THE GILDER LEHRMAN INSTITUTE of AMERICAN HISTORY

Inside the Vault Highlights from the Gilder Lehrman Collection

April 3, 2020

The Gilder Lehrman Institute of American History

- We are the leading nonprofit organization dedicated to K– 12 history education while also serving the general public.
- Our mission is to promote the knowledge and understanding of American history through educational programs and resources.
- The Institute provides teachers, students, and the general public with direct access to unique primary source materials.

Technical Support

Assisting with technical issues – Marissa Cheifetz, Coordinator of Publications and Multimedia – firstfriday@gilderlehrman.org Facilitating the chat – Daniel Pecoraro, Education Program Coordinator

How to Participate

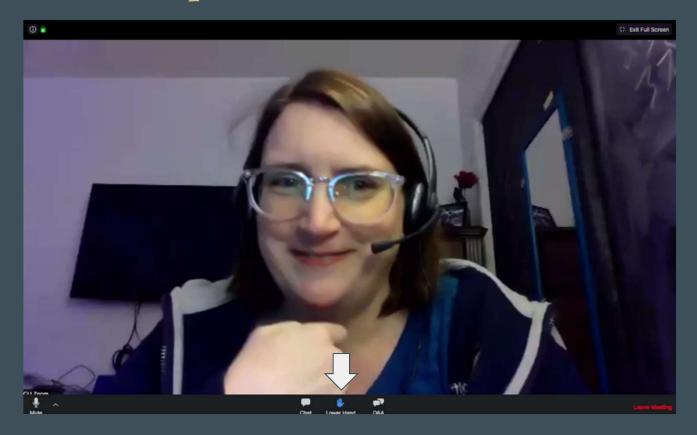
To keep background noise down, your mic is automatically muted.

If you would like to ask a question, you can:

- Click the button to raise your hand
- Put a question in the Q&A tab at the bottom of the screen

Your camera is automatically off.

How to Participate on PC or Mac



- In full screen, you will see Q&A and hand raising along the bottom.
- You receive a notification and be able to unmute yourself.

How to Participate via Zoom Phone App

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Touch the "Participants" button; there you can raise your hand and participate in the chat.

We want to hear from you!

During the Q&A portion of the presentation, we would love to hear from you.

Do you have a question about the documents?

How could you use this with your students or children?

Do you have any additional information you want to share?

The Gilder Lehrman Collection

Over **70,000** documents & **500** years of American history

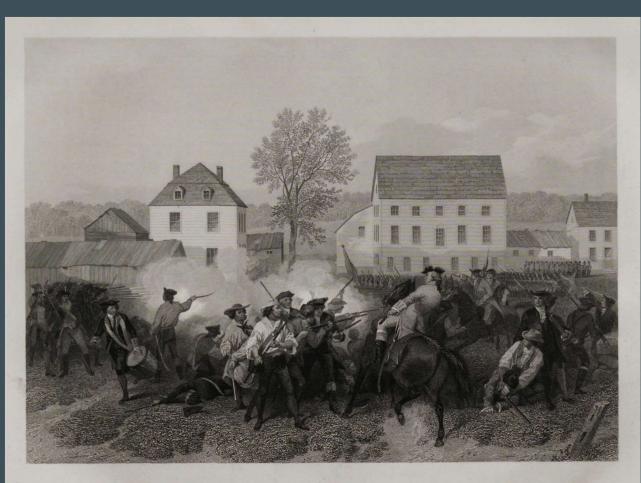
4,062 documents written during the month of April

4 items to share with you today

Today's Documents

- Calling out the militia during the Battle of Lexington & Concord, presented by Laura Hapke, Curatorial Assistant
- A rare printing of Lincoln's Second Inaugural, presented by Allison Kraft, Assistant Curator
- A survivor's account of the sinking of the *Titanic*, presented by William Roka, Hamilton Education Coordinator
- The inspiration behind *I AM A MAN*, presented by Sandy Trenholm, Collection Director

Battle of Lexington, 1856



THE BATTLE OF LEXINGTON.

