

**THE HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF WASHINGTON, DC**  
**SPECIAL COLLECTIONS FINDING AID**

**Title:** MS 523 Clifford K. Berryman Family Papers, 1835-1966

**Processor:** Matt Crosby

**Date:** October 29, 1998

**Clifford K. Berryman** (1869-1949) was a nationally known political cartoonist whose career spanned from 1896 to 1949. Berryman, a self-taught artist, grew up in Kentucky where he took interest in local politics at an early age. He arrived in Washington in 1886 to work as a draftsman for the United States Patent Office. His career as a cartoonist began at the *Washington Post* soon after. He left the *Post* in 1907 to become the front-page cartoonist for the *Washington Star*, where he worked until his death in 1949. Berryman's art commented on tense and divisive issues in Washington and the world in a lighthearted, yet thought-provoking way. The artist is best remembered for originating the Teddy Bear during President Theodore Roosevelt's administration. Along with becoming a cultural icon, the Teddy Bear remained a popular caricature throughout Berryman's work.

In 1893, Berryman married **Kate G. Durfee** of Washington, D.C. They had three children: **Mary Belle (d. 1897)**, **Florence Seville**, and **James Thomas**. James also became a cartoonist for the *Washington Star*. Berryman's talent for humorously conveying his subjects' personalities won him many prominent friends. He was an energetic member of many Washington social clubs, including the Chevy Chase Club, the National Press Club, and the Alfalfa Club. From 1896 until his death, Berryman was very involved in the Gridiron Club, a social organization for newspapermen. He illustrated many of the club's publications and served as its president in 1926.

Berryman's legacy of more than 15,000 political cartoons is an invaluable visual record of the political and social issues of his time.

**Scope and Content:** The Clifford K. Berryman Family Papers, 1835-1966, consist of letters, personal memorabilia, art, and photographs. The collection of Berryman's personal and professional correspondence ranges from love letters written for his wife Kate, to communications with the several dozen social and professional organizations that he involved himself with over the years. The memorabilia, consisting of invitations, place cards, dinner programs, and brochures, also relates to many of these organizations. The documents detail many names, places, and events within Berryman's social circle. Other personal items in the collection include datebooks, a scrapbook, financial records, letters by a relation known as Admiral Otway Berryman, Mrs. Berryman's journal, newspaper and magazine articles, and a folder of James T. Berryman art and memorabilia.

A small portion of Berryman's cartoons make up another segment of the collection. The various formats represented include prints, photographic reproductions, newspaper clippings, illustrated ephemera and books, and Berryman originals. The Berryman papers also include a significant number of photographs, which chronicle the lives of Clifford Berryman and his family. Berryman's friends and associates often made gifts of their portraits. However, many are unidentified.

This collection is arranged in four series:

**SERIES I: FAMILY PAPERS, 1835-1966**, consists of correspondence, memorabilia, scrapbooks, daybooks, and printed material. It is arranged by family member, then by document type and chronologically.

**SERIES II: ART**, consists of prints, ephemera, and originals illustrated by Clifford K. Berryman. The series is arranged by format. Oversize items stored separately.

**SERIES III: PHOTOGRAPHS**, is arranged by subject and then chronologically. Oversize items stored separately.

**SERIES IV: OVERSIZE ART AND PHOTOGRAPHS**, is arranged by subject.

**Donor:** Estate of Florence Berryman, 1992.101, 1992.169

**Size:** 3.3 cubic feet (8 containers and one oversize folder).

**Restrictions:** None

**Related Materials:**

Berryman, Clifford K. *Cartoons and caricatures*. Washington, D.C.: Press of W.F. Roberts, n.d.

Berryman, James T. *The campaign of 1948 in Star cartoons*. Washington, D.C.: Evening Star Newspaper Co., c. 1948.

MS 567 Proctor L. Dougherty Family Papers, 1878-1968, Historical Society of Washington, D.C. (HSW)

MS 525 Charles Carroll Glover Papers, 1681-1991, HSW.

Gridiron Club ephemera, HSW

See attached list showing the locations of other Berryman cartoon collections.

## Container List

### SERIES I: FAMILY PAPERS, 1835-1966

#### Container 1

**Folder 1:** Early Berryman family correspondence, 1835-1876. Correspondents include Fox, Gerard, James, LeRoy, Otway, and T. N. Berryman, and John N. Pickett. Folder also includes a Berryman family genealogy. (See also family Bible in folder 45.)

