

John Lorang's Chair Journal 1914

"The following is the history of the Chair presented to Ida-Marie Lorang on May 10, 1914 by her Grandpa.

John Lorang

The Chair was made by my self in Feb.1914. It is constructed of four different kinds of wood grown by my self on the farm 2 ½ mile N.W. of Genesee, Idaho. The varieties are as follows, Elm, ash, cherry and apple wood. The seat and back is elm-wood, taken from a tree which I have planted in 1890 in front of our house, and was cut down in 1912 by my self.

The legs and armrests are made of ash-wood grown from seeds I obtained from my old home in Wisconsin and planted them in 1890. The spokes are made and also table of apple-wood. The footrest is made of cherry-wood, originated from my old home in Wisconsin.

A sprout of a cherry-tree that my Father planted some 50 years ago, was sent to me in 1896 and I planted it here in our orchard, and last winter I have taken a fraction there from for the footrest.

The two little pins supporting the footrest ar relics from the first apple-tree that my Father planted in the country. As my Parents came from the old country, and settled in Wisconsin on a farm, they were extremely poor, and while Father was clearing off the timber for a little field on their new timbered homestead, Mother was obliged to go out sewing for other people to earn a living for the Family. And one day she was working for a man by the name Bell who had a little nursery of fruit trees, and Mr. Bell urged Mother to take for her work a few apple-trees to plant on there new homestead, and so she bought four at 10 cents each, where were planted then by Father. And when I was back there to visit the old homestead once more in March 1897, I saw one of those trees, one half of it alife yet, so I cut me a few cuttings there from to graft on one of our apple-trees, which was done by Mr. old man Binkard, and it grew fine for about two years, when the butt of the tree was dying. And so in order to save the relic I again cut off some cuttings and grafted them my self on an-other little sprout that came up from an-other apple-tree in the orchard, of which I now have cut a limb to make these two little pins out of.

The little square blocks of wood inlayed in the back of the Chair are all relics as below mentioned.

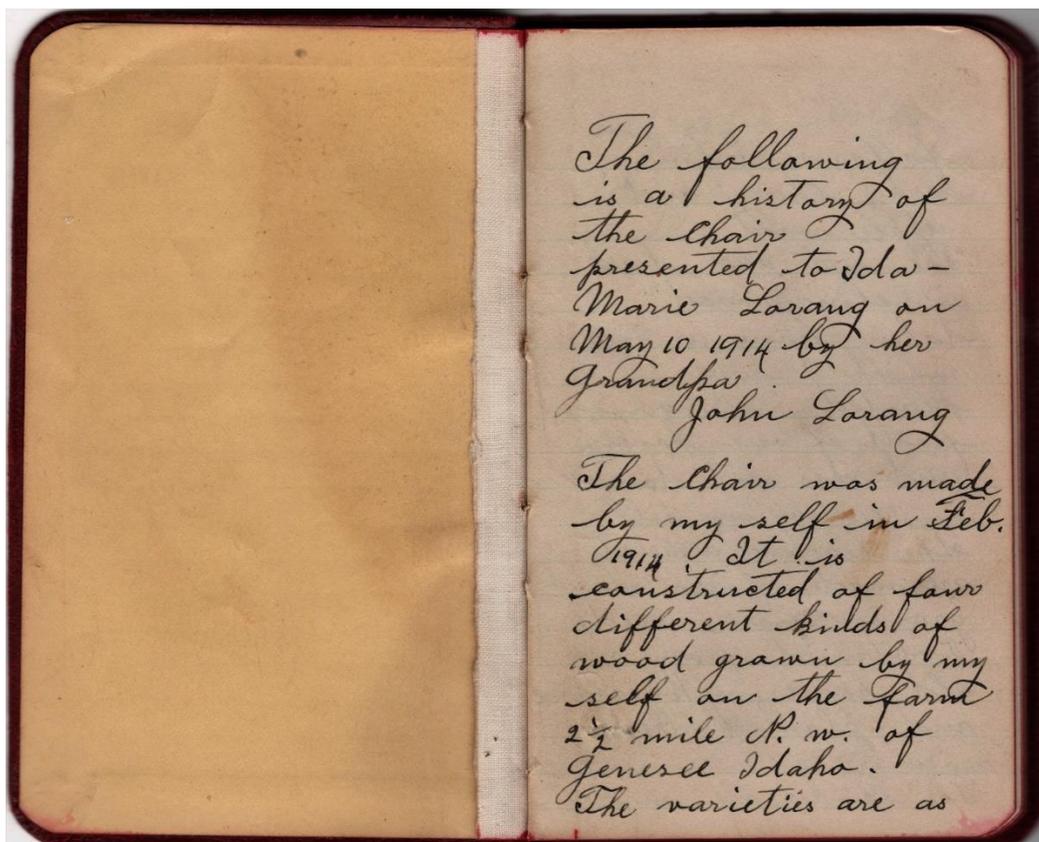
In facing the chair the black to the left on the corner, is a piece of oak-wood taken from a log off the log-house in Johnsburg, Wisconsin that I was raised