From the original House in the possi

ENGRAVED BY JAMES SMILLE

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Paul Revere, "A View of Part of the Town of Boston," 1770



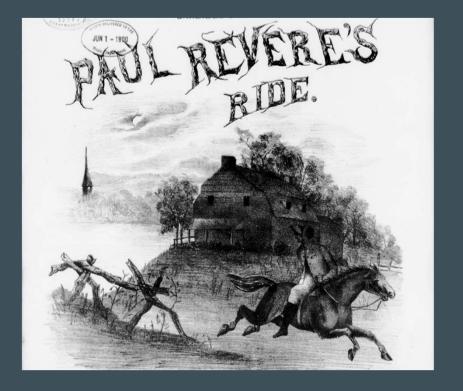
Detail from "Bloody Butchery" by the British Troops , 1775



Householder in the country, who are fincere well-withers to America, may be possefield of the fame, either to frame and glass, or otherwise to preferve in their houses, not only as a Token of Gratitude to the memory of the Deceased Forty Perfons, but as a perpetual memorial of that important event, on which, perhaps, may depend the future Freedom and Greatness of the Commonwealth of America. To which is annexed, a Funeral Elegy on those who were flain in the Battle.

KILLED

John Church, Paul Revere's Ride, 1884.



Retrieved from the Library of Congress: https://www.loc.gov/item/sm1884.22702/

Isaac Merrill to John Currier, April 19, 1775

Spen to To John Currier Capt of a militerry foot Company in amesbury This Day I have received intile gence that the ministeriel troops under the formon and of General Gage Sid Last evening march out of Boston and marched to desington othere Killed a Number of our american Jobiers & theme proceed to Concord Killing and Destroying our men and interest Thefe are therefore to order you forth with to Note & and muster as many of your under officers and Jobiers as you can popule to meet imm Dially to Some Juitable place and then to march of for thwith to concord or Effe where as in your Desiret ion you shall think best to the reliefe of our Fried and country and also to order those who are now absent of the way to Trollow after and ioin you as Join as they shall be apprized of the alaram and when you have marched your men to Some pert them in case you return home your Self : till Some Turthen province be taken in his haile Not Given under my Hand and Seal al amisbury this Ninteenth Day of April in the Fufteenth year of the keign of George the third anno Domini : 1735 Jean merrill 7 Coll

Isaac Merrill to John Currier, April 19, 1775

Essex Co **To John Currier Capt of a militerry foot Company in Amesbury** this Day I have received intiligence that the ministeriel troops under the Command of General Gage did Last evening march out of Boston and marched to Lexington & there Killed a Number of our American Soldiers & thence proceed to Concord Killing and Destroying our men and interest: These are therefore to order you forthwith to Notify and muster as many of your under officers and Soldiers as you can possible to meet immediatly to Some Suitable place: and then to march of forthwith to Concord or Else where as in your Descretion you Shall think best to the reliefe of our Friend[s] and Country: and also to order those who are now absent & out of the way to Follow after and ioin you as Soon as they shall be apprized of the Alaram and when you have marched your men to Some part of our army you are to appoint some officer to head them in case you return home your Self: till Some Further order may be taken: in this Faile Not Given under my Hand and Seal at Amesbury this **Ninteenth Day of April in the Fifteenth year of the Reign of George the third Anno Domini: 1775**

Isaac Merrill Coll

Isaac Merrill to John Currier, April 19, 1775

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Gilder Lehrman Collection

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ABRAHAM LINCOLN,

DELIVERED AT THE NATIONAL CAPITOL.

MARCH 4th, 1865.

fellow Countrymen :

At this second appearing to take the oath of the Presidential Officethere is less occasion for an extended address than there was at the first. Then a statement somewhat in detail of a course to be purned second very fitting and proper. Now, at the expiration of four years, during which pable declarations have been constantly called forth on every point and phase of the great context which still aborbs the attention and engrosses the energies of the nation, little that is new could be presented.

The progress of our arms—upon which all else chiefly depends—is as well known to the public as to myself; and it is, I trust, reasonably satisfactory and encouraging to all. With high hope for the future, no prediction in regard to it is ventured.

On the occasion corresponding to this four years use, all thoughts were anxiously directed to an impending eivil war. All dreaded it; all sought to avoid it. While the imagung and address was being delivered from this place, devoted altogether to saving the Union without war, insurgent agents were in the eity seeking to destroy it without war-neeking to dissolve the Union and divide the effects by prografation.

Both parties deprecated war; but one of them would make war rather than let the nation survive, and the other would accept war rather than let it perish, and the war came.

