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# Past Times

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A just-for-kids publication produced by the Rutherford B. Hayes Presidential Center

Volume 11 - 2012

The Hayes Presidential Center is affiliated with the Ohio Historical Society.

## Exhibit looks at travel before there were highways or cars

There were no highways or paved roads and railroad tracks did not yet cross the country. Forget about cars ... and airplanes did not exist. So, when President Rutherford B. Hayes announced he would be the first president to travel to the west coast during his presidency how did he do it?

The exhibit *Tales of Travel from the President's Attic* answers that question and many more about how people traveled to see distant lands before there were motorized vehicles, planes, fast food restaurants, or hotels in every town. With funding provided by **Croghan Colonial Bank**, the Hayes Museum uses letters, photographs, souvenirs, and stacks of travel trunks to let you travel along side the President and some of his family on six amazing journeys.

You have lots of time to book your trip. *Tales of Travel from the President's Attic* is on display Sept. 11, 2012 through Jan. 27, 2013.

### The Great Western Tour

Rutherford B. Hayes was elected president not long after the Civil War. The nation and its people still were recovering from the awful effects of the war. Like a hurricane or big storm, homes and businesses were destroyed, people were hurt or killed, and worst of all there was anger. People who sided with the Union did not trust people who sided with the Confederates, and visa versa.



The contents of one of Mary Hayes' steamer trunks are displayed.

President Hayes saw his 1880 *Great Western Tour* as a way to remind everyone of the importance of our nation's name - the **United States**. Hayes had been an officer in the Union army and thought he could lead by example. His plan was to visit every state he could, regardless of what side the state supported in the war. It took a lot of bravery to do that.

But there also was real danger of attack from warring Native Americans angry that their lands were being given away, and from bands of criminals. Much of the west was open nameless country and without cities and towns there were no rules and no police force. General William T. Sherman traveled with Hayes as a

bodyguard. It was a tough job since the presidential party constantly switched between trains, stage-coaches, wagons, boats, and steamships to make the 71-day 10,000-mile trip.

### "Seeing something of the war"

If war were to break out in another country, would you plan a trip there? Webb C. Hayes (the President's son) and his wife Mary did - just three days after the start of World War I in 1914. Not only that, but Webb, a retired Army officer, volunteered for a dangerous mission that took him back and forth through the front lines.

### To the Arctic Circle

Webb and Mary Hayes took a less dangerous but equally risky trip just

two years later. Their destination was the Arctic Circle! The couple took along their two 18-year-old nephews for a 53-day journey during which they lived through bitter cold temperatures, encountered ocean storms that forced their small steam-powered ship to take shelter in an uncharted bay, and traveled through lands barely explored by human beings.

### The Admiral Tours Europe

*Tales of Travel from the President's Attic* also takes you to Great Britain, the countries along the Mediterranean Ocean, and into Europe with Admiral Webb Hayes II (nephew of Webb C. Hayes) and his family, including three young sons.

### Europe & the Dakota Country

You also will visit the warm climate and blue oceans of the Pacific Islands with Webb C. and Mary Hayes, and take a second trip with President Hayes during his 1878 journey to the Dakota Country.

It is up to you to bring a world map and a travel journal when you visit *Tales of Travel from the President's Attic*; no luggage needed. And, you can do it all in a day's time. Departure times from the Hayes Museum are 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Tuesday-Saturday or noon-5 Sunday. Best of all your trip ticket is a real bargain! Cost is just \$7.50/adults, \$6.50/seniors age 60+, and \$3/children 6-12.

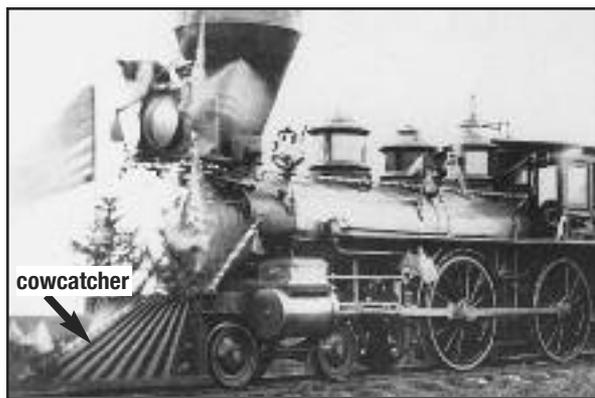
Bon voyage!

