

## EVENTS OF 1876

### National

Centennial of the country – 1876 marked the 100 year anniversary of the Declaration of Independence.

Ulysses S. Grant is finishing his second term as President of the United States.

The disputed election of the fall of 1876 – Both Tilden and Hayes were running for the office of President of the United States. The Results of the election were disputed in several states. Although Tilden won the popular vote, Hayes became the next President, based on the decision of the Electoral Commission.

The Philadelphia Exposition takes place – 50 countries participated and 10 million people visited the 450 acre exposition site. Among the inventions displayed at the event were Alexander Graham Bell's telephone, the typewriter, and the refrigerator car. The state of Iowa had an exhibition at the Exposition.

To see the Iowa building, go to: [www.classicpix.com/catalog/0587171383](http://www.classicpix.com/catalog/0587171383)

Have students guess what may have been put on display by the state of Iowa.

For information on the Exposition, go to: [libwww.library.philagov/CenCol](http://libwww.library.philagov/CenCol)

Also, have students google: "exposition" "Philadelphia" "1876" and ["iowa"]

Colorado became the 38<sup>th</sup> state.

The Battle of Little Bighorn – Also called Custer's Last Stand. This battle took place in the Montana Territory in June 1876. George A. Custer and his federal troops faced Sitting Bull and the Sioux in a confrontation that left every U.S. soldier, including Custer, dead. This confrontation was one of the many occurring during this time period over the Native Americans' right to land.

The U.S. National Baseball League was formed.

Mark Twain published Tom Sawyer.

### Local:

Iowa had been a state for 30 years – it was founded in 1846.

Iowa State Normal School was founded – this later became UNI. A normal school prepared women and men for careers in teaching. For more information on the school and its founding, go to: [www.library.uni.edu/speccoll/homehistorical.html](http://www.library.uni.edu/speccoll/homehistorical.html)

Samuel Kirkwood was elected governor of Iowa for the second time. Kirkwood was Iowa's governor during the Civil War. When he moved to Coralville, he was the part owner and operator of the flour mill. At the time of this election, he lived on Kirkwood Avenue in Iowa City.