One-eighth of the whole population were colored slaves, not distributed generally fover the Union, but localized in the Southern part of it. These alaves constituted a poeuliar and powerful inferest. All knew that this interest was somehow the cause of the war. To strengthen, perpendate and betted this interest was the object for which the insurgents would refind the Union by war, while the Government elained no right to do more than to rastriet the territorial emisgeneam of it. Neither party expected for the war the magnitude or the duration which it has already attained. Neither anticipated that the cause of the conflict might cease, even before the conflict itself should cease. Each looked for an easier triumph and a renull less fundamental and actounding.

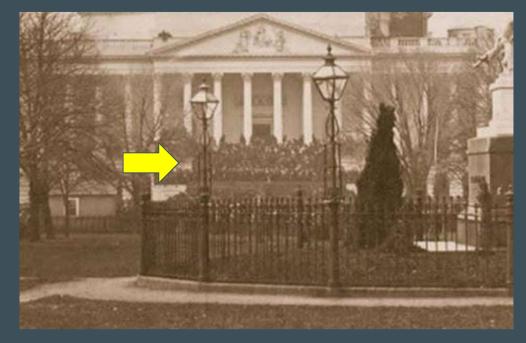
Both read the same Bible, and pray to the same God, and each invokes His aid against the other. It may seem strange that any men should dare to ask a just God's assistance in wringing their bread from the sweat of other men's faces; but let us judge not, that we be not judged. The prayers of both should not be answered. That of neither has been answered fully. The Almighty has His own purposes. Woe unto the world because of offences, for it must needs be that offences come; but woe to that man by whom the offence cometh. If we shall suppose that American Slavery is one of these offences-which, in the providence of God, must needs come but which, having continued through His appointed time, He now wills to remove, and that He gives to both North and South this terrible war as the woe due to those by whom the offence came-shall we discern there is any departure from those Divine attributes which the believers in a living Godalways ascribe to Him? Fondly do we hope, fervently do we pray, that this mighty scourge of war may speedily pass away. Yet, if God wills that it continue until all the wealth piled by the bondman's two hundred and fifty years of unrequited toil shall be sunk, and until every drop of blood drawn with the lash shall be paid by another drawn with the sword, as was said three thousand years ago, so still it must be said that the judgments of the Lord are true and righteous altogether.

With malice toward none, with charity for all, with firmness in the right, as God gives us to see the right, let us strive on to finish the work we are in, to blind up the nation's wound, to care for him who shall have borne if the kattle, and for his widow and orphana; to do all which may achieve and heirid a, just and a lasting percess among consubers and with all nations.

Abraham Lincoln's Second Inaugural







Abraham Lincoln's Second Inaugural



Retrieved from the Library of Congress,

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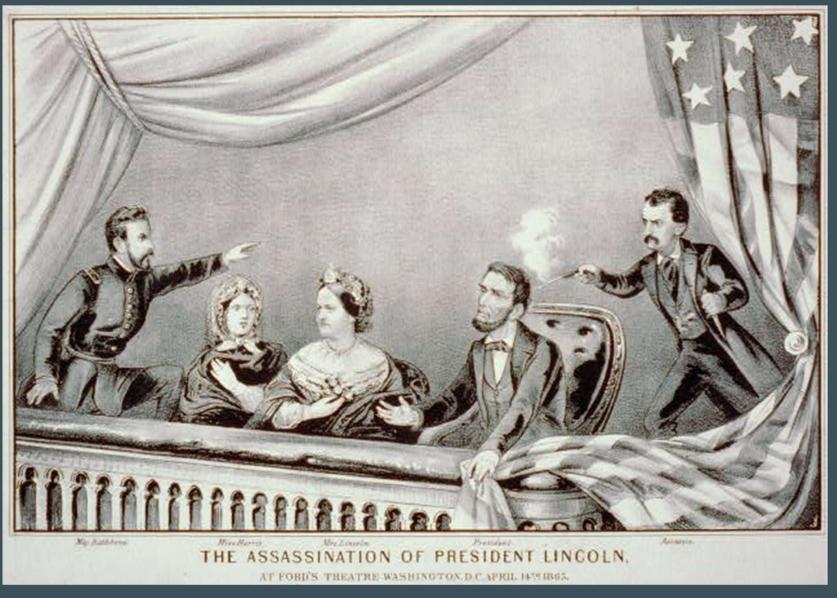
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Lincoln's Second Inaugural



