

Springfield Ill Feby 6th 1861.

Your letter of the 1st inst. inviting
alliance with the request
signature of New Jersey
State Capitol, while
en route to Washington,
has been received.

I accept the invitation,
with gratitude to you
for the kindness and
offer thus offered.

Your obt. Servt

A. Lincoln

Excellency

Chas. S. Olden

Governor of New Jersey.

P.S. Please arrange no ceremonies
- will waste time.

LINCOLN & OLDEN:

The President and Governor



IT IS A GREAT pleasure to present the exhibit, “*Lincoln & Olden: The President and Governor*” at Drumthwacket from February 22 to May 31, 2017. The exhibit is part of the Drumthwacket Foundation’s educational initiative to present exhibits relevant to New Jersey. This year’s exhibit ‘brings to life’ through historic letters, photographs and artifacts, two distinguished leaders—Governor Charles Olden, who built Drumthwacket in 1835, and President Abraham Lincoln. Both statesmen are elected to office at a time when the country, is on the precipice of Civil War. Olden sees in Lincoln, “an honest man after his own heart,” who will restore the Federal Government to “its pristine purity and vigor.” The Governor, likewise, is described by contemporary John Y. Foster as a man “of incorruptible integrity, of inflexible loyalty and of indomitable will.” Together, one will steward a nation and the other a state through the deadliest war on American soil.

Sincere appreciation is extended to the following donors for generously sharing their collection:

Donald L. Ackerman | Civil War & Native American Museum | Historical Society of Princeton

Private Collection | Bette Olsen Pfeiffer | Rail Splitter Archives, New York City

Bruce L. Sirak | The Morris Museum | New Jersey State Archives | Monmouth County Historical Association

Kenneth and Nancy Ritchey | The Forbes Collection | The Newark Museum

Special gratitude is extended as well to Morven Museum & Garden for lending the exhibit cases, David La Touche of Benchmark for exhibit design, Jonathan Mann for his service as exhibit consultant, and Robyn Brenner, Executive Director of the Drumthwacket Foundation, for curating the exhibit.

I hope you enjoy the exhibit and your visit to Drumthwacket.

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Mary Pat Christie". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style with a long horizontal line extending from the end of the name.

First Lady Mary Pat Christie

State of New Jersey

I Charles V. Clinton do solemnly swear and avow that I do and will bear true faith and allegiance to the government established in this State under the authority of the People of the State.

I Charles V. Clinton do solemnly swear and avow that I will diligently, faithfully, and to the best of my knowledge execute the said Office in conformity with the laws enacted to me, and that I will to the utmost of my skill and ability, promote the peace and prosperity, and maintain the lawful rights of the said State. So help me God.

I Charles V. Clinton do solemnly swear and avow that I will support the Constitution of the United States

Charles V. Clinton

Given and subscribed this 17th day of
January A.D. 1860. Before me

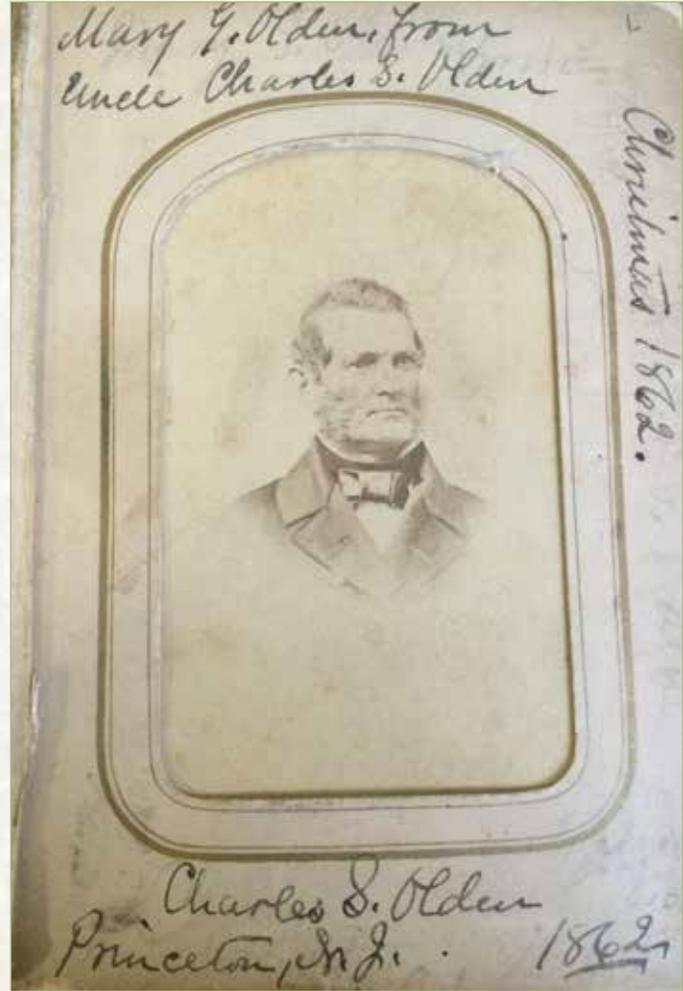
Charles V. Clinton
President of the
Senate of New Jersey

Exhibit A

A Reluctant Candidate

AT 11 AM on Tuesday, January 17, 1860, a procession, which includes music, military companies, the Mayor of Trenton, the Judiciary, and New Jersey Governor William Newell, proceeds from City Hall to the Trenton House Hotel where Governor-Elect Charles Olden and committees of the Legislature and State Officers are received into line and escorted to the State House. At 12 noon, the President of the Senate administers the Oath of Office. Olden is 61 years old, and while he has served for two terms in the New Jersey Senate, he has been enjoying for several years the peaceful pursuits of a gentleman farmer. John Y. Foster, in his book *New Jersey and the Rebellion*, published in 1868, writes that more than once Olden confides, “Nothing but the most urgent considerations of public duty, and of attachment to the principles with which I have always been identified, could ever have induced me to become a candidate. If elected, I shall find no pleasure in the position.” Olden is a reluctant candidate, but discerning signs of trouble over strained North – South relations and having a strong sense of civic duty, he consents to become the opposition party (comprised of former Whigs, disaffected Republicans and members of the Native American or Know Nothings) candidate. By a majority of 1651 votes, he is elected Governor. At the time, the nation is bitterly engaged in the debate over slavery and New Jersey, a conservative Democratically-leaning state, finds its citizenry divided. The abolitionist movement is stronger in South Jersey mainly because of the larger Quaker

population which condemns slavery as both ethically and religiously wrong. The industrialized North is interested in matters of union and disunion, and slavery and freedom, but fears if the southern states secede from the Union, their livelihood, which is dependent upon the sale of goods to southern markets, will suffer. Olden, who descends from one of six Quaker families invited by William Penn to settle in Princeton and its surrounds, shares the view of slavery as an unmitigated evil. “Any feasible plan,” he counsels in his inaugural address to the legislature on January 17, 1860, “to alleviate its evils, and ultimately extinguish the relation itself would be gladly embraced.” Yet, its termination, he states, “is exclusively and eminently a matter of domestic policy, and controlled by the State for itself.” In the same address, he upholds the Fugitive Slave Act and “the right of the master” to “reclaim his servant in any other State where he may be found,” and opposes the encroachment of slavery into new territories. Olden’s views echo those of many conservative leaders at the time, who regardless of personal beliefs about the right and wrong of slavery, will not violate federal legislation enacted by Congress. To do otherwise, they believe, would disregard the Constitution and pose a threat to law and order across the land. Throughout the coming year, Olden continues to advocate a conciliatory course, but when war erupts, he assumes the role of War Governor and with equal resolve stewards New Jersey through the turmoil.



🌻 *Portable Writing Desk* | Gift of Walter and Barbara Olden Wright

A diligent worker, Olden is absent from the state capital only two days in the first 21 months in office. He works at his desk not only during the day, but far into the night writing all letters of importance himself. The portable writing desk was gifted to the Foundation by Walter Olden Wright, the fifth great grand-nephew of Governor Olden, and his wife Barbara Wright. A note discovered inside the desk reads, “This desk was used by Governor Olden to write to President Lincoln.”

(Opposite left)

🌻 *Portrait of Governor Charles S. Olden, 1875*
Edward Ludlow Mooney (1813-1887)

Collection Princeton Art Museum

Charles S. Olden is born in 1799 in his grandfather Thomas’ homestead that still stands on the Drumthwacket property. He gains his wealth in business ventures in New Orleans, and after a nine-year absence, returns with his wife Phebe Ann Smith and purchases his grandfather’s property. In 1835, construction of Drumthwacket begins. Olden serves as Treasurer and Trustee of the College of

New Jersey (now Princeton University) from 1844 to 1850, a member of the New Jersey Senate from 1845 to 1850, and Governor of New Jersey from 1860 to 1863. From 1868 to 1873, he serves on the New Jersey Court of Errors and Appeals, then the state’s highest court, and head of the state electors in the presidential election of 1872. On September 29, 1875, he is stricken with paralysis. The press fears he ‘can hardly survive’ and several newspapers prematurely announce his death. Seven months later on April 7, 1876, he dies at Drumthwacket. Olden is eulogized as “a man of good judgment” who “endeared himself in the hearts of the people of this State.” Flags are lowered at half-staff and a gun salute is fired at the hour of his burial.

