

LINCOLN'S SPRINGFIELD

# CHAIR AND CABINET MAKERS

(1831-1860)



Spring Creek Series

Richard E. Hart

Thursday, October 26, 2017



**Front Cover Photograph:** Painted Windsor Style Bench. Abraham Lincoln had this seven-foot long settee made to his order by Springfield chair maker Sullivan Conant. It was painted to match the Lincoln home at Eighth and Jackson in Springfield. It sat on the back (South) porch where it could catch the breeze.<sup>1</sup>

**Back Cover Photograph:** This sofa was made for Abraham Lincoln on his order, he being unable to find one long enough for his use already manufactured. It is of extra length and was made by Springfield chair and cabinet maker Daniel E. Ruckel, and upholstered by his brother, Jacob Ruckel also of Springfield.

No. \_\_\_\_\_ of 15.

*Lincoln's Springfield: Chair and Cabinet Makers (1831-1860)*

Spring Creek Series.

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<sup>1</sup> Lincoln Home National Historic Site, LIHO 5403.





Introduction .....	1
<b>1831 .....</b>	<b>3</b>
John Moore, Springfield's First Cabinet Maker .....	3
James H. Smith and J. B. Moffett .....	3
Smith & Moffett Advertise for Journeymen Cabinet Makers .....	3
Randolph Moore & Thomas Walters Form Cabinet Making Partnership .....	4
B. C. and Elisha Tabor Advertise Cabinet Work .....	5
B. C. and Elisha Tabor Pay Cash for White Walnut .....	5
<b>1832 .....</b>	<b>6</b>
William G. Doyle .....	6
William Shoop .....	6
James H. Smith .....	7
B. C. Tabor and Elisha Tabor Dissolve Partnership .....	7
<b>1833 .....</b>	<b>8</b>
James H. Smith and J. B. Moffett Dissolve Partnership .....	8
James H. Smith .....	8
William G. Doyle .....	9
<b>1834 .....</b>	<b>10</b>
Lack of Advertisements During the Year 1834 .....	10
William G. Doyle Provides Chairs to County Court Room .....	10
Death of William G. Doyle From Cholera .....	10
<b>1835 .....</b>	<b>11</b>
Charles C. Phelps .....	11
Charles C. Phelps and Robert B. Zimmerman Form Partnership .....	12
Charles C. Phelps and W. B. Powell Form Partnership .....	14
<b>1836 .....</b>	<b>15</b>
Ezekiel Pilcher .....	15
Charles C. Phelps and W. B. Powell .....	16
Edmundson & Weber .....	17
W. B. Powell and Charles C. Phelps .....	18
Charles C. Phelps and Robert B. Zimmerman .....	18
Phelps and Powell Dissolve Partnership .....	18
Charles B. Francis and Josiah Francis, Jr. ....	19
Charles B. Francis and Josiah Francis, Jr. ....	20
Charles C. Phelps and Robert B. Zimmerman .....	20
D. F. Grosh .....	21
<b>1837 .....</b>	<b>22</b>
Charles B. Francis and Josiah Francis, Jr. ....	22
Charles B. Francis, Josiah Francis, Sullivan Conant, Elisha Tabor .....	22
Sign Petition Calling For Anti-Slavery Convention .....	22
Transcription of the Lovejoy Broadside .....	23
<b>1838 .....</b>	<b>24</b>
Daniel E. Ruckel and Jacob Ruckel .....	24
Daniel E. Ruckel and Jacob Ruckel Make Sofa for Abraham Lincoln .....	25
Josiah Francis, Jr. ....	26
Josiah Francis, Jr. ....	26
Charles C. Phelps and Robert B. Zimmerman .....	27
<b>1839 .....</b>	<b>28</b>
Hough & Davis Purchase Daniel E. Ruckel & Jacob Ruckel Cabinet Establishment .....	28
Daniel E. Ruckel and Jacob Ruckel Sell Cabinet Shop to Hough & Davis .....	28
Hough & Davis .....	28
John A. Hough .....	29
Hough & Davis .....	29
<b>1840 .....</b>	<b>30</b>
Hough & Davis .....	30
Charles C. Phelps and Robert B. Zimmerman .....	30
John A. Hough .....	30
Josiah Francis, Jr. ....	31
Charles C. Phelps and Robert B. Zimmerman .....	31
Charles C. Phelps .....	31
Ruckel Brothers Move to Sangamo Town .....	32
Zimmerman & Co. ....	32
Josiah Francis, Jr. ....	32
Josiah Francis, Jr. ....	33
Charles C. Phelps .....	33
<b>1841 .....</b>	<b>34</b>
Josiah Francis, Jr. ....	34
Charles C. Phelps .....	34
Hough & Davis .....	34
Charles C. Phelps .....	35

Willard and Zimmerman .....	35
John A. Hough Gives Music Lessons .....	35
<b>1842 .....</b>	<b>36</b>
Josiah Francis, Jr. ....	36
Bankruptcy Notices: Daniel E. Ruckel and Jacob Ruckel .....	36
Ruckel, Bilson & Co. ....	37
John A. Hutchinson .....	37
Ruckel, Billson, & Co. ....	38
Ruckel, Billson, & Co. ....	38
Ezekiel Pilcher .....	39
John A. Campbell, Jr. ....	39
John A. Campbell, Jr. ....	39
Ruckel, Bilson & Co. ....	40
Sullivan Conant .....	40
Hough & Davis .....	41
<b>1843 .....</b>	<b>42</b>
Charles C. Phelps .....	42
Ruckel, Bilson & Co. Partnership Dissolved .....	42
Hutchinson Cemetery Established .....	43
<b>1844 .....</b>	<b>44</b>
Daniel E. Ruckel .....	44
John A. Campbell, Jr. ....	44
John A. Hutchinson .....	45
Sullivan Conant .....	45
<b>1845 .....</b>	<b>46</b>
Charles C. Phelps Moves .....	46
Daniel E. Ruckel .....	46
<b>1846 .....</b>	<b>47</b>
Jacob Ruckel .....	47
Daniel E. Ruckel .....	47
Daniel E. Ruckel .....	47
John A. Hough .....	48
Charles C. Phelps .....	48
Sullivan Conant .....	48
John A. Hutchinson .....	49
<b>1847 .....</b>	<b>50</b>
Charles C. Phelps .....	50
John Hutchinson .....	50
Coffins and lots in the new Burying Ground; Hearse and horses .....	50
Josiah Francis, Jr. ....	50
John A. Hough .....	51
<b>1848 .....</b>	<b>52</b>
John A. Hough and Walter Davis Dissolve Partnership .....	52
Abraham Lincoln's Letter to Walter Davis .....	52
Walter Davis Helps Abraham Lincoln Build a Scale Model of Invention .....	53
John A. Hough .....	54
Charles C. Phelps .....	54
Daniel E. Ruckel .....	54
John A. Hutchinson .....	55
John A. Hough .....	55
John A. Hough .....	55
Daniel E. Ruckel .....	56
John A. Hough .....	56
<b>1849 .....</b>	<b>57</b>
A. & H. Biedler .....	57
John A. Hough .....	58
John A. Hough .....	59
Charles C. Phelps .....	59
Jacob Ruckel .....	59
Daniel E. Ruckel .....	60
John A. Hough .....	60
Sullivan Conant .....	60
Charles C. Phelps .....	61
Daniel E. Ruckel .....	61
Josiah Francis, Jr. ....	62
John A. Hough .....	62
Newspaper Listing of Business Men of Springfield .....	63
<b>1850 .....</b>	<b>64</b>
John A. Hutchinson .....	64
John A. Mason .....	64

City Business Cards Listing Chair and Cabinet Makers .....	65
Daniel E. Ruckel .....	66
John A. Mason .....	66
Charles C. Phelps .....	66
Sullivan Conant .....	67
John A. Mason .....	67
Daniel E. Ruckel .....	68
Death of Mr. Bilson .....	68
<b>1851 .....</b>	<b>69</b>
Hough's Cabinet Establishment Building Sold at Auction .....	69
Charles C. Phelps Moves Again .....	69
John A. Mason .....	70
Sullivan Conant .....	70
Charles C. Phelps .....	70
John A. Mason .....	71
John A. Hough .....	71
Daniel E. Ruckel .....	71
Abraham Lincoln Loans \$300 to Daniel E. Ruckel .....	72
<b>1852 .....</b>	<b>73</b>
Josiah Francis and Charles B. Francis .....	73
John A. Hough .....	73
Hutchinson & Powell .....	74
Daniel E. Ruckel .....	74
Sullivan Conant .....	75
Charles C. Phelps .....	75
John A. Mason .....	75
Daniel E. Ruckel .....	76
John A. Hough .....	76
John A. Mason .....	77
John A. Hough .....	77
Sullivan Conant .....	77
<b>1853 .....</b>	<b>78</b>
John A. Mason .....	78
John A. Mason .....	78
Phelps & Strickland .....	79
John A. Hough .....	80
John A. Mason .....	80
Daniel E. Ruckel .....	81
John Hutchinson .....	81
<b>1854 .....</b>	<b>82</b>
Death of Daniel E. Ruckel .....	82
Estate of Daniel E. Ruckel, Deceased .....	82
Daniel Ruckel Estate Sale Notice .....	82
Williams & Link .....	83
Charles C. Phelps Chest of Drawers .....	84
John A. Hough .....	85
John A. Hough .....	86
Sullivan Conant .....	86
William S. Conant .....	86
<b>1855 .....</b>	<b>87</b>
Phelps & Strickland .....	87
<b>1856 .....</b>	<b>88</b>
John A. Mason .....	88
John A. Hough .....	88
John Hutchinson .....	89
Sale of Real Estate in Daniel E. Ruckel Estate .....	89
Phelps & Strickland .....	90
<b>1857 .....</b>	<b>91</b>
List of Furniture Manufacturers and Dealers .....	91
L. Damours .....	91
Daniel E. Ruckel .....	92
Abraham Lincoln Writes Check to Jacob Ruckel .....	92
Charles C. Phelps (1835-1860) .....	93
John Hutchinson .....	93
John A. Hough .....	94
John A. Hutchinson .....	94
Abraham Lincoln Writes Check to J. A. Hough .....	95
Abraham Lincoln Pays John Hutchinson \$11 .....	95
Abraham Lincoln Loans Jacob Ruckel \$500 .....	95
<b>1858 .....</b>	<b>96</b>

Charles C. Phelps .....	96
Sullivan Conant      E. C. Matheny .....	96
R. B. Bell .....	97
Charles C. Phelps .....	97
Charles C. Phelps .....	98
John A. Hutchinson .....	98
John A. Hutchinson .....	99
Charles C. Phelps .....	99
Charles C. Phelps .....	100
Charles C. Phelps .....	100
<b>1859 .....</b>	<b>101</b>
John A. Mason .....	101
John A. Mason .....	102
Agreement with John Hutchinson Regarding Hutchinson Cemetery .....	102
Williams & Link .....	103
Charles C. Phelps .....	103
<b>1860 .....</b>	<b>104</b>
John A. Hough .....	104
John A. Mason .....	105
William Solle .....	105
Gerhart Westenberger .....	105
<b>1861 .....</b>	<b>106</b>
John A. Hough Invited to Accompany Lincoln on Train to Washington .....	106
John A. Mason Obituary .....	107
Sullivan Conant Obituary .....	108
Jacob H. Ruckel Obituary .....	109
<b>Chair Makers .....</b>	<b>110</b>
<b>Cabinet Makers .....</b>	<b>110</b>
<b>Chronological List of Chair and Cabinet Makers .....</b>	<b>111</b>
<b>List of Chair and Cabinet Makers by Years Worked in Springfield (1831-1860).....</b>	<b>117</b>
<b>Origin of Chair and Cabinet Makers.....</b>	<b>118</b>
<b>Abolitionist Chair and Cabinet Makers .....</b>	<b>118</b>
<b>Abolitionists .....</b>	<b>118</b>
<b>Springfield Anti-Slavery Society .....</b>	<b>118</b>
<b>Second Presbyterian Church.....</b>	<b>118</b>
<b>Signed Lovejoy Petition .....</b>	<b>118</b>
<b>Index</b>	<b>121</b>

## **Introduction**

Skilled craftsmen were a necessity in early Springfield. They provided items and services essential for living, but not otherwise available. Among them were the blacksmith, the tailor, the shoemaker, the butcher, the carpenter, the harness maker, the potter, the barrel maker, the hat maker, the wheelwright, and the chair and the cabinet maker.

Each craftsman learned particular skills from a master craftsman. While being taught, he was called an apprentice. He acquired and learned to use the special tools that were used in his particular "trade," and nowhere else. Literally, they were the tools of the trade. Later, the master craftsman would teach others. This apprentice system originated in the distant past and continues today.

Having a skill gave a craftsman certain freedom not otherwise possible. He could make a living by offering his skills and the products for sale to others. This freed him from the drudgery of common labor, domestic service or life as a farm laborer.

Chair and cabinet makers were among these skilled craftsmen. Before the advent of the mass production of furniture of uniform design, chair and cabinet makers were responsible for the conception and production of handmade furniture. They used their woodworking skills and special tools to create chairs, cabinets and other furniture. Some of them specialized in a particular type of chair or cupboard. Most had very unique and distinctive style and their work can be identified by that style. But no two pieces were exactly alike. Each master cabinetmaker creation was distinct and indeed a unique work of art.

To be successful as a cabinet maker, you not only need to be good with your hands, but you must also have good math and spatial skills. A thorough understanding of the tools you'll use and principles of design are required for a career in woodworking.<sup>2</sup>

This study of Springfield chair and cabinet makers begins in the very young and small village of Springfield in the 1830s and continues through Abraham Lincoln's departure for Washington, D. C. in 1861.

Abraham Lincoln must have been a good judge of chair and cabinet makers. As a young man in Kentucky, Thomas Lincoln, Abraham's father, was trained as a cabinetmaker and he made cabinet furniture in Elizabethtown and Hardin County, Kentucky, Spencer County, Indiana, and Coles County, Illinois. Thomas was a master cabinet maker and his best pieces are equal to or better than those made by any of the Springfield cabinet makers described in this study. Abraham most probably realized the excellent skills of his father compared to most of the Springfield cabinet makers with whom he was familiar.

Abraham Lincoln was personally acquainted with some of those early Springfield cabinetmakers. In 1848, he wrote to Walter Davis from Washington D.C. and as an aside said "Give my good will to Jack..." This was most likely Davis' partner John A. Hough, also a cabinet maker. Also, Daniel and Jacob Ruckel made a special coach for Abraham.

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<sup>2</sup> [https://www.google.com/?gws\\_rd=ssl#q=cabinet+furniture+definition](https://www.google.com/?gws_rd=ssl#q=cabinet+furniture+definition)

Sullivan Conant, Ezekiel Pilcher, John A. Hough and Walter Davis were also friends of Abraham Lincoln. In February 1861, Lincoln invited John A. Hough to accompany him on the train from Springfield to Washington, D. C.

The story of Springfield's cabinet and chair makers opens a window and gives one a small glimpse of the environment of Lincoln's Springfield. Cabinet and chair makers played an important role, as did many other craftsmen, in the common day-to-day life of Springfield residents.

The cabinet and chair makers were respected for their skills, but beyond these skills some actively participated in the Springfield public discourse about slavery. Three of them, Sullivan Conant, Josiah Francis and Elisha Tabor signed the Lovejoy Petition calling for a convention of anti-slavery advocates. They were among the earliest Illinois abolitionists. George Strickland was a member of the Springfield Anti-Slavery Society. Charles C. Phelps was a member of the Second Presbyterian Church (now Westminster Presbyterian), known as the abolitionist church because among its founding members were former members of the First Presbyterian Church who broke from that church over the issue of slavery. Charles's father Ebenezer Phelps was one of the founders and organizers of that church. I do not propose that there is a correlation between chair and cabinet makers and abolitionists, but it is interesting to note the number who were of that mind.

The chair and cabinetmakers left little to document their lives, but they placed wonderfully descriptive advertisements in the two Springfield newspapers of the time.<sup>3</sup> These newspapers have been digitalized and are now searchable thanks to some brilliant souls in Silicon Valley who have developed search technology. It is from those newspapers that I have created this booklet tracing the history of chair and cabinet makers in Lincoln's Springfield.

Note: The dating in this chronology. Most of the advertisements have a date printed at or near the bottom of the advertisement. It is that date and not the actual date of publication that I have used. Also, it is worth noting that the same advertisement may appear more than once, sometimes every day for a month. Therefore, the presence of an advertisement in a given issue of a newspaper does not mean that is the only date that it appeared.

Thank You

I thank those who have contributed information and encouragement to me during this project. Linda Garvert, now retired from the Sangamon Valley Room of the Springfield Lincoln Library, shared various finds and as always pointed me to an important contribution from the rich treasures of that Room. Erika Holtz, the curator of Edwards Place, shares a love and curiosity about the furniture used not only in the beautifully restored Edwards Place, but Springfield in general. I thank her for sharing her knowledge and always joyful encouragement. Susan Haake at the Lincoln Home National Historic Site is the expert on the furniture of the Lincoln Home and she generously and graciously shared her knowledge with me. Debbie S. Hamm has been most helpful in retrieving materials in the Manuscripts Section of the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library. James Cornelius has been my eagle-eyed editor and I thank him for his assistance. Finally, I thank my secretary Sheila Sullivan who is the best proof reader I know.

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<sup>3</sup> The source of the advertisements in this book are from the Springfield newspapers of that time, the *Sangamo Journal* (1831-1847), *Illinois Journal* (1847-1855) and the *Illinois State Journal* (1855-forward) and the *State Register*. I am indebted to the GenealogyBank web site for its treasure of digitalized and searchable newspapers, including those used here.

## 1831

**John Moore, Springfield's First Cabinet Maker**

(1823-1831)

Cabinets

John Moore was Springfield's first cabinet maker, as far as can be determined. He was born on April 20, 1796, in Shoreham, Vermont and came to Springfield where he was married on August 9, 1823, to Mrs. Elizabeth Hawley. I use that marriage date as the date when John is first known as a cabinet maker in Springfield. However, the first written evidence of his being a Springfield cabinet maker appears in the *Sangamo Journal* on December 14, 1831, its first year of publication. In 1831, John was 35 years-old. This study begins from that year.

**James H. Smith and J. B. Moffett**

(1831-1833)

Cabinets

On November 9, 1831, James H. Smith and J. B. Moffett, doing business as Smith & Moffett, placed an advertisement in the *Sangamo Journal*. They announced that their cabinet and furniture manufactory shop was on Fourth Street, near the Public Square. They manufactured cabinet furniture in the "neatest manner."

*Name:* Smith & Moffett Cabinet Shop*Name:* James H. Smith and J. B. Moffett*Date:* November 9, 1831*Location:* Fourth Street, near Public Square.*Type:* Cabinet furniture manufacture and sale

*Sangamo Journal*, November 9, 1831.<sup>4</sup>

**Smith & Moffett Advertise for Journeymen Cabinet Makers****TO JOURNEYMEN CABINET MAKERS**

The subscribers wish to employ two Journeymen Cabinet Makers, who are good workmen Nov. 10 Smith & Moffett.<sup>5</sup>

<sup>4</sup> *Sangamo Journal*, Thursday, January 26, 1832, p. 4.

<sup>5</sup> *Ibid.*

## Randolph Moore & Thomas Walters Form Cabinet Making Partnership

Cabinets  
(1831)

On December 14, 1831, Randolph Moore and Thomas Walters, doing business as Moore & Walters, placed an advertisement in the *Sangamo Journal*. They announced that they had purchased the shop and materials owned by John Moore. It is from this advertisement that we know of John Moore and his cabinet furniture shop located on Main street (now Jefferson Street), one door below Russell's tavern. I find no further record of John Moore's presence in Springfield.<sup>6</sup>

Moore and Walters conducted their business at John Moore's shop site on Main street. They kept on hand sideboards, bureaus, dinning and breakfast tables, stands and bedsteads. They advertised that they had a turning lathe and were prepared to execute plain and fancy turning. Plank and produce were received in payment for work.

**CABINET MAKING,**  
IN ALL ITS VARIOUS BRANCHES.  
**RANDOLPH MOORE & THOMAS WALTERS,** having formed a partnership under the firm of  
**MOORE & WALTERS,**  
And purchased the shop and materials owned by John Moore, (on Main street, one door below Russell's tavern,) are prepared to execute orders for any article of **CABINET FURNITURE** that may be wanted. They intend keeping constantly on hand, and for sale, all articles in their line, such as  
**SIDEBOARDS, BUREAUS, DINING AND BREAKFAST TABLES, STANDS, BEDSTEADS, &c. &c.**  
And will at all times be ready to furnish, on the shortest notice, any article of Furniture which they may not have on hand.  
Having a Turning Lathe attached to their establishment, they are also prepared to execute every kind of  
**PLAIN & FANCY TURNING.**  
As both of the firm profess to be well acquainted with their business, they feel confident of being able to render satisfaction to all those who may favor them with their custom. Their terms will be unexceptionable.  
Plank and Produce will be received in payment for work.  
Springfield, Dec. 14, 1831, 5

*Sangamo Journal*, December 15, 1831.<sup>7</sup>

CABINET MAKING,  
IN ALL ITS VARIOUS BRANCHES.  
RANDOLPH MOORE & THOMAS WALTERS, having formed a partnership under the firm of  
MOORE & WALTERS,  
And purchased the shop and materials owned by John Moore, (on Main street, one door below Russell's tavern,) are prepared to execute orders for any article of CABINET FURNITURE that may be wanted..... They intend keeping constantly on hand, and for sale, all articles in their line, such as  
SIDEBOARDS, BUREAUS, DINING AND BREAKFAST TABLES, STANDS, BEDSTEADS, &c. &c.  
And will at all times be ready to furnish, on the shortest notice, any article of Furniture which they may not have on hand.  
Having a Turning Lathe attached to their establishment, they are also prepared to execute every kind of  
PLAIN & FANCY TURNING.  
As both of the firm profess to be well acquainted with their business, they feel confident of being able to render satisfaction to all those who may favor them with their custom. Their terms will be unexceptionable...

Plank and Produce will be received in payment for work.

Springfield, December 14, 1831.

*Name:* Randolph Moore and Thomas Walters

*Date:* December 14, 1831

*Location:* Main street (Jefferson) one door below Russell's tavern.

*Type:* Cabinet furniture manufacture and sale; sideboards, bureaus, dining and breakfast tables, stands, bedsteads; turning lathe.

<sup>6</sup> *Sangamo Journal*, Thursday, January 26, 1832, p. 4. <http://genealogytrails.com/ill/schuyler/oldsettlersbio2.html>

<sup>7</sup> *Sangamo Journal*, December 15, 1831, p. 3, cl. 3



**B. C. and Elisha Tabor Advertise Cabinet Work**

(1831-1832)

Cabinets

This is the first appearance of the two Tabor brothers, B. C. and Elisha in Springfield. The 1850 Springfield census listed B. C. as a 40-year-old carpenter born in Ohio.

**CABINET WORK.**  
**B. C. & E. TABOR,**  
**R**ESPECTFULLY inform the citizens of Springfield, and its vicinity, that they carry on the above business, one door north of the Post Office, in Springfield, where they can be found at all times.  
 They hope from their experience in business, and prompt attention to orders, to share a part of the public patronage. Their work shall be finished in a style not inferior to any in the western country.  
 All kinds of approved country produce will be thankfully received in payment for work.  
 Dec. 27, 1831. 8

*Sangamo Journal*, December 27, 1831.<sup>8</sup>

*Name:* Cabinet Work

*Name:* B. C. and Elisha Tabor

*Date:* December 27, 1831

*Location:* One door north of the Post Office.

*Type:* Cabinet work

*Age:* B. C. Tabor 21

Elisha Tabor

*Origin:* Ohio

CABINET WORK.

B. C. & E. TABOR

Respectfully inform the citizens of Springfield, and its vicinity, that they carry on the above business, one door north of the Post Office, in Springfield, where they can be found at all times.

They hope from their experience in business, and prompt attention to orders, to share a part of the public patronage. Their work shall be finished in a style not inferior to any in the western country.

All kinds of approved country produce will be thankfully received in payment for work.

December 27, 1831.<sup>9</sup>

In 1832, Elijah Tabor served as a member of the first Board of Trustees of Springfield. In 1833, Elijah Tabor was a charter member of the Christian Church of Springfield.<sup>10</sup>

**B. C. and Elisha Tabor Pay Cash for White Walnut**

CASH

Will be paid for a quantity of thin PLANK, suitable for Cabinet work. White Walnut is preferred.<sup>11</sup>

<sup>8</sup> *Sangamo Journal*, Thursday, January 26, 1832, p. 4.

<sup>9</sup> *Sangamo Journal*, January 5, 1832, p. 3, cl. 4.

<sup>10</sup> *The Christian Church of Springfield, Something of Its Beginning and Growth during the First Sixty Years of Its History 1833-1893*, Charles P. Kane, Journal of the Illinois State Library, Issue 12.

<sup>11</sup> *Sangamo Journal*, January 12, 1832, p. 1, cl. 1. *Juglans cinerea*, commonly known as butternut or white walnut, is a species of walnut native to the eastern United States and southeast Canada. Butternut wood is light in weight and takes polish well, and is highly rot resistant, but is much softer than black walnut wood. Oiled, the grain of the wood usually shows much light. It is often used to make furniture, and is a favorite of woodcarvers.

1832

**William G. Doyle**

(1832-1834)

Chairs

William G. Doyle came to Springfield from Stubenville, Ohio in 1831. I believe that he was the first chair maker in Springfield.

**FANCY AND WINDSOR  
CHAIR MAKING.**  
**T**HE subscriber has commenced the above business in the old court house, on the south east corner of the public square, where he intends keeping constantly on hand a general assortment of  
*Fancy and Windsor Chairs ;*  
 which he will warrant to be of the best materials, and most approved patterns, which he will dispose of on the most accommodating terms. All orders will be thankfully received and punctually attended to.  
**W.M. G. DOYLE.**  
 Springfield, April 4, 1832. 22

Name: Chair Making

Name: William G. Doyle

Date: April 4, 1832

Location: Old court house on southeast corner of Public Square. (northeast corner of 6<sup>th</sup> and Adams)

Type: Fancy and Windsor Chair Making.

Age: 28

Origin: Ohio

*Sangamo Journal*, Thursday, April 5, 1832.<sup>12</sup>

**William Shoop**

Cabinets

(1832)

On June 12, 1832, William Shoop placed an advertisement in the *Sangamo Journal*. He announced that he had commenced the cabinet business. He would trade lumber suitable for cabinet work and furniture. This is the only advertisement placed by Shoop in the Springfield newspaper. Apparently, his cabinet making business was short lived.

**CABINET WORK.**  
**T**HE subscriber has commenced the cabinet business in the building recently occupied by Mr. H. M. Armstrong, near Mr. Washington Iles dwelling house,—where he will execute to order every kind of  
**CABINET WORK,**  
 and warrant the same to be well done.  
 Lumber suitable for cabinet work will be received in exchange for furniture.  
**W.M. SHOOP**  
 Springfield, June 12, 1832. 32.

Name: William Shoop

Date: June 12, 1832

Location: Building recently occupied by H. M. Armstrong, near Washington Iles dwelling.

Type: Cabinet manufacture and sale.

*Sangamo Journal*, June 12, 1832.<sup>13</sup>

<sup>12</sup> *Sangamo Journal*, Thursday, April 5, 1832, p. 3.