# Daredevils: The President's sons take a daring train ride!

Much like today when a U.S. President is traveling, people gather wherever he stops. In September 1880, the train carrying 19th U.S. President Rutherford B. Hayes stopped at the military post in Cheyenne, WY, where 21-year-old Lt. Charles R. Noyes was stationed.

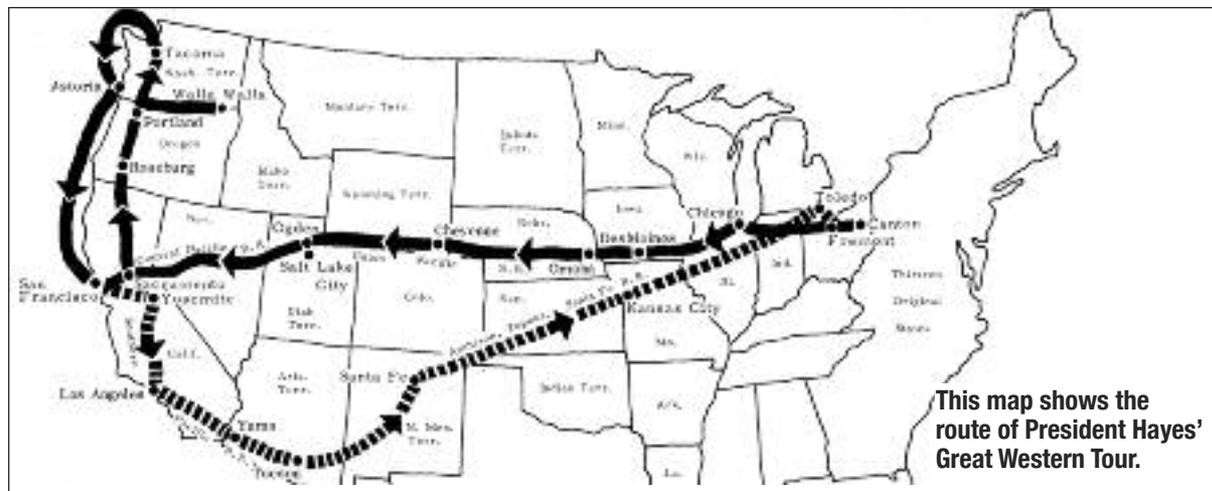
Noyes, a recent graduate of West Point, was the son of one of the President's first cousins. He decided to make the most of the opportunity and introduced himself to President Hayes. After brief chats with both the President and First Lady Lucy Hayes, Noyes was invited to travel with the presidential party on the four-day trip through Wyoming to Salt Lake City, Utah. He was to report to none other than Civil War General William Tecumseh, who was providing security for President Hayes.

Two days into the trip Noyes, the President's two sons, and three others took the ride of a lifetime standing on the cowcatcher (like the one on the train pictured below) at the front of a train. Noyes recorded the adventure in his diary - one of the few firsthand accounts of President Hayes' *Great Western Tour*.



**September 5, 1880**

*... we arrived at a station called Emery [a village in Emery County, Utah], and upon invitation of Rutherford Hayes I ran forward to join a party on the cow-catcher for a ride through Echo Canyon. There were six of us on the cow-catcher, Mr. Herron, Mrs. Mitchell, Miss Sherman, Rutherford and Birchard, and myself. The President, Mrs. Hayes, Doctor Huntington and Mrs. Herron rode with the engineer in the cab. The ride was down hill all the way and for twenty or twenty-five miles through a most beautiful canyon with magnificent mountain scenery on both sides. The railroad followed a small stream for several miles which finally flowed into the Weber River [river through the Wasatch Mountains], and then the Weber was followed down. At places the valley was wide enough to allow for fine wheat fields, and the houses were quite numerous, probably all Mormon settlements as we were by this time within*



This map shows the route of President Hayes' Great Western Tour.