(Opposite right)

Governor Olden, Christmas 1862, Olden Family Album

Image courtesy Historical Society of Princeton

The portrait by Edward Ludlow Mooney shows Olden as a younger man than he would have been in 1875, the year prior to his death, when the portrait is painted. It is most likely painted from this earlier photograph.

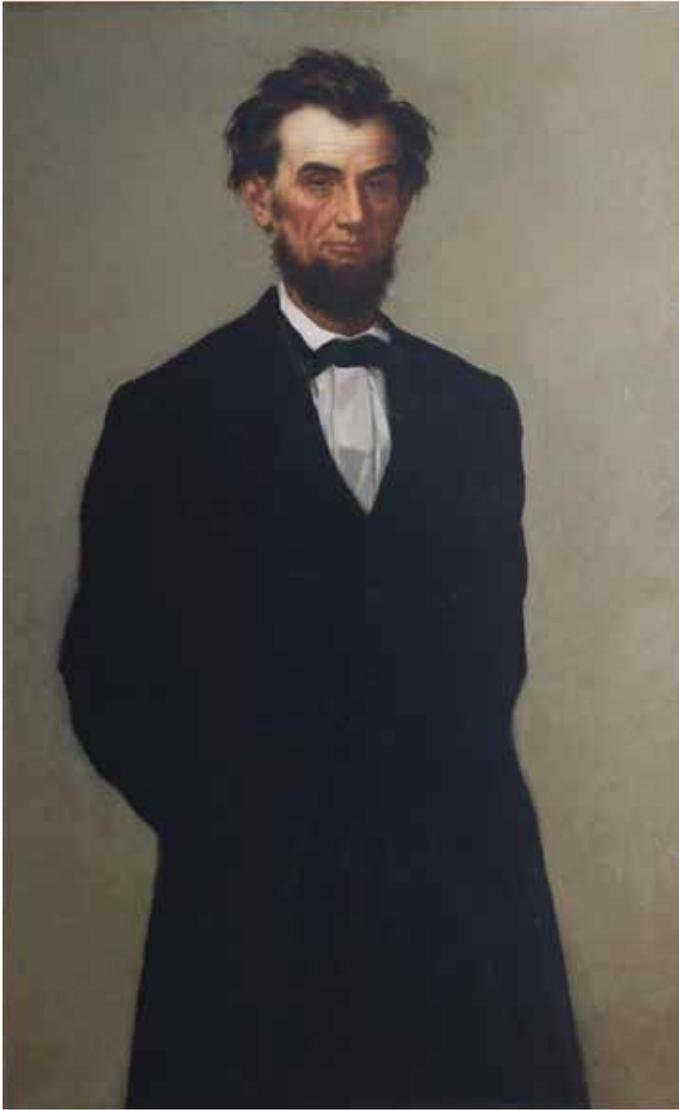


Exhibit B

The Making of a President

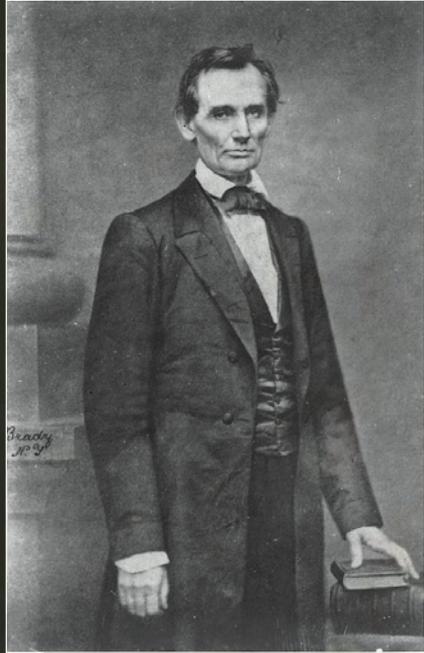
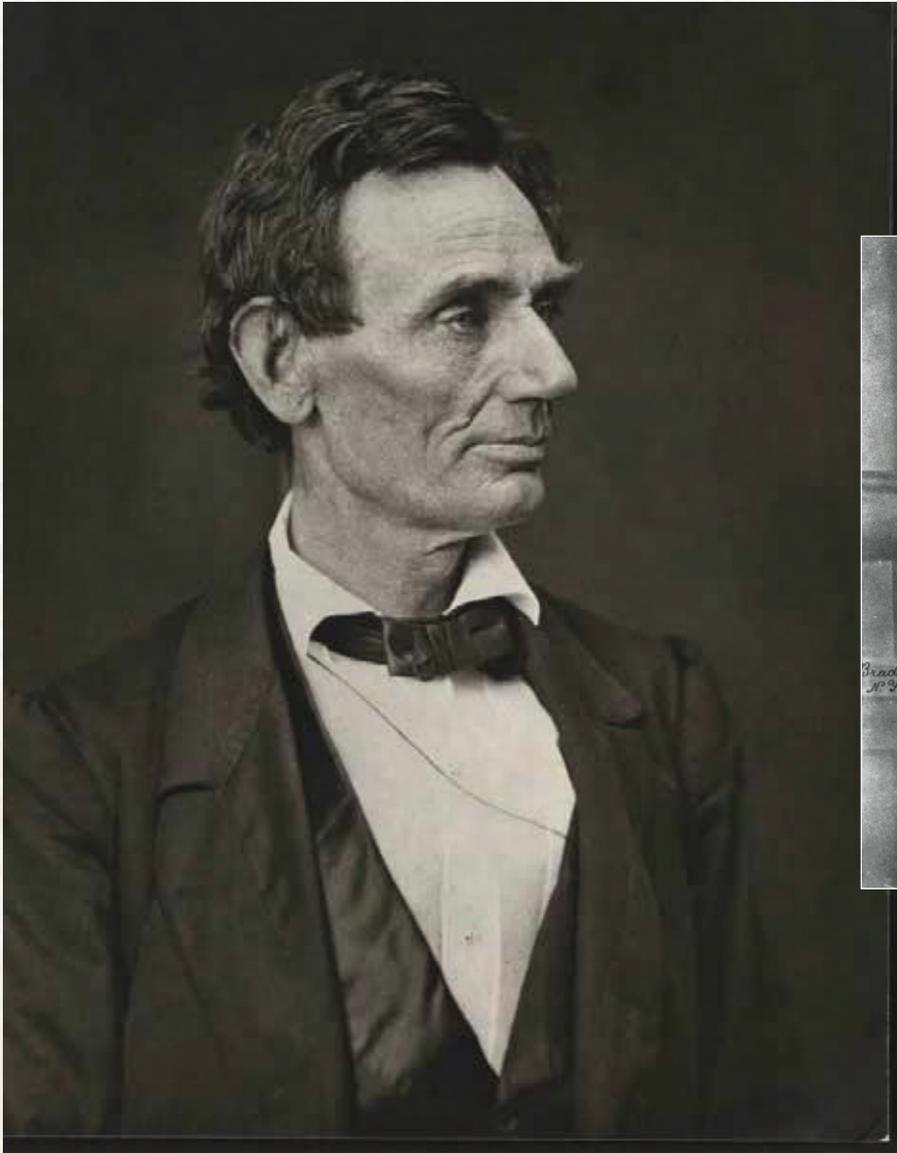
Abraham Lincoln is born in Kentucky in 1809. The President's paternal grandfather (and namesake) is killed by an Indian while clearing land near his Kentucky homestead; his father, Thomas, works as a farmer, carpenter and cabinetmaker. Land-title difficulties, and a distaste for slavery, lead Thomas to relocate to Indiana when Abraham is seven years old. The family lives there until 1830, when favorable reports prompt a move to Illinois. Physically strong, young Abe clears fields and splits rails for fences. He works as a grocery clerk, surveyor, storeowner and postmaster. He runs for the state legislature in 1832 (following brief service in the Black Hawk War) and while easily winning the votes of his close neighbors, loses the election. He is thereafter elected four times in succession. Encouraged to take up law, he is admitted to the bar in late 1836, and moves to Springfield to take up the profession. His fierce opposition to the Kansas-Nebraska Act of 1854, which opens the contentious issue of whether territories are to be admitted to the Union as slave or free states, prompts him to run twice for the Senate in 1854 and 1858 respectively. While he drops out of one race and loses the other, Lincoln earns national fame when he debates incumbent Stephen Douglas over the issues of slavery and popular sovereignty. In October of 1859, Lincoln receives an invitation from The Young Men's Republican Union of New York to join a prominent speakers series designed to introduce likely presidential candidates and leading Republicans, especially from the "West," to New York audiences. Lincoln accepts the invitation, and after two months of research and writing, delivers

his speech on February 27, 1860 in the Great Hall of the Cooper Institute before a capacity crowd. Lincoln's remarks address the politically and emotionally charged question of whether the Federal government has the authority to regulate slavery in western territories. Lincoln argues it does; to prove his point he examines the views of the 39 Signers of the Constitution. He notes that at least 21 of them – a majority – believe Congress should control slavery in the territories, rather than allow it to expand. The well-crafted speech based on ruthless logic and poignant principles, is a resounding success, widely publicized in the press, and propels Lincoln to the Republican party's nomination at its convention that spring.

