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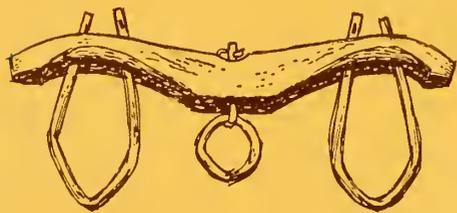
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The Greenly Collection:

A RECENT GIFT OF LINCOLNIANA.

(1941)

LINCOLN ROOM



UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS  
LIBRARY

*presented by*

cop 1: THE HORNERS.

cop 2: James G. and Ruth Painter  
Randall Collection





# THE GREENLY COLLECTION

*A Recent Gift of Lincolniana*

By THOMAS I. STARR



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### *A Recent Gift of Lincolniana*

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SHORTLY after the late Regent William L. Clements had given the library bearing his name to the University of Michigan in 1923, he remarked one day to William W. Bishop, the University librarian, and Randolph G. Adams, director of the Clements Library, that he would like next to collect literature pertaining to Abraham Lincoln.

Regent Clements' intention to include Lincolniana in his great collection of Americana was sincere, but Destiny placed in his way a detour and instead he embarked on the collecting of historical manuscripts having to do with a much earlier period in American history—the papers on the British side of the American Revolution. His desire to collect Lincoln material was not to be fulfilled during his lifetime.

In one respect it was a fortunate detour. Through the action of Mr. Clements manuscripts of great value and of vast historical worth were to be preserved. Where originals of these early British-American papers in England could not be secured, copies were made and now it is not inconceivable that these originals in England may be lost and that the English historian of the future will have to come to Ann Arbor for certain of his country's records after the invader has been repelled from the British Isles. Time bombs or incendiary flares will not threaten those records which Regent Clem-

ents secured and placed in his collection in Ann Arbor.

But Destiny had not forgotten that William L. Clements desired to gather Lincolniana and that some day he wanted his library to contain a representative collection of that important branch of American biographical literature. There came one day to the Clements Library a visitor, a man from New York City, who inquired for information pertaining to Julia Moore and her poetry. No, the Clements Library had nothing on the "Sweet Singer of Michigan." Her outbursts of poetical feeling were not then considered collectors' "items." But, in the conversation which followed, it developed that the New Yorker's interests were not confined solely to the Poetess of the Pines. He had also the interest of the collector and of the student in the life of Abraham Lincoln, and furthermore, he was interested in the history and literature of Michigan, the visitor's native state. He had collected and studied extensively in all these fields.

There was nothing in the Library in the way of Lincolniana, either, the attendant told the visitor. It had been an intended field in the plans of the Library's founder, but as yet those plans had not materialized. More conversation led to subsequent visits to the Clements Library, which terminated in—well, let's allow Mr. Albert H.

Springfield, Ill. Aug 24. 1858

Hon. H. G. Wells.

Dear Sir:

At least I am able to say,  
no accident preventing, I will be with you on  
the 27<sup>th</sup>. I suppose I can reach in time, leaving  
Chicago the same morning. I shall go to  
the Fraternal House, Chicago, on the evening of  
the 24<sup>th</sup>.

Yours truly  
Abraham Lincoln

Hon. H. G. Wells  
Kalamazoo  
Michigan

LINCOLN'S ACCEPTANCE OF AN INVITATION TO SPEAK AT KALAMAZOO, 1856.

Greenly, the New Yorker, to repeat the story from this point. He told it quietly and modestly to a large group in the Library last February 12, the night the Lincoln Room, which now houses the Albert H. Greenly Collection of Lincolniana, was opened:

I am a native of Michigan. My grandfather came to this state in 1848. My father and I were born here.<sup>1</sup> I received in Michigan what schooling my parents could give me. If it had been possible for me to have a college education, I should no doubt have gone to this University, but I had to go to work after finishing high school. My interests have always centered in Michigan, although I have lived in New York City since completing my service in the World War.

There was, as far as I knew, no working collection of Lincoln source material in Michigan. That was an added incentive to place my collection somewhere in this state. Ann Arbor is quite the logical place, and after a few talks with Dr. Adams, his enthusiasm fired within me the idea that the Clements Library was the specific place. Then, too, Dr. Adams had told me in one of our talks of Mr. Clements' purpose

some time to add Lincoln material to his collection. I feel highly honored in having my collection housed in the beautiful building Mr. Clements provided for his books. . . .

This, in brief, is the story of the detour Destiny made in bringing about the realization of the Clements Library's founder to secure what Mr. Greenly so appropriately called a "working collection of Lincoln source material." But the Greenly Collection is something more—it is the cornerstone of what can some day be one of the great Lincoln collections comparable to any already formed, or that now are taking form, in public and private

<sup>1</sup> Mr. Greenly was born in Grand Rapids, March 11, 1881, the son of Albert H. and May J. Greenly. He attended the Grand Rapids public schools and graduated from the Grand Rapids High School in 1899. In January 1901, he entered the railroad service as a clerk for the Pere Marquette Railway Company, advancing through various positions until he became the head of its Traffic Bureau. During the World War he served in France as a First Lieutenant with the United States Engineers. In 1920, he became a member of the Official Classification Committee, with offices in New York City, and since 1931 has been chairman of that Committee.

institutions in several sections of the United States. It should be mentioned, however, that when he made the above statement Mr. Greenly was unaware of the fine collection of Lincolniana gathered for the Western Michigan College of Education at Kalamazoo by the late President Dwight B. Waldo. Many others even yet are not informed of its existence.

One incident in the life of the sixteenth President definitely places Michigan in the Lincoln "country." That was, until recently, his little known but now vastly important antislavery address in Kalamazoo on August 27, 1856. Mr. Greenly knew of the incident and of its importance, for in his collection he held the original letter which Lincoln wrote to the chairman of the Kalamazoo committee of the Young Men's Republican Rally accepting the invitation to a place on the speaking program of the day. When another discovered the hiding place of the speech itself (the only speech yet found of the "more than fifty" which Mr. Lincoln delivered during the Republican Party's first national campaign) Mr. Greenly graciously permitted the letter's use; and speech and letter appeared earlier this year in a volume entitled *Lincoln's Kalamazoo Address Against Extending Slavery*.<sup>2</sup> So it is very appropriate that Michigan have within its state and available to students of Lincolniana a suitable collection of Lincoln literature and source material.

In size, the collection is as modest as its donor. For those who think of Lincolniana only in terms of the total items in a card catalogue, there remains much to be acquired by the Greenly Collection. Judged

from their monetary value, however, the thousand and more books which line the walls of the Lincoln Room in the Clements Library would produce the amount of a good-sized annuity if they were to pass under the auctioneer's hammer. But this is not to be interpreted to mean that it is a collection of rarities. It is not. Nevertheless, it would be impossible for anyone to build a collection such as Mr. Greenly's and not acquire a great many choice items.

"My primary purpose was to assemble a working library of *source* material which could be used by students of Lincoln, and not a library of rare collectors' pieces," Mr. Greenly told the audience the night his collection was exhibited for the first time. He spent many years assembling his books, and the notes and prices he has left pencilled on the cards in his catalogue of the collection indicate that he was a careful buyer. Each item seems to have been chosen with care and with complete understanding of just how it would fit into his interpretation of a student's library of Lincoln.

For years Lincoln students and writers have been compiling bibliographies of "essential" Lincoln writings and biographies. Obviously there are wide variations in what various writers consider important. William E. Barton issued in 1929 such a list of more than 200 titles. With the exception of two or three extreme rarities, all of these are to be found in the Greenly Collection. Paul M. Angle, Illinois State Historical librarian and one of the leading authorities on the bibliography of Abraham Lincoln, published in the *Bulletin of the Abraham Lincoln Association*, in 1936, a list of "fundamental" Lincolniana. It consisted of sixty-nine titles. They are all in the Greenly Collection. Louis A. Warren, director of the Lincoln National Life Foundation and editor of *Lincoln Lore*, made his selection of "Fifty Important Lincoln Books" in 1938. They are there, too. To his excellent article on Lincoln in the new *Dictionary of American Biography*, James G. Randall

<sup>2</sup> The full title of the book, which also was issued as "Bulletin No. 34 of the William L. Clements Library of the University of Michigan," is *Lincoln's Kalamazoo Address Against Extending Slavery. Also His Life by Joseph J. Lewis*, both annotated by Thomas I. Starr and published by The Fine Book Circle, Detroit, 1941. Full reference to the first published life of Lincoln, by Lewis, which is contained in what is perhaps the most valuable single printed item in the Greenly Collection, will be made later in this account.

appended one of the best bibliographies of a collection of Lincolniana which is above the minimum, yet includes what every scholar should have. All of these and a thousand more Mr. Greenly saw fit to include in his library.