in. The next one to the right is a fraction of the house-door of the house that my Mother was born in, 96 years ago. The door is over one hundred years old, and is made of oakwood. The house is located in Dorf-Rievenich Germany. I obtained a fraction of the old door when we were there on August 2nd 1910. The middle block is a piece of olive-wood from Jerusalem. The next block to the right is oak-wood, taken from the old ruins of the house that Grandma Gesellchen was born in, in 1830. The home is located in Gillenbeuren Germany. We obtained the fraction of that piece of wood on August 5th 1910 when we were there enroute from the orient and on our way home. The fifth and last block to the right is a fraction of the old wagon that I bought second-handed from Gregor Boscheer in March 1884 when we came to this country. The wagon is now 39 years in actual use, and it being the first conveyance I ever owned, and which also had to take the place of a spring-wagon for the first 9 years in this country. The inlayed border around those blocks is red-cedar-wood from Johnsburg, Wis. which I obtained when we stopped off there in September 1910 on our way home from our trip abroad.

Written and signed this day of May 6th, 1914 by

Grandpa

John Lorang"



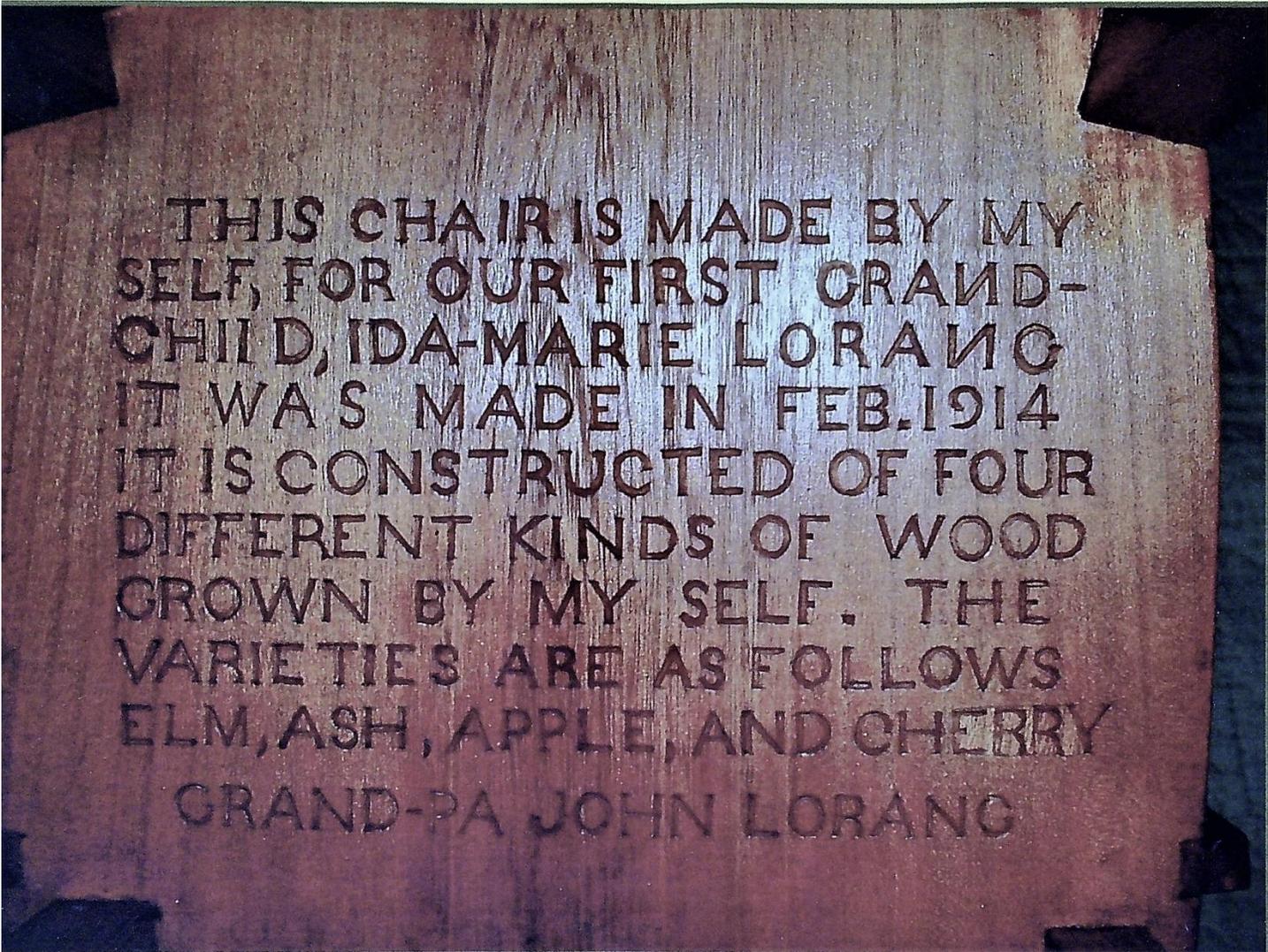
This high-chair I made last winter for Ida Marie Lorang. It is constructed of four different kinds of wood, grown by my self, and those little blocks inlayed in the back of the chair, they ar relics. The first one to the left is a peace of oak-wood from the log house that I was raised in. The next is a peace of oakwood from the house-door of the house that my mother was born and raised in, in Germany. The middle one is a block of olive-wood from Jerusalem. The next one is a block of oak-wood from the ruins off the house that grandma Gesellchen was born in, and the last one is a peace of oak wood from the first wagon I ever owned. The border is redcedar wood from Wisconsin.