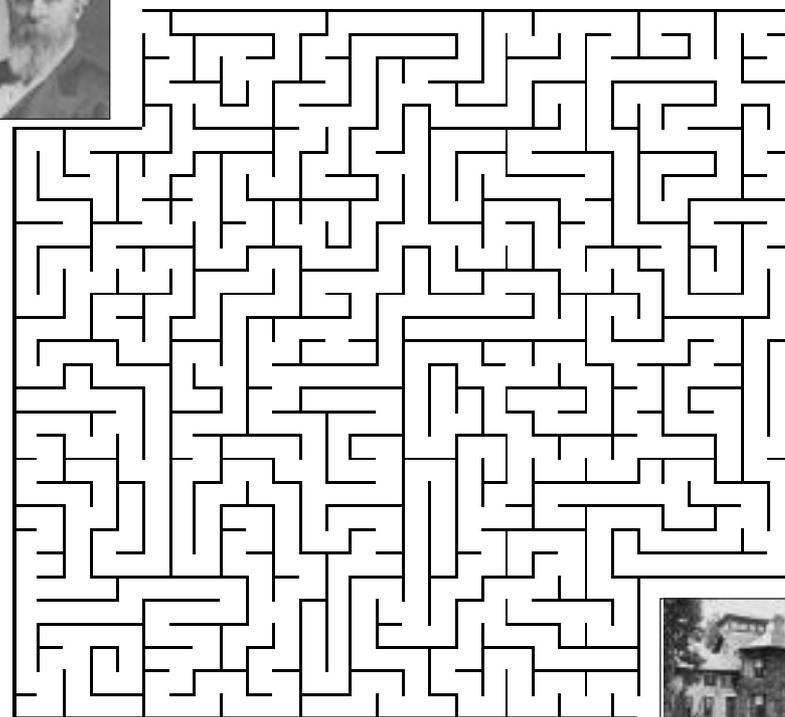
*the limits of Utah. One crop which we noticed and which covered quite large fields, we afterwards learned was alfalfa or Luzerne [sic]. Its brilliant green color attracted Mr. Herron's attention and no one knew at first what it was. It is said to make excellent fodder for animals and three or four crops can be harvested in a year, giving as many as nine tons to the acre. The wonderful rock formations on both sides of the track and the high cliffs attracted our attention. We noted the Devil's slide, and the Devil's Gate, also the one-thousand-mile tree, all of which we passed during the ride. The track crossed the stream whose course it followed many times and twice plunged through short tunnels where the very circuitous course of the stream could not be followed. On several occasions, as we sped along, it appeared as though we were about to run full against a mountain side, but just before reaching such places the track by a sudden turn curved through some narrow defile (rubble), and thus we passed from open glades to steep sided canyons, and back again to open glades and thrifty farms. It was a most delightful ride, and at the end of twenty-five miles we returned to the train*

*much pleased with our experience.*

Charles R. Noyes later returned to West Point to teach mathematics. In 1898, he married a cousin Gertrude Noyes and as a major serving in the Boxer Rebellion was severely wounded. His daughter Margaret Noyes Goldsmith donated a transcript of her father's journal to the Hayes Presidential Center in 1956. If it were not for her generosity, none of us would have ever known this exciting story or her father's role in history.

## Help President Hayes find his way home.

Use your pencil to help President Hayes travel to his house.



# 'War Journal' recounts dangerous trip

When World War I broke out Mary Miller Hayes was living a very comfortable life an ocean away from bombs and bullets. But, when her husband Webb Cook Hayes - a retired soldier - insisted on "seeing something of the war" she packed her luggage and went with him.

Three days after the war's start, the wealthy couple was on board the ship *St. Paul* headed for England. Mary felt the need to record what she knew would be a world-changing conflict and so began writing her *War Journal*. Her brief notes of war facts and personal thoughts reveal the real danger she and Webb were in. Her written record also makes the events of that war more real and personal for all of us who read it. Below are some of her entries:

**25 AUGUST, TUESDAY - PARIS**  
*Third day of battle reports no gain. German zeppelin threw bombs on Antwerp, killing women and children. Belgian army recaptures line between Antwerp and Brussels.*

**27 AUGUST, FRIDAY - PARIS**  
*Wild rumors that Germans have pierced the front of Allies & are within 80 kilometers of Paris.*

**30 AUGUST, MONDAY**  
**PARIS - HOTEL BELMONT**  
*The Germans are advancing toward Paris and the city is preparing for a siege. There is a rumor that a German aeroplane passed over the city at noon today and fired three bombs. If it is confirmed tomorrow we shall begin to think that we must leave.*