Every phase of the Lincoln story seems to be touched upon in the material now in the collection, yet—and we go back again to numbers—there are missing some four or five thousand titles which experts include in that broad—very broad—classification of Lincolniana. In passing, it is pertinent to mention that there is also to be found in the collection much that probably never will be listed in a published Lincoln bibliography; yet it belongs in a student's library of the subject, definitely. Never will such things as bound volumes of *Harper's Weekly*, *Frank Leslie's Illustrated Newspaper*, or the *London Punch* for the Civil War years, be recognized as Lincolniana. Yet the first two are a mine of illustrative background and contemporary information, and the last with its caustic yet sometimes sympathetic cartoons and editorials contains many a piece found nowhere else for the jig-saw pattern of the Lincoln biography. The same can be said of scores of other volumes dealing with the contemporary men and times. They form an essential part of the mosaic of the Lincoln portrait. Mr. Greenly, like many another student and collector of Lincoln material, recognized this fact and as a result the Greenly Collection is rich in contemporary material.

Almost the last item which Mr. Greenly added to his library while it still remained in his possession, although negotiations had even then been completed to give it to the Clements Library, was what to this writer is one of the most important pieces in the entire collection: a single copy of a newspaper—the *Chester County Times*, published February 11, 1860 in West Chester, Pennsylvania—which contained the first printed account of Abraham Lincoln's life.

It is important because it is the "spring" from which flowed the stream of Lincoln biography which in the intervening eighty-one years has deepened and widened into the literary river that includes all Lincoln literature. It is valuable in a monetary sense because it is one of the three known copies in existence. It is the only copy in a Lincoln collection.

Jesse W. Fell, a native of Pennsylvania, a citizen of Bloomington, Illinois, an astute politician and a close friend and associate of Abraham Lincoln, believed that Lincoln could become the Republican Party's presidential nominee in 1860. He had this belief as early as the Lincoln-Douglas debates, in 1858, but it took him a year or more to convince the doubting, yet politically ambitious, Lincoln, and to secure from him a short autobiographical sketch. To the three-page, long-hand sketch, Fell made a few additions relative to Lincoln's political history and speeded it on to his friend Joseph J. Lewis in West Chester. Lewis rewrote and lengthened it into an article of more than 2,500 words, had it published in the *Chester County Times*, and distributed widely marked copies of the newspaper to Pennsylvania editors. Both Fell and Lewis knew that the large Pennsylvania delegation would be influential in the forthcoming Republican National Convention and this was the method they employed to make better known their candidate and his personal qualifications. Copies of the newspaper also were given a wide distribution generally to influential editors in other states. The two-column article from the *Chester County Times* was reprinted in the *Bloomington Weekly Pantagraph*, February 22—Fell saw to that—and in the *Chicago Press and Tribune* the following day.

Came May 18, 1860, and in the Wigwam at Chicago Abraham Lincoln was nominated for the presidency, just as Fell had declared he could be. It was then that the "spring" of Lincoln biography, the Lewis article in the *Chester County Times*,

# The Chester County Times.

VOLUME VII—NO. 1.

WEST CHESTER, PA., SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 11, 1860

WHOLE NUMBER 211

HEADING OF THE COUNTY PAPER IN WHICH THE FIRST PRINTED BIOGRAPHY OF LINCOLN APPEARED.

For the Chester County Times.  
**ABRAHAM LINCOLN.**

Among the distinguished men who, by their patriotism and eloquence, have existed to create and sustain the party of constitutional freedom which now predominates in most of the free States, there is no one who has a firmer hold on the confidence and affections of the people of the Great West, or is more an object of their enthusiastic admiration, than Abraham Lincoln of Springfield, Illinois. No traveller that visits the valley of the Mississippi, north of the Ohio, can fail to be impressed with the unrivalled popularity of that eminent Republican chief throughout that whole region: and it is impossible to doubt that he will be vigorously pressed upon the Chicago Convention, by the representatives of a large and earnest constituency, as a proper standard bearer of our great national party in the impending struggle for the Presidency. In consequence of the position he occupies in the regards of our western brethren, as a champion of the Republican faith, I have been interested to inquire into the incidents of his life and the prominent traits of his character. I now furnish you with the result of my inquiries, though they have been attended with but moderate success, and have elicited much less than I reasonably hoped to obtain.

Abraham Lincoln is a native of Hardin county, Kentucky. He was born on the twelfth day of February, 1809. His parents were both born in Virginia, and were certainly not of the first families. His paternal grandfather, Abraham Lincoln, emigrated from Rockingham county, Virginia, to Kentucky, about 1781 or 2, where a year or two later he was killed by Indians, not in battle, but by stealth, while he was laboring to open a farm in the forest. His ancestors, who were respectable members of the Society of Friends, went to Virginia from Berks county, Pennsylvania. Descendants of the same stock still reside in the eastern parts of this State.

Illinois, and of the Northwest as one of their ablest and wisest leaders.

From 1849 to 1854, Mr. Lincoln was engaged, assiduously in the practice of his profession, and being deeply immersed in business, was beginning to lose his interest in politics, when the showing ambition and growing obliqueness of an unscrupulous aspirant to the Presidency brought about the repeal of the Missouri Compromise. That act of baseness and perfidy arrested the sleeping lion and he prepared for new effort. He threw himself at once into the contest that followed and fought the battle of freedom on the ground of his former conflicts in Illinois with more than his accustomed energy and zeal. He fully appreciated the importance of the slavery issue, and felt the force of the moral causes that must influence the question, and he never failed to appeal to the moral sentiment of the people in aid of the argument drawn from political sources, and to illuminate his theme with the lofty inspirations of an eloquence, pleading for the rights of humanity.— A revolution swept the State. For the first time a majority of the legislature of Illinois was opposed to the Democratic administration of the federal government. They were not, however, all free-soilers in principle. A small body of Anti Nebraska Democrats held the balance of power. This circumstance gave rise to a most striking exhibition of Mr. Lincoln's habitual magnanimity. A United States Senator was to be elected in place of Gen. Shields, who had yielded to the influence of his less scrupulous colleague and, against his own better judgment, had voted for the Kansas-Nebraska act. Mr. Lincoln was the admitted leader of the opposition and was universally regarded as their candidate for senator. Governor Matteson was the candidate of the Nebraska Democrats and Lyman Trumbull of the handful of Anti Nebraska Democrats in the legislature. The election came on, and a number of ballots were taken, the almost united opposition voting

THE FIRST BIOGRAPHY OF LINCOLN TO BE PRINTED.

commenced to flow and it has never ceased. Horace Greeley was the first to dip from it when he wrote his article for the *New York Tribune* the day after the nomination. So did John Locke Scripps, for the *Chicago Press and Tribune*. Within 24 hours publishers were announcing "campaign" biographies of Abraham Lincoln, and the Lewis article furnished the material upon which several of the writers based their hastily prepared volumes.

