VALUE OF THE BURLINGTON HAWKEYE FILES

In the preparation of his article in this number of the ANNALS on "Iowa Political Conventions and Platforms," Mr. Mott had all but despaired of locating a copy of the Iowa Whig platform of 1840 when, by persistence, he learned that it existed complete in the *Burlington Hawkeye* for August 6, 1840. Appealing to the present owners for its use Mr. John F. D. Aué, publisher, in appropriate refusal of our request to lend us the volume of 1840, wrote: "We also discover that the year 1840 is part of

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our very first volume. We think so much of this volume that we have it wrapped up and chained and put in one of the storage vaults of the bank, and we do not want to leave this volume unprotected. Of course you are perfectly welcome to the use of it during banking hours, but before the bank closes this volume will have to go back into the vault. We might state that the sum of \$10,000.00 would not begin to name the price that we set on this volume."

In view of the vast number of newspapers in our own collections, their long and unbroken files, and the valuation the Hawk-eye places on its early files—in which we are prone to join—our response embraced the following language: "I surely appreciate the value you place on that volume. If it is worth \$10,000 it makes me sure our collection is worth \$10,000,000."

To this we have had no response save the service the Hawkeye rendered in copying the lengthy article for us, so we assume our appraisement is agreed to by the Hawkeye. The good opinion of all Iowa papers and people is ardently craved by the Historical Department of Iowa, but none is more desired than that of the Hawkeye and its present owners. They hold to the ideals of John L. Waite, Frank Hatton, and the pioneers in the Hawkeye field with the old time passions. In no way do they sustain the Hawkeye's prestige better than in the jealous care with which they guard their first historic volume, and in the valuation they put upon it.

ABSTRACT OF THE MINUTES OF THE STATE BOARD OF CONSERVATION

April 13, 1923

Resolutions.—Resolutions in substance as follows were adopted: That the resolution of April 26, 1922, providing that Senator Haskell be chairman of a committee of three other than the secretary to audit all bills, because of the absence of Senator Haskell caused by his illness, be repealed and that hereafter all bills be audited by at least three members; that the plan "General Plan of Clark Park, Traer, Iowa, etc.," made by landscape architects Lois Hermine Pammel and J. J. Beard, be accepted with such changes as may later be made by these architects; that the secretary and custodian be directed to make public announcement that pending the final decision with respect to flooding portions of the Ledges Park by a power company, no guaranCopyright of Annals of Iowa is the property of State of Iowa, by & through the State Historical Society of Iowa and its content may not be copied or emailed to multiple sites or posted to a listserv without the copyright holder's express written permission. However, users may print, download, or email articles for individual use.