**Folder 2:** Newspaper and magazine clippings related to Clifford K. Berryman and his family, 1906-1952. (See also Kate Berryman's diary and scrapbook, Folders 14 and 17, and James T. Berryman memorabilia, Folder 18 )

#### Clifford K. Berryman Papers

**Folder 3:** Correspondence, 1894-1915.

**Folder 4:** Correspondence, 1916-1935.

**Folder 5:** Correspondence, 1936-1949, and undated.

**Folder 6:** Memorabilia, 1893-1939, including primarily invitations, certificates, and programs. Some items include Berryman drawings. Most of the Gridiron club materials have been removed to the ephemera file, but the folder does include Berryman's report as president for 1926 and annotated copies of Gridiron skits in which he participated.

**Folder 7:** Memorabilia, 1941-1949, including invitations, programs, and awards from the Cosmopolitan Club and the National Geographic Society.

**Folder 8:** Memorabilia, undated, consisting of invitation and place cards.

#### Kate G. Durfee Berryman Papers

**Folder 9:** Correspondence from Clifford Berryman, 1890; her father, 1897; from Florence, 1911; from Clifford, family, and friends, 1934, 1950, 1953, and undated.

**Folder 10:** Letters of sympathy on the death of Clifford Berryman, 1949-1950, including letters sent to the *Evening Star* and copies of replies from Editor B. M. McKelway. The letter of William E. Knight of Tryon, North Carolina, includes last letter of Clifford Berryman to him, written November 4, 1949.

**Folder 11:** Sympathy enclosure and name cards, 1949.

**Folder 12:** Financial records, 1891-1949, consisting mainly of tax records for property in Falls Church, Virginia, held by Isabella R. Durfee and Kate G. Durfee (later Berryman).

**Folder 13:** Financial records, 1897-1900, consisting primarily of receipts related to the illness, death and burial of Clifford and Kate Berryman's infant child Mary Belle. The folder also includes Mary Belle's baptismal certificate from the Eastern Presbyterian Church, April 25, 1897, which was removed from the scrapbook in Folder 14.

## **Container 2**

**Folder 14:** Scrapbook, 1897-1898, of Mary Belle Berryman memorabilia. Front cover holds pasted newspaper clippings of Mary Belle's obituaries and poems dealing with grief.

**Folder 15:** Scrapbook, 1903-1949. Photocopies of original volume. (Original photographs and ephemera removed to location noted on copies.)

**Folder 16:** Record books, consisting of financial account book, 1894-1897; and datebooks, 1913 (1909 book), 1914 (1913 book).

**Folder 17:** Record books, consisting of journal of voyage to Europe, 1928, and datebook for 1930 (only a few pages used). 1928 Journal includes gold mechanical pencil and a postcard of the *RMS "Scythia."*

**Folder 18:** Diary, 1950. Contains handwritten entries and newspaper clippings. The volume itself is an *Evening Star, Sunday Star* journal book.

**Folder 19:** James T. Berryman memorabilia (collected by Kate Berryman; a few items removed from scrapbook), including wedding invitation, 1926; Central High School Alumni Association reunion program, 1945; sympathy letters, 1949; essay on cartooning, 1948; and original art, photographs, and copies of newspaper clippings, 1940s-1950s, and undated.

**Folder 20:** Florence Berryman correspondence and memorabilia (collected by Kate Berryman; a few items removed from scrapbook), 1938-1966, and undated.

## **SERIES II: ART**

### **Container 3**

**Folder 21:** Newspaper cartoon clippings, 1900-1912.

**Folder 22:** Newspaper cartoon clippings, 1913-1949, and undated.

**Folder 23:** Illustrated magazine articles, publications and ephemera, 1901-1948, and undated, including "The Campaign of '48 in *Star* Cartoons." Some original items photocopied and cataloged in other HSW collections as noted. One series of drawings are noted as chapter illustrations for unidentified publication.

**Folder 24:** Illustrated calendars, 1907, 1947.

**Folder 25:** Illustrated prints, primarily on political topics, undated.

**Folder 26:** "DC Weatherman" cartoon, reproduced by James Berryman. File also includes a description of the Seal of the District of Columbia.

**Folder 27:** Original art, 1905-1945, and undated.

**Folder 28:** Original art. 40 leaves of drawings of various subjects, and a list of cities.

**Folder 29:** Illustrated book, *Berryman's Cartoons* (1900). Bound with a burlap cover.

**Folder 30:** Illustrated book, *Little Girl and the Goblin*, by Myra Morgan (1912). Also includes photocopies of newspaper articles on members of the Morgan family.

