Chicago to participate in this development in America, and to the first of the most important. In order to make a beginning I supplied a list of the most important names in the history of science, and I had discovered that no department was willing to accept the responsibility of this list. That list is still in Miss Van Hook's hands. Now to my great surprise I have found that Dr. H. L. Hays is also intensely interested in promoting the matter, and with far more justice than I. I trust that it will not be held of me to receive to you the hope that something constructive may soon be done for the history of science here. Unfortunately most of the men in the various departments are indifferent to the possibility of introducing such a course. It would seem that intense specialization in recent years has almost destroyed that common body of scientific interest and scientific knowledge--and the relation which exists between the various sciences, the nucleus of which all sciences have formerly been.

I believe that President Wilson is the best person to whom to refer this matter, and I have suggested to him that he should refer it to you. I have suggested to him that he should refer it to you.

Very truly yours,

James West Thompson



COPY

April 29, 1924

My dear Mr. Thompson:

I have your interesting letter concerning the offering of courses in the History of Science. I am glad that both you and Dr. McLean are interested in the matter. May I suggest that you or Dr. McLean, or both, consult with Mr. Tufts about the matter, especially as to where the course would be listed, how and how soon it could be introduced and who could give it? I entirely approve the idea in itself, and as soon as there are funds available I should be glad to consider it in relation with other similar matters. Is this the kind of a thing for which we could get a special gift?

Very truly yours,

(Signed) Ernest D. Burton

Mr. J. W. Thompson  
University of Chicago

EDB:HP

February 24, 1911

Dear Mr. Thompson:-

I beg to thank you for the very beautiful  
volume which you sent me, and for its inscription. Let me at the  
same time congratulate you on an excellent piece of work.

With best regards, I am,

Very truly yours,

H. B. F.

Mr. J. W. Thompson,  
The University of Chicago.



COPY

April 29, 1924

My dear Mr. Thompson:

I have your interesting letter concerning the offering of courses in the History of Science. I am glad that both you and Dr. McLean are interested in the matter. May I suggest that you or Dr. McLean, or both, consult with Mr. Tuttle about the matter, especially as to where the course would be listed, how and how soon it could be introduced and who could give it? I entirely approve the idea in itself, and as soon as there are funds available I should be glad to consider it in relation with other similar matters. Is this the kind of a thing for which we could get a special gift?

Very truly yours,

(Signed) Ernest D. Burton

Mr. J. W. Thompson  
University of Chicago

EDB:HP

Jan. 11, 1911 60

5730 WOODLAWN AVENUE

Dear President Judson:

I take the liberty to send you a review of my book upon the Huguenots by M. Weiss, the greatest living authority in the history of French protestantism. Eliminating the personal equation, it may be of interest to you to know the recognition a publication of the University of Chicago Press has received from so high a source. May I ask for the return of the Bulletin at your convenience

Sincerely yours

James Westfall Thompson

President Harry Pratt Judson

March 8, 1911

h, transmitting the review  
received, and I fear has  
soon after, and did not

on.

ours,

H. P. J.

Mr. James Westfall Thompson,  
The University of Chicago.



*Handwritten in red ink:*  
D. H. Thompson

March 8, 1911

h, transmitting the review  
received, and I fear has  
on after, and did not

*Handwritten in blue ink:*  
A. R. P.

Mr. James Westfall Thompson,  
The University of Chicago.

Jan. 11, 1911 60

55 WOODLAWN AVENUE

London:

the liberty to send you a  
copy of the Huguenots by M.

the greatest living authority in the history of  
French protestantism. Eliminating the personal  
equation, it may be of interest to you to know  
that recognition a publication of the University  
of Chicago has received from so high a  
source. I am for the return of the Bulletin

March 8, 1911

Dear Mr. Thompson:-

Sincerely yours

Your note of January 11th, transmitting the review

of your book relating to the Huguenots, was received, and I fear has

not been acknowledged. I went away very soon after, and did not

perhaps bring my correspondence up to date.

I thank you for the document in question.

Very truly yours,

H. B. J.

Mr. James Westfall Thompson,  
The University of Chicago.



*Handwritten red ink scribble*

March 8, 1911

Dear Mr. Thompson:-

Your note of January 11th, transmitting the review  
of your book relating to the Huguenots, was received, and I fear has  
not been acknowledged. I went away very soon after, and did not  
perhaps bring my correspondence up to date.  
I thank you for the document in question.

Very truly yours,

*Handwritten initials*

Mr. James Westfall Thompson,  
The University of Chicago.

Chicago, Ill.

October 7th, 1910.

7

President Harry Pratt Judson,

The University of Chicago,

Dear President Judson:-

I have succeeded in deciphering the fac-simile document sent to you by Dr. Cigrand and alleged to be an autograph letter of Amerigo Vespucci sufficiently to establish the fact that it is not a letter but the minutes of a procedure concerned with an election affair in Florence in 1511. The original is in bad shape owing to fading and to creases in the paper which make a number of words or parts of words illegible. There are eight names attached, four of which have seals. The document, the text of which, as far as it is possible to make out, is dated Nov. 1, 1511.

Dr. Cigrand is evidently in error. The document itself has nothing to do with Amerigo Vespucci and I am of the opinion that the possessor of it has been fraudulently imposed upon. At the bottom of the document in another and later hand are added the words:

"Ego Antonius olim Anastasius secretarius (?) Amerig; de Vespucci cancell. extract., scripsi(?).

The internal evidence shows that the document is not a letter and there is nothing to show that it ever pertained to Vespucci, beyond the statement made at the bottom. The fact that this differs in both form of handwriting and color of ink at once excites suspicion. It is evidently considerably later than the original writing and I am inclined to believe was added in recent times by some unscrupulous dealer who imitated an ancient hand in order to dispose of it more readily. The history of