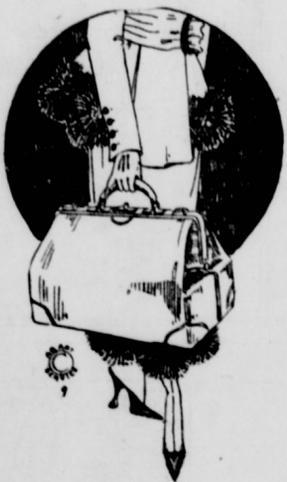


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Theodore Roosevelt's Letters to His Children

EDITED BY JOSEPH BUCKLIN BISHOP

At the period in which these letters were written, the Roosevelt children are growing up. Ted has gone on his first successful big game hunt and has killed bear and elk. A coal strike was impending at this time, and the president was looked to as peacemaker. He compelled the unruly operators to meet the miners in conference and was severely criticized by big business for his general attitude toward industrial problems. Wall st. chieftains went so far as to openly predict that unless the administration modified its course in dealing with corporations, a panic would ensue.—The Editor.

Christmas Present to His Old Nurse
(To Mrs. Dora Watkins.)

White House, Dec. 19, 1905.

Dear Dolly:
I wish you a merry Christmas, and want you to buy whatever you think you would like with the enclosed check for \$20. It is now just 40 years since you stopped being my nurse, when I was a little boy of 7, just one year younger than Quentin now is.

I wish you could see the children play here in the White House grounds. For the last three days there has been snow, and Archie and Quentin and their cousin, cunning little Sheffield Cowles, and their other cousin, Mr. John Elliott's little girl, Helena, who is a perfect little dear, have been having all kinds of romps in the snow—coasting, having snowball fights, and doing everything—in the grounds back of the White House. This coming Saturday afternoon I have agreed to have a great play of hide-and-seek in the White House itself, not only with these children, but with their various small friends.

Dickens and Thackeray

White House, Feb. 2, 1906.

Dear Kermit:
I agree pretty much with your views of David Copperfield. Dora was very cunning and attractive, but I am not sure that the husband would retain enough respect for her to make life quite what it ought to be with her. This is a harsh criticism and I have known plenty of women of the Dora type, whom I have felt were a good deal better than the men they married, and I have seen them sometimes make very happy homes. I also feel as you do that if a man

Let's go buy Boldt's French pastry. Uptown, 1414 Third ave.; downtown, 913 Second ave.

FRESH CRACKED CRAB WITH MAYONNAISE DRESSING

Fresh cracked crab direct from the ice box with mayonnaise dressing. Did you ever try one? Perhaps you have, and then suffer something terrible with your stomach caused by too much rich mixture in the mayonnaise. Whenever this happens again—eat without fear, but be sure you have a box of Jo-to nearby, for it is the one and only sure and harmless remedy that will give you speedy relief. Two minutes and your stomach miseries have disappeared. Jo-to is sold in Seattle by the Bartlett Drug Co. and Swift & Co., druggists.

had to struggle on and make his way it would be a great deal better to have some one like Sophie. Do you recollect that dinner at which David Copperfield and Traddles were, where they are described as seated at the dinner, one "in the glare of the red velvet lady," and the other "in the gloom of Hamlet's aunt"? I am so glad you like Thackeray, "Pendennis" and "The Newcomes" and "Vanity Fair" I can read over and over again.

Ted blew in today. I think he has been studying pretty well this term and now he is thru all his examinations but one. He hopes, and I do, that you will pay what attention you can to athletics. Play hockey, for instance, and try to get into shape for the mile run. I know it is too short a distance for you, but if you will try for the hare and hounds running and the mile, too, you may be able to try for the two miles when you go to Harvard.

The weather was very mild early in the week. It has turned cold now, but mother and I had a good ride yesterday, and Ted and I a good ride this afternoon, Ted on Grey Dawn. We have been having a perfect whirl of dinner engagements; but thank heavens they will stop shortly after sister's wedding.

A Tribute to Archie

White House, March 11, 1906.

Dear Kermit:
I agree pretty much to all your views, both about Thackeray and Dickens, altho you care for some of Thackeray of which I am not personally fond. Mother loves it all. Mother, by the way, has been reading "The Legend of Montrose" to the little boys, and they are absorbed in it. She finds it hard to get anything that will appeal to both Archie and Quentin, as they possess such different natures.

I am quite proud of what Archie did the day before yesterday. Some of the bigger boys were throwing a baseball around outside of Mr. Sidwell's school and it hit one of them square in the eye, breaking all the blood vessels and making an extremely dangerous hurt. The other boys were all rattled and could do nothing, finally sneaking off when Mr. Sidwell appeared. Archie stood by and himself promptly suggested that the boy should go to Dr. Wilmer. Accordingly he scorching down to Dr. Wilmer's and said there was an emergency case for one of Mr. Sidwell's boys, who was hurt in the eye, and could he bring him. Dr. Wilmer, who did not know Archie was there, sent out word to of course do so. So Archie scorching back on his wheel, got the boy (I do not know why Mr. Sidwell did not take him himself and led him down to Dr. Wilmer's, who attended to his eye and had to send him at once to a hospital, Archie waiting until he heard the result, and then coming home. Dr. Wilmer told me about it and said if Archie had not acted with such promptness, the boy (who was 4 or 5 years older than Archie, by the way) would have lost his sight.

What a heavenly place a sandbox is for two little boys! Archie and Quentin play industriously in it during most of their spare moments when out in the grounds. I often look out of the office windows when I have a score of senators and congressmen with me and see them both hard at work arranging caverns or mountains, with runways, for their marbles. Good-bye, blessed fellow. I shall

"OH! what a beauty!"



—and you're asking only \$5.89 for that beautiful pattern hat, the duplicate of which only a few days ago I priced at Ashbrook's in Bellingham and they told me it was \$22.50?"

"Exactly, Madam," said our saleslady, "and it's the same hat—we bought them all and brought them here."

"I'll take it—and this one, too," said our visitor. Whereupon she selected another at \$1.69 which had previously been \$7.50.

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carried a wonderful line of hats—pattern hats to \$65.00, costume hats to \$55.00, picture hats to \$35.00, dance hats to \$27.50; afternoon hats to \$20.00, dress hats to \$17.50 and street hats to \$15.00. They were selected with care almost amounting to reverence.

They were really too exclusive for the demand—they would have been more at home on Fifth Avenue, New York.

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think of you very often during the coming week, and I am so very glad that mother is to be with you at your confirmation.

Pillow Fights With the Boys

White House, March 19, 1905.

Darling Kermit:
During the four days mother was away, I made a point of seeing the children each evening for three-quarters of an hour or so. Archie and Quentin are really great playmates,

which were fixed to the end of a pair of woolen reins. Then they would ambush me and we would have a vigorous pillow fight, and after five or ten minutes of this we would go into mother's room, and I would read them the book mother had been reading them, "The Legend of Montrose." We just got thru it the very last evening. Both Skip and Jack have welcomed mother back with frantic joy, and this morning came in and lay on her bed as soon as she

had finished breakfast—for she did not come down to either breakfast or lunch, as she is going to spend the night at Baltimore with the Bonapartes.

I was so interested in your reading "Phineas Finn" that I ordered a copy myself. I have also ordered DeQuincy's works, as I find we have not got them at the White House. (To Be Continued.) (Copyright, 1919, Charles Scribner's Sons.)

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