Thus it is that the copy of the February

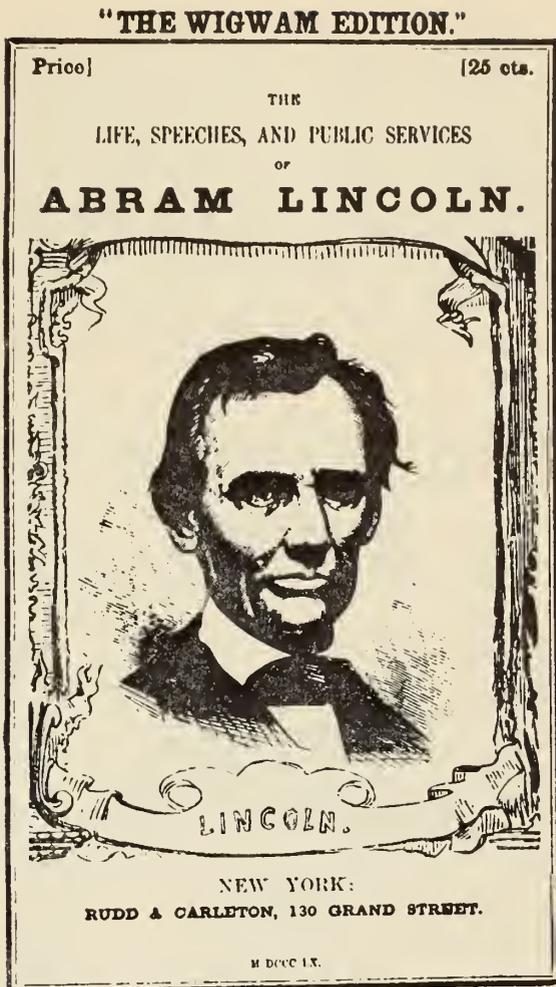
11, 1860 issue of the *Chester County Times* assumes primal importance in the splendid group of 1860 Lincoln campaign biographies included in the Greenly Collection. Of the eleven known campaign "lives," Mr. Greenly collected eight as well as a great many of their several variants. Missing only are the Vose, as rare as a June day in December; the Codding, almost as rare (but not strictly a Lincoln biography); and the Washburne, an eight-page reprint of a speech in the House of Representatives on

May 29 by E. B. Washburne, Congressman from Illinois.

Said to have been the first campaign biography placed on sale, and one of the rare volumes in the Collection, is the little paper-covered "Wigwam Edition" of *The Life, Speeches, and Public Services of Abram (sic) Lincoln*, the author of which is unknown. It went on sale June 2, fifteen days after Lincoln had been nominated, sold for a quarter, and is notable for its errors. Apparently the author had no more biographical data at hand than the New York *Tribune* article of May 19, (which had been written hastily by Greeley from the Lewis article) so he resorted to his imagination. In his haste he wrote of "Abram" Lincoln on the title page and throughout the volume; and Lincoln's father, so he declared, died while the future President was a small boy.

Of David V. G. Bartlett's *The Life and Public Services of Hon. Abraham Lincoln* there are no less than eight different imprints in the Collection. The first edition is a 150-page, paper-covered volume. Other campaign issues include the paper-covered Thayer & Eldridge offering of 128 pages, which later blossomed into a 320-page, cloth-bound volume, with steel engravings of Lincoln and Hannibal Hamlin, and was styled the "Wide-Awake Edition."

Follett, Foster & Company, Columbus, Ohio, publishers who had been so successful with the publication of the Lincoln-Douglas debates, commissioned no less a person than William Dean Howells, editor of the *Atlantic Monthly*, to write a life of Lincoln for them. Howells was busy, so he sent a young law student named James Quay Howard to Springfield to interview Lincoln and to gather the data for the writing, and Howells thereby, as he wrote sorrowfully in after years, ". . . missed the greatest chance of my life, of its kind." From Howard's report of his interview with Lincoln, Howells produced *Lives and Speeches of Abraham Lincoln and Hanni-*



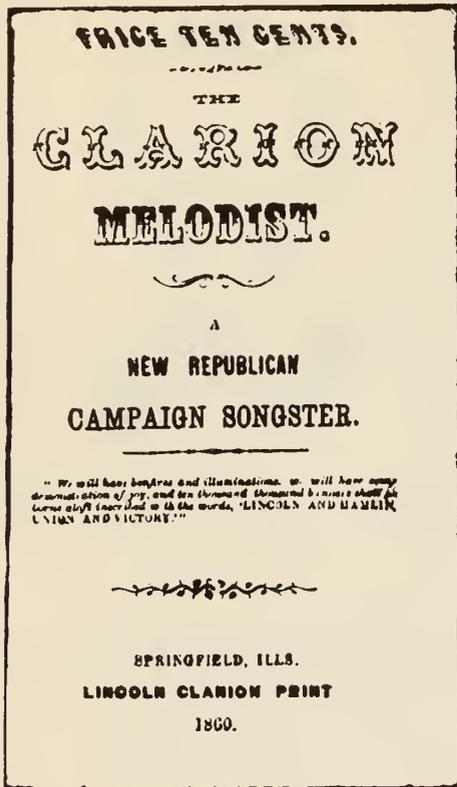
COVER OF ONE OF THE EARLIEST OF THE LINCOLN CAMPAIGN BIOGRAPHIES—1860.

*bal Hamlin* (with John L. Hayes doing the portion on Hamlin).

Not satisfied with the role of information-getter for another, Howard turned writer and within a month from Follett, Foster & Company's already overloaded presses there came *The Life of Abraham Lincoln: With Extracts from his Speeches*, at ten cents per copy. Today Howard's biography is one of the scarcest of the campaign lives. Most of the copies which survive (said to be less than thirty) can be traced to the alertness of the well-known New York bookseller, Charles Everitt, who in 1901 turned them up in a bundle

of trash. In the Greenly Collection are two copies, each with a different imprint.

Two other rarities among the campaign biographies in Mr. Greenly's collection are the Chicago and New York editions of the John Locke Scripps *Life of Abraham Lincoln*, the Chicago edition being excessively rare. Most collectors feel fortunate indeed to be able to own the New York edition.



ONE OF THE EARLIEST AND RAREST OF THE 1860 CAMPAIGN SONGSTERS.

Not common, by any means, are the several copies of the biography by Joseph Hartwell Barrett which the Collection contains.

Important also in Lincoln's first campaign for the presidency were the so-called "Campaign Songsters." These little paper covered booklets contained the musical "inspirations" for political battles. Poetically crude, usually satirical, and frequently humorous, these songs were sung to the music of popular airs of the day and fur-

nished the barber-shop harmony believed necessary to add impetus to the hilarity of the campaign mass meetings and torchlight parades. For instance, there was this one, to the tune of "Nelly Gray."

#### THE OLD KENTUCKY BABE

*By a modest member of the Indianola Glee Club*  
In a green and fertile valley on the old Kentucky shore,

Years ago, there was born a precious babe;  
Now he's grown to manly stature, and he's six feet high or more,  
And he's called by the people, "Honest Abe."

#### CHORUS

Then hurrah for honest Abe, for the old Kentucky babe,  
For we're going to make him president this fall;  
He will swing our country back on its old accustomed track,  
Just as easy as he used to swing his maul.

Once he canvassed it with Stephen in the state of Illinois,  
And he made the little giant very sore,  
For his sham squatter doctrine was decided by the boys,  
To be a great delusion and a bore.

CHORUS—Then hurrah for honest Abe, &c.  
Of unfriendly legislation Dug declaims at Freeport,

Then at Mobile he stands for planter's rights;  
Behind the Dred Scott decision and the great fed'ral court  
On his belly like a coward next he fights.

CHORUS—Then hurrah for honest Abe, &c.  
Then a groan for little Steve, for his doctrine none believe,

To the south for aid all vainly he will call,  
Ah! little he'll rejoice when hears the people's voice  
Calling Abe to be our president next fall.

CHORUS—Then hurrah for honest Abe, &c.

This song is from *The Clarion Melodist*, published in 1860, in Springfield, Illinois, at the Lincoln Clarion Print. This particular songster has never been listed by a Lincoln bibliographer and the Greenly

copy is believed to be the only one in existence.

