

evidenced by the contents of their records and writings.

Among the authentic papers borne by the Freedom Train now touring the country, the full meaning of which may escape many who will be looking for the more spectacular documents exhibited, is a significant four-page letter from Melancton Smith, dated at New York, January 1, 1789, to Gilbert Livingston at Albany, a member of the first assembly under the constitution, in which he says:

You know my sentiments on the constitution has been that it too strongly inclines to an aristocracy; do the best with it you can without amendments . . . The fair promises and pretensions of most of the leading men who were in favor of the new system are mere illusions. They intend to urge the execution of the plan in its present form. We ought therefore . . . to pursue the object of amendments with unremitting ardour and diligence . . . Politics has consumed so much of my time and thoughts that I should be glad to lay them aside, but the establishing a good government for a great country is an object of such moment I cannot give it up . . . I view it as affecting the whole system of things for ages remote.

Several cases of the Freedom Train exhibits are devoted to the convention at Poughkeepsie, wherein New York state ratified the constitution on July 26, 1788. Of significance are the manuscript journal of the convention proceedings, and the copy, on parchment of the constitution, with the appended suggested amendments, which George Clinton signed as president of the convention, all from the New York state library.

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#### THE LINCOLN CAMPAIGN OF 1864

A group of documents and pamphlets collected by the late James Callanan, of Des Moines, and evidently used in the political campaign for President Lincoln in 1864, constitute a valuable acquisition by the State Department of History and Archives.

They were kept by him in his Des Moines home at Twenty-eighth and Woodland, where they remained after his death in 1904, until in December 1943, when they were presented to the department by Mrs. Doolittle, then

in charge at the place known as Hill's Retreat or sanitarium.

These particular documents were never made use of as the pages are uncut. Some of them were issued by a Union Executive Congressional committee, of which Senator James Harlan was the treasurer. The interesting ones include the following:

Abraham Lincoln, speech at Cooper Union, Feb. 27, 1860, which gave him standing in the east.

Wm. H. Seward, speech at Auburn, Sept. 3, 1864, on the fall of Atlanta.

James Harlan, speech on the Constitution.

Charles Sumner, the "Crime Against Kansas."

Daniel S. Dickinson, speech on Duty of Loyal Men.

Carl Schurz, on "Dougalism Exposed."

Henry G. Stebbins, on "Paying for the War."

Sherman, Hooker and Grant letters.

Geo. Bancroft and James Wadsworth letters.

J. G. Barnard, on the Peninsular Campaign.

Prof. Laborlaye, on the Presidential Election.

Vallandigham, Sup. Com. "Sons of Liberty," expose of "Copperhead Conspiracy in the Northwest."

"Shall We have an Armistice?"

Francis Lieber, on "Lincoln or McClellan," (German and English).

"English Tories and the Election."

Soldiers on Their Right to Vote.

"Leave Pope to Get Out of His Scrape."

"The Submissionists and Their Record."

"Sherman vs. Hood."

Correspondence Lydia Maria Child with Governor Wise and others on John Brown.

Report Judge Advocate General on "Order of American Knights" or "Sons of Liberty," a Western Conspiracy.

These documents tie in with those in the department files accumulated during the years following the close of the Civil war era, and still fresh in minds of Iowans in the eighties and nineties.

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#### USE OF CENTENNIAL COMMITTEE PROFITS

The Iowa Centennial committee closed its activities with the issue of a very fine report summarizing a year of intense work. This was prepared by Edith W. McElroy, the executive secretary, and Lester Milligan, the

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