**31 AUGUST, MONDAY**  
**PARIS - HOTEL BELMONT**  
*We completed our arrangements for going to Holland via Havre, Southampton and London and took our trunks to the station and checked them. We were astonished this p.m. to hear that the French government is moving to Bordeaux.*

**4 SEPTEMBER FRIDAY**  
**HAVRE, FRANCE**  
*Colonel has placed our trunks in care of American Ex. Co. Went*



Mary Miller Hayes

*over to the Frassati Hospital formerly a handsome hotel requisitioned for a hospital*

**11 SEPTEMBER, FRIDAY**  
**ANTWERP BELGIUM**  
**TERMINAL HOTEL**

*We see many soldiers in the streets, also Red Cross ambulances. The Belgians are very bitter toward the Germans for violating their neutrality and devastating this land and ruining their cities.*

**14 SEPTEMBER, MONDAY**  
**THE HAGUE HOLLAND -**  
**HOTEL DES INDES**

*Colonel called at the Legation. Dr. Henry Van Dyke, Minister to Holland and the Secretary Mr. Langham, whose brother he was with in the Philippines. With them he planned the trip to Berlin and they gave him dispatches to deliver to our ambassador at Berlin.*

**15 SEPTEMBER, TUESDAY**  
**THE HAGUE HOLLAND**  
**HOTEL DES INDES**

*Colonel traveled by train from Amsterdam, through the German frontier. French and English prisoners of war at train stops. Arrived in Berlin and delivered dispatches. Given German papers and military driver for leaving for Cologne.*

**17 SEPTEMBER, THURSDAY**  
*Colonel left Cologne (Germany); traveled by car through to Liege; heavy destruction and wholesale burning of buildings, bridges, telegraph and telephone poles - Germany's revenge on Belgium for their resistance. Reached Brussels where he met American Ambassador Brand Whitlock. Belgium's gallant defense delayed the crossing of the German army for some two weeks, saving Paris, but at the expense of her cities - save Brussels and Ghent.*

**22 SEPTEMBER, TUESDAY**  
**ROTTERDAM, HOLLAND**  
*Colonel returned to Rotterdam by train after 8-days to Berlin, Brussels, Liege, Louvain, returning via Ghent and Hook of Holland - frightfully devastated towns & countryside. British cruiser sunk by German submarine.*

**26 SEPTEMBER, SATURDAY**  
**HAVRE, FRANCE**  
**Aboard steamer France**  
*Removed our effects to steamer 'France.' Crowded with soldiers, sailors & citizens who cheered & sang Back to Tipperary. Ambassador Herrick unable to leave in crisis, which continues in Paris.*

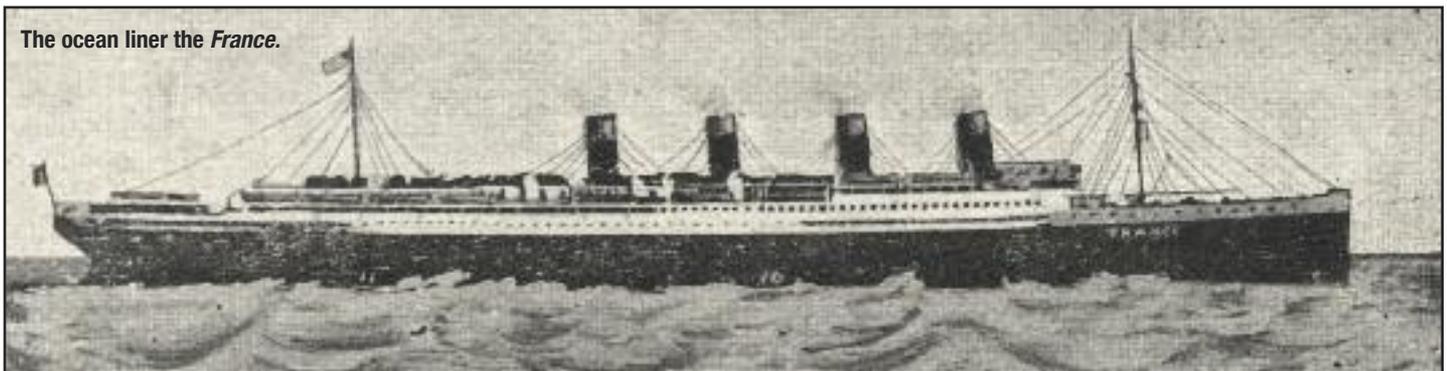


A German soldier assigned to escort Col. Webb Hayes through the war zone honked this horn constantly on the trip from Berlin to Brussels. The Colonel was so annoyed by the noise, he bought the horn from the soldier to stop him from honking it.