**Folder 31:** Illustrated booklet for Gridiron Club banquet, February 14, 1914, including 25 colored illustrations of prominent persons, including President Wilson, German Ambassador Von Bernstorff, and senators, governors, and other government officials.

### **SERIES III: PHOTOGRAPHS**

**Folder 32:** Photographs of CKB as a young man. Most images made by local photographic studio of Harris & Ewing.

**Folder 33:** Photographs of CKB in middle age.

#### **Container 4**

**Folder 34:** Photographs of CKB in his later years.

**Folder 35:** Family and relations.

**Folder 36:** Family and relations.

**Folder 37:** Family and relations.

**Folder 38:** Family and relations.

**Folder 39:** Family and relations.

**Folder 40:** Family and relations.

**Folder 41:** Friends and acquaintances, Blackburn-Kitchen.

**Folder 42:** Friends and acquaintances, many identified, including Ambassador Julian Pauncefote (ca. 1900), George Patrick (1906), W.W. Rockhill, R. Walton Moore, Edith and Genevieve Posey, actor Henry Miller, Theodore Noyes, William Loeb (1905), F.D. Millet, E.E. Suter (1897), Jennie Walker (Mrs. John C.), and Edward Stellwagen.

**Folder 43:** Friends and acquaintances, unidentified subjects and group scenes.

**Folder 44:** Outdoor scenes. Most locations depicted in photographs are unidentified.

### **Container 5**

**Folder 45:** Bible, inscribed “Clifford K. Berryman from his mother Sallie C. Berryman, Christmas 1897” (includes family history information)

## **SERIES IV: OVERSIZE ART AND PHOTOGRAPHS**

### **Container 6 (oversize art and photographs)**

**Folder 46:** Portraits and photographs. Album of Harris & Ewing portraits of CKB as a young man, and photographs of friends, including Seldon M Ely (1911), Edward Bruce Moore (1901), G. W. Norris, and Hon. Samuel Leland Powers.

**Folder 47:** CKB illustrated prints. Includes selections from the *Los Angeles Times Illustrated Weekly* (1913), and *The Public Ledger*. The latter publication features drawings related to the Philippine Insurrection.

**Folder 48:** CKB single-panel illustrations. Most images are of individuals or a political theme. Several were published in the *Washington Star*.

**Folder 49:** CKB original art. Includes Saengerbund carnival (1902), *Washington Post* calendar (1904 and 1907), Gridiron Club “vote,” *Jamestown War Bonnet* newsletter (1908), anniversary issue of insurance company publication *Views* (1909), and advertisement for 13<sup>th</sup> annual Business High Alumni Association excursion to Marshall Hall (1918).

**Folder 50:** Original artwork. Includes two prints dedicated to U.S. Grant III, “The Fledgelings,” “LaFollette Faction,” stock market cartoon dedicated to Ed Stone, caricature of Speaker of the House Joe Cannon, “Noel” renovating the District Bar, and two sketches by J. T. Berryman.

### **Container 7 (oversize art and photographs)**

Portraits and photographs of CKB, photograph of CKB, Kate Berryman, and their daughter in an embroidered frame board.

Photographs of friends J. W. Bailey (1897), E. J. Burkett, W. S. Corby, Joe G. Cannon (1913), Charles G. Dawes (1922), David B. Edmonston, Mrs. E. O. Emerson, Richard Lee Henry (Groundhog Day, 1913), Frank H. Hitchcock (1909), Thomas E. Irwin (? , 1913), John A. Johnson, H. C. Loudenslager (1908), Fred E. Mann, F. W. Mondell, W. H. Patten, the William Harryman Rapleys, William T. Russell, Will Sholes (1917), Robert J. Wynne, Hon. H. O. Young.

*Cartoons and caricatures* by CKB; published by H. B. Thompson. Caricatures of individuals, arranged alphabetically.

### **Container 8 (oversize art and photographs)**

Photographs of unidentified family and friends, including several photos of children and several photos of women in wedding dresses.

Group photographs, including office scene.

**Folder 51 (oversize):** Advertising posters, 1905, 1910. Subjects include “grand exhibition by Professor Samuelson’s Pupils at Convention Hall,” and “Do” poster from Chicago with statement by Ricord Gradwell. (This folder is extra-oversize and is stored separately.)