Retrieved from the Library of Congress,

The assassination of President Lincoln



Retrieved from the Library of Congress: http://loc.gov/pictures/resource/cph.3b49830/

The death of President Lincoln

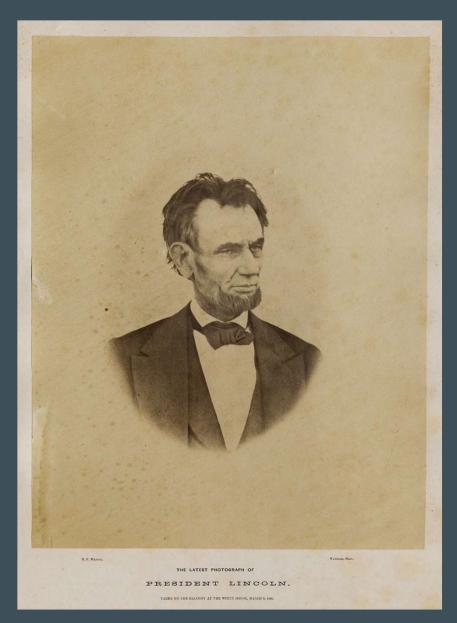


Retrieved from the New York Public Library, https://digitalcollections.nypl.org/items/510d47e0-ff1d-a3d9-e040-e00a18064a99

President Lincoln's funeral procession in New York, 1865

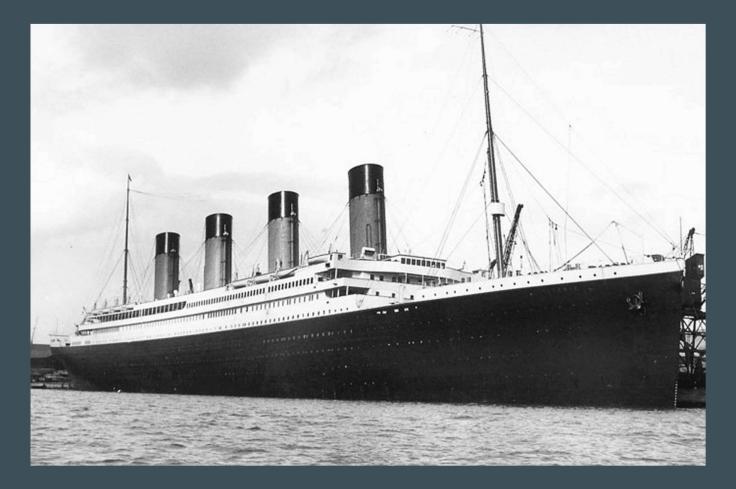


The last photograph of President Lincoln, March 6, 1865





The Titanic, circa 1912

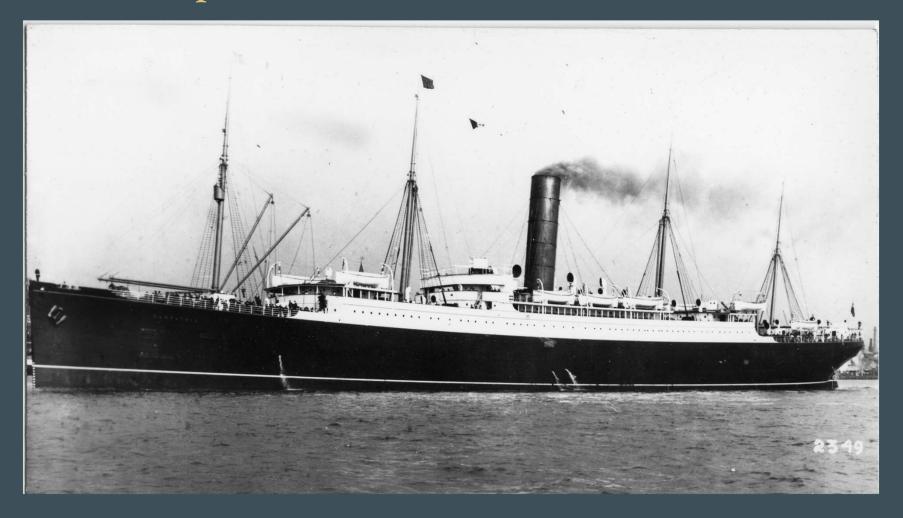


[The Titanic] circa 1912, (from Encyclopedia Britannica) retrieved from https://www.smithsonianmag.com/history/photos-of-the-titanic-tragedy-from-101-years-ago-19446446/