Mary bought the above booklet showing a building in Louvain, Belgium, before (top) and after war time bombing.

The ocean liner the *France*.



# Journey to the Arctic Circle via the Alaskan wilderness

If someone asked you to describe the state of Alaska what would you say? Would you mention cold, snow, polar and grizzly bears, and Eskimos? Those all are good answers. But, imagine for a moment that Alaska was not part of the United States. That seems far fetched, but Alaska did not become a state until 1959 - that's not that long ago! A lot of people alive today can remember when the United States welcomed its 49th state.

In 1916, Colonel Webb Cook Hayes and his wife Mary decided to make a journey few people would have considered. Their destination was the Arctic Circle and their route took them through huge tracts of wilderness that would not achieve statehood for another 43 years. Along with them were their 18-year-old nephews Dalton and William Hayes.



With few roads through the wilderness, the Yukon River was the freeway into vast areas of unexplored mountains, valleys, and meadows. The main means of transportation for residents and travelers alike were small wooden boats called "steamers." These ships burned wood as fuel and passengers often had their trip interrupted by stops to load more wood on board. Mary Hayes described just such a stop for wood in the journal she kept during the trip.

*In fact it seems to be the only fuel used in the parts of Alaska we have visited so far, and one of the diversions is when the boat stops to take on wood.*

However, before they got to the Yukon River, the travelers had to cross the tower-



ing peaks of the Coast Mountains. In Skagway, they boarded a train to cross through White

Pass. The train and the route it took were made during the Klondike Gold Rush of 1896.

Again Mary wrote about the experience:

*We boarded a train for the trip over White Pass to White Horse, entrance to the Yukon Territory in Canada. It required three engines to carry our train, which is quite a long one, up the Pass.*

At the end of the tracks, the group boarded the first of many steamer ships they would use to travel the Yukon River. Mary was struck by how the gold rush had affected the area along the river.

*Population is down from 35,000 in 1898 to 3,500 at present. The buildings are dilapidated.*

The prospectors who flocked to Alaska during the gold rush were gone, but the Hayeses saw that gold still was important. They visited huge mining businesses where steam shovels dug deep into the ground. Mary saw ... *a chain of very heavy shovels, 69 in number made in Marion, Ohio, scooping up the rocks and pebbles from the river bottom. The gold is found only on the bedrock, 31 feet from the surface!*

The group also came upon a bank that built its own smelter to process the small gold nuggets that were dug up. Once the gold was smelted, it was poured in molds and made into "bricks" that were easier to transport.

Once the group reached Fort Yukon on the Arctic Circle, they began the long journey home. Their adventure lasted 53 days, took them more than 2,000 miles up the Yukon River, and cost \$2,700 (\$59,157 in today's dollars) for round trip tickets for four.

## What to pack in a steamer trunk

M Q R A B S J H C C S A G M L  
 A A Z P K U C S R A G E I Y R  
 S Q P O W W V U P W M R O N G  
 T A O S D C O R H Z R E X H S  
 R B L H X C Y B A O F Z R T S  
 U Y M L L H Z R R S C K R A K  
 N R O O E D D I R H B O H N S  
 K A D Q L R W A B D P L P X B  
 S I Q L O T B H U S K K D Z C  
 Y D X Z M P R M S R U Z T X U  
 F H X I C N I A U B C H D Q R  
 Z A W H P T P B L A N K E T S  
 S T O O B F O W W I C O A T S  
 A S L U Y E E F B X B N S X R  
 G B J V G U D Q P Q Y N F E V

When the Hayes family traveled, they took a lot of things with them. Some are listed below. Can you find them in the Word Puzzle above?

blankets	umbrellas	cameras	shoes	coats
maps	hairbrush	hats	diary	mirror
boots	passport	trunks	books	



The Hayes family made friends with a group of young women from Vassar College traveling to Alaska (left at top); some of the passengers watch as crew load wood during a fuel stop (left); stacks of trunks stored in the Hayes Home were used by the Hayes family when traveling.