✿ *Keys to Lincoln's Law Office & Locking Bookcase* | Private Collection

✿ *Statement of Debt* | Collection Newark Museum

In 1844, Lincoln opens his own law firm with his friend William Herndon, as partner. He travels the 8th Illinois judicial circuit for months at a time, appearing before various judges in many towns, often teaming with a local attorney who brings the case. While Lincoln represents clients accused of all types of crimes, including murder, the majority of cases are related to breach of contract and debt collection, as is the example shown. The statement regards debt of \$50 owed by Joshua Gipson and John A. Metcalfe to James L. and C.B. Gerard. It is signed by Joshua Gibson, John A. Metcalfe and A. Lincoln, "then attorney in fact."



🌸 *Lincoln Signed Check* | Collection Rail Splitter Archives, New York City

Before Lincoln travels to New York City to give his speech at the Cooper Institute, he purchases a new suit from clothing purveyors George W. Woods and Jasen Cole Henckle. The Library of Congress owns a check written by Lincoln seventeen days earlier on February 1, 1860, to the order of Woods & Henckle for \$100, which is assumed to be partial payment for the new suit of clothes and related accoutrements that the prospective presidential candidate needs to look his best in New York City. The check shown represents the final payment on the same.

(Opposite left)

🌸 *Abraham Lincoln, 1860*
Alexander Hesler (1823-1895)

Collection Rail Splitter Archives, New York City

Shortly after Lincoln is nominated for President, Illinois photographer Alexander Hesler takes several portraits of the Republican candidate. The example shown becomes Lincoln's favorite. He comments, "That looks better and expresses me better than any I have ever seen; if it pleases the people I am satisfied." Lincoln is the first President to be extensively photographed. This is partly because he is keenly aware of the power of publicity and imagery in politics, and partly because his rise to fame coincides with photographic innovations that make it possible to widely distribute his likeness through that medium. On the morning Lincoln delivers his Cooper Union Address, he visits Matthew Brady's Photographic Gallery on Broadway and Bleeker. Lincoln poses in a sky-lit studio with his hand resting on a book (image opposite right). The overall effect is attractive and dignified. Following Lincoln's nomination by the Republican party for the Presidency, Brady's portrait appears as woodcut adaptations on the covers of Harper's Weekly and Frank Leslie's Illustrated Newspaper. During the campaign, lithographic copies are sold and the image

appears on badges, and stationary. Lincoln is so closely identified with the image, he remarks, "Brady and the Cooper Institute made me President."

(Previous page)

🌸 *Portrait of Abraham Lincoln, 1864*
Joseph Alexander Ames (1816-1872) | Collection The Morris Museum

While Lincoln sat for numerous photographers, few contemporary, painted portraits of the President exist. The portrait shown, by artist Joseph Alexander Ames, is a rare example. The artist is acquainted with the President through his wife, Sarah, who is a Civil War nurse. Unlike the clean-shaven images of Lincoln by photographers Hesler and Brady, Lincoln is fully bearded. In the fall of 1860, Lincoln receives a letter from Grace Bedell, an 11-year-old girl, who encourages the Republican nominee to grow whiskers: "...All the ladies like whiskers and they would tease their husbands to vote for you and then you would be President." When Lincoln leaves Springfield bound for the White House, he sports his iconic beard. When the train stops in Westfield, New York, the President-Elect meets the pint-sized stylist and tells her that he took her advice.

🌸 *Stovepipe Hat, c. 1860* | The Forbes Collection

At 6-foot-4, Lincoln is the country's tallest president and easily towers over most men of his generation. The traditional stove pipe hat, which gentleman had been wearing since early in the century, adds another 7 to 8 inches to the President's already impressive stature making him easy to spot within any crowd. Lincoln may have enjoyed accentuating his great height advantage over his contemporaries, but the hat holds another purpose. Lincoln famously uses his signature chapeau, as a briefcase of sorts, to store important papers, letters and notes. The stove pipe hat shown was not owned by Lincoln, but is a period example.



Exhibit C

A Confused Melee

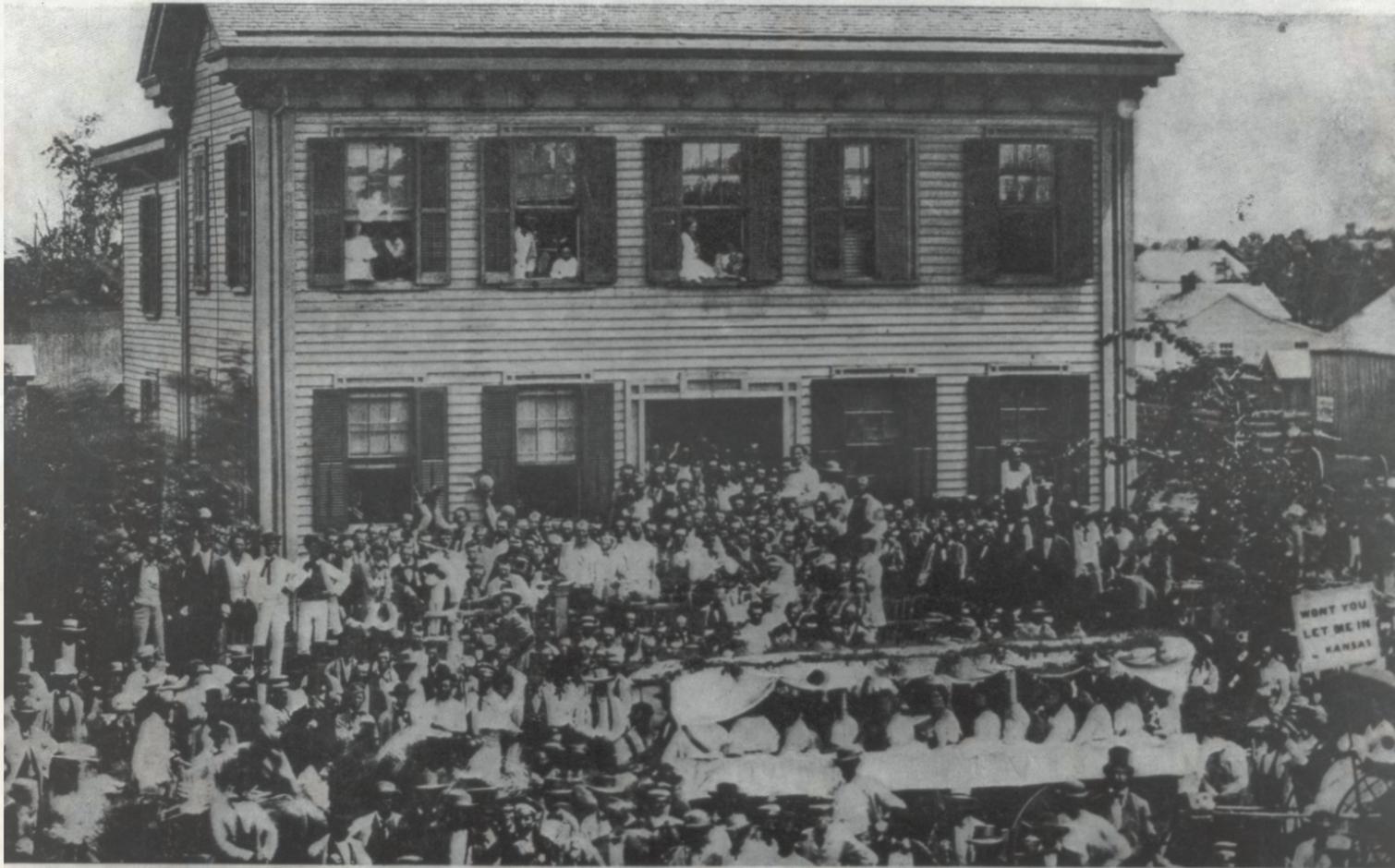
The presidential election of 1860 brings Lincoln to power at a time of great national crisis as the country is splitting over the issue of slavery. Described in the press as a “confused melee,” the national election evolves into a four-way general contest. The Republicans repudiate the most radical, abolitionist elements in their party, and nominate the Washington ‘outsider’ Abraham Lincoln. Their platform vows no interference with slavery where it already exists, but only to resist its expansion. The Northern Democrats, who are neutral on slavery, nominate Senator Stephen Douglas; the Southern Democrats, who sympathize with the southern view of states rights in the matter of slavery, nominate John Breckenridge; and the Constitutional Union party, which tries to avoid the slavery issue altogether, nominates John Bell. With his opposition split three ways, Lincoln readily wins the Electoral College and the presidency, although he garners only 40% of the popular vote and fails to carry any southern or border state, including New Jersey. Southerners view his triumph not as the will of the people, but as rule imposed by minority. True to their threats, secession conventions are called just six weeks after the election. When Chief Justice Roger Taney administers the Oath of Office to Lincoln on March 4, 1861, seven southern states have seceded, and the national upheaval of secession is a grim reality. To ease the crisis, Lincoln, in his Inaugural Address, assures the southern states, that he has “no purpose, directly or indirectly, to interfere with the institution of slavery in the States where it exists.” He adds that his administration will uphold the constitutionally-protected laws of the country, including the Fugitive Slave Act. In the same address, he takes a firm stance against secession. He argues the Constitution binds the states