Mention has been made previously of the *Debates of Lincoln and Douglas*, published in a number of editions by Follett, Foster & Company, of Columbus. Students have been quarrelling for years over the correct number of different editions. At the present writing the number is seven. There were six recognized at the time Mr. Greenly formed his collection, and he had them all. Lately, the seventh has been identified, and Mr. Greenly, still the Lincoln student, has had a hand in doing it. The *Debates* are important Lincolniana for the reason that it was the only book published during his lifetime of which Lincoln was part author; and the debates themselves, between Abraham Lincoln, Republican, and Stephen A. Douglas, Democrat, in 1858, played a major role in the presidential election two years later. Douglas won the coveted seat in the United States Senate, but in so doing, because he had permitted Lincoln to maneuver him into uttering harmful political commitments, he lost the presidential election of 1860. James G. Randall, in his article on Lincoln in the *Dictionary of American Biography*, says: "His (Lincoln's) party carried districts containing a larger population than those carried by the Democrats, but inequitable apportionment gave Douglas a majority in the legislature, insuring his election" (as U. S. Senator).

Many items in the Collection give evidence that not only was Mr. Greenly aiming to build a Lincoln library which would be of use to the student (as it will be most certainly for generations to come), but as a student he made use of them, and in so doing, in many instances, added much to the general bibliographical knowledge of the particular item. We have spoken of Mr. Greenly's study of the various editions of the *Debates*. Another example is found in a paper copy of Lincoln's speech in the House of Representatives at Springfield, in

December 1839, in which he argued against the subtreasury system and in favor of the National Bank. A copy came into the possession of Daniel H. Newhall, New York bookdealer, dean of the Lincoln booksellers.<sup>3</sup> Newhall knew that the copy of the Springfield speech was rare and turned it

THE "WIGWAM EDITION."

THE

LIFE, SPEECHES, AND PUBLIC SERVICES

OF

ABRAM LINCOLN,

Together with a Sketch of the Life of

HANNIBAL HAMLIN.

*Republican Candidates for the Offices of President and Vice-President of the United States.*



NEW YORK:

RUDD & CARLETON, 130 GRAND STREET  
(BROOKS BUILDING, COR. OF BROADWAY).

M DCCC LX.

TITLE PAGE OF ONE OF THE EARLIEST LINCOLN CAMPAIGN BIOGRAPHIES (1860), PRODUCED IN SUCH HASTE THAT LINCOLN'S FIRST NAME IS MISSPELLED THROUGHOUT.

over to Mr. Greenly for further study. In the upper margin, the copy bore the signature of Thomas J. Henderson, a member

<sup>3</sup> In some respects Mr. Newhall was Mr. Greenly's teacher in the school of Lincoln bibliography, and the former's vast card index, accumulated through many years of experience in the field of Lincolniana, was the latter's "text-book." If the Clements Library owes a debt of gratitude to Mr. Greenly, it is also obligated to a lesser extent to Mr. Newhall. Similarly should be mentioned another dealer in Americana, Mr. Wright Howes, of Chicago, who also aided Mr. Greenly in building up his Lincoln Collection.

of that same legislature. Investigation by Mr. Greenly turned up an identical copy, identically inscribed, in the rare book room of the Library of Congress. The paper upon which the pair was printed indicated, however, that they were not contemporary with the time in which the speech was given by Lincoln.

Further research uncovered a copy printed on old rag paper, with margins untrimmed, in the Illinois State Historical Library; and a similar copy in the New York Public Library. Messrs. Greenly and Newhall concluded that the New York and the Illinois copies were originals and that their copy and that of the Library of Congress had been reprinted by Henderson for political reasons some time in the 'eighties. Both the original and the reprint are rare and, thanks to Mr. Greenly, the Clements Library has the reprint and a photostat of the original.

In the Collection also are first editions of both the Cooper Union Speech and the Gettysburg Address as well as several later printings of both addresses.

Of general biographies of Lincoln, practically every one of any importance dating from the campaign biographies of 1860 and 1864 down to the present day are included; and there are books and monographs galore pertaining to special biographical studies of Lincoln.

In the line of bibliographies, Mr. Greenly's Collection begins with the rare *Memorial Lincoln Bibliography*, published in Albany in 1870, by Andrew Boyd. Then come the publications of Daniel Fish, in 1906; J. B. Oakleaf, in 1925; and John W. Starr, Jr., in 1926. Also in the collection are the priced catalogues of the sale of the immense W. H. Lambert collection in 1914, which constitute almost a bibliography in themselves. It was the largest Lincoln collection ever sold at public auction and belonged to Major William H. Lambert, one of the "Big Five" Lincoln collectors. Priced catalogues and dealers' lists also are valuable source mate-

rial for the bibliographical student, and the Greenly Collection has a wealth of them. Mr. Greenly gathered them not for the sake of adding items to his collection, but because with the knowledge of their contents he was enabled to collect intelligently.

In one respect, Mr. Greenly did not see eye-to-eye with many collectors, particularly institutions which have acquired or built up Lincolniana libraries, in his estimate of the value of so-called periodic literature. What they have cast aside and considered of little worth, until very recent years, Mr. Greenly was quick to recognize as being of value. No attempt has ever been made to publish or to prepare a list of the literally thousands of Lincoln articles which have been published in magazines and periodicals ever since the day Lincoln rode down Pennsylvania avenue to his first inaugural. A great many of these magazine articles were reprinted in pamphlets for limited distribution at the time they were published or shortly after. Such treatment of these articles made them "items," and as "items" they "belonged." But as lowly magazine articles, they were read and forgotten as soon as the next issue of the publication in which they appeared was on the stands.

It was because one great collection did not desire periodic material that Mr. Greenly was able to secure the earliest and most valuable of the more than 1,200 magazine items which his collection contains. Charles W. McLellan, another of the "Big Five," was favorable to the periodic literature of Lincoln and collected much of it. But after his death in 1918, when his heirs sold his Lincolniana to John D. Rockefeller, Jr. for Brown University, the magazine articles were left behind. Some years later, learning of the existence of this material, Mr. Greenly was glad to purchase it from a son of the original owner. At the same time he purchased a great many of the McLellan duplicates which had remained in the family.

The magazine articles in the Greenly

Collection date back as far as 1860, and the succeeding decade is represented by 144 articles of Lincoln interest from 48 different magazines. It is interesting to classify the articles by decades and observe the curve which their numbers create. In the 1870-80 decade, the number in the Collection drops to 36 articles, but it soars to an unprecedented high in the decade which included the centennial year of Lincoln's birth, and from that period 408 articles found their way into Mr. Greenly's possession. It drops to half the number in the next decade.

Thumbing through the card index of these articles which Mr. Greenly prepared, a census of the author's names indicates a surprising number of writers contemporary with Lincoln. For instance, up come the names of Henry Ward Beecher, Ralph Waldo Emerson, James Russell Lowell, Carl Schurz, Gideon Welles, Elihu B. Washburne.

In recent years the attitude toward Lincoln periodic literature has been undergoing a change. Individual collectors and institutions (wherein now repose the larger Lincoln libraries) have come to recognize its worth. True, much of the magazine material is unimportant; and much that sheds new light on Lincoln questions eventually finds its way into permanent book form. But still there remains much that is significant and it should be preserved for future generations of Lincoln students. What we may at the moment regard as of little value a

later generation may appraise differently.

In the Greenly Collection of Lincolniana authorities of the Clements Library propose to confine themselves to the further collecting and enlarging of the material at hand through the addition of documents—books, pamphlets, broadsides, newspapers, manuscripts, maps, photographs, prints and pictures. Lincoln relics are interesting and oftentimes important, but it is the desire to further the Collection along the lines established by its donor and make of it a "working library of Lincoln source material," and not a museum.

William L. Clements wanted his great collection of Americana at the University of Michigan to include representative Lincolniana. Six years after his death his wish was fulfilled through the generosity of a man whom he never met, and whose name he had never heard. Mr. Greenly's inspiration to make the gift, however, came from the knowledge of what Mr. Clements had done before him in the way of gathering rare historical material, Mr. Clements' expressed desire to include Lincolniana, and the fact that he had provided the facilities for the preservation and use of a great collection of Americana for generations of students yet to come.

Destiny, with Mr. Clements and Mr. Greenly as its tools, has provided the foundation-stone for a great collection of Lincolniana for Michigan. It remains for others to complete the structure these men have so ably begun through their interests and their gifts.