We got those Ornches you sent I expect. And they were certainly fine. Last winter I made a high-chair for Alberts Babley of four different kinds of wood all grown by my self and in the back of the chair there is 6 different kinds of wood inlayd, they ar all relics of our old homes in the old country from Wisconsin and Jerusalem. Then I made one arm-chair out of one apple-tree for myself and it just fits me. Ther ar both better that I expected theam to be. I allso fixet up the workshop with 2 more windows.

This high-chair I made last winter for Ida Marie Lorang. It is constructed of four different kinds of wood, grown by my self, and those little blocks inlayed in the back of the chair, they ar relics. The first one to the left is a peace of oak-wood from the log-house that I was raised in. The next is a peace of oakwood from the house-door of the house that my mother was born and raised in, in Germany. The middle one is a block of olive-wood from Jerusalem. The next one is a block of oak-wood from the ruins off the house that grandma Gesellchen was born in, and the last one is a peace of oak wood from the first wagon I ever owned. The border is redcedar wood from Wisconsin.

We got those Ornches you sent I expect. And they were certainly fine. Last winter I made a high-chair for Alberts Babley of four different kinds of wood all grown by my self and in the back of the chair there is 6 different kinds of wood inlayed, they ar all relics of our old homes in the old country from Wisconsin and Jerusalem. Then I made one arm-chair out of one apple tree and it just fits me. Ther ar both better than I expected them to be. I also fixet up the workshop with 2 more windows.



A close-up photograph of a wooden surface, likely a chair, with a carved inscription. The wood has a vertical grain and a reddish-brown stain. The text is carved in a simple, blocky font. The inscription reads: "THIS CHAIR IS MADE BY MY SELF, FOR OUR FIRST GRAND-CHILD, IDA-MARIE LORANG IT WAS MADE IN FEB. 1914 IT IS CONSTRUCTED OF FOUR DIFFERENT KINDS OF WOOD GROWN BY MY SELF. THE VARIETIES ARE AS FOLLOWS ELM, ASH, APPLE, AND CHERRY GRAND-PA JOHN LORANG".

THIS CHAIR IS MADE BY MY
SELF, FOR OUR FIRST GRAND-
CHILD, IDA-MARIE LORANG
IT WAS MADE IN FEB. 1914
IT IS CONSTRUCTED OF FOUR
DIFFERENT KINDS OF WOOD
GROWN BY MY SELF. THE
VARIETIES ARE AS FOLLOWS
ELM, ASH, APPLE, AND CHERRY
GRAND-PA JOHN LORANG

“This chair is made by my self, for our first grandchild, Ida-Marie Lorang. It was made in Feb. 1914. It is constructed of four different kinds of wood grown by my self. The varieties are as follows. Elm, Ash, Apple and Cherry.

Grand-pa John Lorang”