

A HISTORY OF
THE WORLD'S COLUMBIAN EXPOSITION
HELD IN CHICAGO IN 1893

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J. Appleton & Co.

Charles Higginbotham

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HELD IN CHICAGO IN 1893

*BY AUTHORITY OF THE
BOARD OF DIRECTORS*

EDITED BY

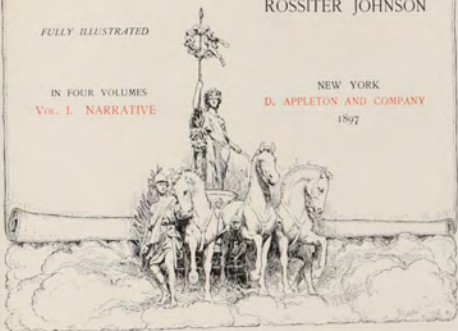
ROSSITER JOHNSON

FULLY ILLUSTRATED

IN FOUR VOLUMES
Vol. I. NARRATIVE

NEW YORK
D. APPLETON AND COMPANY

1897



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PREFACE.

For the purpose of preserving a record of the principal features and important events connected with the inception, development, and administration of the World's Columbian Exposition, together with a brief account of the magnitude of the various departments, of the principal exhibits, and of the World's Congresses, the Board of Directors, by resolution adopted January 26, 1895, authorized the publication of this History by Messrs. D. Appleton & Co., under the editorship of Rossiter Johnson, LL. D., and appointed the undersigned a committee charged with the duty of supervising the publication.

Invaluable as are the reports of the chief officers of the Exposition, especially to those who may hereafter undertake a similar enterprise, still their volume is so great that a full publication would be impracticable, and therefore nothing more than a condensed synopsis of these reports can be given.

The materials from which the History has been compiled are the records of the proceedings of the Board of Directors and documents on file in the general offices; the reports of Harlow N. Higinbotham, President of the Company; George R. Davis, Director General; Daniel H. Burnham, Director of Works; Mrs. Potter Palmer, President of the Board of Lady Managers, and other reports by subordinate officers.

It has been the endeavor of the Editor and the Committee to select from this material so much as might be of interest to the general reader, or serviceable to those who may hereafter undertake a similar enterprise. It has been our purpose to preserve a true record of every important feature and function of the enterprise, and to offer it as a contribution to the literature of expositions, in the hope that its text and illustrations may serve to

perpetuate the memory of the most successful enterprise of the kind our country has yet produced, and, in some important features, the most remarkable that the world has ever witnessed; and also in the further hope that when another National and International Exposition shall be held under the sanction and authority of the Congress of the United States, its officers, by a careful study of this authoritative history, may be aided in attaining a higher standard of beauty and excellence. Such was the purpose of the Directors, and, with this object in view, the Committee has approved this brief but impartial History of the World's Columbian Exposition.

HARLOW N. HIGGINBOTHAM,

EDWIN WALKER,

LYMAN J. GAGE,

Committee.