<sup>13</sup> *Sangamo Journal*, Friday, July 27, 1832, p. 1.

**James H. Smith**

(1831-1833)

Cabinets

On July 5, 1832, James H. Smith placed two advertisements in the *Sangamo Journal*. He informed the public that he continued in the cabinet business at the shop recently occupied by Smith & Moffett. A second notice stated that he wished to employ three or four good workmen for several months.

**FURNITURE.**—John H. Smith, begs leave to inform the public that he continues to carry on the Cabinet business, at the shop recently occupied by Smith & Moffett, where every article in his line will be manufactured to order, on short notice and in the best manner—and will be disposed of on the most favorable terms.  
Springfield, July 5, 1832. 35

Name: James H. Smith

Date: July 5, 1832

Location: Shop recently occupied by Smith & Moffett. (4<sup>th</sup> near Public Square)

Type: Cabinet ware manufacture and sale.

The first name of “John” in the first advertisement was an error. It should have been “James.”

**To Journeymen  
CABINET MAKERS.**  
THE subscriber wishes to employ three or four good workmen. Employment will be given for several months.  
J. H. SMITH.  
Springfield, July 5, 1832. 35

*Sangamo Journal*, Saturday, January 19, 1833.<sup>14</sup>

**B. C. Tabor and Elisha Tabor Dissolve Partnership**

(1831-1832)

Cabinets

On September 10, 1832, B. C. and Elisha Tabor placed an advertisement in the *Sangamo Journal* announcing that they had dissolved their partnership by mutual consent. All persons who had claims against the firm were to make them immediately. Their presence was short, only about 9 months. There is no further evidence of their presence as cabinet makers in Springfield.

**NOTICE**  
IS hereby given that the Partnership heretofore existing between B. C. & E. TABOR is this day dissolved by mutual consent. All persons having claims against the firm will present them immediately.  
B. C. & E. TABOR.  
September 10, 1832. 46

Name: B. C. Tabor and Elisha Tabor

Date: September 10, 1832

Age: B. C. Tabor 22

Elisha Tabor

Origin: Ohio<sup>16</sup>

*Sangamo Journal*, Saturday, October 6, 1832.<sup>15</sup>

<sup>14</sup> *Sangamo Journal*, Saturday, January 19, 1833, p. 4.

<sup>15</sup> *Sangamo Journal*, Saturday, October 6, 1832, p. 4.

<sup>16</sup> *Sangamo Journal*, January 5, 1832, p. 3, cl. 4.

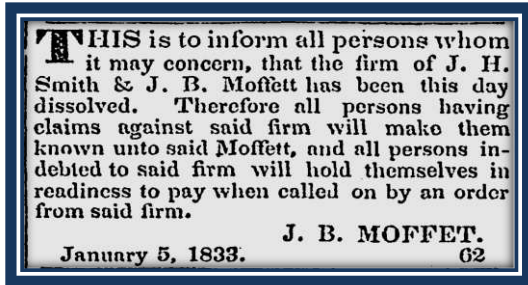
1833

**James H. Smith and J. B. Moffett Dissolve Partnership**

(1831-1833)

Cabinets

On January 5, 1833, J. B. Moffett placed an advertisement in the *Sangamo Journal*. He announced that the firm of J. H. Smith & J. B. Moffett had dissolved their partnership. All persons who had claims against the firm were to make them to Moffett even though he did not continue in cabinet making business and Smith did.



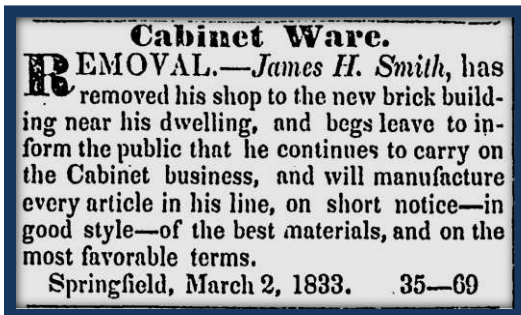
*Sangamo Journal*, Saturday, January 19, 1833.<sup>17</sup>

**James H. Smith**

(1831-1833)

Cabinets

On March 2, 1833, James H. Smith placed an advertisement in the *Sangamo Journal* announcing that he had removed his shop to a new brick building and continued to carry on the cabinet business. This is his last advertisement.



*Name:* James H. Smith

*Date:* March 2, 1833

*Location:* Moved to new brick building near his dwelling.

*Type:* Cabinet manufacture and sale.

*Sangamo Journal*, Saturday, November 2, 1833.<sup>18</sup>

<sup>17</sup> *Sangamo Journal*, Saturday, January 19, 1833, p. 4.

<sup>18</sup> *Sangamo Journal*, Saturday, November 2, 1833, p. 4.

**William G. Doyle**

(1832-1834)

Chairs

On May 3, 1833, William G. Doyle placed a notice in the *Sangamo Journal* that he had moved his shop from the northeast corner of Sixth and Adams Streets to the shop recently occupied by J. N. Ebey, north of the Public Square on the east side of Sixth Street and now the site of the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library. He stated that he would continue to manufacture fancy and Windsor chairs there.

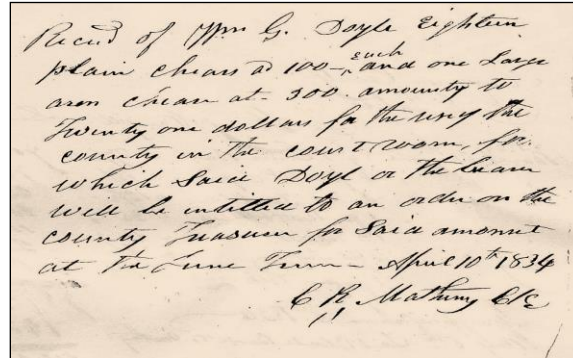
*Name:* Chairs and Sign Painting*Name:* William G. Doyle*Date:* May 3, 1833*Location:* Moved to east side of Sixth Street, between Washington and Jefferson.*Type:* Fancy and Windsor chairs manufacture and sale.*Age:* 29*Origin:* Ohio*Sangamo Journal*, May 3, 1833.<sup>19</sup><sup>19</sup> *Sangamo Journal*, May 3, 1833.



## 1834

**Lack of Advertisements During the Year 1834**

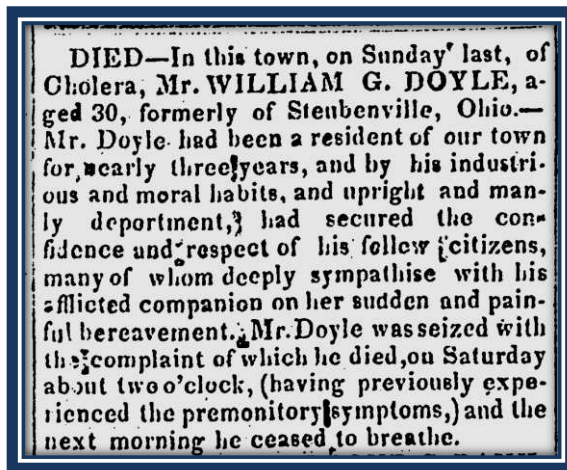
I have found no advertisements that are dated 1834 and published during that year. There are advertisements that are dated other than 1834. It is a mystery as to why this is the case. Perhaps someone else will find such an advertisement, but for now I have none to share.

**William G. Doyle Provides Chairs to County Court Room**

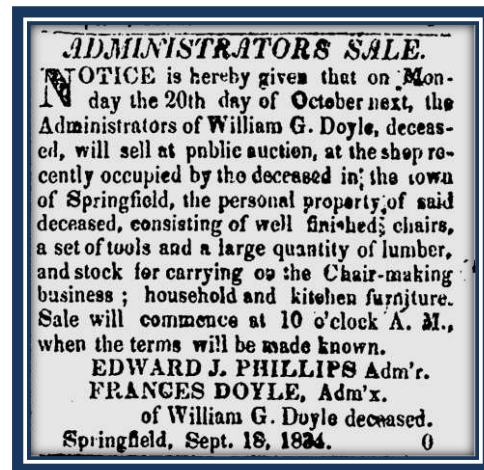
William G. Doyle Provides Chairs to County Court Room-April 10, 1834.<sup>20</sup>

**Death of William G. Doyle From Cholera**

William G. Doyle, age 30, died of cholera in Springfield in early September 1834. Doyle, formerly of Steubenville, Ohio, had lived in Springfield for almost three years. He was "seized with the complaint of which he died, on Saturday about two o'clock and the next morning he ceased to breathe."<sup>21</sup> The administrator's notice of sale states that the sale will consist of: well finished chairs, set of tools, large quantity of lumber, household and kitchen furniture.



Obituary of William G. Doyle  
*Sangamo Journal*, September 18, 1834.<sup>22</sup>



Notice of Administrator's Sale  
*Sangamo Journal*, September 27, 1834.<sup>23</sup>

<sup>20</sup> County Commissioners Records, June Term, 1834. IRAD.

<sup>21</sup> Sangamon County Probate # 182, dated September 7, 1834, IRAD.

<sup>22</sup> *Sangamo Journal*, September 18, 1834, p. 9.

<sup>23</sup> *Sangamo Journal*, September 27, 1834, p. 9.

1835

**Charles C. Phelps**

(1835-1860+)

Chairs

On April 25, 1835, 20-year-old Charles C. Phelps placed an advertisement in the *Sangamo Journal*. It was the first of many to come. He announced that he had moved his shop to the corner of Fourth and Adams Streets. He manufactured fancy and Windsor chairs. He would exchange chairs for two-inch linn plank. He also stated that he would employ two or three journeymen with constant employment and good wages.

*Name:* Charles C. Phelps*Date:* April 25, 1835*Location:* Fourth and Adams Streets*Type:* Fancy and Windsor chairs  
manufacture and sale.*Age:* 20*Origin:* Massachusetts*Sangamo Journal*, May 23, 1835.<sup>24</sup>

Charles C. Phelps was born in Northampton, Massachusetts, on October 24, 1814, and went to school there. Charles' father, Ebenezer Strong Phelps, was born in Northampton, Massachusetts, in 1788. In 1812 he [Ebenezer] married Anna Wright, who was born in Northampton in 1791. They were the parents of seven children, all of whom came to Sangamon County in 1831 with their parents. [including Charles C. Phelps] They traveled in a colony from Massachusetts by way of the New York canal to Buffalo, by lake to Detroit, by land across the country 160 miles and then by canoes down the St. Joseph, Kankakee, and Illinois rivers to the present site of LaSalle, Illinois, where the party arrived on June 29, 1831. They arrived in Springfield on July 26, 1831. He had some capital at the time of his removal to the west and thus he soon gained a good business footing in Illinois.

Charles learned the furniture business when such work was done by hand. On July 31, 1837 in Massachusetts, he married Sophia Little, who was born in Northampton, Massachusetts. Sophia signed the Constitution of the Springfield Anti-Slavery Society, a badge of her support of the anti-slavery movement.<sup>25</sup>

<sup>24</sup> *Sangamo Journal*, May 23, 1835, p. 4.

<sup>25</sup> Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library, Manuscripts Section, SC 3632.

Children: Henry Little Phelps (1845 - 1921); Charles C. Phelps (1851 - 1931); Orrin W Phelps (1854 - 1906)

The family remained in Springfield for seven years and in 1838 moved to Princeton, Illinois, save that Charles C. Phelps remained in Springfield. Ebenezer was a watchmaker. After coming to Springfield, he established a jewelry store, which he conducted until he moved to Princeton in 1838, where conducted the same line of business.

Charles established a furniture business on a small scale and was one of Springfield's pioneer furniture dealers. He remained in that business until his death on March 5, 1866, in Springfield, at age 51 years, 4 months, and 9 days. He is buried in Oak Ridge Cemetery, Springfield, Illinois.<sup>26</sup> His business was carried on at different locations but remained the longest on East Washington Street between Fourth and Fifth Streets.

Charles was the second generation to actively participate in the work of the Second Presbyterian Church (now Westminster Presbyterian Church).<sup>27</sup> On May 26, 1835, Charles' father, Ebenezer Strong Phelps, was one of the founders and organizers of the Second Presbyterian Church. He "left the impress of his individuality upon the moral development here." A well educated man and one of considerable influence, Ebenezer put forth his best efforts for the benefit of the localities where he lived, worthy of emulation.<sup>28</sup>

### **Charles C. Phelps and Robert B. Zimmerman Form Partnership**

(1835-1840)

Chairs

On July 2, 1835, Charles C. Phelps, age 21, and Robert B. Zimmerman, age 23, placed an advertisement in the *Sangamo Journal*. They announced that they had entered into co-partnership to manufacture and furnish Windsor and fancy chairs. The business was located at the corner of Fourth and Adams streets. This was the first appearance of Zimmerman in the Springfield newspapers. The partnership was short lived. Less than two months after this advertisement, a second advertisement dated August 29, 1835 appeared in the *Sangamo Journal* with Phelps operating in partnership with W. B. Powell.

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<sup>26</sup> Burial: Oak Ridge Cemetery Springfield, Sangamon County, Illinois, Plot: Block 11, 65.

<sup>27</sup> *Past and Present of The City of Springfield and Sangamon County Illinois*, Joseph Wallace, M. A., The S. J. Clarke Publishing Co., Chicago, Illinois, 1904.

<sup>28</sup> Oak Ridge Cemetery, Block 11, Lot 65.





*Sangamo Journal* Advertisement Dated July 2, 1835

*Sangamo Journal*, August 16, 1836.<sup>29</sup>

Name: Windsor & Fancy Chair Manufactory

Name: Charles C Phelps and Robert B. Zimmerman

Date: July 2, 1835<sup>30</sup>

Location: Fourth and Adams Streets

Type: Fancy and Windsor chairs manufacture and sale.

Age: Charles C. Phelps 20

Origin: Massachusetts

Age: Robert B. Zimmerman 23

Origin: Pennsylvania

Robert B. Zimmerman, born on October 5, 1811, in Centre County, Pennsylvania, moved to Elmira, New York, where he learned the trades of painter and chair maker. In the summer of 1835, he started west, traveling by stage. He missed his connections at Terre Haute, Indiana. There being but one stage a week, rather than remain idle he and one or two others started on foot. Arriving at the Okaw River in Illinois, they found a company of emigrants from Tennessee, numbering one hundred and twenty wagons, with a corresponding number of men, women and children, all waiting until the men could construct a bridge for the teams to cross. They remained with the emigrants, riding and walking alternately, and reached Springfield on November 18, 1835.

Robert was married on December 25, 1838, at Farmington, now Farmingdale, Sangamon County, to Susan P. Seeley. Susan Zimmerman died on October 30, 1840, leaving one child-Susan L., born on April 4, 1874.

Robert B. Zimmerman was married on October 2, 1845, in Springfield, to Mary C. Townsend, who was born on November 7, 1821, in Caledonia County, Vermont. They had two children, both died young. In November, 1849, Robert and Mary Zimmerman adopted a daughter, Lizzie, when she was but three months old.

Robert B. Zimmerman and Alexander P. Willard were in partnership as painters and dealers in painters' stock twenty-four years, and until the death of Mr. Willard. In 1876, Mr. Zimmerman was yet in business in which he had been more than forty-one years actively engaged in Springfield. He has seen it grow, and had much to do with its growth, from a very small village to a city of twenty-five thousand inhabitants, and from a county seat to be the capital of the fourth State in the American Union. He has been an active and efficient officer of the Second Presbyterian Church for many years; and in proportion to his ability he has probably been the most liberal contributor to its funds.<sup>31</sup>

<sup>29</sup> *Sangamo Journal*, August 16, 1836, p. 4.

<sup>30</sup> Power says that Robert B. Zimmerman arrived in Springfield on November 18, 1835, four months after the date of this advertisement. *History of The Early Settlers of Sangamon County, Illinois*, John Carroll Power, 1876, (Hereinafter *Power*.)

<sup>31</sup> *History of the Early Settlers of Sangamon County, Illinois, 1876*, John Carroll Power, p. 797. (Hereafter referred to as *Power*.)

## Charles C. Phelps and W. B. Powell Form Partnership

### Chairs

On August 29, 1835, Charles C. Phelps and W. B. Powell placed an advertisement in the *Sangamo Journal* announcing that they had entered into a partnership to manufacture and furnish Windsor and fancy chairs. The business was located at the corner of Fourth and Adams streets and was operated under the name Phelps & Powell. They sought to employ a good Windsor or fancy chair maker. (1835-1836)

This is confusing as Phelps had already formed a partnership with Robert B. Zimmerman. Was Phelps running several different chair shops with separate partners for each?



*Name:* Charles C. Phelps and W. B. Powell

*Date:* August 29, 1835

*Location:* Fourth and Adams Streets.

*Type:* Fancy and Windsor chairs manufacture and sale. Also sign, carriage and ornamental painting and cabinet furniture re-varnished and polished. Looking for one good Windsor or Fancy chair maker.

*Age:* Charles C. Phelps 20

*Origin:* Massachusetts

*Sangamo Journal*, August 29, 1835.<sup>32</sup>

George C. Phelps signed the Constitution of the Springfield Anti-Slavery Society, a badge of his support of anti-slavery in early Springfield.<sup>33</sup>

<sup>32</sup> *Sangamo Journal*, August 29, 1835, p. 4.

<sup>33</sup> Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library, Manuscripts Division, SC 3632.

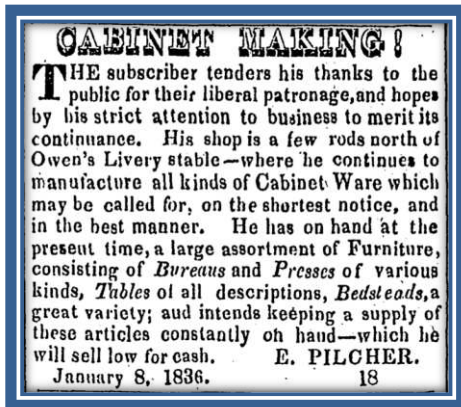
1836

**Ezekiel Pilcher**

(1836-1842)

Cabinets

This is the first advertisement by Ezekiel Pilcher. It says that he “tenders his thanks to the public for their liberal patronage and by strict attention to business to merit its continuance.” This would imply that he had been in the furniture making business for some time.

*Name:* Cabinet Making!*Name:* Ezekiel Pilcher*Date:* January 8, 1836*Location:* few rods north of Owen's livery stable.*Type:* Manufactures all kinds of cabinet ware, bureaus, presses, tables, bedsteads*Age:* 36 (January 4, 1800-December 16, 1858)*Origin:* Kentucky

*Sangamo Journal*, Saturday, January 9, 1836.<sup>34</sup>

Ezekiel Pilcher, son of Shadrach Henry Pilcher and Sarah Proctor, was born on January 4, 1800 in Lexington, Fayette County, Kentucky. Ezekiel and his brother Moses moved to Springfield in about 1824 and lived in a house Ezekiel built on Sixth Street, three blocks north of State House. On May 8, 1825, Ezekiel married Louisa Mossman Ballard who was born on February 28, 1809 in Grayson County, Virginia.<sup>35</sup>

In the 1830 Federal Census, the Pilcher family was living six houses away from C. A. Ballard. The head of the household was Ezekiel who was born in January 1800. Also in the household were his wife, Louisa (Ballard), and their daughter, Mary Jane, who was born on February 5, 1829. The 1840 census was the same, but their daughter is not listed.

In the 1850 census, Ezekiel was a 50-year-old cabinetmaker with \$350 in property. Louisa is listed as a 41-year-old housekeeper. Their ten children (two sets of twins) were enumerated. They lived not far from Abraham Lincoln with whom they were acquainted. Ezekiel, a carpenter, was said to have made furniture for Abraham. Louisa was a staunch friend of Mary Lincoln and their youngest daughter, Clarissa, born in 1845, sat on Abraham's lap.<sup>36</sup> They also lived near the home of Deputy Marshall Peter Van Bergen and his wife Clarissa for whom their youngest child was named. Ezekiel died on December 16, 1858, in Woodburn, Macoupin County, Illinois.<sup>37</sup>

<sup>34</sup> *Sangamo Journal*, Saturday, January 9, 1836, p. 3.

<sup>35</sup> She was the daughter of Christopher Anthony Ballard and Eleanor Mossman.

<http://familytreemaker.genealogy.com/users/s/t/o/Michael-Brian-Stock/WEBSITE-0001/UHP-0030.htm>

<sup>36</sup> Children all born in Springfield, Illinois: Caroline b: 1830; Joseph Warren b: 1832; Richard Montgomery b: 1832; Shadrach Anthony b: 1836; Archibald Mossman b: 1838; Alexander S. b: 1841; Eleanor b: 1843; Edward McCafferty b: 1843; Clarissa VanBergen b: 1845.

<sup>37</sup> *Time Line of the Mossman & Ballard Relations*, compiled by Patricia Peters and Kathleen O'Connell. Information obtained from 'Time Line of the Mossman & Ballard Relations' compiled by Patricia Peters and Kathleen O'Connell. Additional information obtained from 'Ballard' compiled by P. Davidson-Peters (sunnyann@kachina.net) ID: I3023 Louisa and the family then moved to St. Louis where Louisa was listed in the 1860 Federal Census as head of house. Louisa died on December 22, 1872, in St. Louis and was buried at St. Peter's Cemetery there.

**Charles C. Phelps and W. B. Powell**

(1835-1836)

Chairs

On April 30, 1836, Phelps & Powell placed an advertisement in the *Sangamo Journal*. They announced that they had entered into co-partnership and were now prepared to manufacture and furnish Windsor and Fancy Chairs at the corner of Fourth and Adams streets. They also did sign, carriage and ornamental painting and re-varnished and polished cabinet furniture. This advertisement is almost identical with the August 29, 1835 advertisement, different only in its lack of a request for chair makers.



**Chair Manufactory,**

THE subscribers having entered into co-partnership would respectfully inform the citizens of Springfield and adjoining country that they are now prepared to manufacture and furnish Windsor and Fancy Chairs of every description, of a superior style, all of which will be sold very low for Cash or approved credit.

The business will hereafter be conducted under the firm of Phelps & Powell on the corner of 4th and Adams streets.

Also, Sign, Carriage and Ornamental Painting will be done in the neatest manner and on reasonable terms.

N. B. Cabinet furniture will be re-varnished and polished in a superior manner.

April, 1836. PHELPS & POWELL.

*Name:* Chair Manufactory.*Name:* Charles C. Phelps and W. B. Powell*Date:* April 1836*Location:* Fourth and Adams Streets.

*Type:* Fancy and Windsor chairs manufacture and sale. Also sign, carriage and ornamental painting and cabinet furniture re-varnished and polished.

*Age:* Charles C. Phelps 21*Origin:* Massachusetts

*Sangamo Journal*, Saturday, April 30, 1836.<sup>38</sup>

<sup>38</sup> *Sangamo Journal*, Saturday, April 30, 1836, p. 3.



**Edmundson & Weber**

(1836-1836)

Cabinets

**Cabinet Furniture Establishment.**

**EDMUNDSON & WEBER,**

**TAKE** this method to inform the citizens of Springfield and surrounding country, together with all others who may need articles in their line; that they have associated themselves together for the purpose of carrying on the *Cabinet making business*, as extensively as a generous public may require, at the old stand of Joseph Edmundson, several doors south of the public square. They have purchased and expect to receive shortly, a first rate assortment of Mahogany, and will, in a few weeks, commence to manufacture, in a durable and superior style, Sofas and mahogany parlor Chairs, Peer Tables, Side Boards, Secretaries, Book Cases, Wardrobes, ladies' work and writing Stands, Writing and Dressing Bureaus and Tables, Pillar and Claw, Centre, Card, Elliptic and dining Tables, together with every other article in their line; all of which will be disposed of on the most accommodating terms.

**Coffins** of every description will be furnished at the shortest notice. For the accommodation of their customers and others, they are now preparing a neat and substantial hearse, which will be furnished on all necessary occasions with a gentle horse and careful driver.

They have in operation a horse power lathe, and will be at all times ready to execute every description of turning after the most admired patterns.

All kinds of Plank and timber will be taken at the cash prices, for articles manufactured by them.

\*. Every effort on their part, will be made to give perfect satisfaction to all who patronize them; therefore they hope to receive a liberal share of the people's favors. May 4, 1836.

N. B. Two apprentices, from 12 to 16 years of age, will be taken.

35

*Name:* Joseph Edmundson and Weber*Date:* May 4, 1836*Location:* Several doors south of the Public Square.*Type:* Cabinet making business. Sofas, mahogany parlor chairs, pier tables, side boards, secretaries, book cases, wardrobes, ladies' work and writing stands, writing and dressing bureaus and tables, pillar and claw, cense, card, elliptic and dining tables, coffins

Looking for two apprentices 12 to 16 years old.

Horse powered lathe; turning of the most admired patterns.

*Exchange:* plank and lumber for articles manufactured

Advertisement dated May 4, 1836,  
*Sangamo Journal*, August 13, 1836.<sup>39</sup>

<sup>39</sup> *Sangamo Journal*, August 13, 1836, p. 1.

**W. B. Powell and Charles C. Phelps**

(1835-1836)

Chairs

The Phelps partnerships becomes even more confusing when in an advertisement dated the same date—May 6, 1836—Phelps advertised with Powell and Zimmerman. Then on June 15, 1835, Phelps advertised that the partnership with Powell was dissolved.



Name: Charles C. Phelps and  
W. B. Powell

Date: May 6, 1836

Location: Fourth and Adams  
Streets.

Type: Fancy and Windsor chairs  
manufacture and sale.

Age: Charles C. Phelps 21

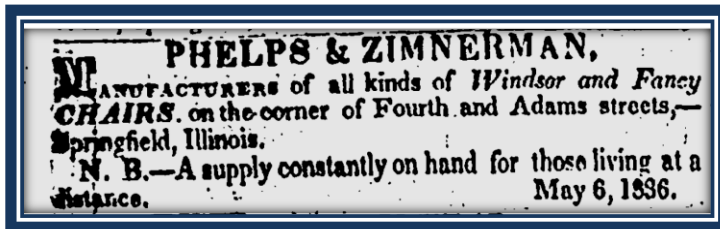
Origin: Massachusetts

*Sangamo Journal*, Saturday, June 4, 1836.<sup>40</sup>

**Charles C. Phelps and Robert B. Zimmerman**

(1835-1840)

Chairs



Name: Charles C Phelps and  
Robert B. Zimmerman

Date: May 6, 1836

Location: Fourth and Adams  
Streets

Type: Fancy and Windsor chairs  
manufacture and sale.

Age: Charles C. Phelps 21

Robert B. Zimmerman 24

*Sangamo Journal* Advertisement Dated May 6, 1836.

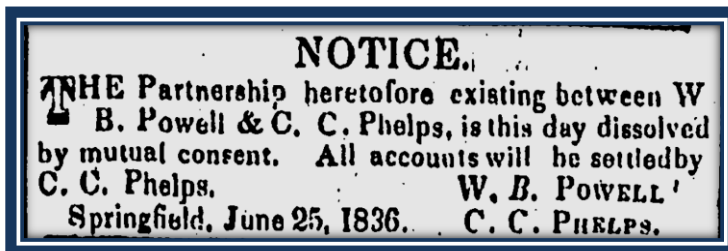
*Sangamo Journal*, October 22, 1836.<sup>41</sup>

**Phelps and Powell Dissolve Partnership**

(1835-1836)

Chairs

On June 25, 1836, W. B. Powell and Charles C. Phelps placed a notice in the *Sangamo Journal*. They announced that the partnership heretofore existing between them was that day dissolved. Phelps was to settle all accounts. The partnership began on August 29, 1835.