contractually together and that no state “upon its own mere motion” can lawfully break this contract. He concludes with a cautionary warning to the southern states in rebellion, “You can have no conflict without being yourselves the aggressors. You have no oath in Heaven to destroy the government, while I shall have the most solemn one to “preserve, protect, and defend it.”

(Opposite)

 *Wide Awake Lantern* | Collection Donald L. Ackerman

Between the time Lincoln is nominated and the election in November, he stays home in Springfield, Illinois leaving the task of campaigning – per tradition – to surrogates. Supporters organize marching clubs, engage in rallies and torchlight processions, and criss-cross the country on excursion trains. The most ambitious of these is the “Wide Awakes.” Members wear uniforms that consist of a waterproof cape or “slicker” and a glazed kepi-style cap, and receive manuals detailing drills and marching rules. They carry torches in their parades while the “captain” of each chapter carries a red glass lantern. Their quasi-military appeal draws many recruits; chapters pop up in almost every small town and city ward. In 1860, the *New York Herald* estimates the total number of drilled and uniformed Wide Awakes at more than 400,000. The Wide Awake parade lantern shown is presented to Isaac Miller Tucker of Newark, New Jersey, Captain of the Newark Wide Awakes by officers of the Hartford Wide Awakes in July 1860. Two years later, Tucker is killed in the battle at Ball’s Bluff, Virginia. Prior to the war, Tucker served as Clerk of Newark’s Common Council.



From a photograph in the collection of Robert Coster. Half-tone plate engraved by S. Davis

A PROCESSION, PROBABLY IN THE 1858 CAMPAIGN, HALTED IN FRONT OF LINCOLN'S SPRINGFIELD HOME
Abraham Lincoln is the tall figure in white at the right of the doorway

🌸 *Songsters & Ribbons* | Collection Rail Splitter Archives, New York City

🌸 *1860 & 1864 Campaign Broadsides**

Collection Rail Splitter Archives, New York City

During the mid-nineteenth century, wall charts are ubiquitous in American classrooms. Printed on thick paper, varnished and mounted on linen with wooden rollers at top and bottom, these educational tools typically feature a map of the United States, portraits of the presidents, and the text of the Declaration of Independence. In campaign years, publishers made large charts for a similar purpose; to educate would-be voters. They bore portraits of candidates, brief biographies, and party platform essentials.

🌸 *“Abe”**

Ken Olsen (1921 – 2010) | Collection Bette Olsen Pfeiffer

Lincoln’s nickname “Rail Splitter” is introduced at the 1860 Illinois State Republican Convention by Richard Oglesby, later governor of Illinois, and John Hanks, Lincoln’s cousin. The imagery of the rail splitter helps to define Lincoln as “a man of the people” and artists, then and now, forever associate ‘the campaign gimmick’ with the President.

🌸 *Campaign Ax* | Collection Monmouth County Historical Association

Supporters of Abraham Lincoln commonly carry wooden axes in parades and torchlight processions to emphasize their candidate’s strength, hard work ethic and “frontiersman” qualities. They also reinforce the Wide Awakes’ paramilitary nature and dual purpose as a security force at a time when political rallies witnessed extremes of violence.

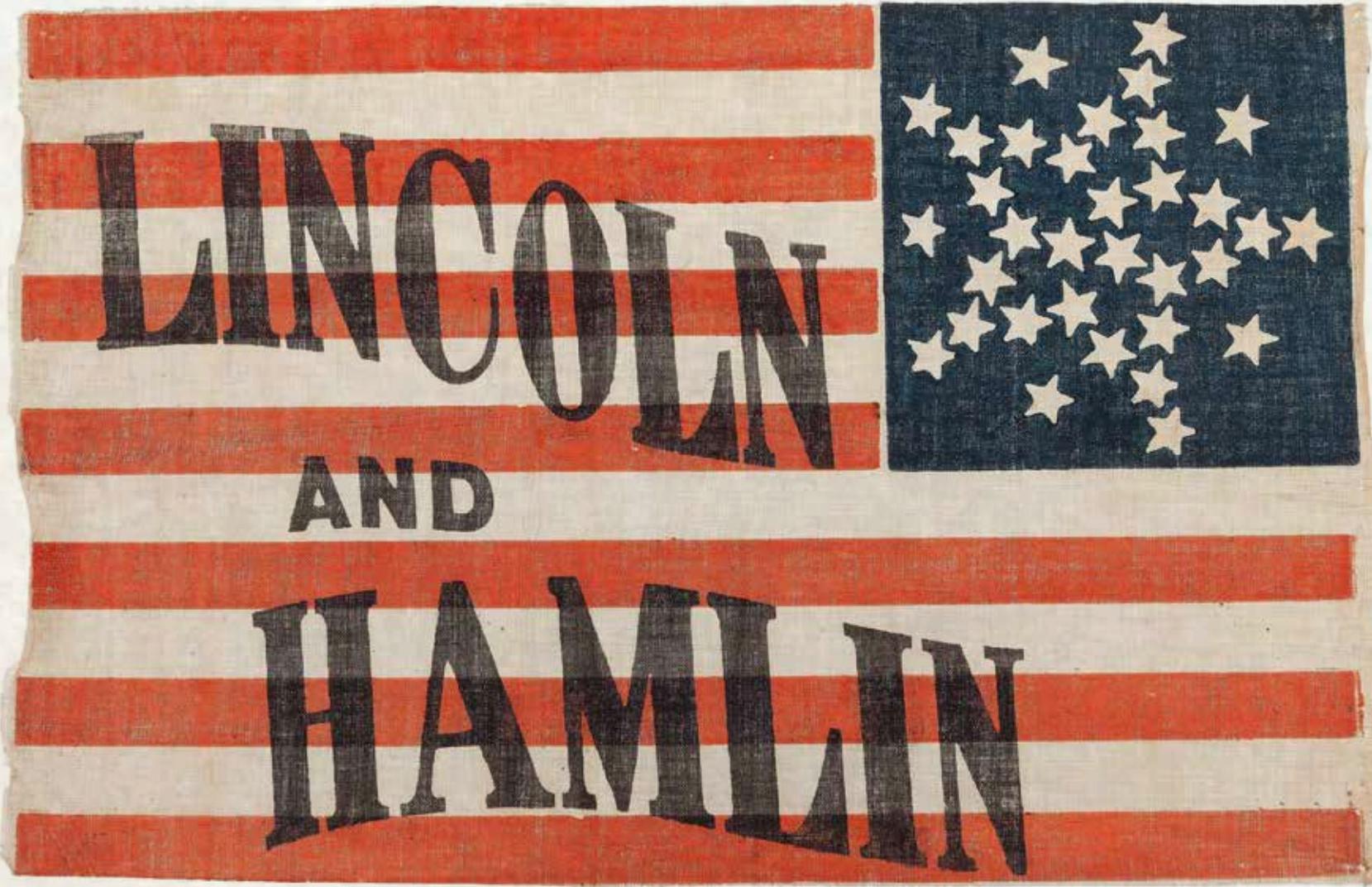
🌸 *Rally Around the Flag* | Collection Kenneth and Nancy Ritchey

🌸 *The National Game, Three Outs and One Run*
*Louis Maurer, Currier and Ives, New York, 1860**

Collection Rail Splitter Archives, New York City

This satire portrays the 1860 election as a baseball game in which Lincoln defeats (left to right) John Bell, Stephen A. Douglas, and John C. Breckinridge. Lincoln stands with his foot on “Home Base,” advising the others, “Gentlemen, if any of you should ever take a hand in another match at this game, remember that you must have a good bat ‘and strike a fair ball’ to make a clean score’ & a home run.”

