Theodore Roosevelt to Quentin Roosevelt, October 3, 1907

U.S. STEAMER MISSISSIPPI

Oct 3rd 1907

Darling Quentin,

This is a funny steamerboat. There is no hold; simply a flat bottom, no deck; the engine room right on top of it, and open at both sides. We turn her nozzle against the bank whenever we want to land.
At St. Louis we were caught in a
showering rain; the chairman of the reception
committee minded it more than I did.
I can't make the water running
down off our faces.

The farmers drove down to the bank to
see us in funny old rigs. One, with
a large family of children, had a mule and
a horse in his wagon.
Theodore Roosevelt to Quentin Roosevelt, October 3, 1907.

(The Gilder Lehrman Institute of American History, GLC01410.03)
Oct 3rd 1907

Darling Quentin,

This is a funny steamboat, there is no hold; simply a flat bottom, on deck; the engine room right on top of this, and open at both sides. We “run her nozzle again the bank” wherever we want to land. At St. Louis we were caught in a drenching rain; the chairman of the reception committee minded it more than I did.

[illustration: chairman of the reception frowning and Theodore Roosevelt smiling in the rain.] I can’t make the water running down off our faces. The farmers drive down to the bank to see us in funny old rigs. One, with a large family of children, had a mule and a horse in his wagon.

[illustration: a man and his family in a wagon drawn by a horse and mule].

Your loving father.