The Value of a Manuscript Collection

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EDITORIAL DEPARTMENT

THE VALUE OF A MANUSCRIPT COLLECTION

One must count among the more important aids to a fuller and more accurate understanding of history the correspondence, letters, and accounts of men who figured in the developments of their day. This department has long held this to be true, and has continuously sought to collect and preserve the manuscript letters and correspondence of Iowa men and women and institutions. Curator Charles Aldrich gave a great impetus to this effort in the very first days of the department, and by his wide acquaintance with the leading men of early Iowa he was able to secure and preserve for the state some of the most valuable collections the department has. Under Curator Edgar Harlan the same recognition of the value of such records continued to stimulate efforts to acquire and preserve records of those men, women, and institutions which would throw light upon the passing scene of which they were a part. The process of adding to the collections in the department is never ended; it is and must be one of the main functions of the department.

Too often, however, the average man, whether he be the banker, the clothier, the realtor, the bookkeeper, or the Mayor may wonder what is the value of preserving such collections of letters and old records. Yet from such records comes much of our information of history, and for Iowa, much of the history of her territorial and early statehood days is to be found in the manuscript collections, as well as information relative to the court and legal systems in Iowa, her Indian relations, her school and religious developments, her customs and manners, and the changes in the kind and the method of doing business. All are there, for those who will study them.

If a wide knowledge of the price and operation of grain on the several markets is a sign of the better farmer, then surely an increasing knowledge of the facts and realities of our
American history is a sign of, and makes, a better citizen. Records from men of high and low estate, from all business and professional occupations, from journals, ledgers, correspondence and diaries help to produce that ever enlarging stream of information. If men are to be free they must first know the truth.

Below is a list of manuscripts in the possession of the department which have been received since 1929, or which were not listed in the account given in the April number, 1929, of the *Annals of Iowa*. The list here given is divided into two parts, the first the personal manuscript section, and the second the non-personal, or group and institutional records.

**PERSONAL MANUSCRIPTS**

| Adams, Samuel                  | Callanan, J., Jr.               |
| Allen, William                 | Carpenter, William             |
| Andreen, Gustav                | Casady, Simon                  |
| Anderson, Mrs. B. M.           | Casson, Henry                  |
| Anderson, Leo                  | Chambers, John                 |
| Armstrong, Frank               | Chase, D. D.                   |
| Arnold, Edw.                   | Chatland, Thomas               |
| Atkinson, William I.           | Call, Kate                     |
| Avery, William                 | Call, Arnold                   |
| Bailey, Joel                   | Collins, W. L.                 |
| Bainbridge, W. E.              | Conger, P. H.                  |
| Baldwin, Caleb                 | Cook, Jacob                    |
| Barr, Samuel                   | Cook, John G.                  |
| Bartlett, John D., Acct. Books | Cooler, Gilbert                |
| Bassett, Christina             | Cowles, (Rev.) Salmon          |
| Blaine, James G.               | Cox, Thomas                    |
| Blanchard, Henry E.            | Craig, James                   |
| Boies, Horace                  | Cravin, James                  |
| Boone, Nathan, Survey Notes    | Crawford, D.                   |
| Bradshaw, Charles S.           | Crawford, J. S., P. W., S. J., T. |
| Brandt, Isaac                  | Cummings, C. A.                |
| Brown, N. T.                   | Davis, C. F.                   |
| Brocking, Mrs. Almira          | Dean, Henry Clay               |
| Brookhart, Smith W.            | Deering, Mrs. N. C.            |
| Bruner, Elias D.               | Depew, H. H.                   |
| Bruce, James                   | Dermer, H. E.                  |
| Busby, Samuel                  | Donnan, Dan                    |
| Callanan, James                | Douglas, Stephan A.            |
Duffield, George C.
Dunham, C.
Durham, S. W.
Evans, W. C.
Everett, E. S.
Fairall, S. H.
Faville, Oren
Franklin, Sir John
Frazee, George
Frazer, George
Frink, John
Frizzell, J. W.
Gendry,
Gray, Thomas
Greef, H. S.
Griswold, Rev.
Guye, Lawrence
Hack, O. J.
Hall, William C.
Hammil, Math G.
Harper, William
Harriott (Dr.) I. H.
Hayden, Everett
Hayden, F. V.
Haynes, James
Hay, A. T.
Hecox, Warren T.
Henderson, F. J.
Hendershott, N. B.
Herriott, (Prof.) F. I.
Hillis, Cora Bussey
Hoffman, Thomas L.
Holman, Grant
Hoskins, Erastus
Howe, Judge, O. C.
Hull, J. A. T.
Hunt, Jerry and "others"
Husted, A. S.
Hutchins, C. B.
Ingham, Harvey
Jacobs, R. G.
Jefferson, Theo
Karr, Mrs. H. L.
Kellenbarger, (Lieut.) John H.
Kerr, John
Kerr, Wm G.
Kindig, J. W.