*on view in the foyer



LINCOLN

AND

HAMLIN

(Opposite)

🌸 *Lincoln-Hamlin Campaign Name Flag**

Collection Rail Splitter Archives, New York City

For Lincoln's running mate in the 1860 election, the Republican party nominates Hannibal Hamlin, a Senator from Maine who, like Lincoln, had been a surveyor and lawyer prior to entering politics. Hamlin is unceremoniously dropped from the 1864 ticket in favor of Tennessee Senator Andrew Johnson, who breaks with Southern Democrats on the issue of secession. When Tennessee votes to secede in June 1861, he is the only sitting Senator from a Confederate state who does not resign his seat. In recognition of his unwavering support, Lincoln appoints Johnson in May 1862 as Military Governor of Tennessee. Six weeks after Johnson is inaugurated as U.S. Vice President, Lincoln is assassinated.

🌸 *The Battle Cry of Freedom Handbill*

Collection Donald L. Ackerman

Written by American composer George F. Root, "The Battle Cry of Freedom" is so popular among Union soldiers and the public alike, that fourteen printing presses working around the clock couldn't keep up with the demand for copies. A modified version is used as the primary campaign song for the Lincoln-Johnson ticket in the 1864 presidential election. The handbill shown is printed and distributed in the Grand Torchlight Procession and Union Mass parade in Trenton, NJ on November 5, 1864. A photograph taken at the parade site of a Trenton street festooned with an oversized Lincoln-Johnson flag is also shown.

🌸 *Elect Lincoln Ruin broadside**

Collection Kenneth and Nancy Ritchey

The presidential election of 1864 is held during the Civil War and as such, it is contested only by the states that have not seceded from the Union. The election pits Lincoln against George B. McClellan, who had led the Union army in 1861-62, but was shelved by Lincoln after he repeatedly overestimated the enemy's strength and hesitated to attack the Rebels. McClellan and running mate George Pendleton run on an anti-war platform, promising to negotiate at any cost, peace terms with the Confederacy to end the war as soon as possible. Initially many including Lincoln believe McClellan will win, but when General Sherman seizes Atlanta on September 6, 1864, the war effort turns decidedly in the North's favor. Union army victories coupled with the majority of Union soldiers voting for their Commander-in-Chief rather than their former commander, help propel Lincoln to victory. Lincoln interprets his re-election as a mandate that the war should continue with the outcome of reunification of the nation without slavery as the only acceptable result. After the war, McClellan a resident of Orange, is elected Governor of New Jersey in 1878.

🌸 *Inaugural Invitation* | Collection Newark Museum

The National Inauguration Ball is held on March 6, 1865 at the Patent Office Building, now the Smithsonian American Art Museum and National Portrait Gallery. Approximately 4,000 guests attend the festivities; they dine among other fare, on oyster and terrapin stews, turkey, quail, and venison followed by ornamental pyramids of desserts, cakes and ice cream. Although the President and Mrs. Lincoln leave about 1:30 a.m., other revelers stay on and dance until dawn.

*On view in the foyer



State of New Jersey.

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT.

Trenton, Febry 1st 1861.



Wm. A. Graham Secretary

My Dear Sir

In compliance with the request of the Legislature of this State I have since pleasure in extending to you an invitation to visit our State Capital (while journeying to Washington) and offer the citizens of New Jersey an opportunity to express the respect they feel for your Character and Position.

Very respectfully yours.

Chas. S. Allen

Springfield Ill Febry 6th 1861.

Sir:

Your letter of the 1st inst. inviting me, in compliance with the request of the Legislature of New Jersey to visit your State Capital, while on my journey to Washington, has been duly received.

I accept the invitation, with much gratitude to you and thank you for the kindness and honor thus offered.

Your obt. Servt.

A. Lincoln

His Excellency

Chas. S. Allen

Governor of New Jersey

P.S. Please arrange no ceremonies that will waste time.

An Invitation

On February 1, 1861, Governor Olden extends, in compliance with the request of the State Legislature, an invitation to President-elect Abraham Lincoln to visit Trenton prior to his inauguration in Washington, D.C., to “afford the citizens of New Jersey an opportunity to express the respect they feel for your character and person.” Ten days later, Lincoln leaves Springfield, Illinois by train to visit the leading cities of the East, but not before he sends a reply accepting the Governor’s invitation with “much gratitude... for the kindness and honor thus offered.” The letter’s postscript reads, “Please arrange no ceremonies that will waste time.” Lincoln’s ambitious ‘Whistle Stop’ itinerary includes seven states, and over 80 cities in 21 days. En route, enthusiastic crowds meet the train eager to catch a glimpse of the President-elect. When the Lincoln entourage arrives in Jersey City, a reporter for the *Philadelphia Inquirer* recounts, “for several minutes all was drowned in the shouts of thousands of strong voices.” The reception in Newark is equally energetic where a witness estimates 75,000 people greet the President-elect, who detains to take a carriage ride through the city. The train speeds next to Elizabeth, Rahway, New Brunswick, and passes through Princeton before it arrives in Trenton where it is greeted by a 34-gun salute. Lincoln addresses separately each branch of the New Jersey legislature. In his remarks to the Senate, he references New Jersey’s heroics in the Revolutionary War, and that he is exceedingly anxious that the Union “be perpetuated in accordance with the original idea for which that struggle was made...” To the Assembly, Lincoln addresses the rebellion in the southern states, and vows, “I shall do all that may be in my power to promote a peaceful settlement of all our difficulties.” But, he continues, “it may

be necessary to put the foot down firmly. And if I do my duty, and do right, you will sustain me, will you not?” To Lincoln’s challenge, the *Minutes of Votes and Proceedings of the Eighty-fifth General Assembly of the State of New Jersey* records the House members shouting “Yes!” “Yes!” “We Will!” New Jersey is the only northern state not to support Lincoln in the 1860 presidential campaign, and the majority of representatives in both Houses are Democratic, but despite party and political differences, New Jersey pledges to stand with Lincoln to preserve the Union, the Constitution and liberties of the people no matter what the sacrifice. Seven weeks and one day after Lincoln visits New Jersey that resolve is tested when Fort Sumter falls to Confederate forces, and the nation plunges into the deadliest war in American history.

(Opposite left)

✿ *Governor Olden to Abraham Lincoln, February 1, 1861*

Image courtesy Library of Congress

(Opposite right)

✿ *Abraham Lincoln to Governor Olden, February 6, 1861*

Collection New Jersey State Archives, Department of State

✿ *Governor Olden to State Legislature, February 11, 1861*

Collection New Jersey State Archives, Department of State

Olden reports that he has complied with the instructions of the Legislature to invite President-elect Lincoln to Trenton, and advises the appointment of a joint committee to make the necessary arrangements.



Confederate flag flying.
St. Louis after the capture of M. W. Anderson - October 1864

Exhibits D

The Civil War Ignites

When Fort Sumter falls in April 1861, Jerseyans, who had opposed war to curtail the rebellious Southern states, are suddenly swept forth by patriotic fervor to preserve the Union at all costs. In his Annual Message to the Legislature four months earlier in January 1861, Governor Olden hopes hostilities can be averted through compromise. He chastises inflammatory rhetoric by those who “regard slavery as a sin so monstrous that all connected with it are consigned to condemnation,” and those who believe “that all who live on the North side of a geographical line are their enemies,” and calls for a Convention of all the States to harmoniously settle the points at issue. In the same message, he warns against the example set forth by South Carolina, which if followed by other states, “would lead to anarchy.” To quell the advancing storm, Olden attends, as the only representative of the Northern State Governors, the Washington Peace Conference in February 1861 to broker a compromise over the issues relating to slavery that were dividing the nation. While the convention is in session, Virginia, the very state which calls it, is holding another convention of her own, to discuss the propriety of secession. The conference meets with little consequence. L.E. Chittenden, in writing four years later in the *New York Times* about the failed convention, concludes, “...the differences between North and South had, in 1861, reached a stage in which an appeal to the sword offered the only means of settlement.” When Major Robert Anderson surrenders Fort Sumter to Confederate forces on April 13, 1861, the final fuse is lit. The Civil War explodes onto the national scene; the flames of which will not be extinguished

for four years and in its ashes an estimated 750,000 fallen Union and Confederate soldiers lay including those of 6,300 New Jersey heroes who give their lives so that the Nation may endure.