Name: Charles C. Phelps and  
W. B. Powell

Date: June 25, 1836

Location: Fourth and Adams  
Streets.

Type: Dissolve partnership.

*Sangamo Journal*, August 20, 1836.<sup>42</sup>

<sup>40</sup> *Sangamo Journal*, Saturday, June 4, 1836, p. 1.

<sup>41</sup> *Sangamo Journal*, October 22, 1836, p. 1.

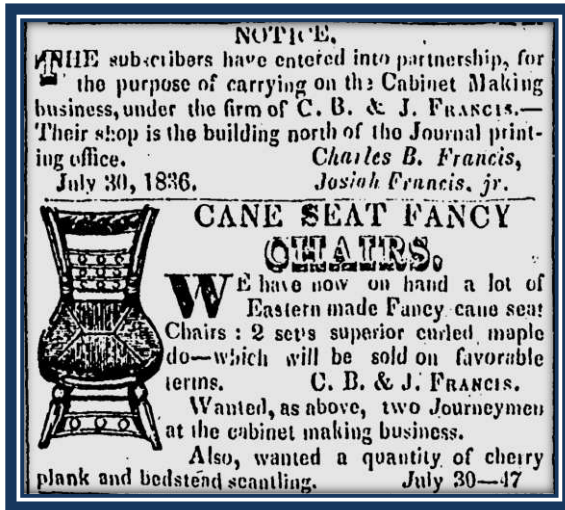
<sup>42</sup> *Sangamo Journal*, August 20, 1836, p. 3.

**Charles B. Francis and Josiah Francis, Jr.**

(1836-1838)

Cabinets

This is the first appearance of two brothers, Josiah and Charles B. Francis. They announced their Cabinet Making business and also sales of eastern made chairs. They also advertised for two journeymen at the cabinet making business and a quantity of cherry plank and bedstead “scantling,” a timber of relatively slight width and thickness, as a stud or rafter in a house frame. From 1836 until 1852, Josiah and Charles manufactured cabinet furniture. In 1852, Josiah began farming four miles northeast of Springfield, near what was German Prairie Station.



*Sangamo Journal*, July 30, 1836.<sup>43</sup>

*Name:* Charles B. Francis and Josiah Francis, Jr.

*Date:* July 30, 1836

*Location:* Building north of Journal printing office; east side of Sixth Street, between Washington and Jefferson. (ALPL)

*Type:* Cabinet manufacture and sale. They also sold "...a lot of Eastern made fancy cane seat chairs, 2 sets superior curled maple chairs

*Wanted:* 2 journeymen at cabinet making business

Cherry plank and bedstead scantling<sup>44</sup>

*Age:* Charles B. Francis 37

Josiah Francis Jr. 35

*Origin:* Massachusetts

Their chairs were made in the East.

**Charles B. Francis**

Charles B. Francis was born on October 30, 1799, in Pittsfield, Massachusetts. He was married there to Roxanna Goodrich. They had two children and moved to Springfield, Illinois, in 1835.

For several years, Charles manufactured cabinet furniture with his brother Josiah. They were distant relatives of Simeon Francis and his brothers, founders of the *Illinois State Journal*. Charles united with others in building, under contract, fifteen miles of the Northern Cross railroad—from New Berlin to Springfield.

Charles B. Francis died on October 10, 1843, in Jacksonville, Illinois, while attending an Illinois Baptist Convention.<sup>45</sup>

**Josiah Francis**

Josiah Francis was born on September 2, 1801, in Pittsfield, Massachusetts. There on December 2, 1824, he married Fidelia Clark, who was born on January 11, 1803, in Westhampton, Hampshire County, Massachusetts. In 1825, they moved to Palmyra, Wayne

<sup>43</sup> *Sangamo Journal*, July 30, 1836, p. 3.

<sup>44</sup> The dimensions of a building material, especially the width and thickness of a timber.

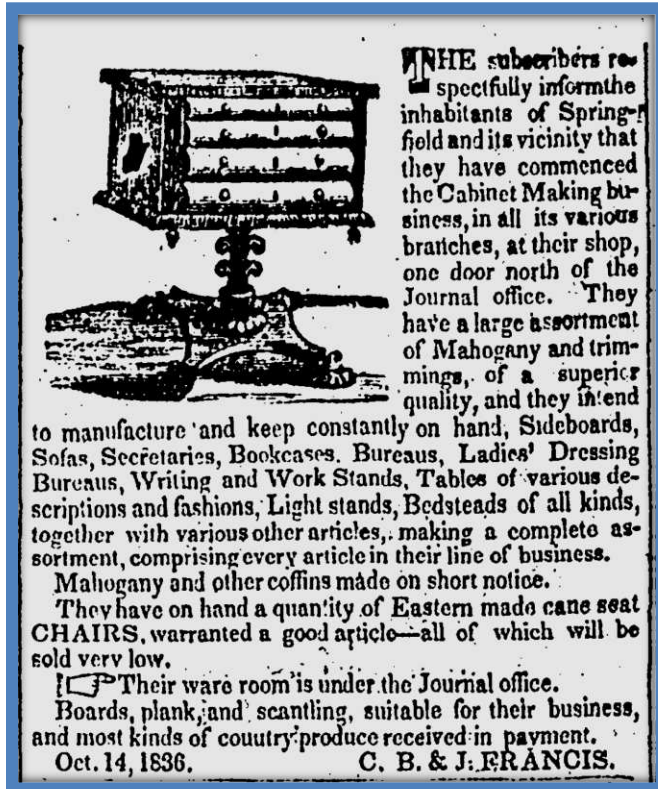
<sup>45</sup> *Power*, p. 316.

County, New York, where they had two children. The family moved to Springfield, Illinois, arriving on June 30, 1836.

### Charles B. Francis and Josiah Francis, Jr.

(1836-1838)

Cabinets



**THE** subscribers respectfully inform the inhabitants of Springfield and its vicinity that they have commenced the Cabinet Making business, in all its various branches, at their shop, one door north of the Journal office. They have a large assortment of Mahogany and trimmings, of a superior quality, and they intend to manufacture and keep constantly on hand, Sideboards, Sofas, Secretaries, Bookcases, Bureaus, Ladies' Dressing Bureaus, Writing and Work Stands, Tables of various descriptions and fashions, Light stands, Bedsteads of all kinds, together with various other articles, making a complete assortment, comprising every article in their line of business. Mahogany and other coffins made on short notice. They have on hand a quantity of Eastern made cane seat CHAIRS, warranted a good article—all of which will be sold very low. Their ware room is under the Journal office. Boards, plank, and scantling, suitable for their business, and most kinds of country produce received in payment. Oct. 14, 1836. C. B. & J. FRANCIS.

*Sangamo Journal*, October 22, 1836.<sup>46</sup>

*Name:* Charles B. Francis and Josiah Francis, Jr.

*Date:* October 14, 1836

*Location:* one door north of Journal office; east side of Sixth Street, between Washington and Jefferson. (ALPL)

*Type:* Sideboards, sofas, secretaries, bookcases, bureaus, ladies' dressing bureaus, writing and work stands, tables of various description, light stands, bedsteads of all kinds; Eastern made cane seat chairs; coffins

*Exchange:* boards, plank and scantiling and country produce

*Age:* Charles 37

Josiah 35

*Origin:* Massachusetts

### Charles C. Phelps and Robert B. Zimmerman

(1836-1840)

Chairs



**PHELPS & ZIMMERMAN**  
MANUFACTURERS of all kinds of WINDSOR and FANCY CHAIRS;  
On the corner of Fourth and Adams streets, Springfield, Illinois.  
N. B. A supply constantly on hand for those living at a distance.  
Chair plank and many kinds of country produce, will be taken for work.  
December 27, 1836.

*Sangamo Journal*, May 20, 1837.<sup>47</sup>

*Name:* Charles C. Phelps and Robert B. Zimmerman

*Date:* December 27, 1836

*Location:* Corner of Fourth and Adams.

*Type:* Windsor and Fancy Chairs.

*Age:* Charles C. Phelps 21

Robert B. Zimmerman 24

*Origin:* Massachusetts and Pennsylvania, respectively

<sup>46</sup> *Sangamo Journal*, October 22, 1836, p. 1.

<sup>47</sup> *Sangamo Journal*, May 20, 1837, p. 4.



**D. F. Grosh**

Athens, Illinois

**CABINET & BEDSTEAD MAKING.**  
**T**HE subscriber, grateful for the patronage that has been extended to the firm of Grosh & Fisher, takes this method of informing the citizens of Athens and surrounding country, that he is prepared and intends to manufacture all kinds of **CABINET FURNITURE**, consisting in part of the following—  
Sofas, Pier Work writing Pillar, and claw tables;  
Side Boards; Secretaries, Book Cases, Wardrobes,  
Bureaus and tables, card and elliptic tables, Dining  
and Breakfast tables' work and writing stands  
Together with all and every article in his line. Coffins  
of every description will be made at the shortest notice.  
He has in operation a Horse Power Lathe, and will at all  
times be prepared to do every description of **TURNING**.  
Lumber suitable for the above business will be received  
in payment for furniture at the highest market price—and  
he will use every exertion to please all who may patronize  
him. **D. F. GROSH.**  
March 31, 1836. 279tf  
**W**anted immediately, two journeymen to the above  
business.

Name: D. F. Grosh

Date: March 31, 1836

Location: Athens, Illinois.

Type: Cabinet Furniture

manufacture and sale and Sofas,  
Pier Work, Writing Pillar and  
claw tables; bureaus and tables,  
card and elliptic tables, dining  
and breakfast tables and writing  
stands and coffins.

Horse Power Lathe.

Cabinets

*Sangamo Journal*, May 20, 1837.<sup>48</sup>

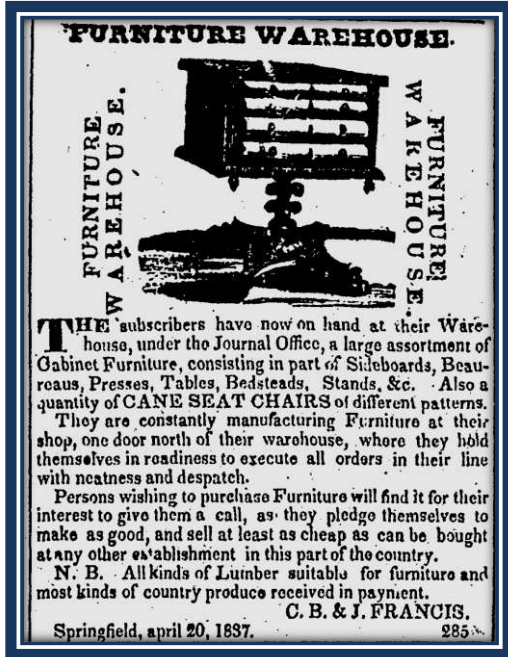
<sup>48</sup> *Sangamo Journal*, May 20, 1837, p. 4.

1837

**Charles B. Francis and Josiah Francis, Jr.**

(1836-1838)

Cabinets

*Name:* Furniture Warehouse*Name:* Charles B. Francis and  
Josiah Francis, Jr.*Date:* April 20, 1837*Location:* Warehouse: Under *Journal*  
printing office; east side of Sixth  
Street, between Washington and  
Jefferson. Manufacturing one door  
north of warehouse.*Type:* Furniture Warehouse.Manufacture and sale of Cabinet  
furniture, Sideboards, Bureaus,  
presses, tables, bedsteads, stands, and  
Cane Seat Fancy Chairs sale.*Exchange:* lumber and country produce.*Age:* Charles B. Francis 38

Josiah Francis, Jr. 36

*Origin:* Massachusetts*Sangamo Journal*, April 22, 1837.<sup>49</sup>**Charles B. Francis, Josiah Francis, Sullivan Conant, Elisha Tabor  
Sign Petition Calling For Anti-Slavery Convention**

In September 1837, Charles B. Francis, Josiah Francis, Sullivan Conant, and Elisha Tabor were among those Illinois residents who signed the Lovejoy Petition calling for a convention of anti-slavery advocates at Upper Alton. Charles B. Francis and Josiah Francis also subscribed to *Genius of Universal Emancipation*, a Quaker anti-slavery newspaper. Both of these actions are evidence that these Springfield cabinet makers were active abolitionists.

I hope that in view of the fact, that the "Observer" Press has been THREE TIMES destroyed in Alton, in the space of little more than one year, it will not be deemed out of place, for me, in this special manner to call upon the friends of law, of order, of equal rights, and of free discussion, to rally at the proposed Convention in numbers and with a zeal corresponding to the urgency of the crisis. our dearest rights are at stake--rights, which as American Citizens ought to be dearer to us than our lives. take away the right of FREE DISCUSSION--the right under the laws, freely to utter and publish such sentiments as duty to god and the fulfilment [sic] of a good conscience may require, and we have nothing left to struggle for. Come up then, ye friends of God and man! come up to the rescue, and let it be known whether the spirit of freedom yet presides over the destinies of Illinois, or whether the "dark spirit" of Slavery has already so far diffused itself through our community, as that the discussion of the inalienable rights of man can no longer be tolerated.

Elijah P. Lovejoy  
Alton, September 27, 1837

<sup>49</sup> *Sangamo Journal*, April 22, 1837, p. 3.

## Transcription of the Lovejoy Broadside

Alton Observer

Extra

Alton, September 28, 1837

### STATE CONVENTION.

The present aspect of the slavery question in this country, and especially in this State, is of commanding interest to us all. No question is, at the present time, exerting so strong an influence upon the public mind as this. The whole land is agitated by it. We cannot, nor would we remain indifferent spectators in the midst of developments so vitally interesting to us all, as those which are daily taking place in relation to the system of American Slavery.-- We have duties to perform, as Christians and as Patriots, which call for united wisdom, counsel and energy of action.

The undersigned would, therefore, respectfully call a meeting of the friends of the slave and of free discussion in the State of Illinois, to meet in Convention at Upper Alton, on the last Thursday of October. It is intended that this Convention should consist of all those in the State who believe that the system of American Slavery is sinful and ought to be immediately abandoned, however diversified may be their views in other respects. It is desirable that the opponents in this State of Domestic Slavery--all who ardently long and pray to witness its *immediate* abolition, should co-operate together in their efforts to accomplish it. We therefore hope that all such will make it a point of duty to attend the Convention, not thereby feeling that they are pledged to any particular course of action, but that they may receive as well as impart the benefit of mutual counsel and advice.

It is earnestly to be hoped that there will be a full attendance at the Convention. Let all who feel deeply interested in this cause, not only attend themselves, but stir up their neighbors to attend also. And let each one remember that this call cannot be repeated. But for the destruction of the "Observer" press it would have been circulated some time since. it is hoped, that it will have some time to circulate in season to bring together a large number of our friends from all parts of the State.

Lyman Washburn<sup>50</sup>

Springfield  
Z. Hallock  
E. [Eliphalet] B. Hawley  
R. [Roswell] P. Abel  
Roswell Abel  
W. [William] M. Cowgill  
Isaac Bancroft, Jr.  
Jonathan C. Bancroft  
Oliver B. Culver  
J. [John] B. Watson  
J. Stephenson  
\*C. [Charles] B. Francis  
J. G. Rawson  
Joseph Taney  
Edmund R. Wiley  
James Pratt  
\*Josiah Francis  
\*Elisha Tabor  
Geo. N. Kendall  
\*S. Conant  
E. [Erastus] W. Thayer

\*Chair and cabinet makers in Springfield.

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<sup>50</sup> Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library, Manuscripts Division, Springfield, Illinois.

1838

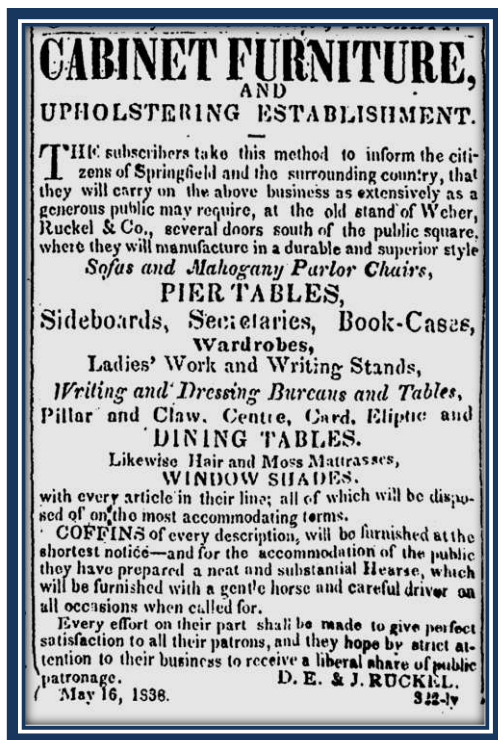
**Daniel E. Ruckel and Jacob Ruckel**

(1838-1839)

Cabinets

On May 16, 1838, two brothers, Daniel E. and Jacob Ruckel, advertised their cabinet making business. This is the first advertisement of an ancillary business, coffin making. This was a natural adjunct to cabinet making and as we go forward, will see that this is true of many cabinet makers. One in fact opened a cemetery to integrate his cabinet business with undertaking.

When the two brothers came to Springfield they engaged in cabinet-making, and about 1840 went to Sangamo Town, west of Springfield on the Sangamon River. There for about three years (1840-1843), they ran a saw mill and manufactured cabinet furniture. In 1843, they returned to Springfield where Jacob changed to upholstery and paper hangings of every variety.<sup>51</sup>



*Name:* Cabinet Furniture and Upholstering Establishment

*Name:* Daniel E. and Jacob Ruckel

*Date:* May 16, 1838

*Location:* Several buildings south of Public Square. The old stand of Weber, Ruckel & Co.

*Type:* Cabinet furniture and upholstery establishment. Sofas, mahogany parlor chairs, pier tables, sideboards, secretaries, book cases, wardrobes, Ladies' work and writing stands. Coffins and hearse.

*Age:* Daniel E. Ruckel 27

Jacob Ruckel 23

*Origin:* New York City

*Sangamo Journal*, May 19, 1838.<sup>52</sup>

**Daniel E. Ruckel**

Daniel E. Ruckel was born on May 5, 1811, in New York City. Catharine V. G. Forbes was also born there on February 8, 1812. They were married on April 22, 1834, and had one child in New York. Daniel came to Springfield in the fall of 1836, and his wife and child came the next spring with his brother Jacob. Daniel E. Ruckel died in Springfield, on April 9, 1854.<sup>53</sup>

<sup>51</sup> Power, p. 632.

<sup>52</sup> *Sangamo Journal*, May 19, 1838, p. 2.

<sup>53</sup> Power, p. 631.

## Jacob Ruckel

Jacob Ruckel was born on October 27, 1815, in New York City, and came to Springfield, Illinois, in the spring of 1837. He was married near Farmington - now Farmingdale - to Laura A. Stone. They had five children: Samuel, Fanny A., Walter B., John H. and Joseph B.

### Daniel E. Ruckel and Jacob Ruckel Make Sofa for Abraham Lincoln



*The "Lincoln Sofa," built by Jacob Ruckel circa 1838, was in the office of former U.S. Congressman Paul Findley, Jacksonville, Illinois.*

John E. Roll said that Abraham Lincoln and he were intimate friends from the year 1831 to the day of Lincoln's death. To have a keepsake to remember his old friend, Roll purchased the mahogany veneered, haircloth covered sofa, which Lincoln used in his law office in Springfield. Presumably this was done in 1861 when then-president-elect Lincoln sold much of his furniture in preparation for his move to Washington, D.C.<sup>54</sup>

The sofa was made for Lincoln on his order, he being unable to find one long enough for his use already manufactured. The sofa is of extra length and was made by Daniel E. Ruckel, and upholstered by his brother, Jacob Ruckel of Springfield, Illinois.

The import of this sofa is not immediately apparent; it seems to be just another piece of furniture Lincoln owned, remarkable only because Lincoln once relaxed there. And so it would be, had the sofa been purchased in 1847 or 1857, when Lincoln was an established lawyer with a home of his own and a secure place among Springfield's social elite. In 1837, however, Lincoln was a stranger in Springfield, untried as a lawyer, unproven as a gentleman, and years away from marriage and homeownership. Sofas, at that time, carried connotations of affluence and refinement (as did all upholstered furniture) and were found only in the homes of the wealthy, where gentlefolk displayed their refined manners through upright and controlled posture while sitting. Why, then, did the man who moved to town on a borrowed horse with all his worldly belongings stuffed into two saddlebags buy such

<sup>54</sup> On May 12, 1886, Roll sold the sofa to John W. Keys, of Chicago, Illinois, who kept it as part of the Lincoln Memorial Collection until 1894, when it was sold at auction by Stan Henkels. The buyers were William Potter and Lewis Clark Vanuxem. Vanuxem died in 1904, and in 1914 his heirs, along with Potter, donated the sofa to the Pennsylvania Historical Society. Findley bought the sofa from the Society in 1978 and displayed it in his Washington, D.C., congressional office until his retirement.



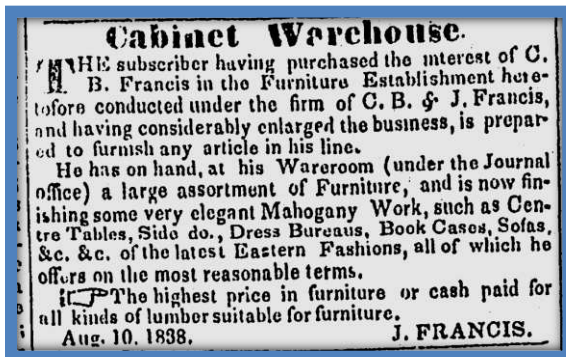
a monumental, expensive, and elegant a piece of furniture? And why did Lincoln custom-order a sofa long enough for him to stretch out fully, and proceed to ignore—or defy—nineteenth-century standards of deportment by reclining on his sofa in the presence of others?

...Lincoln's sofa can be viewed as a rhetorical statement expressing his aspiration to gentility. Part of the post-Revolutionary generation, Lincoln was reared in a culture of expanding economic opportunities, where social boundaries were fluid, and good character, motivation, and work ethic supplanted family fortune as the key to success. In this era of the "self-made man," Lincoln took advantage of the opportunity to make something of himself, completing the transition from a rural laborer to an urban professional before his thirtieth birthday.<sup>55</sup>

### Josiah Francis, Jr.

(1836-1852)  
Cabinets

In August 1838, Josiah Francis bought out Charles B. Francis' interest in the furniture business they had conducted. Josiah continued to operate the business by himself. This is the first advertisement by Josiah without his brother Charles.



*Sangamo Journal*, Friday, April 26, 1839.<sup>56</sup>

Name: Cabinet Warehouse

Name: Josiah Francis, Jr.

Date: August 10, 1838

Location: Under *Journal* printing office; east side of Sixth Street, between Washington and Jefferson.

Type: Mahogany work, centre tables, side tables, dress bureaus, book cases, sofas, etc.

Exchange: lumber exchanged for furniture

Age: 37

Origin: Massachusetts

### Josiah Francis, Jr.

Chairs



*Sangamo Journal*, October 13, 1838.<sup>57</sup>

Name: Cane Seat Chairs

Name: Josiah Francis, Jr.

Date: September 19, 1838

Location: Under *Journal* printing office; east side of Sixth Street, between Washington and Jefferson.

Type: Curl and birds-eye maple Cane Seat Chairs sale.

Age: 37

Origin: Massachusetts (1836-1852)

<sup>55</sup> Lincoln's Pursuit of "Egalitarian Refinement Evidence from His Mahogany Sofa, Erika Nunamaker, winter 2007 issue of the Journal of the Abraham Lincoln Association.

<sup>56</sup> *Sangamo Journal*, Friday, April 26, 1839, p. 1.

<sup>57</sup> *Sangamo Journal*, October 13, 1838, p. 3.

**Charles C. Phelps and Robert B. Zimmerman**

(1836-1840)

Chairs



*Sangamo Journal*, December 1, 1838.<sup>58</sup>

*Name:* Springfield Chair Factory

*Name:* Charles C. Phelps and  
Robert B. Zimmerman

*Date:* November 30, 1838

*Location:* At the sign of the Large Chair  
southeast of the Eagle Tavern.

*Type:* manufacture and sale: fancy, cottage and  
Windsor chairs; rocking chairs and settees.

*Exchange:* chair plank in exchange for chairs

*Age:* Charles C. Phelps 23

Robert B. Zimmerman 26

*Origin:* Massachussets

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<sup>58</sup> *Sangamo Journal*, December 1, 1838, p. 1.

1839

## Hough & Davis Purchase Daniel E. Ruckel & Jacob Ruckel Cabinet Establishment Cabinets

On April 4, 1839, Hough & Davis placed an advertisement in the *Sangamo Journal*. They announced that they had purchased the entire interest of D. E. & J. Ruckel in the "Cabinet Establishment" formally carried on by them.



*Sangamo Journal*, Friday, May 31, 1839.<sup>59</sup>

Name: Cabinet Furniture

Name: John A. Hough and  
Walter Davis

Date: April 4, 1839.

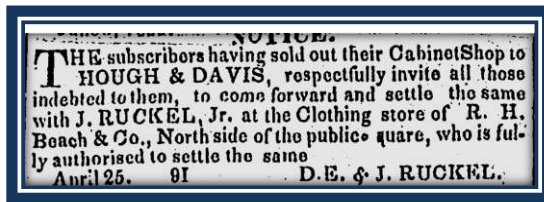
Notice that have purchased D. E.  
& J. Ruckel Cabinet Establishment

Type: Turning

Age: John A. Hough 24

Origin: Virginia

## Daniel E. Ruckel and Jacob Ruckel Sell Cabinet Shop to Hough & Davis Cabinets



*Sangamo Journal*, Friday, September 13, 1839.<sup>60</sup>

Name: Daniel E. and Jacob Ruckel

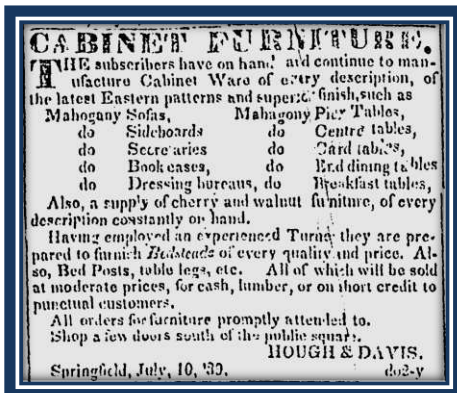
Date: April 25, 1839

Age: Daniel E. Ruckel 28

Jacob Ruckel 24

Origin: New York City

## Hough & Davis (1839-1848) Cabinets



*Sangamo Journal*, Friday, July 12, 1839.<sup>61</sup>

Name: Cabinet Furniture

Name: John A. Hough and Walter Davis

Date: July 10, 1839.

Location: a few doors south of the Public  
Square

Type: Cabinet furniture; turning; manufacture  
and sale, mahogany sofas, sideboards,  
secretaries, book cases, dressing bureaus,  
pier table, centre tables, card tables, end  
dining tables, breakfast tables; cherry and  
walnut furniture of every description.