BOOKPLATE OF THE GREENLY  
COLLECTION.







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*A Recent Gift of Lincolniana*

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### *A Recent Gift of *Lincolniana**

By THOMAS I. STARR

SHORTLY after the late Regent William L. Clements had given the library bearing his name to the University of Michigan in 1923, he remarked one day to William W. Bishop, the University librarian, and Randolph G. Adams, director of the Clements Library, that he would like next to collect literature pertaining to Abraham Lincoln.

Regent Clements' intention to include *Lincolniana* in his great collection of Americana was sincere, but Destiny placed in his way a detour and instead he embarked on the collecting of historical manuscripts having to do with a much earlier period in American history—the papers on the British side of the American Revolution. His desire to collect Lincoln material was not to be fulfilled during his lifetime.

In one respect it was a fortunate detour. Through the action of Mr. Clements manuscripts of great value and of vast historical worth were to be preserved. Where originals of these early British-American papers in England could not be secured, copies were made and now it is not inconceivable that these originals in England may be lost and that the English historian of the future will have to come to Ann Arbor for certain of his country's records after the invader has been repelled from the British Isles. Time bombs or incendiary flares will not threaten those records which Regent Clem-

ents secured and placed in his collection in Ann Arbor.

But Destiny had not forgotten that William L. Clements desired to gather *Lincolniana* and that some day he wanted his library to contain a representative collection of that important branch of American biographical literature. There came one day to the Clements Library a visitor, a man from New York City, who inquired for information pertaining to Julia Moore and her poetry. No, the Clements Library had nothing on the "Sweet Singer of Michigan." Her outbursts of poetical feeling were not then considered collectors' "items." But, in the conversation which followed, it developed that the New Yorker's interests were not confined solely to the Poetess of the Pines. He had also the interest of the collector and of the student in the life of Abraham Lincoln, and furthermore, he was interested in the history and literature of Michigan, the visitor's native state. He had collected and studied extensively in all these fields.

There was nothing in the Library in the way of *Lincolniana*, either, the attendant told the visitor. It had been an intended field in the plans of the Library's founder, but as yet those plans had not materialized. More conversation led to subsequent visits to the Clements Library, which terminated in—well, let's allow Mr. Albert H.

Springfield, Ill. Aug<sup>e</sup> 24. 1856  
 Hon. H. G. Wells.  
 Dear Sir:

At last I am able to say,  
 no accident preventing, I will be with you on  
 the 27<sup>th</sup> I suppose I can reach in time, leaving  
 Chicago the same morning— I shall go to  
 the Matthews Room, Chicago, on the evening of  
 the 26<sup>th</sup>—  
 Yours truly  
 A. Lincoln

Hon. H. G. Wells  
 Kalamazoo  
 Michigan

LINCOLN'S ACCEPTANCE OF AN INVITATION TO SPEAK AT KALAMAZOO, 1856.

Greenly, the New Yorker, to repeat the story from this point. He told it quietly and modestly to a large group in the Library last February 12, the night the Lincoln Room, which now houses the Albert H. Greenly Collection of Lincolniana, was opened:

I am a native of Michigan. My grandfather came to this state in 1848. My father and I were born here.<sup>1</sup> I received in Michigan what schooling my parents could give me. If it had been possible for me to have a college education, I should no doubt have gone to this University, but I had to go to work after finishing high school. My interests have always centered in Michigan, although I have lived in New York City since completing my service in the World War.

There was, as far as I knew, no working collection of Lincoln source material in Michigan. That was an added incentive to place my collection somewhere in this state. Ann Arbor is quite the logical place, and after a few talks with Dr. Adams, his enthusiasm fired within me the idea that the Clements Library was the specific place. Then, too, Dr. Adams had told me in one of our talks of Mr. Clements' purpose

some time to add Lincoln material to his collection. I feel highly honored in having my collection housed in the beautiful building Mr. Clements provided for his books. . . .

This, in brief, is the story of the detour Destiny made in bringing about the realization of the Clements Library's founder to secure what Mr. Greenly so appropriately called a "working collection of Lincoln source material." But the Greenly Collection is something more—it is the cornerstone of what can some day be one of the great Lincoln collections comparable to any already formed, or that now are taking form, in public and private

<sup>1</sup> Mr. Greenly was born in Grand Rapids, March 11, 1881, the son of Albert H. and May J. Greenly. He attended the Grand Rapids public schools and graduated from the Grand Rapids High School in 1899. In January 1901, he entered the railroad service as a clerk for the Pere Marquette Railway Company, advancing through various positions until he became the head of its Traffic Bureau. During the World War he served in France as a First Lieutenant with the United States Engineers. In 1920, he became a member of the Official Classification Committee, with offices in New York City, and since 1931 has been chairman of that Committee.

institutions in several sections of the United States. It should be mentioned, however, that when he made the above statement Mr. Greenly was unaware of the fine collection of Lincolniana gathered for the Western Michigan College of Education at Kalamazoo by the late President Dwight B. Waldo. Many others even yet are not informed of its existence.

One incident in the life of the sixteenth President definitely places Michigan in the Lincoln "country." That was, until recently, his little known but now vastly important antislavery address in Kalamazoo on August 27, 1856. Mr. Greenly knew of the incident and of its importance, for in his collection he held the original letter which Lincoln wrote to the chairman of the Kalamazoo committee of the Young Men's Republican Rally accepting the invitation to a place on the speaking program of the day. When another discovered the hiding place of the speech itself (the only speech yet found of the "more than fifty" which Mr. Lincoln delivered during the Republican Party's first national campaign) Mr. Greenly graciously permitted the letter's use; and speech and letter appeared earlier this year in a volume entitled *Lincoln's Kalamazoo Address Against Extending Slavery*.<sup>2</sup> So it is very appropriate that Michigan have within its state and available to students of Lincolniana a suitable collection of Lincoln literature and source material.

In size, the collection is as modest as its donor. For those who think of Lincolniana only in terms of the total items in a card catalogue, there remains much to be acquired by the Greenly Collection. Judged

from their monetary value, however, the thousand and more books which line the walls of the Lincoln Room in the Clements Library would produce the amount of a good-sized annuity if they were to pass under the auctioneer's hammer. But this is not to be interpreted to mean that it is a collection of rarities. It is not. Nevertheless, it would be impossible for anyone to build a collection such as Mr. Greenly's and not acquire a great many choice items.

"My primary purpose was to assemble a working library of *source* material which could be used by students of Lincoln, and not a library of rare collectors' pieces," Mr. Greenly told the audience the night his collection was exhibited for the first time. He spent many years assembling his books, and the notes and prices he has left pencilled on the cards in his catalogue of the collection indicate that he was a careful buyer. Each item seems to have been chosen with care and with complete understanding of just how it would fit into his interpretation of a student's library of Lincoln.

For years Lincoln students and writers have been compiling bibliographies of "essential" Lincoln writings and biographies. Obviously there are wide variations in what various writers consider important. William E. Barton issued in 1929 such a list of more than 200 titles. With the exception of two or three extreme rarities, all of these are to be found in the Greenly Collection. Paul M. Angle, Illinois State Historical librarian and one of the leading authorities on the bibliography of Abraham Lincoln, published in the *Bulletin of the Abraham Lincoln Association*, in 1936, a list of "fundamental" Lincolniana. It consisted of sixty-nine titles. They are all in the Greenly Collection. Louis A. Warren, director of the Lincoln National Life Foundation and editor of *Lincoln Lore*, made his selection of "Fifty Important Lincoln Books" in 1938. They are there, too. To his excellent article on Lincoln in the new *Dictionary of American Biography*, James G. Randall

<sup>2</sup> The full title of the book, which also was issued as "Bulletin No. 34 of the William L. Clements Library of the University of Michigan," is *Lincoln's Kalamazoo Address Against Extending Slavery. Also His Life by Joseph J. Lewis*, both annotated by Thomas I. Starr and published by The Fine Book Circle, Detroit, 1941. Full reference to the first published life of Lincoln, by Lewis, which is contained in what is perhaps the most valuable single printed item in the Greenly Collection, will be made later in this account.

appended one of the best bibliographies of a collection of Lincolniana which is above the minimum, yet includes what every scholar should have. All of these and a thousand more Mr. Greenly saw fit to include in his library.