Charleston Mercury Broadside

Collection of Kenneth and Nancy Ritchey

With the election of Abraham Lincoln on November 6, 1860, South Carolina anticipates with dread and loathing the federal government interfering with the South’s institution of slavery. Less than two months later, the South Carolina legislature enacts on December 20, 1860, by a vote of 169-0, an ordinance that “the union now subsisting between South Carolina and other States, under the name of ‘The United States of America,’ is hereby dissolved.” Within minutes of its passage, the newspaper, *Charleston Mercury* issues the historic broadside shown announcing the decision to the world. By February 1, 1861, Mississippi, Florida, Alabama, Georgia, Louisiana, and Texas follow South Carolina’s example to secede from the Union, and together, with South Carolina, form the Confederate States of America. Virginia, Arkansas, North Carolina and Tennessee join the new nation by June 8, 1861, although partial control of Tennessee by Union forces precludes a “total” secession by that State.

(Opposite)

*Interior of Fort Sumter after the evacuation of
Maj. Anderson with Confederate flag flying, April 16, 1861.*

Image courtesy Library of Congress

State of New Jersey, Executive Department
Trenton Aug 8th 1861

To His Ex^{ty}

Hon Abraham Lincoln

Sir:

I have the honor to acknowledge
the receipt of your communication of the

The State of New Jersey will respond
with as much promptness as possible, to
the requisitions for five additional regiments for
the War. - And will send such regiments
forward as soon as equipped.

This State will at all times be ready
to support to the extent of its power the General
Government in its noble effort to maintain our
precious and priceless institutions. We confi-
-dently trust that by the blessing of a protecting
Providence, the labors of your Administration.

Will be attended with so much anxiety, some
will result in firmly re-establishing the Union
with sentiments of great respect

Believe me your obt servant

Chas^s F. Holden



STATE OF NEW JERSEY,

Executive Department,

Trenton Oct 11th 1861

Her Excellency

Abraham Lincoln

President of the U.S.



I have the
honor of informing you that the requisitions made by the
Gen^l Government on the State of New Jersey for volunteers
are all complied with. - The last requisition was for
Five Regiments, to serve for three years unless sooner dischar-
-ged. - This was received by me on the 6th July last, and
all the Regiments had left the State on the 6th of September.

I have also the honor of informing you that
the order on me for Ten thousand four hundred and seven
by eight men (10478) to be raised for nine months by draft-
-ing has been complied with - not by drafting - it
was not found necessary, as more than the requisite num-
-ber offered as volunteers. - Eleven Regiments were
organized comprising about Ten thousand Eight hun-
-dred (10800) men - They have all left the State
for Washington - the last having gone on the 10th Inst.

Very respectfully your obt^d servant

Chas^s F. Holden

A Dispatch is Received

At 5:30 pm on April 15, 1861, Governor Olden receives at Drumthwacket a dispatch from Secretary of War Simon Cameron with the following instruction: "Call made on you by tonight's mail for four regiments of militia for immediate service." Cameron's directive follows President Lincoln's proclamation issued the same day, and in reaction to the bombardment of Fort Sumter, to raise 75,000 troops to restore federal power in the Southern states in rebellion. The country's regular army has only 16,000 men, many of whom were dispersed on the frontier. Lincoln's Executive Order relies on the Northern state militias and good will of the Governors to help, "maintain the laws and the integrity of the National Union." Olden immediately issues on April 17 a proclamation directing volunteers willing to respond to the President's call for troops, to report within 20 days. When the news is learned in Princeton, a procession of citizens headed by the Governor's Guard marches with fife and drum to the residences of U.S. Senator John Thomson, and Adjutant-General Robert F. Stockton, then at Morven, and Governor Olden at Drumthwacket. Standing on the portico steps, Olden assures the excited crowd that New Jersey will do more than her share in the defense of the Union. Within a few days of the announcement, 10,000 Jerseyans rush to enlist; more than 3 times the number requested by Washington. Less than a month later, the First Brigade New Jersey Militia, the first complete brigade of infantry from a northern state to arrive in the capital, parade past President Lincoln who remarks, "New Jersey has presented a fuller and more completely equipped body of men, than any other State." Throughout

the war, Lincoln continues to call upon Governor Olden and the Northern state governors for assistance when the humiliating defeat in July 1861 of Union forces at First Bull Run, and the blood bath at Shiloh in April 1862, make it clear that the conflict is going to be longer and more deadly than either side imagines.

(Opposite left)

✿ *Governor Olden to Abraham Lincoln, August 8, 1861*

Collection Historical Society of Princeton

Responding to Lincoln's request for an additional 5 regiments, Olden writes, "This state will at all times be ready to support to the extent of its power, the General Government, in its noble effort to maintain our priceless institution. We confidently trust that by the blessing of a protecting Providence, the labors of your administration, now attended with so much anxiety and care will result in firmly establishing the Union."

(Opposite right)

✿ *Governor Olden to Abraham Lincoln, October 11, 1862*

Image Courtesy Library of Congress

Governor Olden reports to President Lincoln that the request received on July 8 for an additional 5 regiments to serve for three years has been met. Olden further writes that the request for 10,478 men to serve nine months has likewise been met, without drafting.



The Jersey Blues

On April 30, 1861, Governor Olden convenes the Legislature to address the urgent events at hand. Where he once counseled moderation, he now warns that the issue which divides the nation is “no longer one of politics, to be settled at the ballot box, but the issue is, shall this nation continue to exist” and “the place indicated for its determination is the field of battle.” He vows, “New Jersey will meet the crisis, and rise to the height of her great duty, ever standing firm by the Union, the Constitution, and the Law.” As chief executive and military leader of the state, Olden immediately assumes the herculean responsibility of raising the necessary number of regiments to meet the Federal government’s continued requests for manpower, and financing the training, clothing, shelter, munitions and transportation of the troops until they became the responsibility of the War Department in Washington, D.C. With measured efficiency, Olden calls a special session of the legislature which raises \$2 million from New Jersey banks, passes an appropriation for 10,000 stands of arms, and secures a tax to raise monies for soldiers’ families. Ultimately, the state sends 88,305 men, or 10,057 more than called for into battle. New Jersey’s 40 regiments of infantry, three regiments of cavalry, and five batteries of light artillery are represented on every major battlefield of the conflict. In his Farewell Address to the Legislature on January 16, 1863, Governor Olden remarks upon New Jersey’s role in the nation’s “life struggle” and the bravery of her soldiers. “Their courage,” he lauds, “has been no meteor flash, gazed on admiringly, beautiful to behold, yet evanescent and barren of results, but in every engagement, in which they were found, they have steadily and unflinchingly borne their part in ‘the fore front of the noblest battle’ where, living or dying, they have fully sustained the fairly won and highly prized reputation of ‘The Jersey Blues.’”

☀ *Bulls-eye Circular Canteen*

Collection Civil War and Native American Museum

On a typical twenty-mile march, soldiers pack more than sixty pounds of gear. Atop knapsacks stuffed with extra clothes, they carry rolled up wool and rubber blankets and half a tent. They fill haversacks with provisions, carry muskets and sling cartridge boxes and canteens over their shoulders.

☀ *Captain James W. Low’s Uniform Kepi, 1860-1864*

Collection Monmouth County Historical Association

A small hole can be seen along the upper edge of the cap’s left side. According to family history, a bullet clips the cap during one of two battles fought at Marye’s Heights, Virginia, 1862. Captain James Low, who serves as a member of the 21st Regiment of New Jersey, survives both battles.

☀ *Captain Aaron Young’s Mess Kit*

Collection Civil War and Native American Museum

Captain Aaron Young, of the 2nd NJ Infantry Regiment Volunteers, musters in at Camp Olden on May 28, 1861. Tragically, like so many of his fellows, Captain Aaron succumbs to typhoid fever on June 4, 1862.

(Opposite, left to right)

Capt. David Blenkow, 25th NJ Volunteers, 2nd Lt. Rufus Keisler, 8th NJ Volunteers, Lt. William E. Axell, 11th NJ Volunteers.

Images courtesy New Jersey State Archives, Department of State



☀ *Model 1861 U.S. Trenton Contract Musket*

Collection Civil War and Native American Museum

When Governor Olden informs Washington that he has 12,000 troops waiting for arms, he receives a reply from the War Department urging him to send the regiments forward, as it was not entirely safe to transport that amount of arms to New Jersey. The request is swiftly denied by Olden who rebukes, “that a man’s life was worth more than a musket, and that it was not safe for unarmed soldiers to travel where guns could not be sent without danger!”

(Opposite) ☀ *Ambrotype of Camp Vredenburg, c. 1862*

Collection Monmouth County Historical Association

The rare image captures a quiet moment at Camp Vredenburg, one of 10 boot camps in New Jersey built to train Union soldiers. It was located on the site of the Battle of Monmouth, the largest land battle of the American Revolution. Camp Olden, named for Governor Olden, was situated approximately three miles east of Trenton. *The New York Times* reports the location of the camp outside the capital ensures troops will have less association with the city’s nefarious rum shops.