Turner; bedsteads, bed posts, table legs

Age: John A. Hough 24

Origin: Virginia

<sup>59</sup> *Sangamo Journal*, Friday, May 31, 1839, p. 1.

<sup>60</sup> *Sangamo Journal*, Friday, September 13, 1839, p. 4.

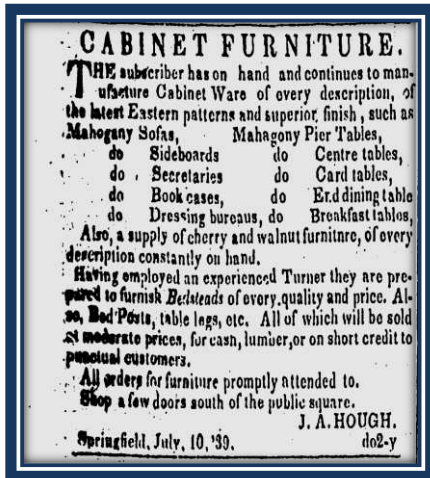
<sup>61</sup> *Sangamo Journal*, Friday, July 12, 1839, p. 3.



**John A. Hough**

(1839-1860+)

Cabinets

*Name:* John A. Hough*Date:* July 10, 1839*Location:* a few doors south of the public square*Type:* Cabinet furniture; turning; manufacture and sale.

Mahogany sofas, sideboards, secretaries, book cases, dressing bureaux, pier table, centre tables, card tables, end dining tables, breakfast tables; cherry and walnut furniture of every description.

Turner

*Age:* 24*Origin:* Virginia*Sangamo Journal*, Friday, October 9, 1840.<sup>62</sup>

J. A. Hough came to Springfield in 1839, and has been continuous in the furniture trade from that to the present time — thirty-two years. He is without doubt the oldest furniture dealer in Central Illinois. His sales amount to about \$30,000 annually.<sup>63</sup>

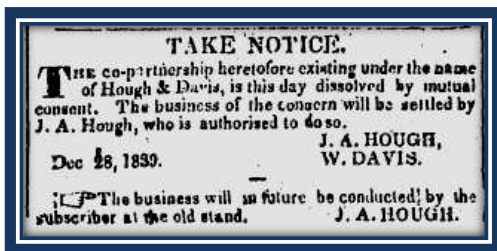
John "Jack" A. Hough, was a cabinet maker in early Springfield. He eventually was a furniture dealer on the west side of 5th Street between Adams and Monroe. He lived on the south side of Monroe, between \_\_\_th and 9th. John A. Hough died at his residence, corner Union and Fourth streets, last night, on February 13, 1879 at age 64, after a lingering illness. He was born in Virginia.<sup>64</sup>

Jack Hough had a furniture and cabinet-making shop in Springfield. Mrs. Francis Ide has a memento of those early days in the shape of a mahogany bureau, with quaint, round pillars supporting a long, narrow mirror, larger pillars upholding the drawers. It is, I think, the most expensive piece of furniture in town, since Major Stuart gave Jack Hough the block of land extending from Sixth street to Seventh street, on which are the old Vredenburg residence, the Edward Keys' home, and the Roberts' residence and, of course, all between those buildings both on Sixth and Seventh streets, for it.<sup>65</sup>

**Hough & Davis**

(1839-1848)

Cabinets

*Name:* Co-Partnership Dissolved*Name:* John A. Hough and Walter Davis*Date:* December 28, 1839.*Age:* John A. Hough 24*Origin:* Virginia*Sangamo Journal*, Tuesday, January 21, 1840.<sup>66</sup><sup>62</sup> *Sangamo Journal*, Friday, October 9, 1840, p. 1.<sup>63</sup> <http://archive.org/details/historyofspringOOpowe> *History Springfield, Illinois, its attractions as a home and. advantages for business, manufacturing-, etc.,* published by J. C. Power, Springfield, Illinois State Journal Print, 1871.<sup>64</sup> Burial: Oak Ridge Cemetery Springfield, Illinois, Plot: Block 12, Lot 65. *Journal*, February 14, 1879.<sup>65</sup> *Springfield Society before the Civil War*, Caroline Owsley Brown, *Journal of the Illinois State Historical Society* (1908-1984), Vol. 15, No. 1/2 (Apr. - Jul., 1922), pp. 477-500, 481.<sup>66</sup> *Sangamo Journal*, Tuesday, January 21, 1840, p. 3.

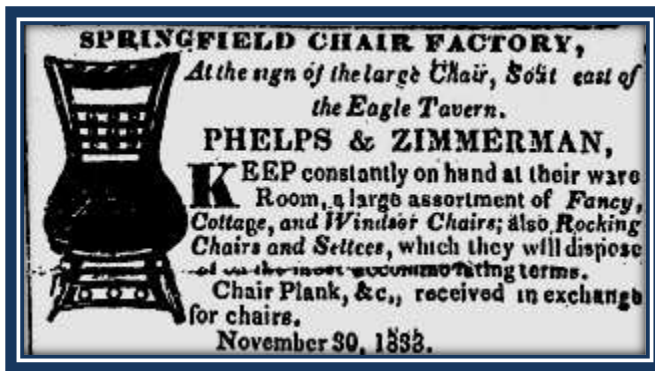
**1840**  
**Hough & Davis**  
(1839-1848)  
Undertakers



Journal, Friday, January 3, 1840.<sup>67</sup>

Name: John A. Hough and Davis  
Date: 1840  
Location: a few doors south of the Public Square  
Type: Undertakers  
Age: Hough 25  
Origin: Hough Virginia

**Charles C. Phelps and Robert B. Zimmerman**  
(1836-1840)  
Chairs



Sangamo Journal, Tuesday, January 14, 1840.<sup>68</sup>

Name: Springfield Chair Factory  
Name: Charles C. Phelps and Robert B. Zimmerman  
Date: November 30, 1838, but still running on January 14, 1840  
Location: At the sign of the Large Chair southeast of the Eagle Tavern.  
Type: manufacture and sale: fancy, cottage and Windsor chairs; rocking chairs and settees.  
Exchange: chair plank in exchange for chairs  
Age: Charles C. Phelps 25  
Robert B. Zimmerman 28  
Origin: Massachusetts Phelps  
Pennsylvania Zimmerman

**John A. Hough**  
(1839-1860+)  
Undertakers



Sangamo Journal, Friday, February 28, 1840.<sup>69</sup>

Name: John A. Hough  
Date: February 28, 1840  
Location: a few doors south of the Public Square  
Type: Undertaker  
Age: 25  
Origin: Virginia

<sup>67</sup> Sangamo Journal, Friday, January 3, 1840, p. 1.

<sup>68</sup> Sangamo Journal, Tuesday, January 14, 1840, p. 1

<sup>69</sup> Sangamo Journal, Friday, February 28, 1840, p. 3

**Josiah Francis, Jr.**

(1836-1852)

Cabinets



*Sangamo Journal*, Friday, February 28, 1840.<sup>70</sup>

*Name:* Cabinet Ware Manufacturer

*Name:* Josiah Francis, Jr.

*Date:* August 23, 1840

*Location:* Building north of *Journal* printing office; east side of Sixth Street, between Washington and Jefferson.

*Type:* Cabinet makeer

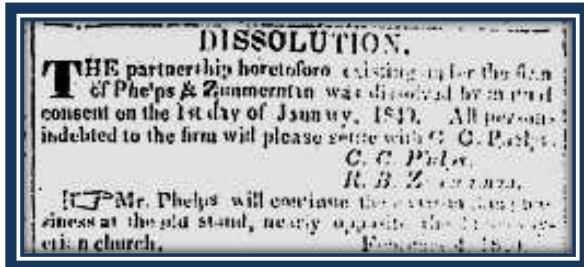
*Age:* 39

*Origin:* Massachusetts

**Charles C. Phelps and Robert B. Zimmerman**

(1836-1840)

Chairs



*Sangamo Journal* Friday, March 13, 1840.<sup>71</sup>

*Name:* Co-Partnership Dissolved

*Name:* Charles C. Phelps and Robert B. Zimmerman

*Date:* February 4, 1840

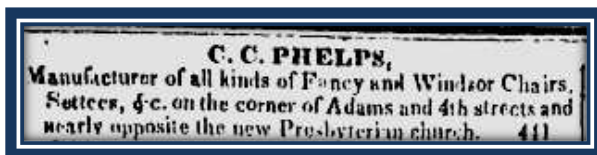
*Age:* Phelps 26

*Origin:* Phelps Massachusetts

**Charles C. Phelps**

(1835-1860+)

Chairs



*Journal*, Friday, April 17, 1840.<sup>72</sup>

*Name:* Charles C. Phelps

*Date:* April 17, 1840

*Location:* corner of Adams and 4<sup>th</sup> streets nearly opposite new Presbyterian church

*Type:* Manufacturer of all kinds of Fancy and Windsor Chairs. Settees

*Age:* 26

*Origin:* Massachusetts

<sup>70</sup> *Sangamo Journal* Friday, February 28, 1840, p. 3

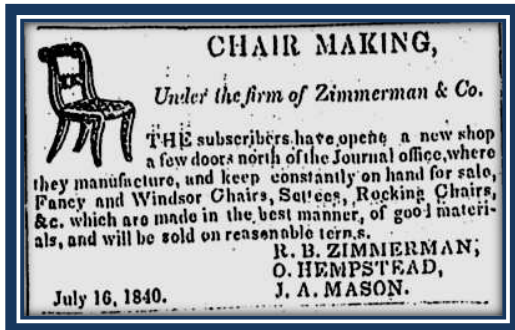
<sup>71</sup> *Sangamo Journal* Friday, March 13, 1840, p. 1

<sup>72</sup> *Sangamo Journal*, Friday, April 17, 1840, p. 1

## Ruckel Brothers Move to Sangamo Town (1840-1842)

In about 1840, brothers Daniel and Jacob Ruckel moved to Sangamo Town, west of Springfield on the Sangamon River. There they ran a sawmill and manufactured cabinet furniture. In 1842, they returned to Springfield.<sup>73</sup>

### Zimmerman & Co. Chairs



*Journal*, Friday, January 29, 1841.<sup>74</sup>

Name: Zimmerman & Co.

Name: Robert B. Zimmerman,

O. Hempstead, and John A. Mason

Date: July 16, 1840

Location: A few doors north of the *Journal* office; east side of Sixth Street, between Washington and Jefferson.

Type: Chair making, Fancy and Windsor Chairs, Settees, Rocking Chairs

Exchange: furniture exchanged for lumber

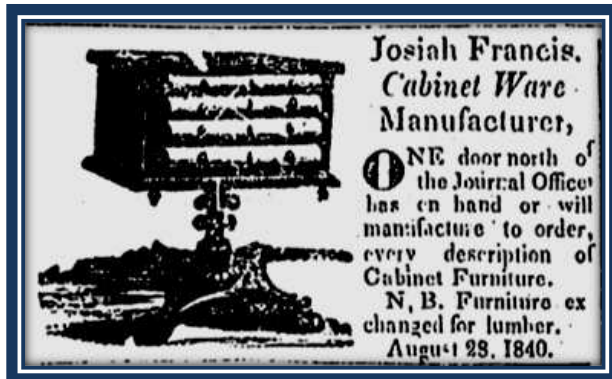
Age: Robert B. Zimmerman 28

John A. Mason 25

Origin: Mason Vermont

Zimmerman Massachusetts

### Josiah Francis, Jr. (1836-1852) Cabinets



*Journal*, Friday, January 29, 1841.<sup>75</sup>

Name: Cabinet Ware Manufacturer

Name: Josiah Francis, Jr.

Date: August 23, 1840

Location: Building north of *Journal* printing office; east side of Sixth Street, between Washington and Jefferson.

Type: Cabinet furniture manufacture and sale

Exchange: furniture for lumber

Age: 39

Origin: Massachusetts

<sup>73</sup> Power, p. 632.

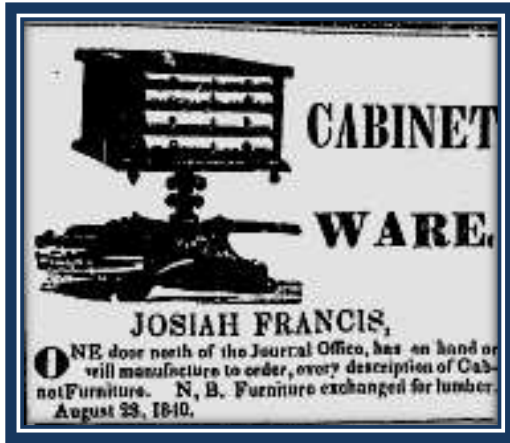
<sup>74</sup> *Sangamo Journal*, Friday, January 29, 1841, p. 1.

<sup>75</sup> *Ibid.*

**Josiah Francis, Jr.**

(1836-1852)

Cabinets



*Name:* Cabinet Ware Manufacturer

*Name:* Josiah Francis, Jr.

*Date:* August 23, 1840

*Location:* One door north of *Journal* office; east side of Sixth Street, between Washington and Jefferson.

*Type:* Cabinet furniture manufacture and sale

*Exchange:* furniture for lumber

*Age:* 39

*Origin:* Massachusetts

*Sangamo Journal*, Friday, December 4, 1840.<sup>76</sup>

**Charles C. Phelps**

(1835-1860+)

Chairs



*Name:* Charles C. Phelps

*Date:* November 13, 1840

*Location:* opposite the 2<sup>nd</sup> Church

*Type:* Fancy and Windsor chairs manufacture.

*Age:* 26

*Origin:* Massachusetts

*Sangamo Journal*, Friday, November 13, 1840.<sup>77</sup>

<sup>76</sup> *Sangamo Journal*, Friday, December 4, 1840, p. 3.

<sup>77</sup> *Sangamo Journal*, Friday, November 13, 1840, p. 1.

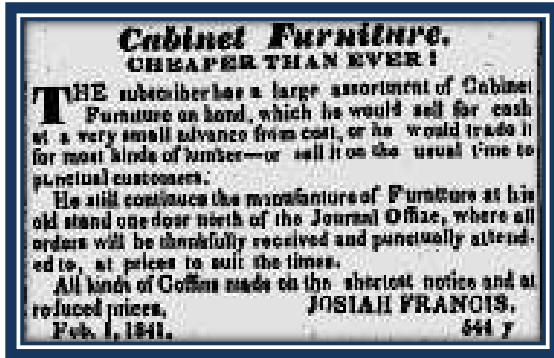


1841

**Josiah Francis, Jr.**

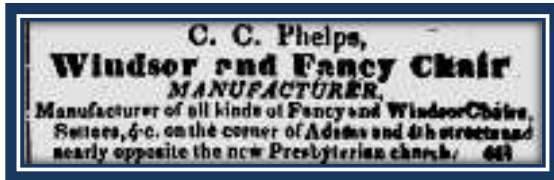
(1836-1852)

Cabinets

*Name:* Cabinet Furniture*Name:* Josiah Francis, Jr.*Date:* February 1, 1841*Location:* One door north of *Journal* office; east side of Sixth Street, between Washington and Jefferson.*Type:* Cabinet furniture manufacture and sale*Exchange:* furniture for lumber*Age:* 40*Origin:* Massachusetts*Journal*, Friday, February 11, 1842.<sup>78</sup>**Charles C. Phelps**

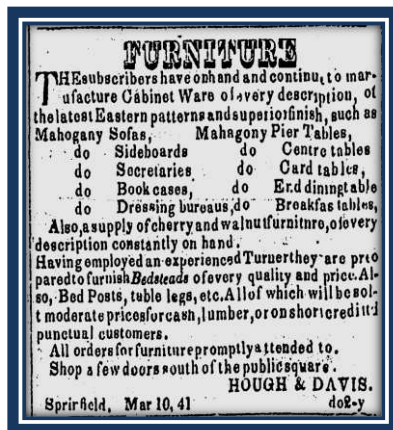
(1835-1860+)

Chairs

*Name:* Charles C. Phelps*Date:* April 2, 1841*Location:* corner of Adams and 4<sup>th</sup> streets, nearly opposite the new Presbyterian church*Type:* Fancy and Windsor chairs manufacture and sale, settees.*Age:* 27*Origin:* Massachusetts*Journal*, Friday, April 2, 1841.<sup>79</sup>**Hough & Davis**

(1839-1848)

Cabinets

*Name:* John A. Hough and Walter Davis*Date:* May 10, 1841.*Location:* a few doors south of the Public Square*Type:* Cabinet furniture; turning; manufacture and sale. Mahogany sofas, sideboards, secretaries, book cases, dressing bureaux, pier table, centre tables, card tables, end dining tables, breakfast tables; cherry and walnut furniture of every description.

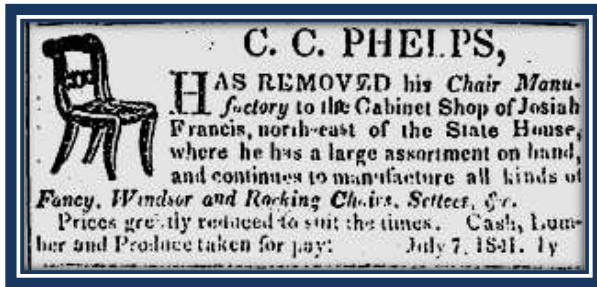
Turner

*Age:* John A. Hough 26*Origin:* Virginia*Sangamo Journal*, Friday, May 21, 1841.<sup>80</sup><sup>78</sup> *Sangamo Journal*, Friday, February 11, 1842, p. 4.<sup>79</sup> *Sangamo Journal*, Friday, April 2, 1841, p. 3.<sup>80</sup> *Sangamo Journal*, Friday, May 21, 1841, p. 4.

## Charles C. Phelps

(1835-1860+)

Chairs



*Journal*, Friday, August 20, 1841.<sup>81</sup>

Name: Charles C. Phelps

Date: July 7, 1841

Location: Moved to the Josiah Francis Cabinet Shop, northeast of the State House

Type: Fancy and Windsor chairs manufacture and sale. Rocking chairs, settees.

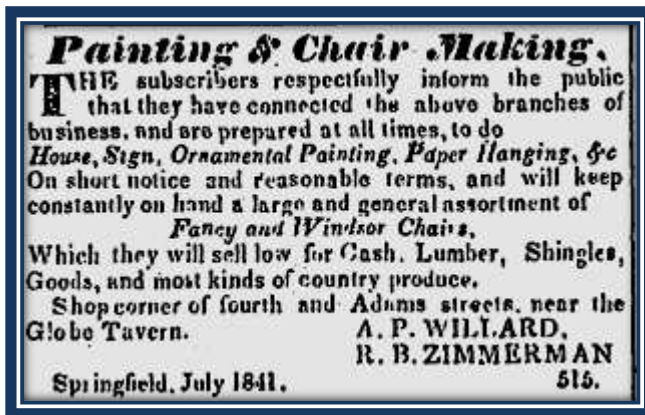
Age: 27

Origin: Massachusetts

## Willard and Zimmerman

(18\_\_-18\_\_)

Chairs



*Journal*, Friday, August 20, 1841.<sup>82</sup>

Name: Painting & Chair Making

Name: Willard & Zimmerman.

Name: Robert B. Zimmerman, — Willard

Date: July 1841

Location: corner of 4<sup>th</sup> and Adams streets, near the Globe Tavern.

Type: Chair making, Fancy and Windsor Chairs, painting

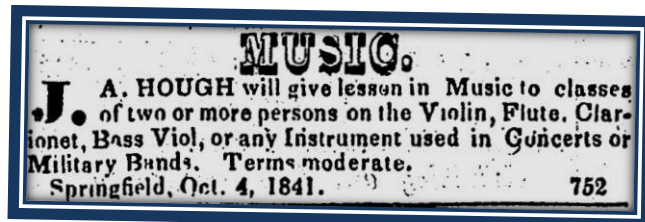
Exchange: furniture exchanged for lumber, shingles, goods country produce

Age: Robert B. Zimmerman 29

Origin: Mason Vermont Zimmerman Massachusetts

## John A. Hough Gives Music Lessons

John Hough's side business was giving music lessons.



*Sangamo Journal*, Friday, December 10, 1841.<sup>83</sup>

<sup>81</sup> *Sangamo Journal*, Friday, August 20, 1841, p. 3.

<sup>82</sup> *Sangamo Journal*, Friday, August 20, 1841, p. 3.

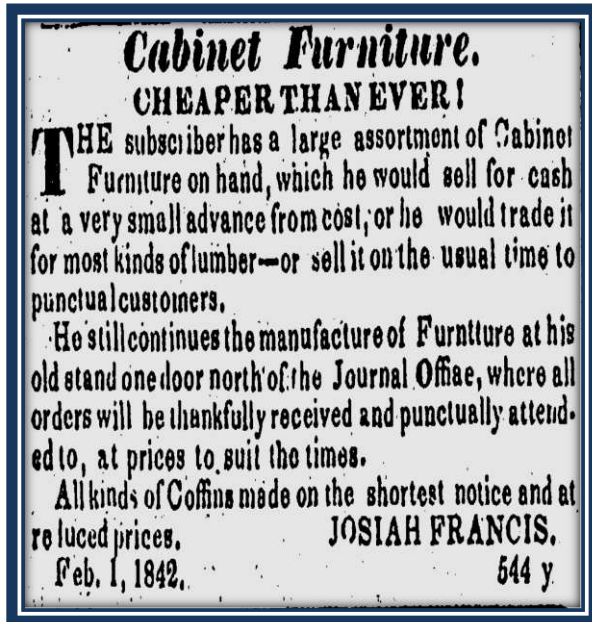
<sup>83</sup> *Sangamo Journal*, Friday, December 10, 1841, p. 4.

1842

**Josiah Francis, Jr.**

(1836-1852)

Cabinets



Name: Cabinet Furniture

Name: Josiah Francis, Jr.

Date: February 1, 1842

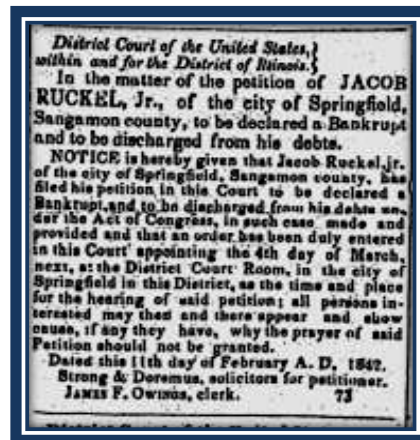
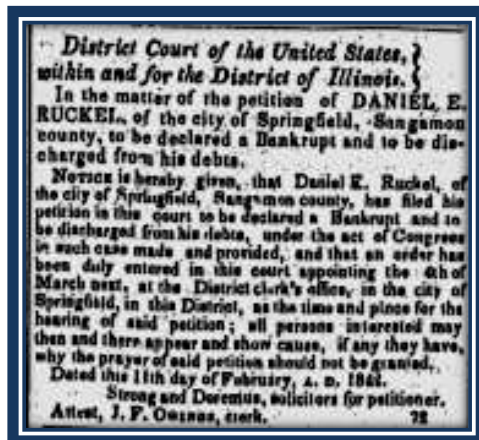
Location: Building north of  
Journal printing office; east  
side of Sixth Street, between  
Washington and Jefferson.Type: Cabinet furniture  
manufacture and sale; coffins.

Age: 41

Origin: Massachusetts

*Sangamo Journal*, Friday, October 28, 1842.<sup>84</sup>**Bankruptcy Notices: Daniel E. Ruckel and Jacob Ruckel**

In February 1842, brothers Daniel E. and Jacob Ruckel both declared bankruptcy stating in their petitions that they were of the city of Springfield. In the same month, they advertised a new cabinet shop two doors south of the American House. Later, Jacob Ruckel changed to upholstery, and then dealt in paper hangings of every variety, and resided in Springfield.<sup>85</sup>

*Journal*, Friday, February 11, 1842.<sup>86</sup><sup>84</sup> *Sangamo Journal*, Friday, October 28, 1842, p. 1.<sup>85</sup> Power, p. 632.<sup>86</sup> *Sangamo Journal*, Friday, February 11, 1842, p. 3.

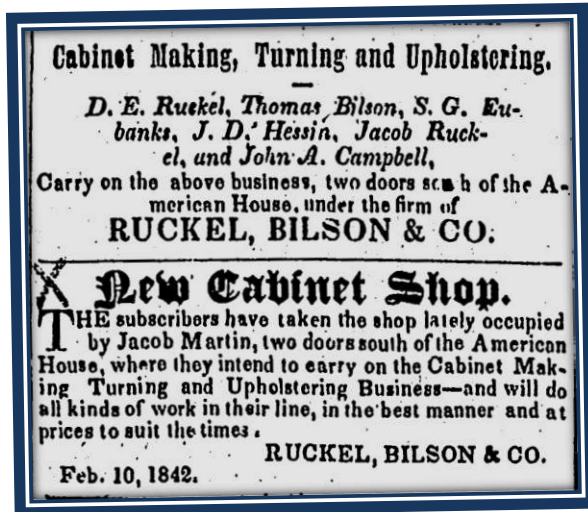


**Ruckel, Bilson & Co.**

(1842-1843)

Cabinets

This is the first appearance of Thomas Bilson, S. G. Eubanks, J. D. Hessin and John A. Campbell. In the same newspaper, the two Ruckel brothers advertised a new association and location of the Cabinet Making Furniture and upholstery business.



*Sangamo Journal*, Friday, February 11, 1842.<sup>87</sup>

*Name:* Daniel E. Ruckel, Thomas Bilson, S. G. Eubanks, J. D. Hessin, Jacob Ruckel and John A. Campbell

*Date:* February 10, 1842

*Location:* Two doors south of the American House, east side of Sixth Street between Adams and Monroe Streets.

*Type:* Cabinet making, turning and upholstery and sale

*Age:* Daniel E. Ruckel 31  
Jacob Ruckel 27

*Origin:* New York City

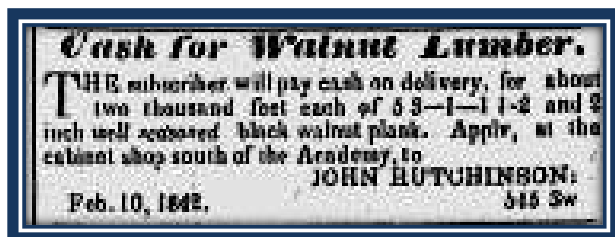
New Cabinet Shop

The subscribers have taken the shop lately occupied by Jacob Martin, two doors south of the American House, where they intend to carry on the Cabinet Making Turning and Upholstering Business — and will do all kinds of work in their line, in the best manner and at prices to suit the times.

**John A. Hutchinson**

(1842-1860+)

Cabinets



*Sangamo Journal*, Friday, February 18, 1842.<sup>88</sup>

*Name:* Cash for Walnut Lumber

*Name:* John Hutchinson

*Date:* February 10, 1842

*Location:* One door south of the Springfield Academy; West side of Fifth Street, between Market (Capitol) and Monroe

*Wanted:* two thousand feet each 5 3 -1—1-2 and 2 inch black walnut

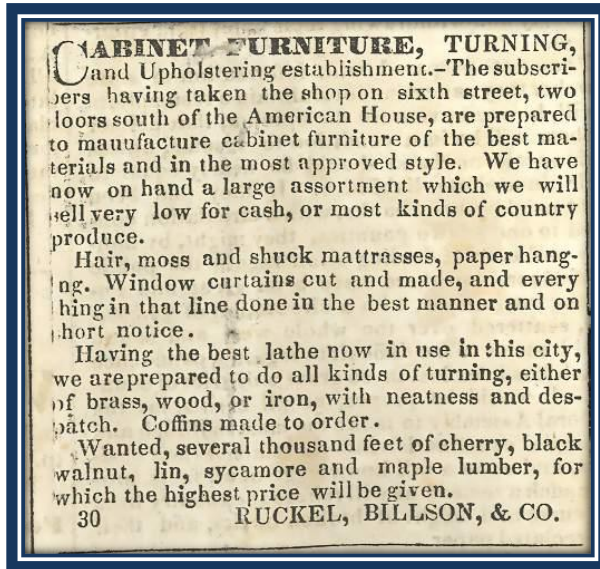
<sup>87</sup> *Sangamo Journal*, Friday, February 11, 1842, p. 3.