Every phase of the Lincoln story seems to be touched upon in the material now in the collection, yet—and we go back again to numbers—there are missing some four or five thousand titles which experts include in that broad—very broad—classification of Lincolniana. In passing, it is pertinent to mention that there is also to be found in the collection much that probably never will be listed in a published Lincoln bibliography; yet it belongs in a student's library of the subject, definitely. Never will such things as bound volumes of *Harper's Weekly*, *Frank Leslie's Illustrated Newspaper*, or the *London Punch* for the Civil War years, be recognized as Lincolniana. Yet the first two are a mine of illustrative background and contemporary information, and the last with its caustic yet sometimes sympathetic cartoons and editorials contains many a piece found nowhere else for the jig-saw pattern of the Lincoln biography. The same can be said of scores of other volumes dealing with the contemporary men and times. They form an essential part of the mosaic of the Lincoln portrait. Mr. Greenly, like many another student and collector of Lincoln material, recognized this fact and as a result the Greenly Collection is rich in contemporary material.

Almost the last item which Mr. Greenly added to his library while it still remained in his possession, although negotiations had even then been completed to give it to the Clements Library, was what to this writer is one of the most important pieces in the entire collection: a single copy of a newspaper—the *Chester County Times*, published February 11, 1860 in West Chester, Pennsylvania—which contained the first printed account of Abraham Lincoln's life.

It is important because it is the "spring" from which flowed the stream of Lincoln biography which in the intervening eighty-one years has deepened and widened into the literary river that includes all Lincoln literature. It is valuable in a monetary sense because it is one of the three known copies in existence. It is the only copy in a Lincoln collection.

Jesse W. Fell, a native of Pennsylvania, a citizen of Bloomington, Illinois, an astute politician and a close friend and associate of Abraham Lincoln, believed that Lincoln could become the Republican Party's presidential nominee in 1860. He had this belief as early as the Lincoln-Douglas debates, in 1858, but it took him a year or more to convince the doubting, yet politically ambitious, Lincoln, and to secure from him a short autobiographical sketch. To the three-page, long-hand sketch, Fell made a few additions relative to Lincoln's political history and speeded it on to his friend Joseph J. Lewis in West Chester. Lewis rewrote and lengthened it into an article of more than 2,500 words, had it published in the *Chester County Times*, and distributed widely marked copies of the newspaper to Pennsylvania editors. Both Fell and Lewis knew that the large Pennsylvania delegation would be influential in the forthcoming Republican National Convention and this was the method they employed to make better known their candidate and his personal qualifications. Copies of the newspaper also were given a wide distribution generally to influential editors in other states. The two-column article from the *Chester County Times* was reprinted in the *Bloomington Weekly Pantagraph*, February 22—Fell saw to that—and in the *Chicago Press and Tribune* the following day.

Came May 18, 1860, and in the Wigwam at Chicago Abraham Lincoln was nominated for the presidency, just as Fell had declared he could be. It was then that the "spring" of Lincoln biography, the Lewis article in the *Chester County Times*,

# The Chester County Times.

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WHOLE NUMBER 111

HEADING OF THE COUNTY PAPER IN WHICH THE FIRST PRINTED BIOGRAPHY OF LINCOLN APPEARED.

For the Chester County Times.  
**ABRAHAM LINCOLN.**

Among the distinguished men who, by their patriotism and eloquence, have assisted to create and sustain the party of constitutional freedom which now predominates in most of the free States, there is no one who has a firmer hold on the confidence and affections of the people of the Great West, or is more an object of their enthusiastic admiration, than Abraham Lincoln of Springfield, Illinois. No traveller that visits the valley of the Mississippi, north of the Ohio, can fail to be impressed with the unrivalled popularity of that eminent Republican chief throughout that whole region: and it is impossible to doubt that he will be vigorously pressed upon the Chicago Convention, by the representatives of a large and earnest constituency, as a proper standard bearer of our great national party in the impending struggle for the Presidency. In consequence of the position he occupies in the regards of our western brethren, as a champion of the Republican faith, I have been interested to inquire into the incidents of his life and the prominent traits of his character. I now furnish you with the result of my inquiries, though they have been attended with but moderate success, and have elicited much less than I reasonably hoped to obtain.

Abraham Lincoln is a native of Hardin county, Kentucky. He was born on the twelfth day of February, 1809. His parents were both born in Virginia, and were certainly not of the first families. His paternal grandfather, Abraham Lincoln, emigrated from Rockingham county, Virginia, to Kentucky, about 1781 or 2, where a year or two later he was killed by Indians, not in battle, but by stealth, while he was laboring to open a farm in the forest. His ancestors, who were respectable members of the Society of Friends, went to Virginia from Berks county, Pennsylvania. Descendants of the same stock still reside in the eastern parts of this State.

Illinois and of the Northwest as one of their ablest and wisest leaders.

From 1839 to 1844, Mr. Lincoln was engaged assiduously in the practice of his profession, and being deeply immersed in business, was beginning to lose his interest in politics, when the schaming ambition and prevailing dishonesty of an unscrupulous aspirant to the Presidency brought about the repeal of the Missouri Compromise. That act of baseness and perfidy aroused the sleeping lion, and he prepared for new effort. He threw himself at once into the contest that followed and fought the battle of freedom on the ground of his former conflicts in Illinois with more than his accustomed energy and zeal. He fully appreciated the importance of the slavery issue, and felt the force of the moral causes that must influence the question, and he never failed to appeal to the moral sentiment of the people in aid of the argument drawn from political sources, and to illuminate his theme with the lofty inspirations of an eloquence, pleading for the rights of humanity.— A revolution swept the State. For the first time a majority of the legislature of Illinois was opposed to the Democratic administration of the federal government. They were not, however, all free-soilers in principle. A small body of Anti-Nebraska Democrats held the balance of power. This circumstance gave an opportunity for the exhibition of Mr. Lincoln's habitual magnanimity. A United States Senator was to be elected in place of Gen. Shields, who had yielded to the influence of his less scrupulous colleagues and, against his own better judgment, had voted for the Kansas-Nebraska act. Mr. Lincoln was the admitted leader of the opposition and was universally regarded as their candidate for senator. Governor Matteson was the candidate of the Nebraska Democrats and Lyman Trumbull of the handful of Anti-Nebraska Democrats in the legislature. The election came on, and a number of ballots were taken, the almost united opposition voting

THE FIRST BIOGRAPHY OF LINCOLN TO BE PRINTED.

commenced to flow and it has never ceased. Horace Greeley was the first to dip from it when he wrote his article for the *New York Tribune* the day after the nomination. So did John Locke Scripps, for the *Chicago Press and Tribune*. Within 24 hours publishers were announcing "campaign" biographies of Abraham Lincoln, and the Lewis article furnished the material upon which several of the writers based their hastily prepared volumes.