Y hashington Dadges Royal Mail Steamship "Carpathia" I retired at 1030 Ble awakere about 11the by that seemed Tha tes a violant jar. inspression that the steamer heen struck on her side with sufficient force to more her lateral direction bidily in a and lift my cabin to find passingers a hunder the Companion may all answedy enquiring what had happened no on appeared information. a fur moninds later an officer passing harried accommend by guen by the

Washington Dodge, April 1912

RMS Carpathia

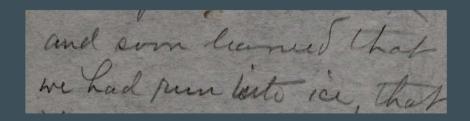


RMS Carpathia *Retrieved from: http://amhistory.si.edu/ogmt/images/upload/titanic-group/CarpathiaLangdonCollSI.JPG*

Washington Dodge, April 1912

about 11the by what sumed to the a violent jar. That the impression that the steamer had been struck on her side with

"...by a violent jar. I had the impression that the steamer had been struck on her side"



"and soon learned that we had run into ice"

Washington Dodge, April 1912

dick forward, and A that he par the ice burg heard a passinger state pass the stem of the vessel

"I heard a passenger state that he saw the ice berg pass..."

had heard - The replied the order has just come down for all passengers Thent Rushing to my cabin to got my infe and Hyr Adron up and

"the order has just come down for all passengers to put on life preservers. Rushing to my cabin I got my wife and 4 yr old son"

dress but pasticly, pushed them up on the boat deck

"rushed them up on the boat deck"

Washington Dodge, April 1912

"...as the next boat no 3 was loaded I placed them aboard, and stood back, while women and children were under command of an officer placed aboard. I watched this boat safely lowered to the water 70 or 80 ft below..."

Hood back, while wonce and children boat was loaded a there were under command of was no very evident desire an officer placed abound of those present to get tattet I watched This boal If on this boat and I safely lowered to the water could readily have 1700-80ft below placed my family about the loats howend or had I desired to do so without strapping on the starboard side their life preserversbeing the odd numbers as the next boat no from 1515- a few I were lowered to the deck 3 was loaded I placed below and there Them aboard, and

Washington Dodge, April 1912

water that our boat was heing lowered directly into the immense volume of water throw out from the stips slde by the Condenses pump-len

"...our boat was being lowered directly into the immense volume of water thrown out from the ships side by the condenser pump..."

from the ship . It Quaniped our boat_

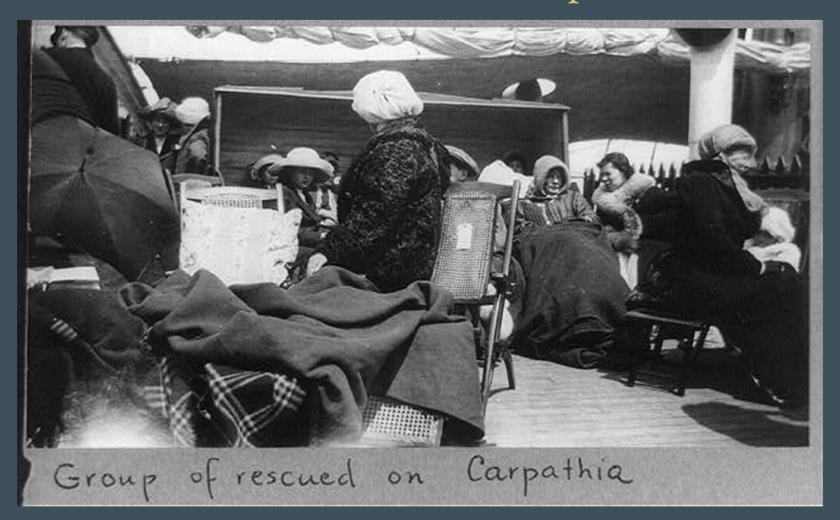
"It would instantly have swamped our boat"

