Inside the Vault:
Highlights from the Gilder Lehrman Collection

May 5, 2022

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The session will start shortly. Please note:

• Your video and audio will automatically turn off.
• You can participate through the Q&A function.
• If you have technical difficulties, please email collectionprograms@gilderlehrman.org so we can assist you.
Our Team

- Sandy Trenholm – Collection Director
- Shelby Miller – Curatorial Intern
- Allison Kraft – Assistant Curator
During the Session

- If you would like to ask a question, you can use the Q&A feature.
- We will be answering audience questions throughout the session.

For Security and Privacy

- Your microphone is automatically muted.
- Your camera is automatically turned off.
Today’s Documents

- Eulogy for President Theodore Roosevelt, by Senator Henry Cabot Lodge
- Illustrated letters to Archie and Quentin Roosevelt
- World War I and its impact on the Roosevelt family
- Materials discussing the attempted assassination of Roosevelt in 1912
Tweed Roosevelt
“All the vast and varied work which he accomplished could not have been done unless he had had most exceptional natural abilities, but behind them, most important of all, was the driving force of an intense energy and the ever-present belief that a man could do what he willed to do. As he made himself an athlete, a horseman, a good shot, a bold explorer, so he made himself an exceptionally successful writer and speaker. . . . Roosevelt was always advancing, always struggling to make things better, to carry some much-needed reform, and help humanity to a larger chance, to a fairer condition, to a happier life.”

Eulogy for President Theodore Roosevelt, given by Senator Henry Cabot Lodge, February 9, 1919. Gilder Lehrman Collection
Archibald Roosevelt

Arthur Hewitt, President Roosevelt and Quentin and Archie, 1904. Gilder Lehrman Collection

Arthur Hewitt, Portrait of Theodore Roosevelt with his four sons, 1904. Gilder Lehrman Collection
Dearest Archie:

I hope you and Paine are having a good time. Give my warmest regards to Captain and Mrs. Bullock. They are just the salt of the earth.

I wish I was with you - that is, on condition the Captain would relapse into the habits of thirty years ago, put on two guns and stand off everybody that attempted so much as to speak to me.

I look forward with perfect dread to my three weeks trip in the west. I shall be worn to a frazzle; and this I won't mind; but I shall mind if my throat gives out. Next spring I shall have another touring trip on the Pacific Slope. After this, if fortune favors me, I never intend again to go out on a trip of any length where I shall have to make speeches. I would not mind a week with one speech a day; but people are so utterly inconsiderate (even in South Dakota) that it is impossible to make them understand that when I go to a state it is simply not in my power to speak in forty or fifty cities in that state.

Fame Knot is as good as gold; but he is a big horse, with large gaits, and pretty mother
Theodore Roosevelt to Archibald Roosevelt, August 16, 1910. Gilder Lehrman Collection

Sketch sent to Archie, August 1910

The Tyrant.

chain of offspring (led by daughter)
"For he's a tyrant being!"
Theodore Roosevelt to Quentin Roosevelt, October 6, 1907. The Gilder Lehrman Collection

Theodore Roosevelt to Quentin Roosevelt, October 3, 1907. The Gilder Lehrman Collection

Theodore Roosevelt to Quentin Roosevelt, October 1, 1907. The Gilder Lehrman Collection
Theodore Roosevelt to Archibald Roosevelt, August 16, 1910. Gilder Lehrman Collection

Sketch sent to Archie, August 1910

The Tyrant.

Chains of Offspring (led by daughters)

"For he is a tyrant being!"
in 1914, when Belgium was invaded. He would have had us go to war when the murders of the Lusitania were perpetrated. He tried to stir the soul and rouse the spirit of the American people, and despite every obstacle he did awaken them, so that when the hour came, in April, 1917, a large proportion of the American people were even then ready in spirit and in hope. How telling his work had been was proved by the confession of his country’s enemies, for when he died the only discordant note, the only harsh words, came from the German press. Germany knew whose voice it was that more powerfully than any other had called Americans to the battle in behalf of freedom and civilization, where the advent of the armies of the United States gave victory to the cause of justice and righteousness.

When the United States went to war Colonel Roosevelt’s one desire was to be allowed to go to the fighting line. There if fate had laid its hand upon him it would have found him glad to fall in the trenches or in a charge at the head of his men, but it was not permitted to him to go, and thus he was denied the reward which he would have ranked above all others, “the great prize of death in battle.” But he was a patriot in every fiber of his being, and personal dis-
World War I’s Impact on the Roosevelt Family

Edith Kermit Roosevelt to Arthur D. Hill, April 29, 1918. Gilder Lehrman Collection.

- “we know that Archie would have a complete recovery from his wounds.”
- “Theodore was asked to make the opening speech of the Maine campaign.”
- “Kermit has got his transfer from the B.E.F. in Mesopotamia to the A.E.F. in France.”
- “We envy you for your part in the world war.”
Quentin Roosevelt, 1912

U.S. Committee on Public Information,
At the grave of Lt. Quentin Roosevelt,
1918. Gilder Lehrman Collection
Assassination Attempt, 1912

Assassination Attempt, 1912

Papers in Roosevelt’s pockets at the time he was shot, showing where the bullet struck, October 14, 1912. Theodore Roosevelt Collection, Flickr Creative Commons

The Outlook
287 Fourth Avenue
New York
Oyster Bay—November second, 1912.

Office of Theodore Roosevelt

My dear Governor Woodruff:

During the last three days I have received many scores of urgent requests to speak in the various cities where it had been announced that I was to speak during the closing fortnight of the campaign—messages from Philadelphia, from Buffalo, from Rochester, from Syracuse and Albany, from Hartford and New Haven, and from many other cities. It was with the most genuine regret that I was obliged to answer that it was a physical impossibility for me to do as I would so like to have done and speak in these cities. Through no fault of mine I was obliged to abandon the engagements I had made and to ask my friends and fellow-citizens to accept a written message from me in lieu of the words I had hoped to speak face to face with them.

I particularly regret my inability to come to Brooklyn. I feel under peculiar obligations to the good people of Brooklyn. In this fight Brooklyn took the lead and set the pace for the
Upcoming Programs

- **History’s Theodore Roosevelt** Two-Night Event Premieres Memorial Day at 8/7c
- **Inside the Vault**, June 2 at 7 p.m. ET (4 p.m. PT)
  - Professor Michael Neiberg will be joining us to discuss D-Day in maps and letters from soldiers and their families.
- The Gilder Lehrman Teacher Symposium at Gettysburg College, July 9 through Tuesday, July 12, 2022. We will be offering eight different courses that run concurrently during the Symposium, led by prominent scholars.

- Self-Paced Courses
  - **The Era of Theodore Roosevelt**, led by Bruce Schulman, Boston University
  - **Conflict and Reform: The United States, 1877–1920**, led by Michael Kazin, Georgetown University