Thus it is that the copy of the February

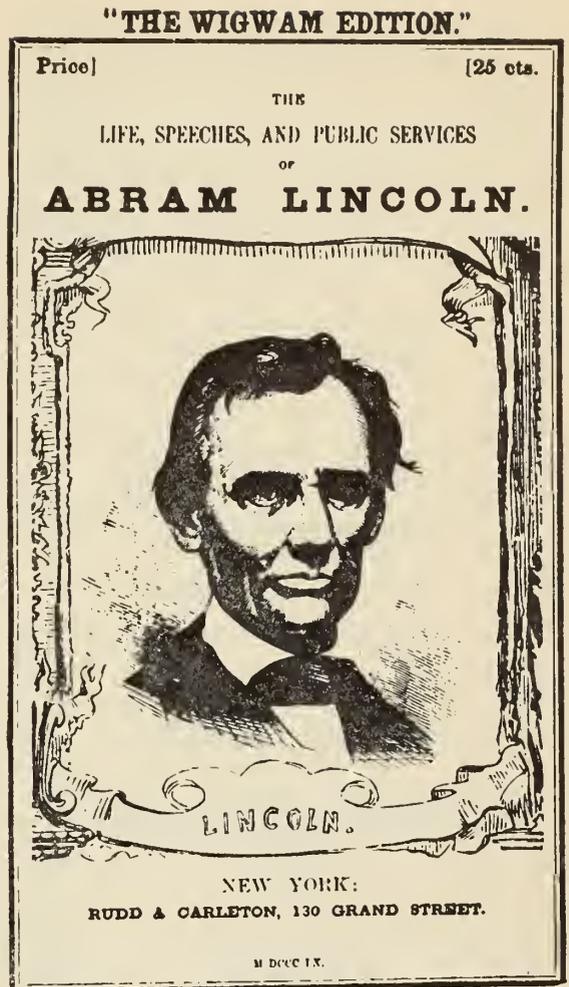
11, 1860 issue of the *Chester County Times* assumes primal importance in the splendid group of 1860 Lincoln campaign biographies included in the Greenly Collection. Of the eleven known campaign "lives," Mr. Greenly collected eight as well as a great many of their several variants. Missing only are the Vose, as rare as a June day in December; the Coddington, almost as rare (but not strictly a Lincoln biography); and the Washburne, an eight-page reprint of a speech in the House of Representatives on

May 29 by E. B. Washburne, Congressman from Illinois.

Said to have been the first campaign biography placed on sale, and one of the rare volumes in the Collection, is the little paper-covered "Wigwam Edition" of *The Life, Speeches, and Public Services of Abram (sic) Lincoln*, the author of which is unknown. It went on sale June 2, fifteen days after Lincoln had been nominated, sold for a quarter, and is notable for its errors. Apparently the author had no more biographical data at hand than the New York *Tribune* article of May 19, (which had been written hastily by Greeley from the Lewis article) so he resorted to his imagination. In his haste he wrote of "Abram" Lincoln on the title page and throughout the volume; and Lincoln's father, so he declared, died while the future President was a small boy.

Of David V. G. Bartlett's *The Life and Public Services of Hon. Abraham Lincoln* there are no less than eight different imprints in the Collection. The first edition is a 150-page, paper-covered volume. Other campaign issues include the paper-covered Thayer & Eldridge offering of 128 pages, which later blossomed into a 320-page, cloth-bound volume, with steel engravings of Lincoln and Hannibal Hamlin, and was styled the "Wide-Awake Edition."

Follett, Foster & Company, Columbus, Ohio, publishers who had been so successful with the publication of the Lincoln-Douglas debates, commissioned no less a person than William Dean Howells, editor of the *Atlantic Monthly*, to write a life of Lincoln for them. Howells was busy, so he sent a young law student named James Quay Howard to Springfield to interview Lincoln and to gather the data for the writing, and Howells thereby, as he wrote sorrowfully in after years, ". . . missed the greatest chance of my life, of its kind." From Howard's report of his interview with Lincoln, Howells produced *Lives and Speeches of Abraham Lincoln and Hammi-*



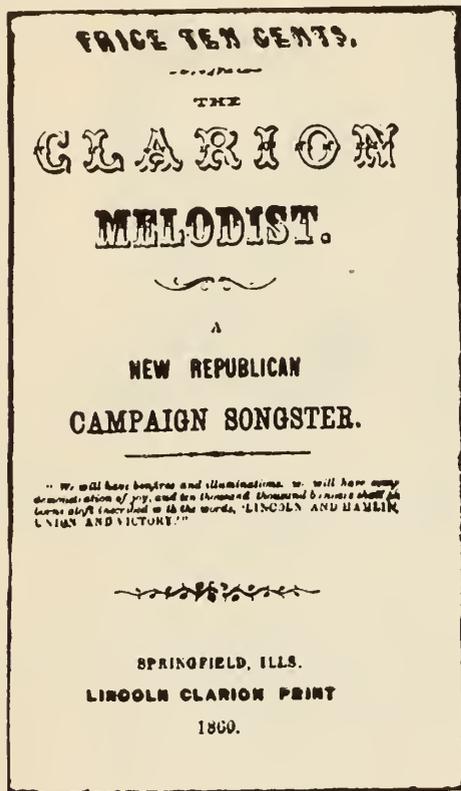
COVER OF ONE OF THE EARLIEST OF THE LINCOLN CAMPAIGN BIOGRAPHIES—1860.

*bal Hamlin* (with John L. Hayes doing the portion on Hamlin).

Not satisfied with the role of information-getter for another, Howard turned writer and within a month from Follett, Foster & Company's already overloaded presses there came *The Life of Abraham Lincoln: With Extracts from his Speeches*, at ten cents per copy. Today Howard's biography is one of the scarcest of the campaign lives. Most of the copies which survive (said to be less than thirty) can be traced to the alertness of the well-known New York bookseller, Charles Everitt, who in 1901 turned them up in a bundle

of trash. In the Greenly Collection are two copies, each with a different imprint.

Two other rarities among the campaign biographies in Mr. Greenly's collection are the Chicago and New York editions of the John Locke Scripps *Life of Abraham Lincoln*, the Chicago edition being excessively rare. Most collectors feel fortunate indeed to be able to own the New York edition.



ONE OF THE EARLIEST AND RAREST OF THE 1860 CAMPAIGN SONGSTERS.

Not common, by any means, are the several copies of the biography by Joseph Hartwell Barrett which the Collection contains.

Important also in Lincoln's first campaign for the presidency were the so-called "Campaign Songsters." These little paper covered booklets contained the musical "inspirations" for political battles. Poetically crude, usually satirical, and frequently humorous, these songs were sung to the music of popular airs of the day and fur-

nished the barber-shop harmony believed necessary to add impetus to the hilarity of the campaign mass meetings and torchlight parades. For instance, there was this one, to the tune of "Nelly Gray."

#### THE OLD KENTUCKY BABE

*By a modest member of the Indianola Glee Club*

In a green and fertile valley on the old Kentucky shore,

Years ago, there was born a precious babe;  
Now he's grown to manly stature, and he's six feet high or more,

And he's called by the people, "Honest Abe."

#### CHORUS

Then hurrah for honest Abe, for the old Kentucky babe,

For we're going to make him president this fall;

He will swing our country back on its old accustomed track,

Just as easy as he used to swing his maul.

Once he canvassed it with Stephen in the state of Illinois,

And he made the little giant very sore,

For his sham squatter doctrine was decided by the boys,

To be a great delusion and a bore.

CHORUS—Then hurrah for honest Abe, &c.  
Of unfriendly legislation Dug declaims at Freeport,

Then at Mobile he stands for planter's rights;  
Behind the Dred Scott decision and the great fed'ral court

On his belly like a coward next he fights.

CHORUS—Then hurrah for honest Abe, &c.  
Then a groan for little Steve, for his doctrine none believe,

To the south for aid all vainly he will call,  
Ah! little he'll rejoice when hears the people's voice

Calling Abe to be our president next fall.

CHORUS—Then hurrah for honest Abe, &c.

This song is from *The Clarion Melodist*, published in 1860, in Springfield, Illinois, at the Lincoln Clarion Print. This particular songster has never been listed by a Lincoln bibliographer and the Greenly

copy is believed to be the only one in existence.

Mention has been made previously of the *Debates of Lincoln and Douglas*, published in a number of editions by Follett, Foster & Company, of Columbus. Students have been quarrelling for years over the correct number of different editions. At the present writing the number is seven. There were six recognized at the time Mr. Greenly formed his collection, and he had them all. Lately, the seventh has been identified, and Mr. Greenly, still the Lincoln student, has had a hand in doing it. The *Debates* are important Lincolniana for the reason that it was the only book published during his lifetime of which Lincoln was part author; and the debates themselves, between Abraham Lincoln, Republican, and Stephen A. Douglas, Democrat, in 1858, played a major role in the presidential election two years later. Douglas won the coveted seat in the United States Senate, but in so doing, because he had permitted Lincoln to maneuver him into uttering harmful political commitments, he lost the presidential election of 1860. James G. Randall, in his article on Lincoln in the *Dictionary of American Biography*, says: "His (Lincoln's) party carried districts containing a larger population than those carried by the Democrats, but inequitable apportionment gave Douglas a majority in the legislature, insuring his election" (as U. S. Senator).