☀ *Charles Olden to Simon Cameron, August 23, 1861*

Collection Bruce L. Sirak, Burlington Twp., NJ

Governor Olden recommends John W. Newell to Secretary of War Simon Cameron for an appointment as Paymaster in the Army. When war erupts, President Lincoln appoints 562 additional paymasters to manage the payment of soldiers for their military service. The monthly

salary for privates in the Union army is \$13 although New Jersey volunteers, per the direction of Governor Olden, receive an additional \$4 to \$6 per month depending upon whether they are single, married, or single with a widowed mother. The job of paymaster isn’t an easy one. Paymasters travel with forces as they navigate the conflict; some are robbed and others tragically killed for the cash they carry.

☀ *Symms Stillwell to his Brother, n.d.*

Collection Historical Society of Princeton

Sergeant Symms Stillwell of the 9th Regiment of New Jersey infantry writes to his brother about the Battle of Roanoke Island fought on February 7-8, 1862. He writes, “Many a poor fellow was shot down alongside of me that came here to defend his Country but I thank the kind hand of providence that I came out without a wound there was about three hundred of our men killed and wounded 9 killed and 30 wounded out of our regiment...I think this war will soon come to an end we have them surrounded on all sides...we expect to fight our way right on back to Jersey.” The Sergeant’s prediction falls short as the war continues to rage on for another three years. He continues to serve until December 8, 1864 when he musters out of the service and returns home to New Jersey.



CAMP "WILLIAM PENN."
CHELTEN HILLS, PA.

Jan. 30th 1864

This Certifies, That *Isaac H. Gaires*
of *Camden* County, State of *New Jersey*
was mustered into the service of the United States, a *Private*
in Company *K.* **TWENTY-SECOND REGIMENT U. S. COLORED TROOPS,**
on the *Fourth* day of *January* 1864,
to serve for three years or during the war



Wm. Clark
Capt. Commanding Company.

J. B. [unclear]
Commanding Regiment.

Emancipation Proclamation

No sooner had the war ignited when abolitionists and radical Republicans urge Lincoln to free the slaves and accept African Americans for the army. At first, he declines to do either for fear of alienating the slave-holding border states. Losing any of them could potentially doom the Union. Slavery could only be abolished nationally by Constitutional amendment, which does happen once the country is reunited. In the meantime, under the doctrine of ‘military necessity’ as Commander-in Chief, Lincoln decides to do what lay within his power: declare all slaves free who remain within Rebel territory. This is not wholly symbolic, for as every bit of Confederate territory fell to advancing Union armies, the proclamation assures that its slaves would be “henceforth and forever” free. However – not wanting to be seen as acting out of desperation – Lincoln waits until after the Union victory at Antietam to draft his proclamation, which takes effect on January 1, 1863. The Proclamation signals a turning point in the war. Slavery is acknowledged as its central cause. At the same time, Lincoln heeds the advice of Frederick Douglass and numerous generals and permits recruitment of African Americans drawn from occupied Rebel territory. All-black units distinguish themselves, silencing critics. Their large numbers – drawn from occupied rebel territory as well as northern freedmen – swell the army and prove crucial to the ultimate Union victory.

 *Slave Shackles* | Collection Rail Splitter Archives, New York City

Made of solid iron, the shackles are used to restrain a slave’s wrists.

 *Come and Join Us Brothers.* | Collection Kenneth and Nancy Ritchey

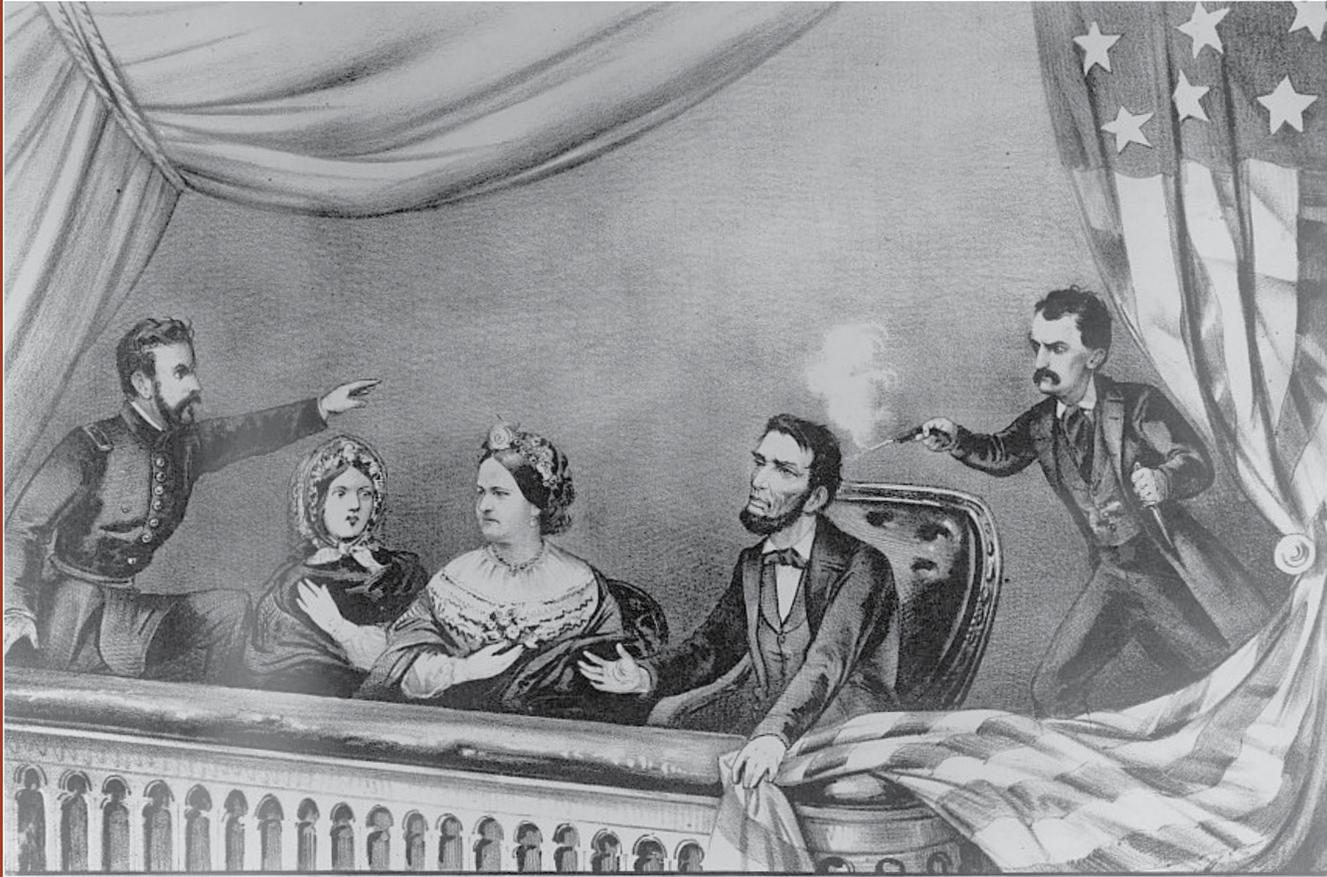
The Emancipation Proclamation includes a provision that opens enlistment in the military to African American men. The Union army launches vigorous recruitment drives that include in part, posters such as the one shown. Black volunteers take up the call and fight to liberate those still held in slavery. By war’s end, 200,000 African Americans serve in the U.S. Army of which 16 are awarded the Congressional Medal of Honor including Decatur Dorsey who moves to Hoboken, NJ after the war, and John Henry Lawson who is buried, along with 45 other African American Civil War veterans, in Mount Peace Cemetery in Lawnside, Camden County.

(Opposite)

 *Certificate of Muster, Isaac Gaines of Camden County, NJ, Jan. 30, 1864.*

Collection NJ State Archives, Department of State.

Private Isaac Gaines enlists with the 22nd United States Colored Infantry. The valiant unit, which includes 681 Jerseyans, breaks the Confederate line at Petersburg in June 1864, fights through the Siege of Petersburg, is one of the first Union units to enter Richmond, marches in President Lincoln’s funeral parade in Washington, participates in the hunt for John Wilkes Booth and serves on occupation and border guard duty in Texas before returning home for discharge in the fall of 1865.



Maj. Rathbone.

Miss Harris.

Mrs. Lincoln.

President.

Assassin.

THE ASSASSINATION OF PRESIDENT LINCOLN,

AT FORD'S THEATRE WASHINGTON, D.C. APRIL 14TH 1865.