<sup>88</sup> *Sangamo Journal*, Friday, February 18, 1842, p. 4.

## Ruckel, Billson, & Co.

(1842-1843)

Cabinets



*Register*, Friday, November 24, 1843.<sup>89</sup>

*Name:* Daniel E. Ruckel, Thomas Bilson, S. G. Eubanks, J. D. Hessin, Jacob Ruckel and John A. Campbell

*Date:*

*Location:* Two doors south of the American House, east side of Sixth Street between Adams and Monroe Streets.

*Type:* Cabinet Furniture such as: Mahogany side-boards, secretaries and sofas, pier tables, card tables and centre tables, breakfast and dining tables, bedsteads, upholstering and paper hanging.

*Coffins* made at any time of day or night

*Turning:* largest lathe in Springfield; for wood, iron or brass

*Wanted:* several thousand feet of cherry, black walnut, lin, sycamore and maple lumber.

*Age:* Daniel E. Ruckel 31

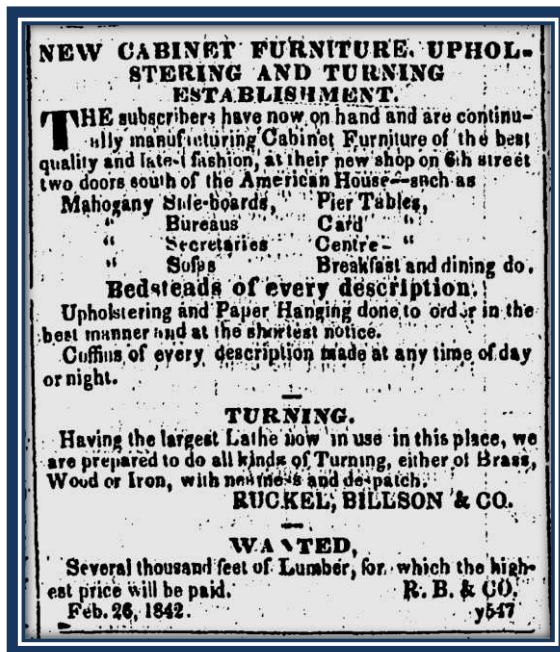
Jacob Ruckel 27

*Origin:* New York City

## Ruckel, Billson, & Co.

(1842-1843)

Cabinets



*Sangamo Journal*, Thursday, Friday, April 8, 1842.<sup>90</sup>

*Name:* Daniel E. Ruckel, Thomas Bilson, S. G. Eubanks, J. D. Hessin, Jacob Ruckel and John A. Campbell

*Date:* February 26, 1842

*Location:* Two doors south of the American House, east side of Sixth Street between Adams and Monroe Streets.

*Type:* Cabinet Furniture such as: Mahogany side-boards, secretaries and sofas, pier tables, card tables and centre tables, breakfast and dining tables, bedsteads, upholstering and paper hanging.

*Coffins* made at any time of day or night

*Turning:* largest lathe in Springfield; for wood, iron or brass

*Age:* Daniel E. Ruckel 31

Jacob Ruckel 27

*Origin:* Daniel E. Ruckel New York City  
Jacob Ruckel New York City

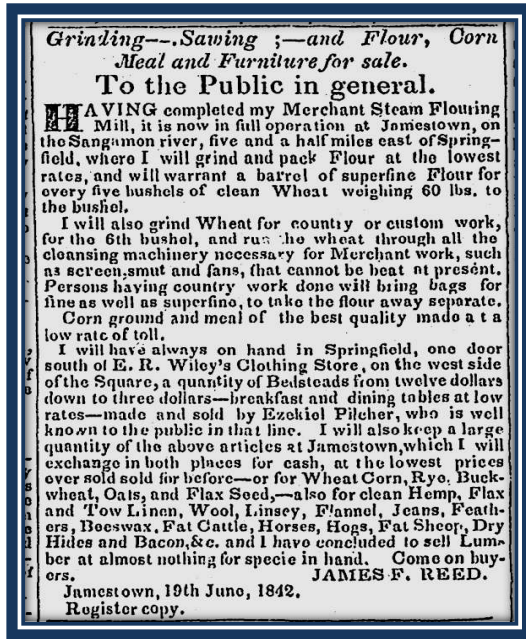
<sup>89</sup> *Register*, Friday, November 24, 1843, Volume: 8, Issue: 40, p. 4.

<sup>90</sup> *Sangamo Journal*, Friday, April 8, 1842, p. 4.

## Ezekiel Pilcher

(1836-1842)

Cabinets



Name: Ezekiel Pilcher

Date: June 19, 1842, Jamestown, now Riverton

Location: one door south of E. R. Wiley's Clothing Store, on the west side of the Square.

Type: Bedsteads, breakfast and dining tables  
At James F. Reed's Springfield store.

Age: 42

Origin:

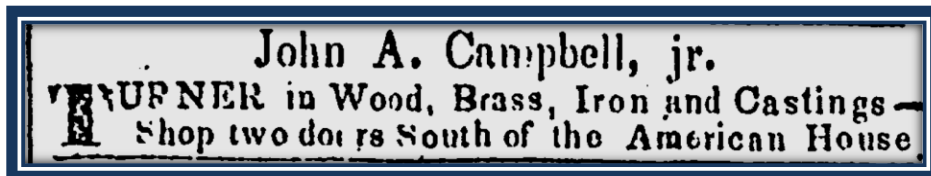
*Sangamo Journal*, Thursday, August 31, 1843.<sup>91</sup>

## John A. Campbell, Jr.



*Sangamo Journal*, Thursday, December 23, 1842.<sup>92</sup>

## John A. Campbell, Jr.



*Sangamo Journal*, Friday, July 29, 1842.<sup>93</sup>

<sup>91</sup> *Sangamo Journal*, Thursday, August 31, 1843, p. 4.

<sup>92</sup> *Sangamo Journal*, December 23, 1842, p. 4

<sup>93</sup> *Sangamo Journal*, Friday, July 29, 1842, p. 4.



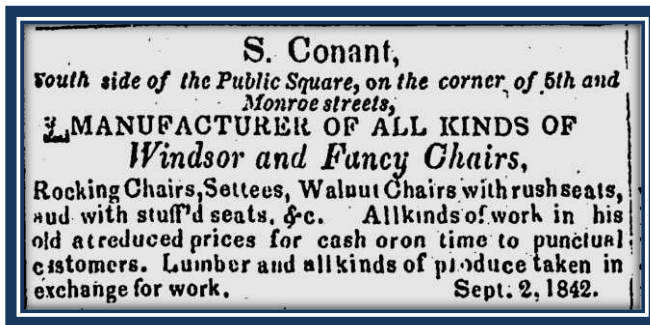
**Ruckel, Bilson & Co.**

*Sangamo Journal*, Friday, August 26, 1842.<sup>94</sup>

**Sullivan Conant**

(1842-1859)

Chairs



*Sangamo Journal*, Thursday, February 8, 1844.<sup>95</sup>

*Name:* Sullivan Conant

*Date:* September 2, 1842

*Location:* south side of Public Square, on the corner of Fifth and Monroe streets.

*Type:* Windsor and Fancy Chairs manufacture and sale. Rocking chairs, settees, walnut chairs with rush seats, also with stuff'd seats.

*Age:* 41

*Origin:* Massachuttes

Sullivan Conant was born on February 26, 1801, at Oakham, Worcester County, Massachusetts. Lydia R. Hemingway was born November 1803, in the same county. They were married on September 10, 1822, at Shutesbury, Massachusetts, where they had three children, and moved to Amherst, where they had one child.

They returned to Shutesbury and from there started west on November 2, 1830, traveling in wagons to Troy, New York, and from there to Rochester by canal, thence by wagon to Olean Point, where they embarked on a raft and floated to Pittsburg. There they took a steamboat down the Ohio, and up the Mississippi river to Chester, Randolph County, Illinois, where the youngest child died.

In January 1831, Sullivan Conant started from Chester with his family in a sleigh to visit some old friends near Carrollton, Illinois, going by Illinoistown, now East St. Louis. They continued their journey by Jacksonville to Springfield, arriving on February 18, 1831. When they left Chester, the snow was about six inches deep, but when they arrived in Springfield it was on four feet of snow, being the height of the "deep snow." In September 1837, Sullivan Conant was one of the Illinois residents who signed the Lovejoy Petition calling for a convention of anti-slavery advocates. He was most probably an abolitionist.

Lydia R. Conant died on May 30, 1867, and Sullivan Conant was married again<sup>96</sup> and they had five children born in Springfield.

<sup>94</sup> *Sangamo Journal*, Friday, August 26, 1842, p. 3.

<sup>95</sup> *Sangamo Journal*, Thursday, February 8, 1844, p. 3.

<sup>96</sup> *Power*, p. 216. 1881 *History, History of Sangamon County, Illinois*, 1881, Chicago, Inter-State Publishing Company, p. 276. (Hereafter 1881 *History*.)

## Hough & Davis

(1839-1848)

Cabinets



*Sangamo Journal*, Thursday, January 19, 1843.<sup>97</sup>

*Name:* Cabinet Furniture

*Name:* John A. Hough and Walter Davis

*Date:* November 1, 1842.

*Location:* a few doors south of the Public Square

*Type:* Cabinet furniture; turning; manufacture and sale. Mahogany sofas, sideboards, secretaries, book cases, dressing bureaus, pier table, bedsteads of every description.

Turner

*Age:* John A. Hough 27

*Origin:* Virginia

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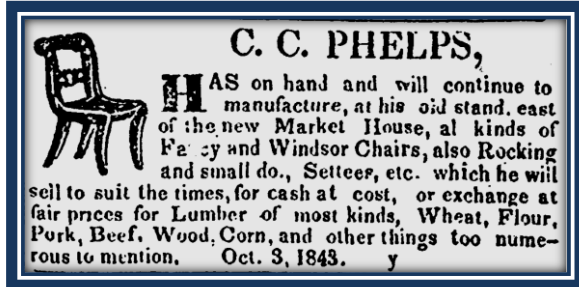
<sup>97</sup> *Sangamo Journal*, Thursday, January 19, 1843, p. 1.

1843

**Charles C. Phelps**

(1835-1860+)

Chairs



*Sangamo Journal*, Thursday, January 25, 1844.<sup>98</sup>

*Name:* Charles C. Phelps

*Date:* October 3, 1843

*Location:* Old stand, east of the new Market House

*Type:* Fancy and Windsor chairs manufacture and sale. Rocking chairs, settees.

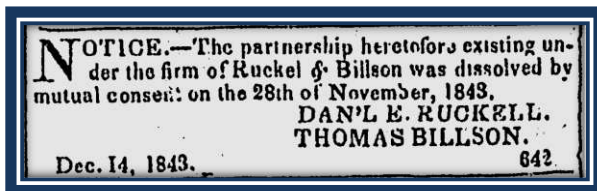
*Age:* 29

*Origin:* Massachusetts

**Ruckel, Bilson & Co. Partnership Dissolved**

(1842-1843)

The Ruckel, Bilson & Co. partnership dissolved after almost two years. Daniel E. Ruckel continued as a cabinetmaker without his brother and advertised for an apprentice in the "Cabinet Making Business."



*Sangamo Journal*, Thursday, January 4, 1844.<sup>99</sup>

*Name:* Daniel E. Ruckel, Thomas Bilson, S. G. Eubanks, J. D. Hessin, Jacob Ruckel and John A. Campbell

*Date:* December 14, 1843

*Location:* a few doors south of S. M. Tinsley's, Sixth Street between Adams and Monroe Streets.

*Age:* Daniel E. Ruckel 32

Thomas Bilson

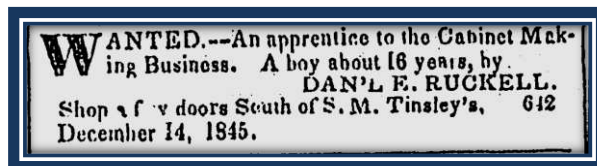
S. G. Eubanks

J. D. Hessin

Jacob Ruckel 28

John A. Campbell

*Origin:* Ruckel New York City



*Sangamo Journal*, Thursday, January 4, 1844.<sup>100</sup>

<sup>98</sup> *Sangamo Journal*, Thursday, January 25, 1844, p. 1.

<sup>99</sup> *Sangamo Journal*, Thursday, January 4, 1844, p. 3.

<sup>100</sup> *Sangamo Journal*, Thursday, January 4, 1844, p. 3.

### Hutchinson Cemetery Established

As seen in prior advertisements, cabinet makers often also make coffins. John Hutchinson was among those so doing. In 1843, Hutchinson took it one step further in offering a private place for burial. The following is a description of the cemetery.

On this site in 1843, John Hutchinson, undertaker, cabinetmaker, and businessman, established the first private burial ground in Springfield. Located on the western edge of the then-newly-incorporated city, Hutchinson Cemetery operated for several decades and received the remains of more than 700 of Springfield's earliest and most respected citizens, including land developer Pascal P. Enos, Rev. Charles Dresser, and early Springfield merchant Robert Irwin. Edward Barker "Eddie" Lincoln, the three-year old son of Abraham and Mary Lincoln, was buried here in February 1850, as were many other Springfield children who succumbed to infections and diseases no longer considered life-threatening by modern medical standards. The cemetery continued to receive burials through the Civil War, but in 1874 a city ordinance closed Hutchinson. Eventually most of the bodies were exhumed and removed to Oak Ridge Cemetery on Springfield's north side. The Springfield School District acquired the former cemetery and constructed the present and fourth Springfield High School here in 1917. Built in the Beaux Arts style, the school was considered at the time the most modern public educational facility in the state.

*There was a connection between cabinet makers and undertakers. Cabinet makers made coffins and the natural extension was to offer undertaking as an extension of the service. This would include bears, gently horses and sale of cemetery lots. John Hutchinson is perhaps the best example of this symbiosis.*



1844

**Daniel E. Ruckel**

(1846-1859)

Cabinets



*Name:* Cheap Cabinet Furniture

*Name:* Daniel E. Ruckel

*Date:* April 3, 1844

*Location:* south of Post Office, on west side of the street

*Type:* cabinet furniture

*Age:* 33

*Origin:* New York City

*Wanted:* 15 to 17 year old boy to learn art of making cabinet furniture;

*Sangamo Journal*, Thursday, January 2, 1845.<sup>101</sup>

**John A. Campbell, Jr.**



*Sangamo Journal*, Thursday, March 28, 1844.<sup>102</sup>

<sup>101</sup> *Sangamo Journal*, Thursday, January 2, 1845, p. 1.

<sup>102</sup> *Sangamo Journal*, Thursday, March 28, 1844, p. 4.

**John A. Hutchinson**

(1842-1860+)

Cabinets

**J. HUTCHINSON, UNDERTAKER,**  
*And proprietor of the new Burying Ground.*

Would inform the citizens of Springfield, and surrounding country, that he will be prepared at all times, to discharge the last duties to the dead, in a manner that cannot fail to give a general satisfaction, as he has had an extensive practice in the business of undertaker, in Philadelphia.

For the accommodation of the public he will be able to furnish coffins of every size and quality, at a moment's warning.

He will furnish an excellent hearse, gentle horse and careful driver for funeral occasions.

He has opened a new burying ground, which is laid off in small lots, to suit families which is enclosed by a substantial fence, and will be beautified by trees, shrubbery and flowers.

He is also carrying on the Cabinet making business in all its branches, and can furnish furniture after the most approved fashion, made by the best workmen.

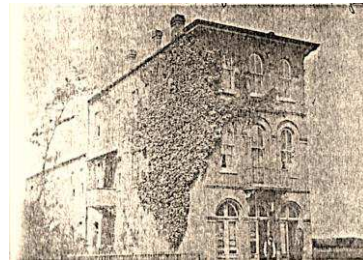
His shop is immediately south of the Springfield Academy, where he can be found at all times.

P. S. Two horses wanted in trade for furniture.

March 15th, 1844.—ly.

*Register*, Friday, May 3, 1844.<sup>103</sup>*Name:* Undertaker and Proprietor of New Burying Ground*Name:* John A. Hutchinson*Date:* March 15, 1844*Location:* One door south of the Springfield Academy; West side of Fifth Street, between Market (Capitol) and Monroe*Type:* Cabinet furniture

Undertaking: Coffins and lots in the new Burying Ground; prior experience in Philadelphia

*Wanted:* two horses in exchange for furniture

John Hutchinson, furniture dealer, lived at the southwest corner of Fifth and Market (now Capitol). 325 S. 5th.

**Sullivan Conant**

(1842-1859)

Chairs

**S. Conant,**  
*South side of the Public Square, on the corner of 5th and Monroe streets,*

**MANUFACTURER OF ALL KINDS OF ,**  
**Windsor and Fancy**  
**CHAIRS.**

**R**OCKING Chairs, Settees, Walnut Chairs with rush seats, and with stuff'd seats, &c. All kinds of work in his line sold at reduced prices for cash or on time to punctual customers. Lumber and all kinds of produce taken in exchange for work.

Sept. 2, 1844.

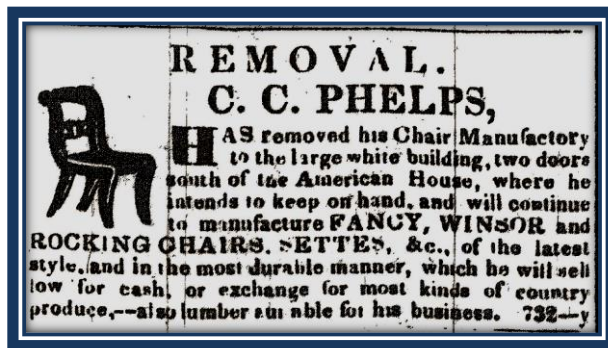
*Sangamo Journal*, Thursday, September 12, 1844.<sup>104</sup>*Name:* Sullivan Conant*Date:* September 2, 1844*Location:* south side of Public Square, on the corner of Fifth and Monroe streets.*Type:* Windsor and Fancy Chairs manufacture and sale. Rocking chairs, settees, walnut chairs with rush seats, also with stuff'd seats.*Exchange:* lumber and produce for work*Age:* 43*Origin:* Massachusetts<sup>103</sup> *Register*, Friday, May 3, 1844, p. 4.<sup>104</sup> *Sangamo Journal*, Thursday, September 12, 1844, p. 1.

1845

# Charles C. Phelps Moves

(1838-1860+)

Chairs



*Sangamo Journal*, Thursday, September 4, 1845.<sup>105</sup>

*Name:* Chair Manufacturing

*Name:* Charles C. Phelps

*Date:* September \_\_, 1845

*Location:* Large white building, two doors south of the American House on Sixth Street

*Type:* Fancy, Windsor and rocking chairs manufacture and sale. Settes

*Exchange:* country produce and lumber

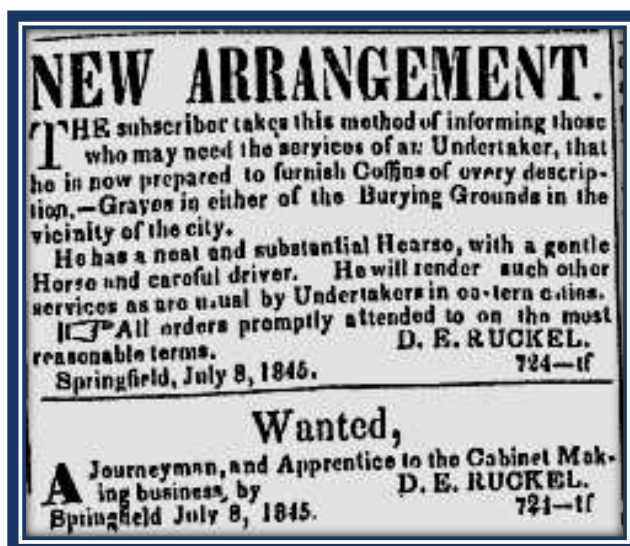
*Age:* 31

*Origin:* Massachusetts

# Daniel E. Ruckel

(1838-1839) and (1846-1859)

Cabinets



*Sangamo Journal*, Thursday, July 17, 1845.<sup>106</sup>

*Name:* Cabinet Maker and Undertaker

*Name:* Daniel E. Ruckel

*Date:* July 8, 1845

*Type:* Coffins and lots in either of the burying grounds

*Age:* 34

*Origin:* New York City

*Wanted:* journeyman and apprentice to the cabinet making business

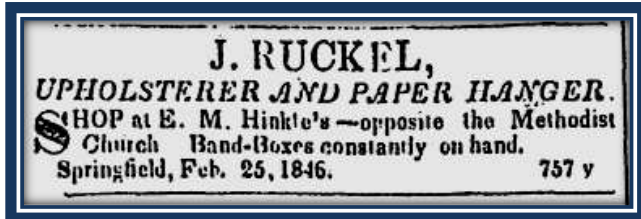
<sup>105</sup> *Sangamo Journal*, Thursday, September 4, 1845, p. 2.

<sup>106</sup> *Sangamo Journal*, Thursday, July 17, 1845, p. 4.

1846

**Jacob Ruckel**

In 1846, Jacob Ruckel was upholstering and hanging wall paper.

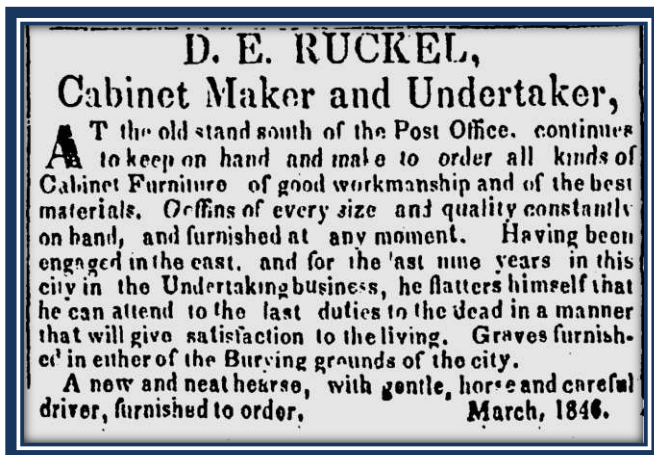


*Sangamo Journal*, Thursday, March 19, 1846.<sup>107</sup>

On February 25, 1846, Jacob Ruckel advertised his new venture separate from his brother and advertised that he was an upholsterer and paper hanger with a shop opposite the Methodist church at 5<sup>th</sup> and Monroe.

**Daniel E. Ruckel**

(1838-1839) and (1846-1859)  
Cabinets



*Sangamo Journal*, Thursday, June 18, 1846.<sup>108</sup>

*Name:* Cabinet Maker and Undertaker

*Name:* Daniel E. Ruckel

*Date:* March 1846

*Location:* Old stand south of the Post Office

*Type:* Cabinet furniture; manufacture and sale.

Coffins and lots in New Burying Ground; hearse and gentle horses and careful driver 9 years in undertaking Cabinet maker and undertaker in Springfield for 9 years—since 1837.

*Age:* 35

*Origin:* New York City

**Daniel E. Ruckel**

(1838-1839) and (1846-1859)  
Cabinets



*Sangamo Journal*, Thursday, May 28, 1846.<sup>109</sup>

Daniel R. Ruckel advertised in the May 28, 1846 *Journal* for two good journeymen cabinet makers to whom constant employment and liberal wages would be given.

<sup>107</sup> *Sangamo Journal*, Thursday, March 19, 1846, p. 3.

<sup>108</sup> *Sangamo Journal*, Thursday, June 18, 1846, p. 4.

<sup>109</sup> *Sangamo Journal*, Thursday, May 28, 1846, p. 2.



**John A. Hough**  
(1839-1860+)  
Cabinets



*Sangamo Journal*, Thursday, July 30, 1846.<sup>110</sup>

*Name:* Cabinet Furniture  
*Name:* John A. Hough  
*Date:* July 30, 1846  
*Location:* Old stand  
*Type:* Cabinet furniture;  
manufacture and sale.  
Coffins and lots in New  
Burying Ground  
*Age:* 31  
*Origin:* Virginia

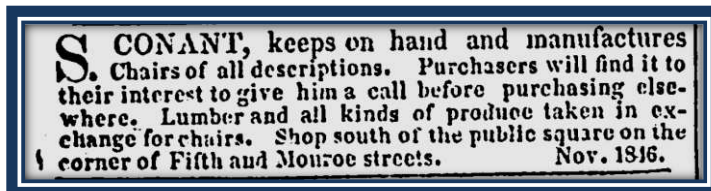
**Charles C. Phelps**  
(1835-1860+)  
Chairs



*Sangamo Journal*, Thursday, January 7, 1847.<sup>111</sup>

*Name:* Chair Manufacturer  
*Name:* Charles C. Phelps  
*Date:* September 7, 1846  
*Location:* Few rods south of the  
American House,  
*Type:* Assortment of chairs of his  
own make.  
Chair manufacturer  
*Exchange:* linn plank and country  
produce for chairs  
*Age:* 32  
*Origin:* Massachusetts

**Sullivan Conant**  
(1842-1859)  
Chairs



*Sangamo Journal*, Thursday, April 8, 1847.<sup>112</sup>

*Name:* Sullivan Conant  
*Date:* November 1846  
*Location:* south of Public Square,  
on the corner of Fifth and  
Monroe streets.  
*Type:* Manufacture and sale of  
Chairs of all descriptions  
*Age:* 45  
*Origin:* Massachusetts

<sup>110</sup> *Sangamo Journal*, Thursday, July 30, 1846, p. 2.

<sup>111</sup> *Sangamo Journal*, Thursday, January 7, 1847, p. 1.

<sup>112</sup> *Sangamo Journal*, Thursday, April 8, 1847, p. 1.

**John A. Hutchinson**

(1842-1860+)

Cabinets



*Sangamo Journal*, Thursday, January 7, 1847.<sup>113</sup>

*Name:* Springfield Cabinet Warehouse

*Name:* John Hutchinson

*Date:* November 5, 1846

*Location:* One door south of the Academy; new cabinet warehouse  
West side of Fifth Street,  
between Market (Capitol) and Monroe

*Type:* Cabinet furniture

*Undertaking:* gentle horse and careful driver, Coffins and lots in the new Burying Ground

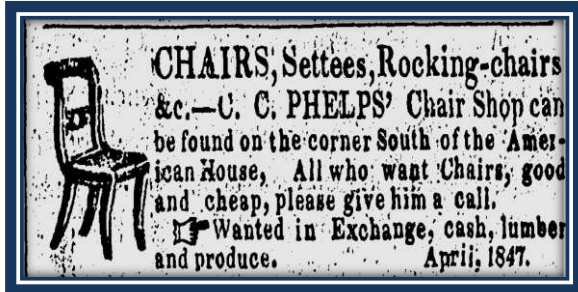
<sup>113</sup> *Sangamo Journal*, Thursday, January 7, 1847.

