

[PUBLIC RESOLUTION—NO. 9.]

Joint Resolution Authorizing the Secretary of the Interior to remove from the files of the Department of the Interior certain letters to be donated to the State of Iowa.

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the Secretary of the Interior be, and is hereby, authorized to remove from the files of the Department and donate to the State of Iowa such letters of Robert Lucas, John Chambers, and James Clarke, addressed to the Commissioner of Indian Affairs, as may be designated by the Curator of the Historical Department of said State, copies being retained in the files of the Department of the Interior if the Secretary shall deem such letters or any of them of any value to the government.

Approved, February 28, 1901.

These letters which are now only important to the State of Iowa, on account of their historical value, and as mementos of our Territorial Governors, will doubtless reach the Historical Department at an early day. It is by no means improbable that other important letters and documents relating to early Iowa may be brought to light in the government offices at Washington, though it will be a work of time and patience to find them.

EARLY IOWA BANKING.

Our leading article is a most readable account of the beginning of banking operations in Iowa, by Maj. Hoyt Sherman of Des Moines. He was himself a pioneer in this department of business, a keen observer, and a man of affairs, who speaks with accurate knowledge of the situation at the beginning and of the progress of events as the State increased in population and wealth and the demands for a circulating medium constantly increased. This article is not only excellent reading at the present time, but it possesses great historical value. In the next ANNALS we shall publish a second paper from his pen on "The State Bank of Iowa." Our readers may look for a clear and succinct account of that institution, now almost forgotten, but which gave Iowa as proud a position financially as that of any State in the Union at any time. It is especially valuable as embodying the recollections of one of the most active of the founders of the old State Bank.

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