

DOCUMENT 9 – PETITION FOR A FREE LICENSE FOR A MUSEUM

November 12, 1844

TRANSCRIPTION

To the Honorable the Mayor and Aldermen of Chicago in council assembled—The undersigned would respectfully represent to your honorable body that they have made arrangements to establish a permanent institution in the city of Chicago for the collection and exhibition of Natural and Artificial curiosities, Paintings, relics &c to be calld the “Western Museum,” to be conducted on a plan so far as its means & facilities will permit, Similar to museums of the best reputation in the country. And as they believe the existance ~~of~~ in any city of a well conducted and permanent Museum, where the wonders of nature, the beauties of Art, and the relics of Antiquity may be studied or admired, forms a powerful auxilliary to science, to art, and to literature, in fine mingling useful knowledge with rational entertainment. The undersigned therefore respectfully pray your honorable body that in consideration of these advantages to citizens and in accordance with established precedent in other cities, to grant them a license for the aforesaid exhibition without fee or charge other than the necessary perquisites to the proper officer issuing the same — as your petitioners will ever pray.—

E Price

Signd

S. Sircomb

E W Hadley

A B Lewis

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