Titanic *life boats on way to* Carpathia, 1912



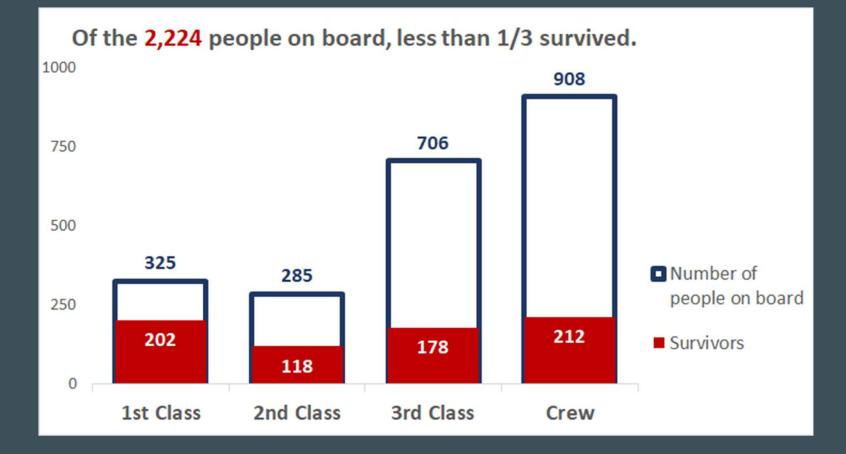
Titanic life boats on way to Carpathia, 1912. [Photograph] Retrieved from the Library of Congress, https://www.loc.gov/item/2001704327/.

Titanic *survivors aboard the* Carpathia, 1912

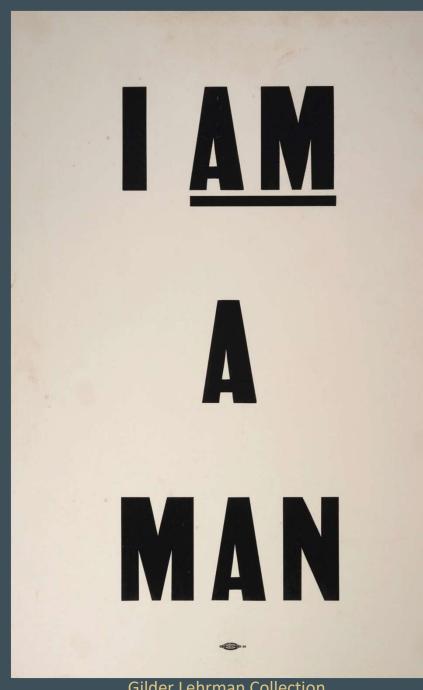


Group of survivors of the Titanic disaster aboard the Carpathia after being rescued. Retrieved from the Library of Congress: <u>https://www.loc.gov/item/90707557/</u>

Titanic Statistics:







"I<u>AM</u>AMAN," Allied Printing, 1968

The Memphis Sanitation Workers Strike

- The movement combined a labor dispute and civil rights
- Sanitation workers had been trying to form a union for years but fear of being fired kept them from taking action. Among their complaints were:
 - Low pay, long hours and not being paid overtime
 - No benefits, no vacation, no workers compensation. You could be fired for getting hurt on the job.
 - Dangerous working conditions
 - Malfunctioning equipment that was not being repaired

The Memphis Sanitation Workers Strike

In February 1968, Echol Cole and Robert Walker were killed when an electrical short caused them to be crushed in a truck's trash compactor.

It was the final straw. 1,300 black men from the Memphis Department of Public Works went on strike. Memphis Mayor Henry Loeb vehemently refused to negotiate with them.



"I <u>AM</u> A MAN," Allied Printing, 1968

Am I Not A Man And A Brother, 1838

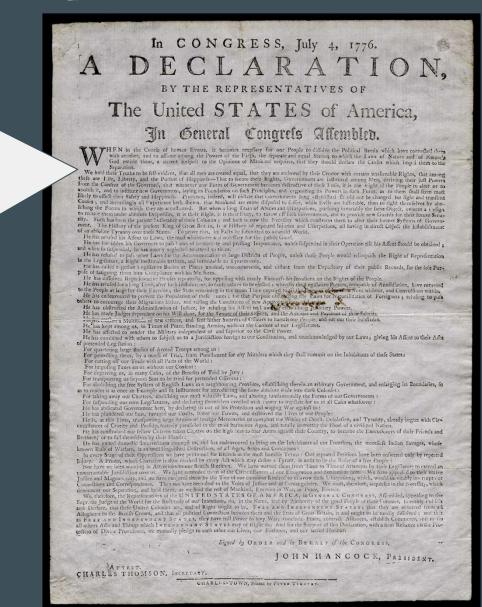


Am I Not A Woman & A Sister, 1838



Declaration of Independence, 1776

We hold these Truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights, that among these are Life, Liberty, and the Pursuit of Happiness