1847

**Charles C. Phelps**

(1835-1860+)

Chairs

*Journal*, Monday, June 4, 1847.<sup>114</sup>*Name:* Chair Shop*Name:* Charles C. Phelps*Date:* April 1847*Location:* Corner south of American House,*Type:* Chairs*Exchange:* cash, lumber and produce.*Age:* 33*Origin:* Massachusetts**John Hutchinson**

(1842-1860+)

Cabinets

*Journal*, Thursday, May 18, 1848.<sup>115</sup>*Name:* Springfield Cabinet Ware House*Name:* John A. Hutchinson

New Cabinet Warehouse

*Date:* June 1847*Location:* One door south of the Academy

West side of Fifth Street, between Market (Capitol) and Monroe

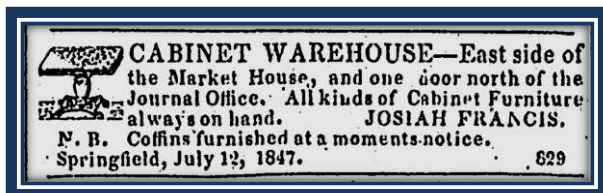
*Type:* Cabinet furniture

Coffins and lots in the new Burying Ground; Hearse and horses

**Josiah Francis, Jr.**

(1836-1852)

Cabinets

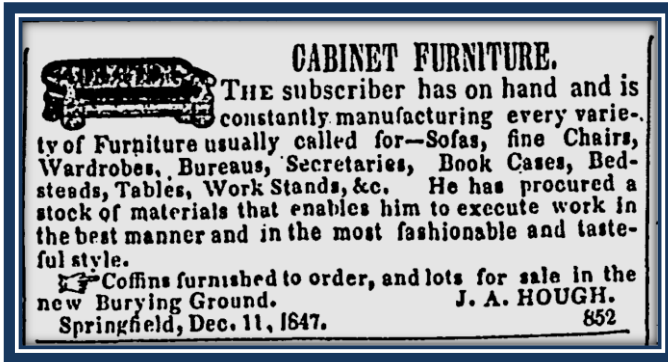
*Journal*, Friday, January 5, 1849.<sup>116</sup>*Name:* Cabinet Warehouse*Name:* Josiah Francis, Jr.*Date:* July 12, 1847*Location:* East side of Market House, one door north of Journal printing office; east side of 6th Street, between Washington and Jefferson.*Type:* Cabinet Warehouse; furniture manufacture and sale; coffins.*Age:* 46 *Origin:* Massachusetts<sup>114</sup> *Journal*, Monday, June 4, 1849, p. 1.<sup>115</sup> *Journal*, Thursday, May 18, 1848, p. 2.<sup>116</sup> *Journal*, Friday, January 5, 1849, p. 1.



**John A. Hough**

(1839-1860+)

Cabinets



*Name:* Cabinet Furniture

*Name:* John A. Hough

*Date:* December 11, 1847

*Type:* manufacturer; Furniture. Sofas, fine chairs, wardrobes, bureaus, secretaries, bookcases, bed steads, tables and work stands;

Coffins and lots in the new Burying Ground

*Age:* 32

*Origin:* Vermont

*Journal*, Thursday, December 16, 1847.<sup>117</sup>

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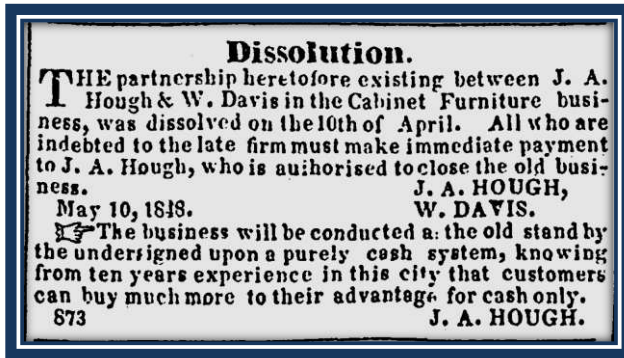
<sup>117</sup> *Journal*, Thursday, December 16, 1847, p. 3.

1848

**John A. Hough and Walter Davis Dissolve Partnership**

(1839-1848)

Cabinets



On April 10, 1848, John a. Hough and Walter Davis dissolved their partnership. Hough continued the business at the “old stand” adding that he took only cash “knowing from ten years experience...”

*Journal*, Thursday, May 11, 1848.<sup>118</sup>

**Abraham Lincoln's Letter to Walter Davis**

To Walter Davis [1]

Dear Walter:

Washington, June 26. 1848-

Your letter of the 16. was received last night. I have just separated the business half of it from the other, and sent it to the 2nd. Auditor with the request that he will attend to it and notify me. The papers you express some wish to have returned, I suppose will have to remain on file as vouchers. I will look further into it however.

Your political news is particularly gratifying. Dont be alarmed by the accounts of whig defection in Ohio, New-York & New England. Barn-burnerism, among the locos, will more than match it. We hear such news as you write, from most all quarters, and we are all in high spirits. Give my good will to Jack, [Possibly Jack Hough, Davis' partner in a woodworking shop.] and the other friends. Yours as ever A. LINCOLN<sup>119</sup>

<sup>118</sup> *Journal*, Thursday, May 11, 1848, p. 3.

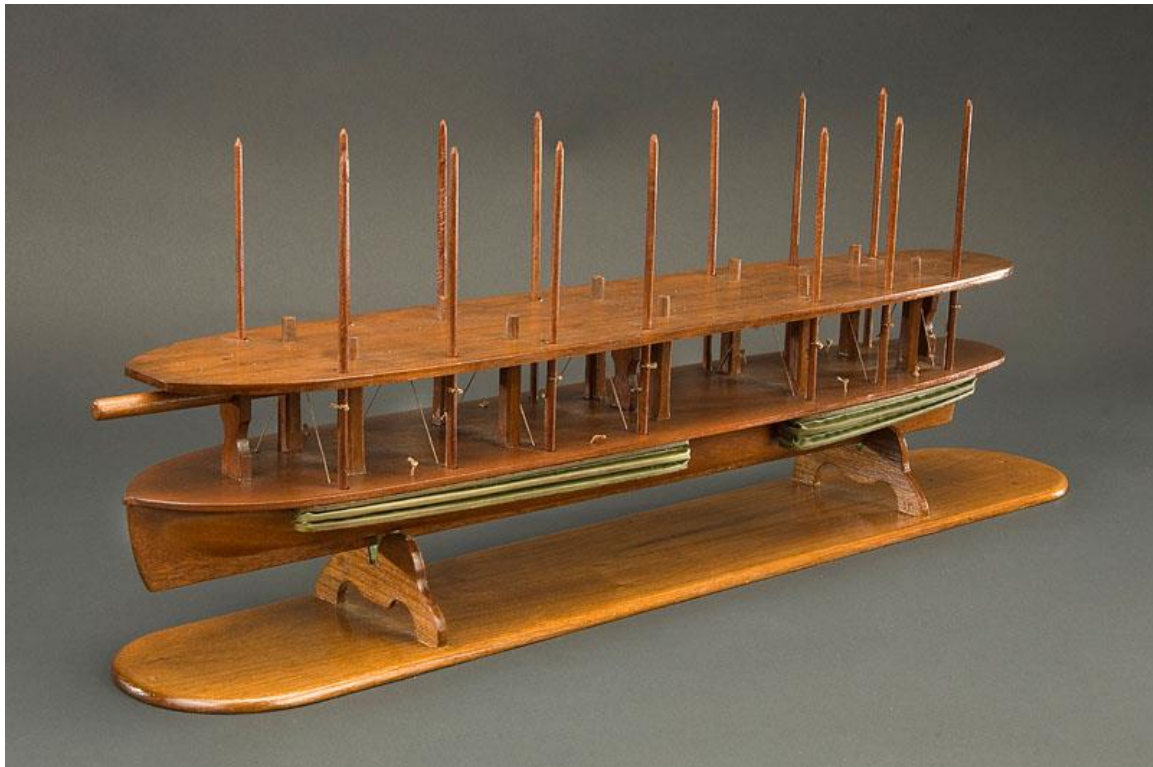
<sup>119</sup> *Collected Works of Abraham Lincoln*, Volume 1, p. 493, n; Volume 3, p. 399.

### **Walter Davis Helps Abraham Lincoln Build a Scale Model of Invention**

Abraham Lincoln started work on his invention between sessions of Congress in 1848. On his way home to Illinois his boat became stranded on a sandbar. As Herndon told the story, "The captain ordered the hands to collect all the loose planks, empty barrels and boxes and force them under the sides of the boat. These empty casks were used to buoy it up. After forcing enough of them under the vessel she lifted gradually and at last swung clear of the opposing sand bar."

Herndon observed, "Lincoln had watched this operation very intently. It no doubt carried him back to the days of his navigation on the turbulent Sangamon, when he and John Hanks had rendered similar service at New Salem dam to their employer the volatile Offut. Continual thinking on the subject of lifting vessels over sand bars and other obstructions in the water suggested to him the idea of inventing an apparatus for this purpose."

Lincoln created a scale model of his invention with the help of Walter Davis, a Springfield mechanic, who provided tools and advice. Herndon recalled, "Occasionally he would bring the model in the office, and while whittling on it would descant on its merits and the revolution it was destined to work in steamboat navigation. Although I regarded the thing as impracticable I said nothing, probably out of respect for Lincoln's well-known reputation as a boatman."<sup>120</sup>



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<sup>120</sup> <http://www.abrahamlincolnonline.org/lincoln/education/patent.htm>

**John A. Hough**  
(1839-1860+)  
Cabinets and Chairs



*Sangamo Journal*, Friday, January 5, 1849.<sup>121</sup>

Name: John A. Hough  
Date: May 31, 1848  
Location: corner south of Bunn's  
Type: Manufacture: Furniture. Sofas, fine chairs, wardrobes, bureaus, secretaries, bookcases, bed steads, tables and work stands  
Coffins and lots in the new Burying Ground  
Age: 33  
Origin: Virginia

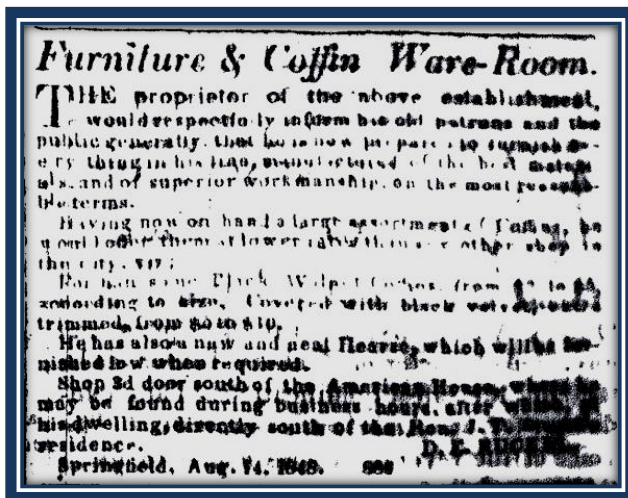
**Charles C. Phelps**  
(1835-1860+)  
Chairs



*Journal*, Friday, July 23, 1847.<sup>122</sup>

Name: Chair Shop  
Name: Charles C. Phelps  
Date: September 1848  
Location: Few rods south of the American House  
Type: Assortment of chairs of his own make.  
Exchange: Linn plank and country produce.  
Age: 34  
Origin: Massachusetts

**Daniel E. Ruckel**  
(1846-1859)  
Cabinets



Name: Daniel E. Ruckel  
Date: August 1848  
Location: Old stand south of the Post Office  
Type: Cabinet furniture; manufacture and sale.  
Coffins and lots in New Burying Ground  
Age: 37  
Origin: New York City

<sup>121</sup> *Journal*, Friday, January 5, 1849, p. 1.

<sup>122</sup> *Journal*, Friday, July 23, 1847, p. 1.

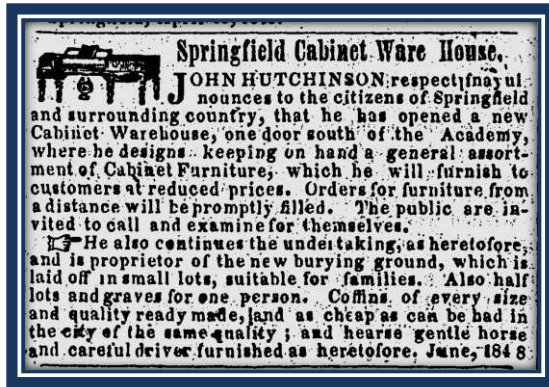


**John A. Hutchinson**

(1842-1860+)

Cabinets

In the last years of the decade (1840)... John Hutchinson had just installed an engine in his cabinet shop.<sup>123</sup>



*Journal*, Friday, January 5, 1849.<sup>124</sup>

*Name:* New Springfield Cabinet Ware House

*Name:* John A. Hutchinson

*Date:* June 1848

*Location:* One door south of the Academy

West side of Fifth Street, between Market (Capitol) and Monroe

*Type:* Cabinet furniture

*Undertaking:* Coffins and lots in the new Burying Ground; Hearse and gentle horses and careful drivers.

**John A. Hough**

(1839-1860+)

Cabinets



*New:* Cabinet Furniture

*Name:* John A. Hough

*Date:*

*Location:* South Fifth Street

*Type:* Cabinet furniture; manufacture and sale.

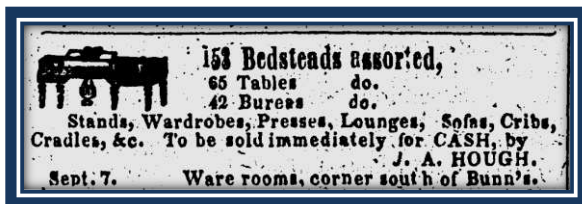
*Age:* 33

*Origin:* Virginia

**John A. Hough**

(1839-1860+)

Cabinets



*Journal*, Friday, January 5, 1849.<sup>125</sup>

*Name:* John A. Hough

*Date:* September 7, 1848

*Location:* ware rooms corner south of Bunn's

*Type:* Bedsteads, tables, bureaus; stands, wardrobes, presses, lounges, sofas, cribs, cradles

*Age:* 33

*Origin:* Virginia

<sup>123</sup> Here I Have Lived, Paul M. Angle, Springfield, Illinois, The Abraham Lincoln Association, 1935, p. 160.

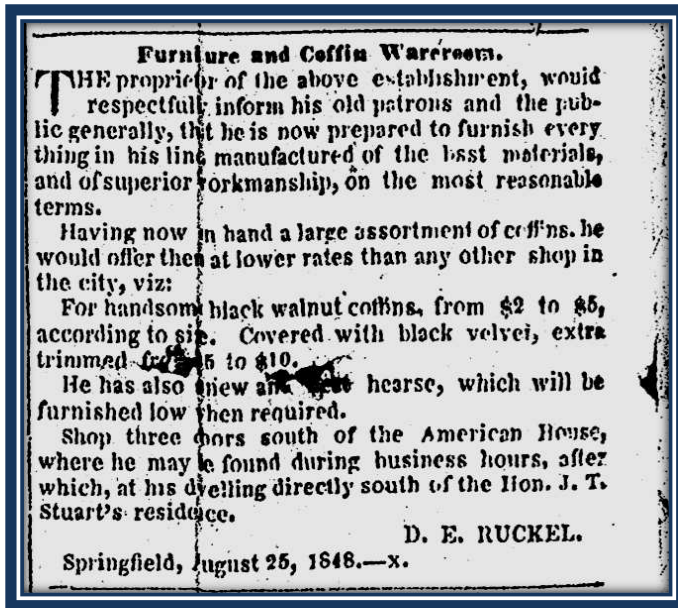
<sup>124</sup> *Journal*, Friday, January 5, 1849, p. 1.

<sup>125</sup> *Journal*, Friday, January 5, 1849, p. 1.

# Daniel E. Ruckel

(1846-1859)

Cabinets



*Register*, Tuesday, January 2, 1849.<sup>126</sup>

Name: Furniture and Coffin Warehouse

Name: Daniel E. Ruckel

Date: August 25, 1848

Location: Old stand 3 doors south of American House

Type: Cabinet furniture; manufacture and sale.

Coffins

Home: directly south of John T. Stuart's residence.

Age: 37

Origin: New York City

# John A. Hough

(1839-1860+)

Cabinets



*Register*, Tuesday, January 2, 1849.<sup>127</sup>

Name: Cabinet Furniture

Name: John A. Hough

Date: June 9, 1848

Location: warehouse and work shop; Fifth & Monroe, south of "Bunn's ... big brick store"

Type: Cabinet furniture; manufacture and sale.

Age: 33

Origin: Virginia

12 years in Springfield as a cabinet maker—since 1836.

<sup>126</sup> *Register*, Tuesday, January 2, 1849, p. 4.

<sup>127</sup> *Register*, Tuesday, January 2, 1849, p. 4.



1849

**A. & H. Biedler**

(1849)

Chairs and Cabinets



*Journal*, Monday, February 11, 1849.<sup>128</sup>

*Name:* A. and H. Biedler

*Date:* April 4, 1849

*Location:* Few doors south of Hawley & Loose's Corner

*Type:* bureaus, tables, stands, bedsteads, chairs, coffins, hearse and careful driver

To the lately Married.

Cabinet Furniture and Chairs.

A. & H. BIEDLER,

*A few doors South of Hawley & Loose's Corner.*

KEEPS constantly on hand a large and varied assortment of **CABINET FURNITURE** such as Bureaus, Tables, Stands, Bedsteads, and all other Household Furniture in the Cabinet line. We have also on hand a handsome assortment of **CHAIRS** of every variety of patterns and quality.


Ready made Coffins kept constantly on hand of all sizes. Also a good Hearse and careful driver, with which we can accommodate those who need the services of an undertaker. We are ready at all hours to attend to this branch of our business. April 4, 1849 - dly A. & H. BIEDLER.

<sup>128</sup> *Journal*, Thursday, April 5, 1849, p. 3.

# John A. Hough

(1839-1860+)

Chairs and Cabinets

  
**CABINET FURNITURE:**

Chairs, looking-glasses, looking-glass plates, mattresses, willow wagons, clocks, &c., &c., of N. York, Boston and Cincinnati manufacture.

**J. A. HOUGH** has received a full assortment of cabinet furniture, new and splendid patterns.

**LOOKING GLASSES.**

All sizes and patterns. Gilt, mahogany, and walnut frames. Looking-glass plates, for filling old frames, a good assortment.

**CHAIRS**—All kinds of parlor and rocking chairs.

**MATRASSES**—Shuck, moss, cotton and hair, a large lot, assorted sizes.

**CLOCKS:**

THE only complete assortment ever offered in this market—a great variety of patterns.

**VARNISHES—**

Furniture varnish, unsurpassed;  
Flowing, do., a new article here;  
Coach do., the best ever offered;  
Japan do., a prime article.

These goods were manufactured expressly for me, under my special supervision, and every article will be warranted of superior mechanical, workmanship and artistic finish.

I have made arrangements by which I shall be in constant receipt of fresh supplies of all articles in my line.

Furniture of my own manufacture always on hand as usual. Call and ascertain the prices.


**J. A. HOUGH.**

Ware-room at the corner south of Bunn's.


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**LOOKING-GLASSES** and looking-glass plates, a full and complete assortment. All sizes, in gilt mahogany and walnut frames, at  
[dwtf] **J. A. HOUGH'S Ware-rooms.**

---

 **OTTOMANS**, Sofas, Divans, Foot-stools, &c., new rich and gorgeous patterns and brilliant finish, at  
[dwtf] **J. A. HOUGH'S ware-rooms.**

---

 **CHAIRS**—Mahogany and walnut, Boston rockers, Nurse and sewing chairs; Maple, rose-wood and walnut, cane-seat parlor chairs, at  
[dwtf] **J. A. HOUGH'S Ware-rooms.**

---

**MATRASSES**—Shuck, moss, cotton and hair, mattresses, all sizes, always on hand and for sale at  
[dwtf] **J. A. HOUGH'S Ware-rooms.**

---

**CLOCKS**—The only full and complete assortment ever offered in this market, for sale at  
[dwtf] **J. A. HOUGH'S Ware-room.**

---

**VARNISH**—Furniture, flowing, coach and Japan varnishes, at  
[dwtf] **J. A. HOUGH'S Ware-rooms.**

---

**BEADSTEDS**, Lounges, Cradles, Cribs, work and wash stands, cupboards, presses, wardrobes, sofas, willow waggon, &c., &c., for sale at  
[dwtf] **J. A. HOUGH'S ware-rooms.**

Name: Cabinet Warehouse

Name: John A. Hough

Date: May 3, 1849

Location: Corner south of Bunn's

Type: Cabinet furniture, chairs, bedsteads, lounges, cradles, cribs, work and wash stands, cupboards, presses, wardrobes, sofas, willow wagons

Age: 34

Origin: Virginia

Hough is making and purchasing furniture for sale.

**J. A. HOUGH,**

**IMPORTER, Manufacturer, and dealer in Cabinet Furniture, Looking-Glasses, Clocks, Mattresses, Varnishes, &c.**

Ware-rooms at the corner south of Bunn's Store.

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 **PIANO FORTES**—I have made arrangements by which I can order Chickering's or other maker's piano fortes, at considerable saving to purchasers, at  
[dwtf] **J. A. HOUGH.**

*Register*, Saturday, May 5, 1849.<sup>129</sup>

*Journal*, Thursday, May 3, 1849.<sup>130</sup>

<sup>129</sup> *Register*, Saturday, May 5, 1849, p. 3.

<sup>130</sup> *Journal*, Thursday, May 3, 1849, p. 3.

## John A. Hough

(1839-1860+)

Cabinets (Probably not manufacturing)

J. A. Hough advertised in the *Illinois Daily Journal* of May 11, 1849:

Cabinet Warehouse--Cabinet Furniture, Chairs, Looking-Glass Plates, Mattresses, Willow Wagons, Clocks, etc., etc. of New York, Boston, and Cincinnati Manufacture.



*Journal*, Saturday, September 15, 1849.

*Register*, Saturday, September 15, 1849.<sup>131</sup>

Name: Hough's Furniture Ware-Rooms

Name: John A. Hough

Date: June 25, 1849

Location: Corner south of Bunn's.

Type: Mahogany sofa seat parlor chairs, rose wood sofa, painted and stained sofa chairs, mahogany side tables; willow chairs for children.

Age: 34

Origin: Virginia

## Charles C. Phelps

(1835-1860+)

Chairs



*Journal* Monday, June 25, 1849.<sup>132</sup>

Name: Charles C. Phelps

Date: July 19, 1849

Location: Corner south of American

House, southeast corner of Sixth and Adams

Type: Fancy Cane and Flag Seat Chairs.

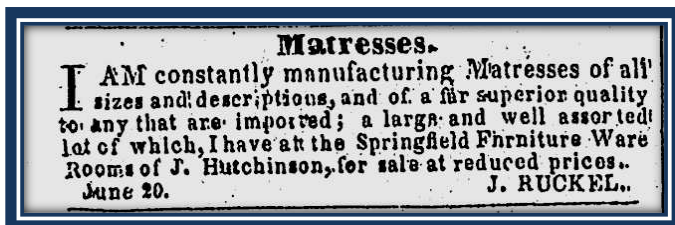
Looking for lot of Flag for Chair seats

Wanted: large lot of flag for chair seats

Age: 35

Origin: Massachusetts

## Jacob Ruckel



*Journal*, Monday, June 25, 1849.<sup>133</sup>

Jacob Ruckel is manufacturing mattresses that he sells through Springfield Furniture Ware Rooms of J. Hutchinson.

<sup>131</sup> *Journal*, Saturday, September 15, 1849 p. 3. *Register*, Saturday, September 15, 1849, p. 1

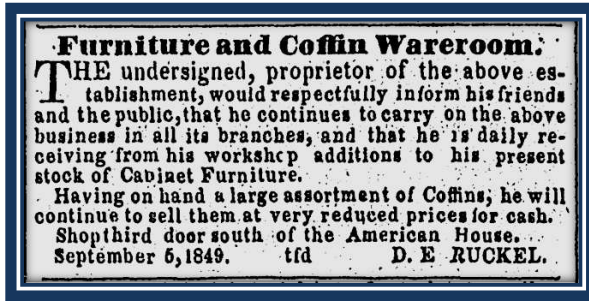
<sup>132</sup> *Journal* Monday, June 25, 1849, p. 3.

<sup>133</sup> *Journal*, Monday, June 25, 1849, p. 3.

### Daniel E. Ruckel

(1846-1859)

Cabinets



*Sangamo Journal*, Saturday, September 15, 1849.<sup>134</sup>

Name: Furniture and Coffin Warehouse

Name: Daniel E. Ruckel

Date: September 5, 1849

Location: Third door south of the American House

Type: Cabinet furniture; manufacture and sale.

Coffins

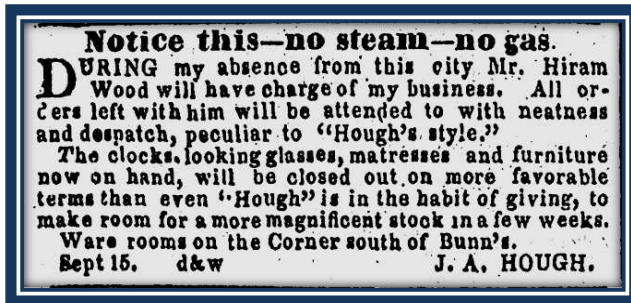
Age: 38

Origin: New York City

### John A. Hough

(1839-1860+)

Chairs and Cabinets



*Journal*, Saturday, September 15, 1849.<sup>135</sup>

Name: John A. Hough

Date: September 15, 1849

Location: Corner south of Bunn's

Type: Leaving business in hands of Hiram Wood while absent from city

Age: 34

Origin: Virginia

During absence, Hiram Wood in charge of business

### Sullivan Conant

(1842-1859)

Chairs



*Journal*, Monday, February 11, 1850.<sup>136</sup>

Name: Chairs!

Name: Sullivan Conant

Date: September 20, 1849

Location: south of Bunn's, on the corner of 5<sup>th</sup> and Monroe streets.

Type: Chairs of all descriptions.

Exchange: lumber and produce for chairs.

Age: 48

Origin: Massachuttes

<sup>134</sup> *Journal*, Saturday, September 15, 1849, p. 3.

<sup>135</sup> *Journal*, Saturday, September 15, 1849, p. 3.

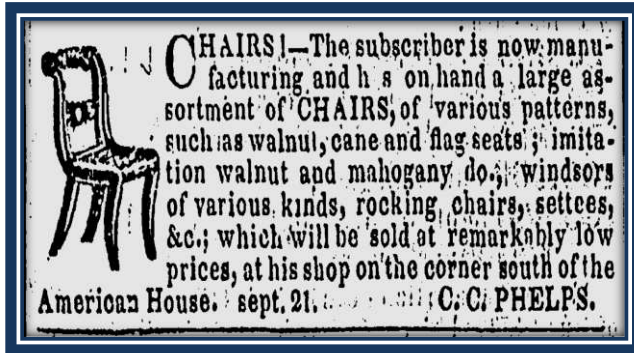
<sup>136</sup> *Journal*, Monday, February 11, 1850, p. 1.



