

ELBERT HUBBARD LETTERS, 1907, 1909

Collection #
SC 2452

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Processed by
Charles Latham
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USER INFORMATION

VOLUME OF COLLECTION: 2 items

COLLECTION DATES: 1907, 1909

PROVENANCE: Unknown, probably before 1980

RESTRICTIONS: None

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ALTERNATE FORMATS: None

OTHER FINDING AIDS: None

RELATED HOLDINGS: None

ACCESSION NUMBER: 94.0569X

BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH

Elbert Hubbard (1859-1915), author, publicist, and merchandiser, was born in Bloomington, Illinois, the son of Dr. Silas and Juliana Frances (Read) Hubbard. In his twenties he was involved in merchandising in Chicago, and developed some promotional schemes like offering premiums to encourage sales.

Hubbard came under the Arts and Crafts influence of William Morris, and developed the Roycroft Shop at East Aurora, New York, which employed as many as five hundred workers. One product was deluxe editions of classic books, printed in a distinctive style.

Hubbard was also a prolific writer. He was not afraid to be frankly inspirational. He wrote most of the material in his monthly, *The Philistine*, including in each issue "A Little Journey to the Home of" some well-known person. His best-known story was "A Message to Garcia," set in Cuba during the Spanish-American War, about a man who was given a job to do and got it done under extreme difficulty without asking questions or complaining. (It was written at the suggestion of a dissatisfied employer.)

Hubbard went down with the *Lusitania* when it was torpedoed in 1915.

Sources; *Who Was Who in America*, Vol. I
Dictionary of American Biography

SCOPE AND CONTENT

This collection contains two letters by Hubbard. The first, dated 4-12-1907, asks G. H. Barbour to rent a hall in Indianapolis to Hubbard the following month. The second, dated 10-28-1909, thanks Katharine A. Barnett of Indianapolis for making arrangements for Hubbard's coming appearances there.

CATALOGUING INFORMATION

MAIN ENTRY: Hubbard, Elbert, 1856-1915

SUBJECT ENTRIES: Hubbard, Elbert, 1856-1915

END