I Am A Man

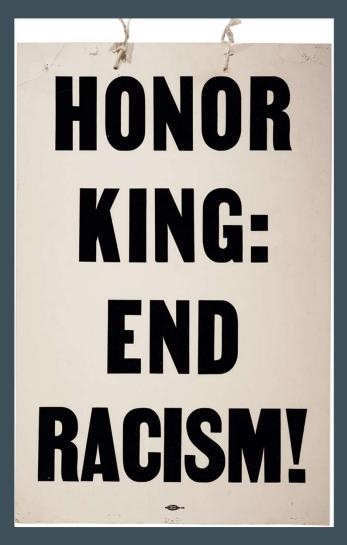
[Excerpt]

But to me this was my greatest hour, With chin thrust out and head up proud, I stood up straight and I said out loud, I am a man! And I shall always defy the oppression of mankind until the day I die. "I Am A Man," Poem by Robert Worsham, 1962

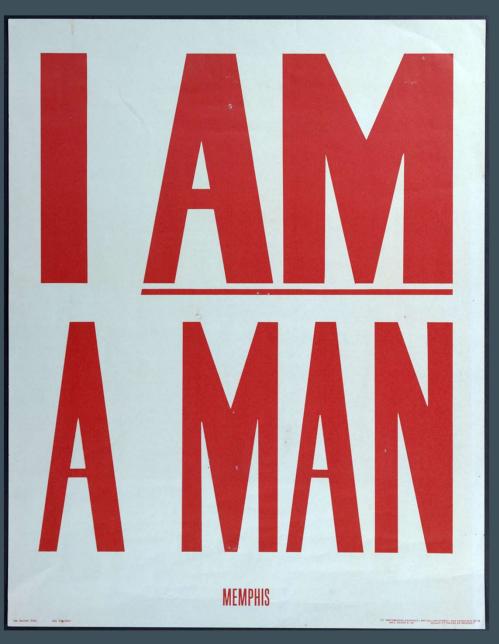
Dr. Martin Luther King's Mountaintop Speech, April 3, 1968

"And I've looked over, and I've seen the Promised Land. I may not get there with you. But I want you to know tonight, that we, as a people, will get to the Promised Land. And so I'm happy tonight; I'm not worried about anything; I'm not fearing any man."

"Honor King, End Racism," April 8, 1968



"I <u>AM</u> A MAN," Emerson Graphics, 1968





What is the Civil Rights history of your community?

Our 2021 calendar will focus on the struggle for civil rights across 500 years of American/US history. <u>We want to include events from your local</u> <u>history.</u>

- We want to feature events and people who are not nationally known.
- It is a great opportunity to research your local, state, or regional history.
- We want all people to be represented in the calendar.
- We need:
 - A description of the event
 - The Month, Day, and Year it happened
 - Citations for the information for further research.
- Deadline for submission is May 1, 2020

Submit your entry here: <u>https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/GLI_Calendar</u>

National History Teacher of the Year

Each year the History Teacher of the Year award honors an exceptional K-12 teacher in each of the 50 states, District of Columbia, Department of Defense Schools, and US Territories. These winners are then entered into a pool for the National History Teacher of the Year award.

State History Teachers of the Year receive a \$1,000 prize, an archive of materials for their classroom, and a ceremony in their state.

The National History Teacher of the Year receives a \$10,000 prize, and a ceremony in their honor in NYC.

In order to be considered for the award, teachers must first be nominated and then will receive a link to submit their materials.

If you know an outstanding teacher, please visit gilderlehrman.org/nominate to nominate them today!



- 1. We will send you a packet with the documents we talked about today.
- 2. Please complete a 2-minute feedback survey: https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/InsideVault
- 3. Visit gilderlehrman.org for
 - Documents
 - Essays
 - Digital Exhibitions
 - Videos
 - Lesson Plans
 - Hamilton Education Program

Thank you!