## Charles C. Phelps

(1835-1860+)

Chairs



*Journal*, Monday, February 11, 1850.<sup>137</sup>

*Name:* Chairs!

*Name:* Charles C. Phelps

*Date:* September 21, 1849

*Location:* corner south of American House, alley on east side of Sixth Street between Adams and Monroe Streets

*Type:* chairs; walnut, cane and flag; imitation walnut and mahogany; Windsors of various kinds, rocking chairs, settees; manufacturer and sale.

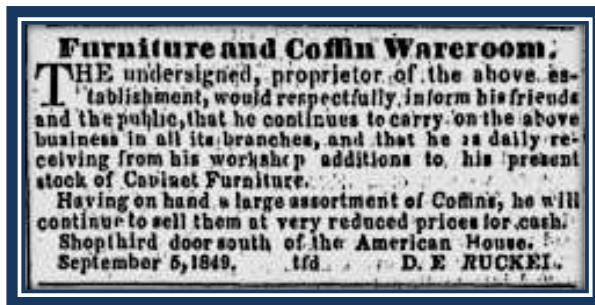
*Age:* 35

*Origin:* Massachusetts

## Daniel E. Ruckel

(1846-1859)

Cabinets



*Journal*, Tuesday, January 8, 1850.<sup>138</sup>

*Name:* Cabinet and Coffin Ware-Room

*Name:* Daniel E. Ruckel

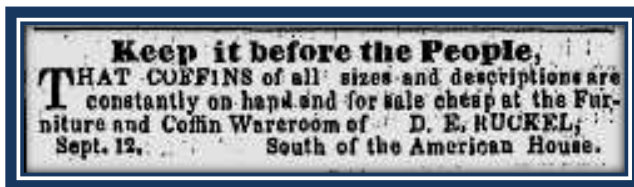
*Date:* September 5, 1849

*Location:* third door south of the American House

*Type:* furniture and coffins

*Age:* 39

*Origin:* New York City



*Journal*, Tuesday, January 8, 1850.<sup>139</sup>

<sup>137</sup> *Journal*, Monday, February 11, 1850, p. 1.

<sup>138</sup> *Journal*, Tuesday, January 8, 1850, p. 4.

<sup>139</sup> *Journal*, Tuesday, January 8, 1850, p. 4.

## Josiah Francis, Jr.

(1836-1852)

Cabinets



Name: Cabinet Furniture

Name: Josiah Francis, Jr.

Date: February 1, 1841

Location: One door north of *Journal* office;  
east side of Sixth Street, between Washington  
and Jefferson.

Type: Cabinet furniture manufacture and sale;  
coffins

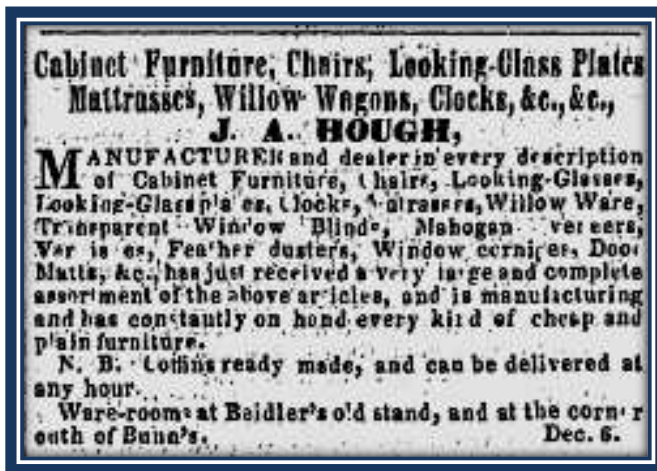
Age: 48

Origin: Massachusetts

## John A. Hough

(1839-1860+)

Chairs and Cabinets



Name: John A. Hough

Date: December 8, 1849

Location: Beidler's old stand,  
Corner south of Bunn's

Type: manufacturer and dealer;  
cabinet furniture, chairs,  
looking glass, mattresses,  
willow wagon, clocks; coffins

Age: 34

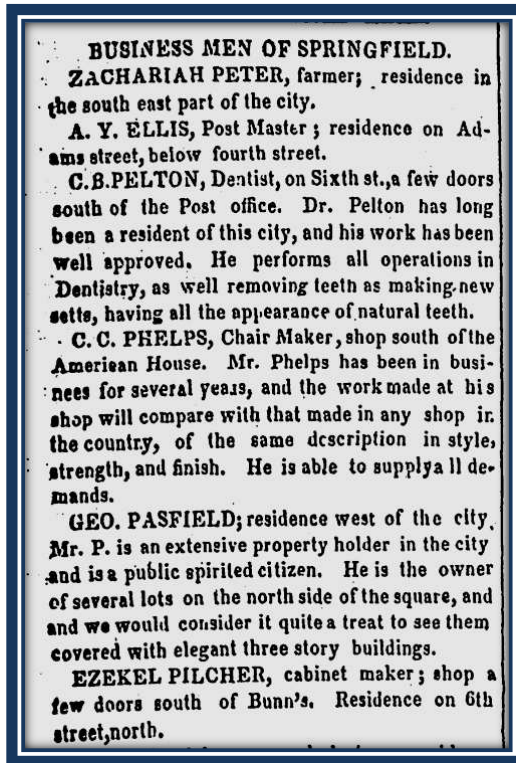
Origin: Virginia

*Journal*, Tuesday, January 8, 1850.<sup>140</sup>

<sup>140</sup> *Journal*, Tuesday, January 8, 1850, p. 4.



## Newspaper Listing of Business Men of Springfield



Charles C. Phelps, Chair Maker, shop south of the American House. Mr. Phelps has been in business for several years, and the work made at this shop will compare with that made in any shop in the country, of the same description in style, strength, and finish. He is able to supply all demands.

Ezekiel Pilcher, cabinet maker; shop a few doors south of Bunn's, Residence on 6<sup>th</sup> street, north

*Journal*, Wednesday, August 29, 1849.<sup>141</sup>

<sup>141</sup> *Journal*, Wednesday, August 29, 1849, p. 3.

1850

**John A. Hutchinson**

(1842-1860+)

Chairs and Cabinets

On January 2, 1850, John Hutchinson advertised in the *Journal*:

The extensive Warerooms of the establishment will always be supplied with a large stock of FURNITURE, consisting in part of Sofas, Secretaries, Bookcases, Centre and side Tables, Work and Card Tables, Sideboards, Dressing Bureaus, Common Bureaus, Cupboards, Wardrobes, Presses, High-Post, French and Common Bedsteads, Lounges, Washstands, Chairs, Cribs, and Cradles, &c. &c. &c. and in order that the public may have a full and fair opportunity of judging for themselves, between our own manufactured articles and those from abroad, we further invite their attention to the following articles, just received from the eastern markets, viz:

Mahogany Centre Tables  
Cherry Card do.  
Dressing Bureaus,  
Common do.  
Mahogany Toilet Stands,  
Common do.

Plain and Tufted Sofas  
Fancy Divans  
Mahogany Wash Stands,  
Plain do.  
O.G. Pillar Card Tables,  
Rocking Chairs, &c. &c.

The patronage of the public generally is respectfully solicited, and all who visit this very extensive establishment will be made satisfied that it richly merits the confidence and support of an intelligent and judicious community, who appreciate the importance of encouraging Home Manufactures, and building up our own region of country, instead of furnishing our means to add to the wealth of St. Louis, Cincinnati, and the eastern cities.

J. HUTCHINSON.

**John A. Mason**

(1850-1863)

Chairs

John A. Mason was moving his chair shop, indicating that he was in that business before this date, January 30, 1850. On July 16, 1840, there is an advertisement in the *Sangamo Journal* newspaper for Zimmerman & Co., Robert B. Zimmerman, O. Hempstead, and John A. Mason.



*Journal*, Monday, February 11, 1850.<sup>142</sup>

*Name:* John A. Mason

*Date:* January 30, 1850

*Location:* moved to across the street from Francis Cabinet Shop and Journal Office; northwest of the Market House

*Type:* manufacture and sale of chairs and settees.

*Age:* 36

*Origin:* Vermont

<sup>142</sup> *Journal*, Monday, February 11, 1850, p. 1.

John A. Mason was born on June 14, 1814, in Swanton, Franklin County, Vermont. When quite young he went to Buffalo, New York, and there joined his brother, and came from there to Springfield, Illinois, arriving on May 20, 1837. He learned the business of a chair maker in Springfield, and from that worked into the manufacture of cabinet furniture. He retired from business in 1869, with ample means and impaired health. He is not yet married, and resides at Buffalo, Sangamon County, Illinois, but spends much of his time among his old friends in Springfield.<sup>143</sup>

### City Business Cards Listing Chair and Cabinet Makers

**City Business Cards.**

**Springfield Steam Power Furniture Manufactory**  
IN FULL OPERATION,  
At Hutchinson's Old Stand.  
The undersigned has for some time past been generally that he has now completed his arrangements, and with his extensive stock of steam power and machinery, is confident that he can meet the demands of this community for and every description of Cabinet Furniture on better terms than can be done by any establishment in this city.

The undersigned will give his personal attention to the supervising of the manufacturing of Furniture and filling of orders, and will warrant all articles purchased at the Furniture Rooms to be of the quality represented; and no trouble or expense will be spared to demonstrate that a SPRINGFIELD MANUFACTORY can supply the demands of the people with Furniture of a superior quality, and at lower rates than can be done by importations from other places.

The extensive Ware Room of the establishment will always be supplied with a large stock of FURNITURE, consisting in part of Sofas, Secretaries, Book-Cases, Centre and side Tables, Work and Card Tables, Side-boards, Dressing Bureaus, Common Bureaus, Cup-boards, Wardrobes, Presses, High-Post, French and Common Bedsteads, Lounges, Wash-stands, Chairs, Cribs, and Cradles, &c., &c.; and in order that the public may have a full and fair opportunity of judging for themselves between our own manufactured articles and those from abroad, we further invite their attention to the following list of articles, just received from the eastern markets, viz:

Mahogany Centre Tables, Plain and Tufted Sofas, Cherry Card do. Fancy Divans, Mahogany Wash Stands, Common do. Mahogany Wash Stands, Mahogany Toilet Stands, G. G. Pillow Card Tables, Common do. Rocking Chairs, &c. &c.

The patronage of the public generally is respectfully solicited, and all who visit this very extensive establishment will be made satisfied that it richly merits the confidence and support of an intelligent and judicious community; who appreciate the importance of encouraging Home Manufactures, and building up our own region of country, instead of furnishing our means to the wealth of J. HUTCHINSON.

Springfield Steam Power Furniture Manufactory, at the old stand, South of the Capitol, and but one door south of the Brick Springfield Academy.

N. B. Our Ware Room is devoted exclusively to READY-MADE COFFINS, of every quality, and all sizes, where people of the city or country can be supplied, at a moment's notice.

Underwriting, in all its branches, attended to as heretofore. d. December 31, 1849.

**Cabinet Furniture, Chairs, Looking-Glass Plates, Mattresses, Willow Wagons, Clocks, &c., &c.,**  
J. A. HOUGH.

MANUFACTURER and dealer in every description of Cabinet Furniture, Chairs, Looking-Glasses, Looking-Glass Plates, Clocks, Mattresses, Willow Wagons, Transparent Window Blinds, Mahogany veneers, Paravases, Feather Stuffers, Window cornices, Door Mats, &c., has just received a very large and complete assortment of the above articles, and is manufacturing and has constantly on hand every kind of cheap and plain furniture.

N. B. Goods ready made, and can be delivered at any hour.

Ware-rooms at Beidler's old stand, and at the corner south of Dunn's. Dec. 6.

**Persons Desiring Bargains in**  
**WILLOW WAGONS, &c., &c.,**  
WILL DO WELL TO CALL AT  
J. FRANCIS' Cabinet Ware-House.  
East of the Market House.

He has just received Mahogany Bur. Dress Bureaus, Card Tables, &c., &c. which will be sold cheaper than have ever been sold in this market.

Also on hand a large assortment of Cherry and walnut Burors, Presses, Book Cases, Bedsteads, Stands, Cribs, Lounges, &c.—all of which will be sold at the lowest prices, none cheaper.

CHairs always on hand.

All kinds of Wood Turning done as usual.

Ready-Made COFFINS of all sizes always on hand.

Shop next north of the Journal Office, and Residence third dwelling south of the American House. J. FRANCIS. mch 27

**CHAIRS.**—The subscriber is now manufacturing and has on hand a large assortment of CHAIRS of various patterns, such as walnut, cane and flag seats; imitation walnut and mahogany do., Windsor of various kinds, rocking chairs, settees, &c., which will be sold at remarkably low prices, at his shop on the corner south of the American House. sept. 21. C. C. PHELPS.

**Chair-Making—Removal.**  
The subscriber has removed his business to the building a little north of the market, and nearly opposite his old stand—where he will keep on hand and manufacture CHAIRS of various patterns and materials—all the qualities and prices usually called for. His work shall be faithfully done. J. A. MASON. Jan. 16.

**CHAIRS.**—S. CONANT, at his shop south of Dunn's store, on the corner of Fifth and Monroe streets, keeps on hand and manufactures Chairs of all descriptions; which he will sell on the most favorable terms. Lumber and all kinds of produce taken in payment for Chairs. o. sept. 20.

John Hutchinson steam  
power  
Fifth, between Monroe  
and Market

J. A. Mason, manufacturer  
and dealer  
Sixth and Jefferson

C. C. Phelps  
# 3 and 4 Enterprise

John A. Hough  
employs 12 hands and  
manufactures a third of  
stock sold  
Fifth between Adams and  
Monroe

Josiah Francis

J. A. Mason

Sullivan Conant  
Sixth, between Adams  
and Monroe

Journal, Tuesday, April 30, 1850.<sup>144</sup>

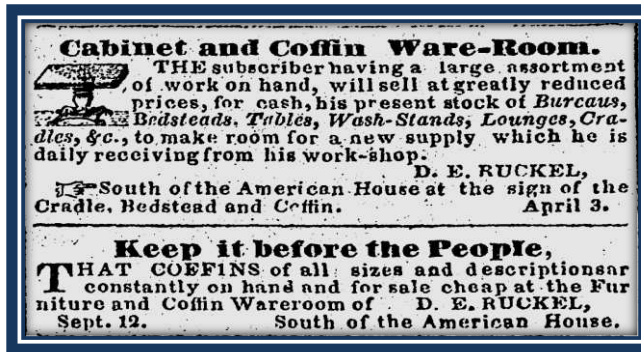
<sup>143</sup> Power, p. 476.

<sup>144</sup> Journal, Tuesday, April 30, 1850, p. 4.

### Daniel E. Ruckel

(1846-1859)

Cabinets



*Journal*, Saturday, July 6, 1850.<sup>145</sup>

Name: Cabinet and Coffin Ware-Room

Name: Daniel E. Ruckel

Date: April 3, 1850 and September 12, 1849.

Location: South of the American House at the sign of the cradle, bedstead and coffin.

Type: Cabinet furniture; coffins; Bureaus, bedsteads, tables, wash-stands, lounges, cradles. Coffins

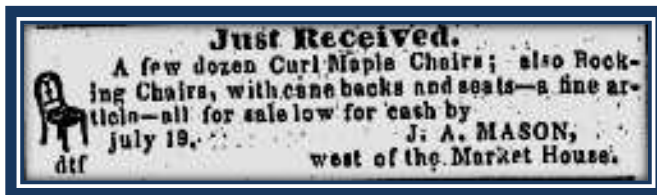
Age: 39

Origin: New York City

### John A. Mason

(1850-1863)

Chairs



*Journal*, Saturday, January 4, 1851.<sup>146</sup>

Name: John A. Mason

Date: July 19, 1850

Location: west of the Market House

Type: curl maple chairs, rocking chairs with cane backs and seats.

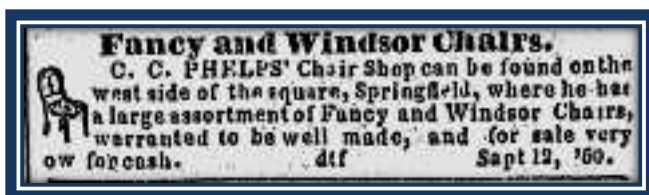
Age: 36

Origin: Virginia

### Charles C. Phelps

(1835-1860+)

Chairs



*Journal*, Monday, January 6, 1851.<sup>147</sup>

Name: Chair Shop

Name: Charles C. Phelps

Date: September 12, 1850

Location: west side of square

Type: fancy and Windsor chairs

Age: 36

Origin: Massachusetts

<sup>145</sup> *Journal*, Saturday, July 6, 1850, p. 4.

<sup>146</sup> *Journal*, Saturday, January 4, 1851, p. 1.

<sup>147</sup> *Journal*, Monday, January 6, 1851, p. 3.



**Sullivan Conant**

(1842-1859)

Chairs

*Journal*, Friday, July 18, 1851.<sup>148</sup>

Wood. H  
83.7, W  
203.2, D 63.5  
cm

1850-1860 Lincoln had this seven-foot long settee specially made by Springfield furniture maker Sullivan Conant so he could stretch out on it. It was painted to match the house and sat on the back (South) porch where it could catch the breeze.

*Name:* Chairs.*Name:* Sullivan Conant*Date:* September 20, 1850*Location:* south of Bunn's store, on the corner of Fifth and Monroe.*Type:* Chairs manufacture and sale.*Exchange:* lumber and produce for chairs*Age:* 49*Origin:* Massachusetts

Painted Windsor Style Bench Made by  
Sullivan Conant for Abraham Lincoln

**John A. Mason**

(1850-1863)

Chairs

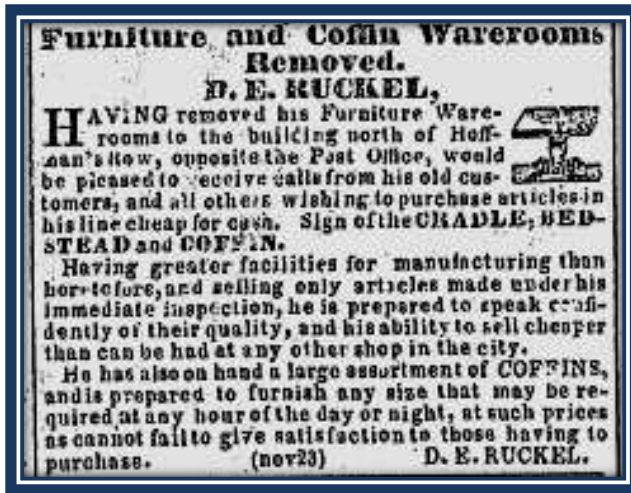
*Journal*, Monday, January 6, 1851.<sup>149</sup>*Name:* John A. Mason*Date:* December 21, 1850*Location:* northwest of the Market House*Type:* fancy and Windsor chairs, rocking chairs, settee; repairs and painting, bedsteads and other furniture.*Age:* 36*Origin:* Virginia<sup>148</sup> *Journal*, Friday, July 18, 1851, p. 3.<sup>149</sup> *Journal*, Monday, January 6, 1851, p. 3.



## Daniel E. Ruckel

(1846-1859)

Cabinets



*Name:* Cabinet and Coffin Ware-Room

*Name:* Daniel E. Ruckel

*Date:* November 23, 1850

*Location:* Moved to building north of Hoffman's Row, opposite of the Post Office; sign of Cradle, Bedstead and Coffin.

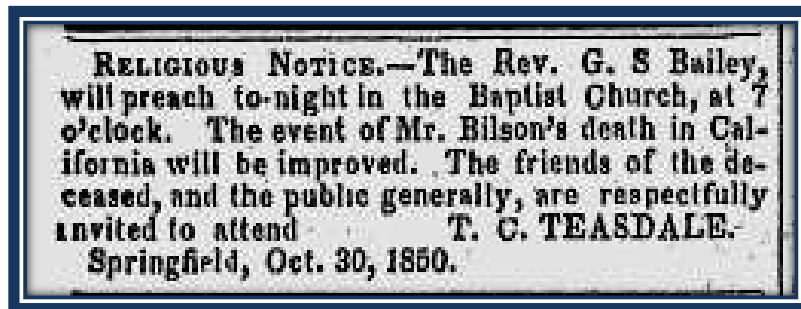
*Type:* furniture and coffins

*Age:* 39

*Origin:* New York City

*Journal*, Monday, January 6, 1851.<sup>150</sup>

## Death of Mr. Bilson



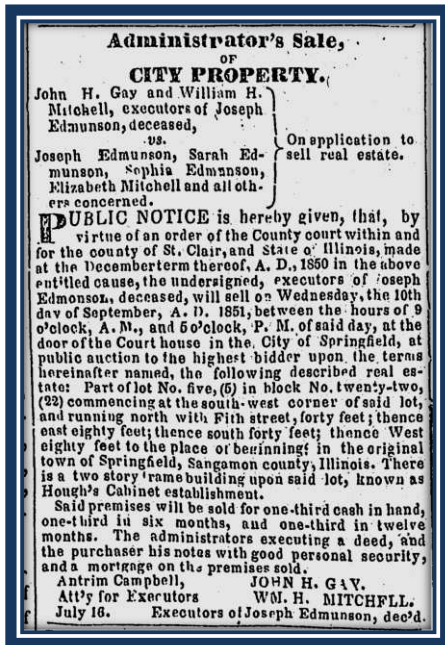
*Journal*, Wednesday, October 30, 1850.<sup>151</sup>

<sup>150</sup> *Journal*, Monday, January 6, 1851, p. 3.

<sup>151</sup> *Journal*, Wednesday, October 30, 1850, p. 3.

1851

## Hough's Cabinet Establishment Building Sold at Auction



*Journal*, Friday, July 18, 1851.<sup>152</sup>

Two story frame building on the lot, known as Hough's Cabinet establishment.

Lot 5, Block 22 Original Town of Springfield

## Charles C. Phelps Moves Again



*Journal*, Friday, July 18, 1851.<sup>153</sup>

Name: Charles C. Phelps

Date: May 15, 1851

Location: Moved to Northwest corner of the Public Square, west of Freeman & Co.'s store

Type: Fancy and Windsor chairs manufacture and sale; Walnut, Curled Maple, Cane and Flag Seats, Rocking, cabinetry, furniture of most kinds.

Age: 37

Origin: Massachusetts

<sup>152</sup> *Journal*, Friday, July 18, 1851, p. 3.

<sup>153</sup> *Journal*, Friday, July 18, 1851, p. 3.

**John A. Mason**  
(1850-1863)

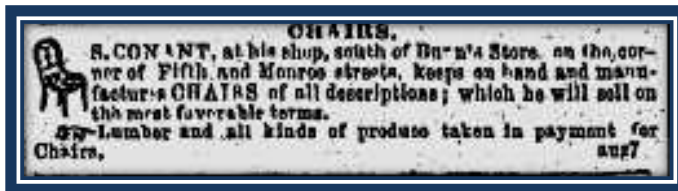
John A. Mason had been a chair maker before this, but he was probably not manufacturing all of his inventory.



Name: John A. Mason  
Date: March 26, 1851  
Type: furniture dealer, few dozen split bottom chairs  
Age: 37  
Origin: Virginia

**Sullivan Conant**  
(1842-1859)  
Chairs

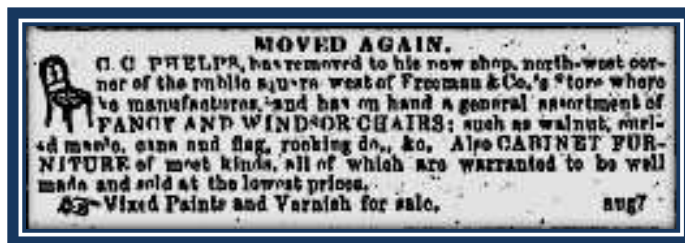
C



*Journal*, Wednesday, October 8, 1851.<sup>154</sup>

Name: Sullivan Conant  
Date: August 7, 1851  
Location: south of Bunn's store, on the corner of Fifth and Monroe.  
Type: Chairs manufacture and sale.  
Exchange: lumber and produce for chairs  
Age: 50  
Origin: Massachusetts

**Charles C. Phelps**  
(1835-1860+)  
Chairs



*Journal*, Wednesday, October 8, 1851.<sup>155</sup>

Name: Charles C. Phelps  
Date: August 7, 1851  
Location: Moved to Northwest corner of the Public Square, west of Freeman & Co.'s store  
Type: Fancy and Windsor chairs manufacture and sale; Walnut, Curled Maple, Cane and Flag Seats, Rocking, cabinetry, furniture of most kinds.  
Age: 37  
Origin: Massachusetts

<sup>154</sup> *Journal*, Wednesday, October 8, 1851, p. 1.

<sup>155</sup> *Journal*, Wednesday, October 8, 1851, p. 1.

## John A. Mason

(1850-1863)

Chairs



*Journal*, Wednesday, October 8, 1851.<sup>156</sup>

Name: John A. Mason

Date: August 7, 1851

Location: Northwest of Market House

Type: furniture dealer, fancy and Windsor also rocking chairs; small settees; bedsteads and furniture

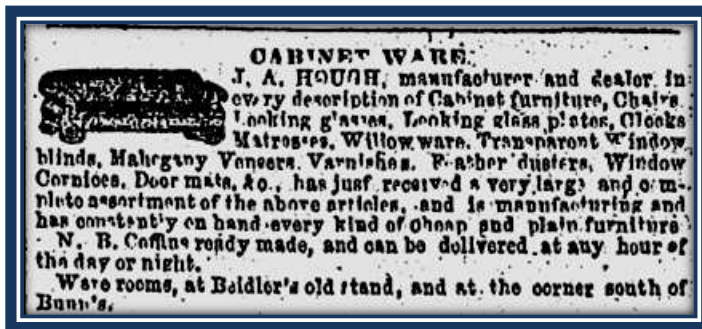
Age: 37

Origin: Vermont

## John A. Hough

(1839-1860+)

Cabinets



*Journal*, Wednesday, October 8, 1851.<sup>157</sup>

Name: Cabinet Ware.

Name: John A. Hough

Date:

Location: Corner south of Bunn's

Type: manufacturer of cabinet furniture; chairs, mahogany veneers, varnishes; furniture; coffins

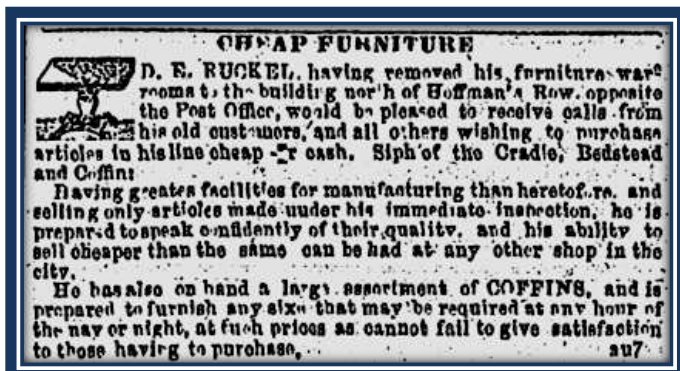
Age: 36

Origin: Virginia

## Daniel E. Ruckel

(1846-1859)

Cabinets



*Journal*, Wednesday, October 8, 1851.<sup>158</sup>

Name: Cheap Furniture

Name: Daniel E. Ruckel

Date: August 7, 1851

Location: Moved to building north of Hoffman's Row, opposite of the Post Office; sign of Cradle, Bedstead and Coffin.

