



The New York Public Library
Manuscripts and Archives Division

Guide to the

H. Nelson Gay letters to William Roscoe Thayer

1907-1923

MssCol 1124

Summary

Creator: Gay, H. Nelson (Harry Nelson), 1870-1932

Title: H. Nelson Gay letters to William Roscoe Thayer

Date: 1907-1923

Size: .2 linear feet (1 box)

Source: Gift, Moyerman, Samuel, 1962

Abstract: Harry Nelson Gay (1870-1932) was an American author and scholar who lived in Italy from 1898 until his death. His personal library was renowned for the collection of resources on the history of Italy from 1815 to 1870. He wrote works on the Risorgimento and biographies for *Americani Illustri*. Collection consists of Gay's letters to William Roscoe Thayer, an American historian and biographer. Letters, 1907-1923, were written chiefly in Italy and concern Gay's opinions of other historians and scholars; his writings and search for publications for his library; current events in Italy; the diplomatic scene in Europe; World War I from the Italian viewpoint; founding of the Library for American Studies in Italy; affairs of the Keats-Shelley Memorial Association; and relief work in earthquakes and on war fronts.

Access: Advance notice required.

Alternative Form Available: Available on microfilm; New York Public Library; *ZL-486

Preferred citation: H. Nelson Gay letters to William Roscoe Thayer, Manuscripts and Archives Division, The New York Public Library

Creator History

Harry Nelson Gay (1870-1932) was an American author and scholar who lived in Italy from 1898 until his death. His personal library was renowned for the collection of resources on the history of Italy from 1815 to 1870. He wrote works on the Risorgimento and biographies for *Americani Illustri*.

Scope and Content Note

Collection consists of Gay's letters to William Roscoe Thayer, an American historian and biographer. Letters, 1907-1923, were written chiefly in Italy and concern Gay's opinions of other historians and scholars; his writings and search for publications for his library; current events in Italy; the diplomatic scene in Europe; World War I from the Italian viewpoint; founding of the Library for American Studies in Italy; affairs of the Keats-Shelley Memorial Association; and relief work in earthquakes and on war fronts.

Key Terms

Subjects

Diplomacy
Earthquakes
Private libraries
War relief -- Italy
World War, 1914-1918 -- Civilian relief
World War, 1914-1918 -- Diplomatic history
World War, 1914-1918 -- Italy

Occupations

Historians

Geographic Names

Italy -- History -- 1914-1922

Names

Gay, H. Nelson (Harry Nelson), 1870-1932
Thayer, William Roscoe, 1859-1923
Keats-Shelley Memorial Association
Library for American Studies in Italy