

Collection #
SC 2642

OCTAVE CHANUTE LETTER, 1904

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COLLECTION INFORMATION

VOLUME OF COLLECTION:	1 folder
COLLECTION DATES:	1904
PROVENANCE:	History Makers, Inc., 4041 East 82 nd Street, Indianapolis, IN 46250
RESTRICTIONS:	None

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ALTERNATE FORMATS: None

RELATED HOLDINGS: None

ACCESSION NUMBER: 1998.0174

NOTES:

BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH

Octave Chanute (1832–1910) was born in Paris to Joseph and Eliza (De Bonnaire) Chanute. His parents emigrated from France to the United States in 1838, and Chanute was educated in private schools in New York City. From 1853 to 1863 he worked in various capacities for Hudson River Railroad. In 1857, he married Annie James of Peoria, Illinois. As a civic and consulting engineer, Chanute worked mainly in the construction of railroads and railroad bridges. However, he is known more for his work in the area of aerial navigation. He was probably the first person to conduct scientific gliding experiments in the United States. In 1896 and 1897 Chanute and his assistants made hundreds of glides at Dune Park, near Lake Michigan. He also designed a biplane, which the Wright Brothers used as a model for their designs. Chanute was the author of two influential books, *Aerial Navigation* (1891) and *Progress in Flying Machines* (1894).

No information was found in available resources for R. E. Ackley.

Source: *Dictionary of American Biography*. New York: Scribner's, 1964. E176 .D563. Vol. 2, p. 10–11.

SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE

This collection consists of a letter dated 29 August 1904 from Octave Chanute (Chicago, Illinois) to R. E. Ackley (Rockford, Illinois). Chanute mentions a statement in the *American Magazine of Aeronautica* concerning the Aero Club of America.

CATALOGING INFORMATION

For additional information on this collection, including a list of subject headings that may lead you to related materials:

1. Go to the Indiana Historical Society's online catalog: <http://157.91.92.2/>
2. Click on the "Basic Search" icon.
3. Select "Call Number" from the "Search In:" box.
4. Search for the collection by its basic call number (in this case, SC 2642).
5. When you find the collection, go to the "Full Record" screen for a list of headings that can be searched for related materials.