Lally, John F.
Lee, Henry W.
Lees, James H.
Lenihan, (Rev.) Matthias C.
Leonard, Katherine
Lipse, Benjamin F.
Logan, John
Lowe, Ralph P.
Lucas, Robert
Luther, Martin
Lyon, Mrs. E. M.
Lytton, (Lord and Lady) Edw. B.
MacLanan, F. A.
Maier, Zoe
Manning, Edwin, Acct. Book
Martin, Michael
Maxon, William
McCleary, Robert
McGinnia, Gertrude
McGrady, S. J.
McQueen, A. G.
Merrill, Samuel
Michael, Addison
Miller, Laura
Mills, Oliver
Morgan, J. M.
Morgan, John S.
Morgan, Maurice L.
Morning, (Rev.) Theodore
Muller, Nathaniel
Neuhring, Mrs. Henry
Noonan, (Rev.) J. J.
Peal, T. R.
Perkins, George D.
Perkins, J. L.
Perry & Wilson Acct. Books
Peterson, Nels
Pierce, Alexander
Pope, Samuel
Read,
Redhead, Wesley
Reed, Walter
Roberts, B. S.
Rössel, M. Paul
Rossitti, Christina
Rossitti, Dante Gabriel
Schackelford, John H.
Scholes, F. R.  
Scholte, H. P.  
Sears, E. G., Ledger Book  
Shambaugh, Benjamin F.  
Sharkey, Philip  
Sherman, Ernest A.  
Sherman, Hoyt  
Sherwood, B.  
Silwald, Henry  
Small, A. J.  
Smith, Jeremiah  
Smith, Jeremiah, Jr.  
Smith, L. H.  
Springer, Job  
Stevens, (Justice) Truman S.  
Stevenson, C. H.  
Stone, John Y.  
Stuart, Grace  
Stuart, Henrietta  
Taft, Mrs. C. C.  
Taylor, Bayard  
Taylor, C. H.  
Taylor, William E.  
Thomas, Charles  
Thorp, George R.  
Thompson, C. B.  
Tovey, John  
Tyrell, Mrs. J. W.  
Vries, Hugo De  
Walker, Martin O  
Wallace, (Rev.) Henry  
Warfield, Ida Hare  
Wasson, James A.  
Watters, T. H.  
Weaver, James B., Jr.  
Wellsisager, R. T.  
Wheeler, Ben D.  
White, Fannie Rebecca  
Wiggins, N. G.  
Wilson & Perry, Acct. Books  
Winchell, J. M.  
Winslow, (Gen.) Edward P.  
Wright, Dave  
Wright, Susie Webb

NON-PERSONAL MANUSCRIPTS

American Emigrant Co.  
American Railway Union  
Blackhawk  
Boone  
Boonesboro Weather Reports  
Bonds  
Bulgaria  
California City, Iowa  
Centennial Exhibition — Pagent, Philadelphia  
Civil War:  
Iowa:  
Company C, 4th Iowa Inf.  
Company D, 16th Iowa Inf.  
Crocker's Iowa Brigade  
Iowa Volunteers  
2nd Iowa, See Miss., “Farmington”  
17th Iowa  
6th Iowa Homecoming  
10th Iowa Recruiting and Organization  
26th Iowa Inf. Volunteers  
Ohio:  
124th Ohio Vol. Report  
Pennsylvania:  
Civil War Record book  
Farmington, Miss., Charge at Libby prison  
Morning report  
39th Iowa, Co. B.  
Columbian Exposition, Register of Communia Working Men's League  
Croton, Iowa, Record books of  
Des Moines Churches:  
City Sunday School  
Clifton Heights  
Des Moines  
City Manager Campaign
Eighty-eighth Division World War
Election ticket, 1860, Democratic
Election, Ballots (sample)
"Emigrant Directory and Guide,"
Subscription list of
Esquimau children
Farmers Protective Ass'n.
Florence Land Co.
Fort Des Moines No. 2
Fort Des Moines No. 3
Fort Madison, Eagle Hotel Register
Fort Sanford
Franklin County, Hampton, Iowa
Frink & Co., John
G. A. R.
Half-breed tract
Field notes of
Hawkeye Insurance Co. of Iowa
Humboldt County
Indians
Iowa Congress of Parent and Teacher
Iowa District Court
Iowa Life Insurance Co.
Iowa Plant Life Commission
Iowa State Agricultural Society
Iowa State Banner
Iowa State Department of History and Archives
Iowa State Dental Society
Iowa State Parks — Delaware County
Iowa State Planning Board
Iowa, State seals of,
Iowa State Teacher's Ass'n.
Iowa Territorial Centennial
Judd, Francis Emerson
Keokuk
Keokuk & Des Moines Railroad
Keosauqua & S. W. Railroad
Labor
Latter Day Saints
Ledgers and Account Books (2)
Lee County
Lyons County
Marriage Certificate
Metrical Decimal System
Mississippi River
Monday Club, Dubuque
Muscatine county records
National Church, The
Negroes
Northeastern Iowa Teachers' Ass'n.
Northern Border Brigade
Ottumwa
Pan Pacific International Exposition
Panama
Patrons of Husbandry, State Grange Ma.
Peterson Township Minute Book, 1879-1918
Platte Water Co.
Postoffice
Presbyterian Church Records:
Chariton
Des Moines
Grimes
Ridgedale
Presidential Electors
Republican Iowa State Central Committee
Rough & Ready Club
Russian Famine Relief, 1892
Servia
Slaves
Spanish American War
Spirit Lake:
Expedition
Massacre
United States Government reports
Van Buren County
Van Buren Twp.
Vicksburg Park Commission
Western Stage Co.
Women's Relief Corps
World War