Exhibit E

The Nation's Martyr

On April 3, 1865, the Confederate government abandons its capital, Richmond, Virginia, leaving it to be occupied by Union forces. Six days later Gen. Robert E. Lee and his Army of Northern Virginia surrender to Ulysses S. Grant at Appomattox Court House, essentially ending the Civil War. President and Mrs. Lincoln, now free to look forward to the day they could resume private life, discuss visiting California and Europe and taking the Grand Tour. On April 14, 1865, they take in an evening performance of *Our American Cousin* at Ford's Theatre – and there the unthinkable happens; the President is mortally wounded by Confederate sympathizer John Wilkes Booth. A vast manhunt for the actor and his fellow conspirators ensues, culminating in their death, capture, imprisonment or execution. New Jersey native and Union lieutenant John James Toffrey, who witnesses the assassination, writes of the tragedy to his parents in a letter dated April 17, 1865. “While sitting looking at the performance about ½ 10 o/c a shot was fired, I took no notice of it neither did any of the Audience, as it was thought to be part of the performance till we saw a man leap from the Presidents Box and light on the stage, he lingered for a second and then shot off like an arrow...I had a revolver with me and would to God I had the presence of mind enough at the time the man jumped down to have shot him...” He adds, “The night the President was murdered I done something that I have not done in a good while and that was to Cry, the tears showed before I knew it.” News of the horrifying murder unleashes profound mass mourning and Americans, who had been rejoicing over the end of the Civil War, are engulfed once more by grief, and forever enshrine Lincoln as the chief martyr of the Union.

✿ *Booth “Hamlet” playbill* | Collection Rail Splitter Archives, New York City

The pre-eminent family on the American stage during Abraham Lincoln's time are the Booths. The family patriarch, Junius Brutus Booth, an English actor, emigrates to the United States in 1821. Three of his sons follow in his theatrical footsteps: Edwin, Junius, and John Wilkes. Edwin, the eldest, is still widely considered one of the greatest Shakespearean actors to ever take the stage. John Wilkes – before committing his appalling act of assassination – enjoys great celebrity as a touring actor who appears on some of the country's greatest stages. Although forced to briefly retire following April 1865, Edwin makes a resounding comeback and opens his own theatre. He gives his last performance at the Brooklyn Academy of Music in 1891 as Hamlet. He bequeaths his New York City townhouse at Gramercy Park to The Player's Club. Although he condemns the “mad act” of his brother, Edwin keeps a portrait of John Wilkes by his bedside until the day he dies.

(Opposite)

The Assassination of President Lincoln.

Currier and Ives, New York, 1865 | Image courtesy Library of Congress.

The lithograph shows the moment when Confederate sympathizer and actor John Wilkes Booth enters the presidential box at Ford's Theatre and fatally shoots the President. Major Henry Rathbone, who attends the play with his fiancé Clara Harris as guests of the Lincolns, tries to apprehend Booth, but is slashed by a hunting knife in the arm and head. Booth then leaps from the presidential box onto the stage and makes his escape.

🌸 *Our American Cousin playbill* | Collection Kenneth and Nancy Ritchey

A copy of the playbill for *Our American Cousin*, the play the Lincolns were watching at Ford's Theatre when the President is murdered. Assassination lore recounts that the lead actress Laura Keene enters the state box and cradles the head of the mortally injured President in her lap.

🌸 *Booth Reward Broadside* | Collection Kenneth and Nancy Ritchey

With co-conspirators David Herold, George Atzerodt and others, Booth plans to assassinate not just President Lincoln, but also Vice President Andrew Johnson and Secretary of State William Seward. Fueled by an \$100,000 award, the search for Booth and his accomplices is the largest manhunt in American history to date. While in hiding, Booth keeps a diary wherein he records his incredulity at the almost universal condemnation of his actions. He had expected to be heralded as a hero. On April 26 at a farm in Virginia, Booth and co-conspirator Herold are surrounded by federal troops. Herold surrenders; Booth is shot by a soldier and dies shortly thereafter.

🌸 *The Nation's Martyr* | Collection Rail Splitter Archives, New York City

Currier & Ives issue this print of the deathbed scene inside the Petersen House where the stricken president is carried across the street from Ford's Theatre. Liberties are taken with historical accuracy. While Tad, the Lincoln's youngest living son is shown grief stricken at this mother's side, he is at the White House and not permitted to join older brother Robert, then 21 years old, who rushes to his father's side upon learning the news.

🌸 *Funeral Train, photograph*

Collection Rail Splitter Archives, New York City

After laying in state at the White House, Lincoln's remains begin their journey to their final resting place in Springfield, Illinois. The funeral train essentially retraces the route that President-Elect Lincoln had taken four years earlier. On April 24, the train passes through New Jersey cities including Trenton, Princeton, Elizabeth and Newark before it arrives at Jersey City where Lincoln's casket is ferried across the Hudson River to New York. While the train only slows, and does not stop en route to Jersey City, immense crowds gather to witness its passage and pay respect. When the train passes through Trenton, an estimated 20,000 citizens gather along the tracks while bells toll, minute guns fire and solemn music plays until it disappears from view.

(Opposite)

🌸 *Expense Ledger*

Collection New Jersey State Archives, Department of State

The New Jersey State Constitution prohibits, at the time, Governors from seeking a second term. When his term as Governor ends in 1863, Olden returns to private life at Drumthwacket. It is here where he most likely learns of Lincoln's assassination. New Jersey sends a delegation of 100 prominent citizens led by Governor Joel Parker, who succeeds Olden, to Washington to "manifest their sorrow for the great calamity that has befallen the nation." The ledger shown records expenses incurred by Parker to attend the slain President's funeral service at the White House, accompany the remains through the state of New Jersey, and attend the funeral ceremonies in New York City.



Exhibit E-2

☀ *White House China Plate*

Collection Rail Splitter Archives, New York City

Made in Limoges, France, the plate is part of a service ordered by First Lady Mary Todd Lincoln for the White House in April 1861. Born on December 13, 1818 to a prominent Lexington, Kentucky family, Mary is introduced to her future husband Abraham Lincoln, a junior partner in her cousin John Todd Stuart's law firm, at a dance. Despite the nine-year difference in age, education, and social class, their mutual love of poetry, literature and a deep interest in politics brings the two together and they wed in November 1842. When the Lincolns move into the White House in March 1861, Mary plays an assertive role in choosing china and furnishings for the Executive Mansion. Her expenditures are criticized widely as extravagant, pretentious and even scandalous in the time of war. Mary suffers further slander by southerners, who scorn her as a traitor to her southern heritage, and citizens loyal to the Union, who suspect her of treason. In August 1861, the First Lady finds respite from the heat and scrutiny of the nation's capital in Long Branch, New Jersey where she vacations with sons Willie and Tad on the advice of her physician. By coincidence, the family of John Wilkes Booth, including the President's future assassin, often spends time at the seaside resort due to its proximity to New York City where the family of thespians performs.

☀ *Mary Todd Lincoln Veil* | Private Collection

The assassination of her husband in 1865 shatters Mary Todd Lincoln. While millions of Americans participate in funeral observances in towns and cities throughout the country, she stays in a bed in a darkened room in the White House. The following 17 years hold little comfort for the former First Lady. Following the deaths of her 4-year old son Eddy in 1850, her son Willie in the White House, the horrific assassination of her beloved husband and lastly, her son Tad when he is 18 years old, Mary Lincoln begins a steady emotional and mental decline. Her son Robert takes legal action to have her declared insane. She spends four months in a private sanatorium until released into the care of her sister Elizabeth Edwards. She passes away in 1882 at her sister's home in Springfield –the same house from which she had walked as the bride of Abraham Lincoln, 40 years before.

The veil shown is worn by Mary to Ford's Theatre the evening of the assassination. After her husband's death, Mary dons' widow's clothes and remains in mourning the rest of her life. She arranges with a broker to sell her old clothing on the advice of her dressmaker and confidant, a former slave Elizabeth Keckley.

(Opposite)

Mary Todd Lincoln. c. 1860-1865. | Image courtesy Library of Congress.

The Drumthwacket Foundation

Founded in 1982, the Drumthwacket Foundation is a 501c3 non-profit, non-partisan organization. Its mission is to increase a sense of pride in New Jersey by preserving the Drumthwacket property and broadening access, furthering awareness and support of the Foundation and its initiatives and expanding civic understanding among New Jerseyans. The Foundation's educational outreach is the Discover Drumthwacket field trip program wherein schools visiting from Title One districts are provided round-trip transportation reimbursement and nutritious lunches. In 2015, the Foundation expanded its educational initiatives by developing in partnership with New Jersey teachers, the on-line module "Eureka! Invention and Innovation in New Jersey." Visit the Foundation's website to view the module and learn more about the Foundation and its' programs.



THE DRUMTHWACKET FOUNDATION

354 Stockton Street, Princeton, New Jersey 08540 | Phone 609.683.0057 | Fax 609.924.4563 | www.drumthwacket.org