Many items in the Collection give evidence that not only was Mr. Greenly aiming to build a Lincoln library which would be of use to the student (as it will be most certainly for generations to come), but as a student he made use of them, and in so doing, in many instances, added much to the general bibliographical knowledge of the particular item. We have spoken of Mr. Greenly's study of the various editions of the *Debates*. Another example is found in a paper copy of Lincoln's speech in the House of Representatives at Springfield, in

December 1839, in which he argued against the subtreasury system and in favor of the National Bank. A copy came into the possession of Daniel H. Newhall, New York bookdealer, dean of the Lincoln booksellers.<sup>3</sup> Newhall knew that the copy of the Springfield speech was rare and turned it

THE "WIGWAM EDITION."

THE

LIFE, SPEECHES, AND PUBLIC SERVICES

OR

ABRAM LINCOLN,

Together with a Sketch of the Life of

HANNIBAL HAMLIN.

*Republican Candidates for the Offices of President and Vice-President of the United States.*



NEW YORK:

RUDD & CARLETON, 130 GRAND STREET  
(BROOKS BUILDING, COR. OF BROADWAY).  
M DCCC LX.

TITLE PAGE OF ONE OF THE EARLIEST LINCOLN CAMPAIGN BIOGRAPHIES (1860), PRODUCED IN SUCH HASTE THAT LINCOLN'S FIRST NAME IS MISSPELLED THROUGHOUT.

over to Mr. Greenly for further study. In the upper margin, the copy bore the signature of Thomas J. Henderson, a member

<sup>3</sup> In some respects Mr. Newhall was Mr. Greenly's teacher in the school of Lincoln bibliography, and the former's vast card index, accumulated through many years of experience in the field of Lincolniana, was the latter's "text-book." If the Clements Library owes a debt of gratitude to Mr. Greenly, it is also obligated to a lesser extent to Mr. Newhall. Similarly should be mentioned another dealer in Americana, Mr. Wright Howes, of Chicago, who also aided Mr. Greenly in building up his Lincoln Collection.

of that same legislature. Investigation by Mr. Greenly turned up an identical copy, identically inscribed, in the rare book room of the Library of Congress. The paper upon which the pair was printed indicated, however, that they were not contemporary with the time in which the speech was given by Lincoln.

Further research uncovered a copy printed on old rag paper, with margins untrimmed, in the Illinois State Historical Library; and a similar copy in the New York Public Library. Messrs. Greenly and Newhall concluded that the New York and the Illinois copies were originals and that their copy and that of the Library of Congress had been reprinted by Henderson for political reasons some time in the 'eighties. Both the original and the reprint are rare and, thanks to Mr. Greenly, the Clements Library has the reprint and a photostat of the original.

In the Collection also are first editions of both the Cooper Union Speech and the Gettysburg Address as well as several later printings of both addresses.

Of general biographies of Lincoln, practically every one of any importance dating from the campaign biographies of 1860 and 1864 down to the present day are included; and there are books and monographs galore pertaining to special biographical studies of Lincoln.

In the line of bibliographies, Mr. Greenly's Collection begins with the rare *Memorial Lincoln Bibliography*, published in Albany in 1870, by Andrew Boyd. Then come the publications of Daniel Fish, in 1906; J. B. Oakleaf, in 1925; and John W. Starr, Jr., in 1926. Also in the collection are the priced catalogues of the sale of the immense W. H. Lambert collection in 1914, which constitute almost a bibliography in themselves. It was the largest Lincoln collection ever sold at public auction and belonged to Major William H. Lambert, one of the "Big Five" Lincoln collectors. Priced catalogues and dealers' lists also are valuable source mate-

rial for the bibliographical student, and the Greenly Collection has a wealth of them. Mr. Greenly gathered them not for the sake of adding items to his collection, but because with the knowledge of their contents he was enabled to collect intelligently.

In one respect, Mr. Greenly did not see eye-to-eye with many collectors, particularly institutions which have acquired or built up Lincolniana libraries, in his estimate of the value of so-called periodic literature. What they have cast aside and considered of little worth, until very recent years, Mr. Greenly was quick to recognize as being of value. No attempt has ever been made to publish or to prepare a list of the literally thousands of Lincoln articles which have been published in magazines and periodicals ever since the day Lincoln rode down Pennsylvania avenue to his first inaugural. A great many of these magazine articles were reprinted in pamphlets for limited distribution at the time they were published or shortly after. Such treatment of these articles made them "items," and as "items" they "belonged." But as lowly magazine articles, they were read and forgotten as soon as the next issue of the publication in which they appeared was on the stands.

It was because one great collection did not desire periodic material that Mr. Greenly was able to secure the earliest and most valuable of the more than 1,200 magazine items which his collection contains. Charles W. McLellan, another of the "Big Five," was favorable to the periodic literature of Lincoln and collected much of it. But after his death in 1918, when his heirs sold his Lincolniana to John D. Rockefeller, Jr. for Brown University, the magazine articles were left behind. Some years later, learning of the existence of this material, Mr. Greenly was glad to purchase it from a son of the original owner. At the same time he purchased a great many of the McLellan duplicates which had remained in the family.

The magazine articles in the Greenly

Collection date back as far as 1860, and the succeeding decade is represented by 144 articles of Lincoln interest from 48 different magazines. It is interesting to classify the articles by decades and observe the curve which their numbers create. In the 1870-80 decade, the number in the Collection drops to 36 articles, but it soars to an unprecedented high in the decade which included the centennial year of Lincoln's birth, and from that period 408 articles found their way into Mr. Greenly's possession. It drops to half the number in the next decade.

Thumbing through the card index of these articles which Mr. Greenly prepared, a census of the author's names indicates a surprising number of writers contemporary with Lincoln. For instance, up come the names of Henry Ward Beecher, Ralph Waldo Emerson, James Russell Lowell, Carl Schurz, Gideon Welles, Elihu B. Washburne.

In recent years the attitude toward Lincoln periodic literature has been undergoing a change. Individual collectors and institutions (wherein now repose the larger Lincoln libraries) have come to recognize its worth. True, much of the magazine material is unimportant; and much that sheds new light on Lincoln questions eventually finds its way into permanent book form. But still there remains much that is significant and it should be preserved for future generations of Lincoln students. What we may at the moment regard as of little value a

later generation may appraise differently.

In the Greenly Collection of Lincolniana authorities of the Clements Library propose to confine themselves to the further collecting and enlarging of the material at hand through the addition of documents—books, pamphlets, broadsides, newspapers, manuscripts, maps, photographs, prints and pictures. Lincoln relics are interesting and oftentimes important, but it is the desire to further the Collection along the lines established by its donor and make of it a "working library of Lincoln source material," and not a museum.

William L. Clements wanted his great collection of Americana at the University of Michigan to include representative Lincolniana. Six years after his death his wish was fulfilled through the generosity of a man whom he never met, and whose name he had never heard. Mr. Greenly's inspiration to make the gift, however, came from the knowledge of what Mr. Clements had done before him in the way of gathering rare historical material, Mr. Clements' expressed desire to include Lincolniana, and the fact that he had provided the facilities for the preservation and use of a great collection of Americana for generations of students yet to come.

Destiny, with Mr. Clements and Mr. Greenly as its tools, has provided the foundation-stone for a great collection of Lincolniana for Michigan. It remains for others to complete the structure these men have so ably begun through their interests and their gifts.



BOOKPLATE OF THE GREENLY  
COLLECTION.













UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS-URBANA  
973 7L63A3ST2G C001  
THE GREENLY COLLECTION, A RECENT GIFT OF



3 0112 031782912

UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS-URBANA

973 7L63A3ST2G C002  
THE GREENLY COLLECTION, A RECENT GIFT OF



3 0112 031782920