Type: furniture and coffins; manufacture and sale

Age: 40

Origin: New York City

<sup>156</sup> *Journal*, Wednesday, October 8, 1851, p. 1.

<sup>157</sup> *Journal*, Wednesday, October 8, 1851, p. 1.

<sup>158</sup> *Journal*, Wednesday, October 8, 1851, p. 1.

### **Abraham Lincoln Loans \$300 to Daniel E. Ruckel**

On August 15, 1851, Lincoln loaned \$300 to Daniel E. Ruckel, a Springfield cabinet maker from whom he occasionally bought furniture for his home. The loan was evidenced by Ruckel's note for \$300, bearing interest at ten per cent from December 25, 1851, until paid. Interest was due annually, and the principal on December 25, 1854, or earlier upon default of payment of interest. To secure this debt Daniel and Catherine Ruckel gave Lincoln a mortgage on four lots in Allen's Addition, in the northern part of Springfield, and also assigned to Lincoln whatever interest they might have to a part of Lot eight in Block ten, Old Town Plat, located on the northwest corner of Fifth and Washington streets.

Two years later Lincoln made this notation on the margin of the mortgage record: "In consideration of Daniel E. Ruckel having perfected the title to the other parcel of ground included in this mortgage [the property at Fifth and Washington streets] I do hereby release from said mortgage the lots therein described as Lots Nine, ten, eleven, and twelve, in Block Three, in Allen's addition to Springfield. Witness my hand and seal this 7th day of July, 1853. A. Lincoln." These lots faced east on Seventh Street, extending south from Edwards Street to the middle of the block.

Daniel E. Ruckel died on April 9, 1854, leaving a widow and four minor children. Lincoln's loan was unpaid. A memorandum of September 28, 1857, stated that Lincoln had received \$300 in full of "a note and mortgage I held of the late Daniel E. Ruckel." Interest on the loan "due from last Christmas" was to be paid by R. H. Beach, administrator of Daniel Ruckel's estate.

On the same day, September 28, 1857, Lincoln lent Jacob Ruckel, a younger brother and Daniel's business partner, \$500, taking a mortgage to the four lots on Seventh Street which Jacob had acquired from his brother's estate. Lincoln endorsed payment of the first year's interest on November 27, 1858, on the face of the mortgage. He collected two more interest payments prior to his departure for Washington to become President. The Jacob Ruckel note was one of the notes which Lincoln left with Robert Irwin, cashier of the Springfield Marine and Fire Insurance Co. Irwin collected the interest and principal amounting to \$667.05 on January 29, 1864, releasing the mortgage on the same day.



1852

**Josiah Francis and Charles B. Francis**

Josiah Francis manufactured cabinet furniture with his brother Charles B. Francis until 1852, when he engaged in farming, four miles northeast of Springfield, near what was German Prairie Station.

**John A. Hough**

(1839-1860+)

Cabinets

**1852:**  
**"NOW, MARK YOU!"**

**THE** undersigned, desirous of sustaining the high reputation of giving good bargains and certain satisfaction in the sale of  
**Cabinet Furniture,**  
Does invite the attention of the "friends" to his large and superior stock of ware.

**"I GRANT YOU,"**  
That others may puff and blow about steam works and  
**ALL THEM SORT O' THINGS,**  
But bear in mind that Hough possesses the real and substantial elements essential to a successful organization of his business in its various ramifications.

**HENCE, YOU SEE—J. A. HOUGH, SPRINGFIELD, ILL.,**  
Is manufacturing and has on hand, constantly every description of Cabinet Furniture and house furnishing goods, consisting of

Sofas,	Italian bedsteads,
Divans,	French "
Ottomans,	Common "
Adorned rocking chairs,	Curtain "
" sewing "	Trundle "
Centre tables,	Cribs and Cradles,
Card "	Cupboards,
Side "	Presses,
Parlor chairs,	Wardrobes,
Cane seat rockers,	Matresses, all kinds,
" " parlor chairs,	Looking glasses,
Rich dress bureaux,	Looking glass plates,
Com. " "	Clocks, 8 day,
Plain mahogany bureaux,	" 30 hour,
Walnut bureaux,	Window shades,
Cherry " "	Varnish,
Dining tables,	Glue,
Breakfast tables,	Bench Planes,
Work tables,	Spanish moss,
Wash stands,	Mahogany veneering.

And insert every article of ornament and utility required in furnishing complete or replenishing.

Customers can rely on having articles of furniture from my establishment of the best workmanship and materials, as low as can be furnished in the west. Having the largest stock in the city, and dealing on the cash system, mainly enables me to do better for purchasers than heretofore.

Warecomes on Fifth street, a few doors south of Bunn's.  
March, 10, 1852. **J. A. HOUGH.**

*Name:* John A. Hough*Date:* March 10, 1852*Location:* Fifth street, a few doors south of Bunn's.*Type:* Mahogany sofa seat parlor chair, rose wood sofa, painted and stained sofa chairs, chairs of all sorts; manufacture and sale.*Age:* 37*Origin:* Virginia*Journal*, March 26, 1852.<sup>159</sup><sup>159</sup> *Journal*, March 26, 1852, p. 3.

**Hutchinson & Powell**

(1852-\_\_\_\_)

Cabinets

**Stop Blowing that Penny Whistle!**

While we exhibit some of our Furniture Not Made At the East for Auction—BUT GENUINE, HOME MADE, OF THE RIGHT SORT—every article, warranted of our own manufacture and at prices as low as at any REGULAR ESTABLISHMENT in the west.

As we devote ourselves exclusively to the manufacture of CABINET WARE, and HAVING NONE BUT OUR OWN TO SELL, we warrant it to be superior to any other manufactured or for sale in this city. Our facilities are such, that we offer inducements to purchasers not to be beat

**EVEN BY SALE GOOD.**

All persons who wish to buy furniture are therefore invited to give us a call. We are manufacturing and have on hand the following among our large stock.

Common Bedsteads,	Elaborate and Sewing chairs
French do.	Cupboards, Presses,
High Post Gothic do.	Dress and Common Bureaus,
French Cottage do.	Centre & Card Tables, with Egyptian & Ital. marble tops,
Trundle do.	Dining and Breakfast Tables,
Wardrobes, Cribes,	Card & Side do.
Seamer, cottage style,	Work Tables & Stands,
Cradles, Fire Screens,	Closet & Plain Wash stands,
Sofas, Divans, Ottomans,	Muslin & Paper Stands, &c.
Parlor arm Reclining Chairs,	

**HUTCHINSON & POWELL.**

At the old stand, yellow brick, one door south of the Springfield Academy.

N. B. One room is devoted entirely to ready made Coffins of various sizes and qualities, where people of the country or city can be supplied at a moment's notice. Lots for sale in Hutchinson's burying ground, and undertaking in all its branches attended to as formerly. March 26.

*Journal*, Wednesday, March 31, 1852.<sup>160</sup>

Name: Hutchinson &amp; Powell

Date: March 26, 1852

Location: old stand, yellow brick, one door south of the Springfield Academy (west side of 5<sup>th</sup> street between Market (Capitol and Monroe)

Type: While we exhibit some of our Furniture Not Made At the East for Auction—But Genuine, Homemade of the Right Sort—every article, warranted of our own manufacture and at prices as low as at any Regular Establishment in the west. As we devote ourselves exclusively to manufacture of Cabinet Ware... Coffins, lots in Hutchinson's burying grounds

**Daniel E. Ruckel**

(1846-1859)

Cabinets

**CHEAP FURNITURE**

D. E. RUCKEL, having removed his furniture warehouse to the building north of Hoffman's Row, opposite the Post Office, would be pleased to receive calls from his old customers, and all others wishing to purchase articles in his line cheap & cash. Sign of the Cradle, Bedstead and Coffin.

Having greater facilities for manufacturing than heretofore, and selling only articles made under his immediate inspection, he is prepared to speak confidently of their quality, and his ability to sell cheaper than the enemy can be had at any other shop in the city.

He has also on hand a large assortment of COFFINS, and is prepared to furnish any size that may be required at any hour of the day or night, at such prices as cannot fail to give satisfaction to those having to purchase.

*Journal*, June 24, 1852.<sup>161</sup>

Name: Cabinet and Coffin Ware-Room

Name: Daniel E. Ruckel

Date: August 7, 1852

Location: Moved to building north of Hoffman's Row, opposite of the Post Office; sign of Cradle, Bedstead and Coffin.

Type: furniture and coffins

Age: 41

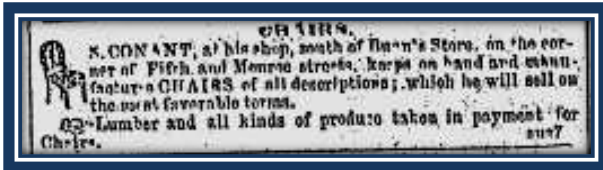
Origin: New York City

<sup>160</sup> *Journal*, Wednesday, March 31, 1852, p. 2.<sup>161</sup> *Journal*, Thursday, June 24, 1852, p. 1.

### Sullivan Conant

(1842-1859)

Chairs



*Journal*, Friday, August 27, 1852.<sup>162</sup>

*Name:* Sullivan Conant

*Date:* August 7, 1852

*Location:* south of Bunn's store, on the corner of Fifth and Monroe.

*Type:* Chairs manufacture and sale.

*Exchange:* lumber and produce for chairs

*Age:* 51

*Origin:* Massachusetts

### Charles C. Phelps

(1835-1860+)

Chairs



*Journal*, Friday, August 27, 1852.<sup>163</sup>

*Name:* Charles C. Phelps

*Date:* August 7, 1852

*Location:* moved to Northwest corner of the Public Square, west of Freeman & Co.'s store

*Type:* Fancy and Windsor chairs manufacture and sale; Walnut, Curled Maple, Cane and Flag Seats, Rocking, cabinetry, furniture of most kinds.

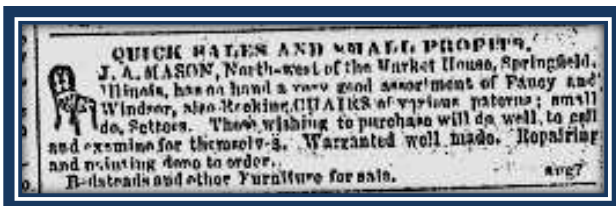
*Age:* 38

*Origin:* Massachusetts

### John A. Mason

(1850-1863)

Chairs



*Journal*, Friday, August 27, 1852.<sup>164</sup>

*Name:* John A. Mason

*Date:* August 7, 1852

*Location:* northwest of Market House

*Type:* furniture fancy and Windsor, rocking chairs, small settees; bedsteads and furniture; repairing and painting

*Age:* 38

*Origin:* Vermont

<sup>162</sup> *Journal*, Friday, August 27, 1852, p. 1.

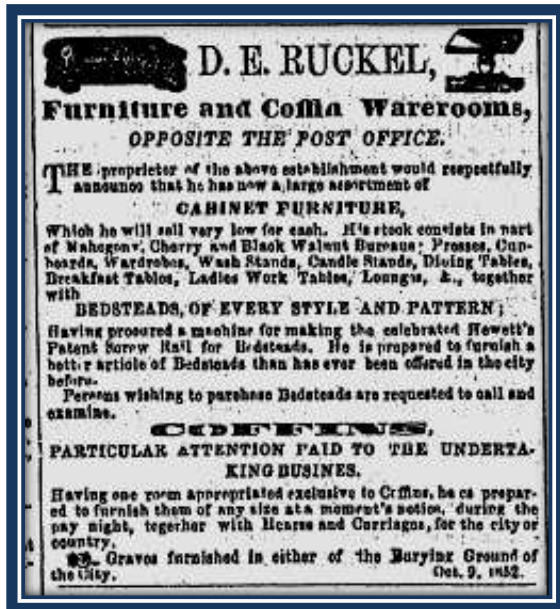
<sup>163</sup> *Journal*, Friday, August 27, 1852, p. 1.

<sup>164</sup> *Journal*, Friday, August 27, 1852, p. 1.

**Daniel E. Ruckel**

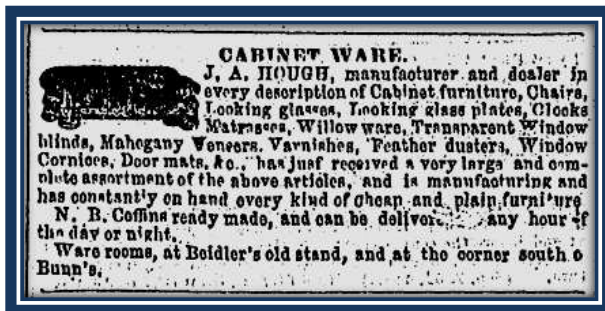
(1846-1859)

Cabinets

*Journal*, Friday, October 15, 1852.<sup>165</sup>*Name:* Cabinet and Coffin Ware-Room*Name:* Daniel E. Ruckel*Date:* October 9, 1852*Location:* building north of Hoffman's Row, opposite of the Post Office; sign of Cradle, Bedstead and Coffin.*Type:* furniture and coffins*Age:* 41*Origin:* New York City**John A. Hough**

(1839-1860+)

Cabinets

*Journal*, Tuesday, September 28, 1852.<sup>166</sup>*Name:* John A. Hough*Date:* June 28, 1852*Location:* Fifth street, a few doors south of Bunn's.*Type:* Mahogany sofa seat parlor chair, rose wood sofa, painted and stained sofa chairs, chairs of all sorts; manufacture and sale.*Age:* 37*Origin:* Virginia<sup>165</sup> *Journal*, Friday, October 15, 1852, p. 3.<sup>166</sup> *Journal*, Tuesday, September 28, 1852, p. 1.



## John A. Mason

(1850-1863)

Chairs



*Journal*, Saturday, December 11, 1852.<sup>167</sup>

Name: John A. Mason

Date: December 10, 1852

Type: received and for sale a few dozen common chairs

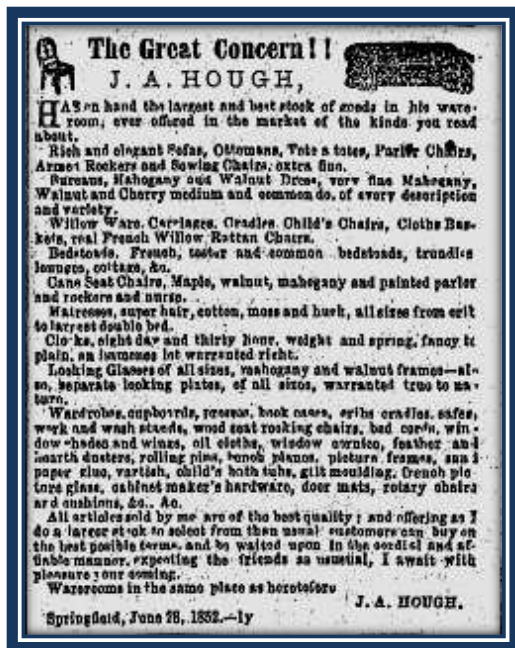
Age: 38

Origin: Vermont

## John A. Hough

(1839-1860+)

Cabinets



*Journal*, Thursday, December 30, 1852.<sup>168</sup>

Name: John A. Hough

Date: June 28, 1852

Location: Fifth street, a few doors south of Bunn's.

Type: Mahogany sofa seat parlor chair, rose wood sofa, painted and stained sofa chairs, chairs of all sorts; manufacture and sale.

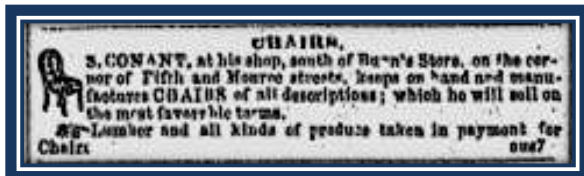
Age: 37

Origin: Virginia

## Sullivan Conant

(1842-1859)

Chairs



*Journal*, Thursday, December 30, 1852<sup>169</sup>

Name: Sullivan Conant

Date: August 7, 1852

Location: south of Bunn's store, on the corner of Fifth and Monroe.

Type: Chairs manufacture and sale.

Exchange: lumber and produce for chairs

Age: 51

Origin: Massachusetts

<sup>167</sup> *Journal*, Saturday, December 11, 1852, p. 3.

<sup>168</sup> *Journal*, Thursday, December 30, 1852, p. 1.

<sup>169</sup> *Journal*, Thursday, December 30, 1852, p. 1.

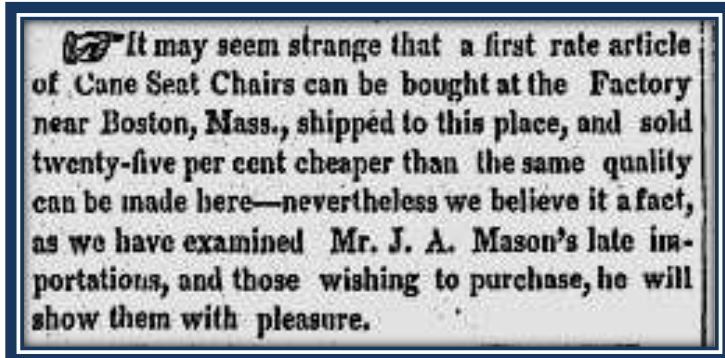


1853

**John A. Mason**

(1850-1863)

Chairs



*Journal*, Thursday, January 6, 1853.<sup>170</sup>

*Name:* John A. Mason

*Date:* January 6, 1853

*Type:* Cane seat chairs from Boston

*Age:* 39

*Origin:* Vermont

**John A. Mason**

(1850-1863)

Chairs



*Journal*, Monday, January 10, 1853<sup>171</sup>

*Name:* John A. Mason

*Date:* January 6, 1853

*Type:* Cane seat chairs and rocking chairs

*Age:* 39

*Origin:* Vermont

<sup>170</sup> *Journal*, Thursday, January 6, 1853, p. 2.

<sup>171</sup> *Journal*, Monday, January 10, 1853, p. 3.

**Phelps & Strickland**

(1853-1857)

Chairs and Cabinets

*Name:* New Furniture Ware-Room*Name:* Charles C. Phelps and George Strickland*Date:* July 2, 1853*Location:* Northwest corner of the Public Square*Type:* Fancy and Windsor chairs manufacture and sale.*Age:* Phelps 39*Origin:* Massachusetts*Age:* Strickland 41*Origin:* Massachusetts*Journal*, Wednesday, July 6, 1853.<sup>172</sup>

George Strickland was born on March 29, 1812, in Amherst, Massachusetts. He was married on May 30, 1836, in Northampton, Massachusetts, to Sarah Little -- sister to Thomas S. Little and Sophia Phelps. Sarah Little Strickland was born on November 21, 1814, in Northampton. They had one child, and moved to Springfield, Illinois, arriving in August 1837. They had five children in Springfield, two of whom died young.<sup>173</sup>

George Strickland was a cabinet maker and carpenter by trade and followed cabinet making in Springfield when work was largely done by hand.

The 1860 census listed George Strickland as a 47-year-old chair maker and furniture dealer. He lived at the southeast corner of 3<sup>rd</sup> and Wright streets (302 E. Lawrence.)<sup>174</sup>

They were strict Presbyterians and took a very active part in church work. George died on July 14, 1887, at age 75, and Sarah died on October 10 of the same year, at the age 73.<sup>175</sup>

George Strickland was a subscriber to the Springfield Anti-Slavery Society. Mary A. Strickland was also a subscriber.<sup>176</sup>

<sup>172</sup> *Journal*, Wednesday, July 6, 1853, p. 3.

<sup>173</sup> *Power*, p. 694.

<sup>174</sup> 1860 census, p. 106 (Mass.)(47). \$3,500/\$100.

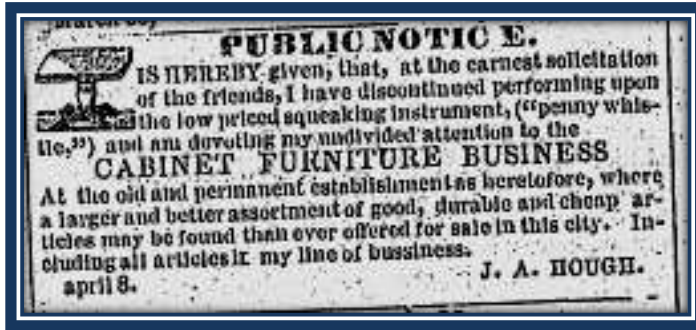
<sup>175</sup> 1904 History, p. 778.

<sup>176</sup> Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library, Manuscripts Section, SC 3632.

## John A. Hough

(1839-1860+)

Cabinets



*Journal*, Monday, July 11, 1853.<sup>177</sup>

Name: John A. Hough

Date: April 8, 1853

Location: at the old and permanent establishment

Type: cabinet furniture business.

Age: 38

Origin: Vermont

## John A. Mason

(1850-1863)

Chairs



*Journal*, Monday, August 8, 1853.<sup>178</sup>

Name: Chairs

Name: John A. Mason

Date: July 23, 1853

Location: northwest of market house.

Type: furniture dealer, new supply of cane seat chairs, rocking chairs, put up and finished here; chairs, settees, lounges, bedsteads; repairing and painting

Age: 39

Origin: Vermont

<sup>177</sup> *Journal*, Monday, July 11, 1853, p. 1.

<sup>178</sup> *Journal*, Monday, August 8, 1853, p. 2.



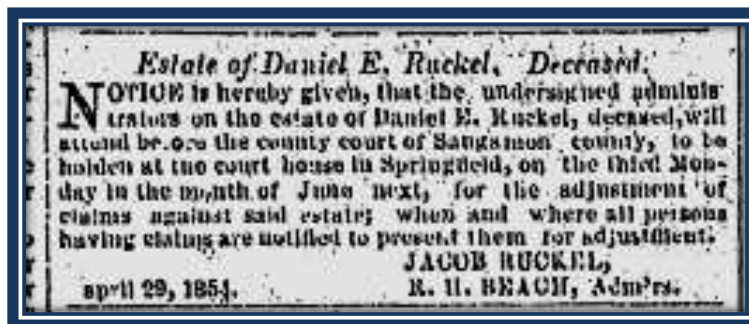


1854

### Death of Daniel E. Ruckel

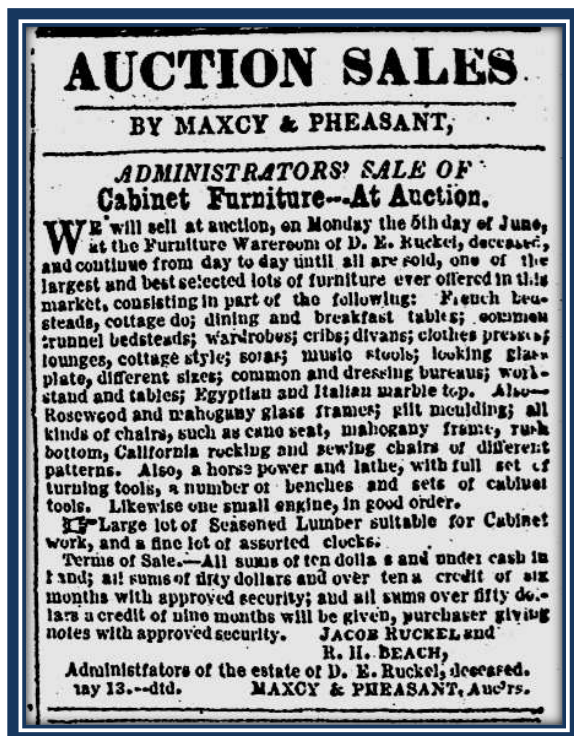
Daniel E. Ruckel died on April 9, 1854. See Appendix for his obituary.

### Estate of Daniel E. Ruckel, Deceased



*Journal*, Wednesday, May 3, 1854.<sup>180</sup>

### Daniel Ruckel Estate Sale Notice



*Journal*, Thursday, May 18, 1854.<sup>181</sup>

Name: Auction Sales: Estate of D. E. Ruckel

Date: May 13, 1854

On Monday June 5, 1854, after Daniel Ruckel's death, those administering his estate held a public auction to sell his personal assets. The list of furniture is extensive. Most interesting is the list of tools and inventory of the cabinet shop: lathe, full set of turning tools, benches and sets of cabinet tools, lumber for cabinet work.

<sup>180</sup> *Journal*, Wednesday, May 3, 1854, p. 3.

<sup>181</sup> *Journal*, Thursday, May 18, 1854, p. 3.



**Williams & Link**

(1854-1857)

Cabinets

*Register*, Monday, October 9, 1854.<sup>182</sup>*Name:* New Furniture House*Name:* Williams & Link*Date:* October 3, 1854*Location:* first door north of Maxcy & Pheasant's auction rooms, the building formerly occupied by D. E. Ruckel.*Type:* manufacturing all kinds of cabinet ware: bureaus, tables, chairs, sofas, stands, lounges, bedsteads

Undertaking in all its branches; coffins on hand

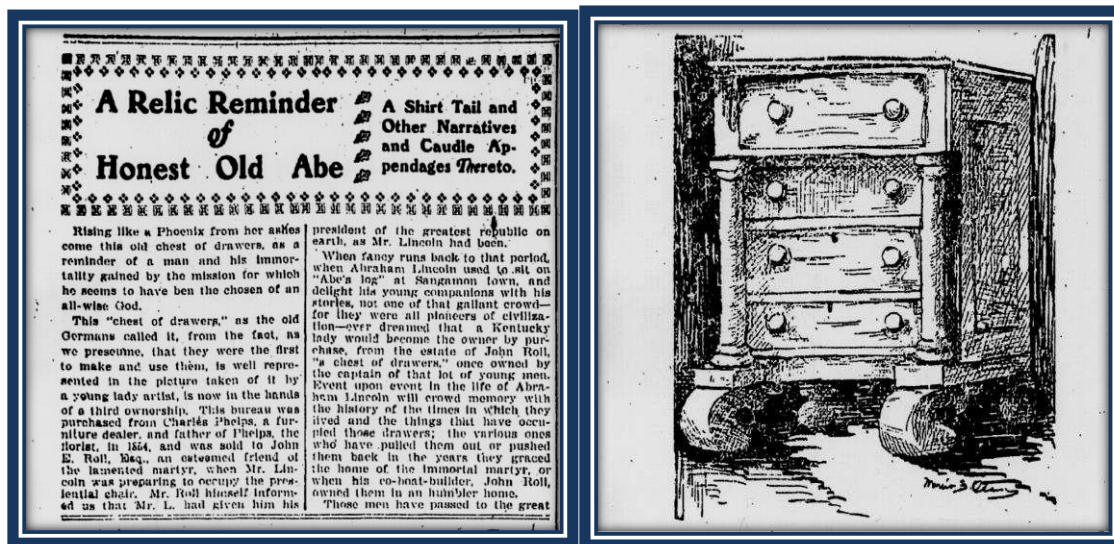
Henry Williams, was born in Springfield, Massachusetts, on July 15, 1824. As a young boy he worked on a farm. His early youth was fraught with many trials and hardships. His mother and brother James came to Illinois in 1840, traveling in a "prairie schooner," and were three weeks making the trip. They settled at Salem, and James, who subsequently enlisted in the Union army, gave his life to the good of the cause. His mother died in Springfield at the ripe old age of ninety years.

Henry Williams took up his abode in Beardstown, Illinois, but after a short time removed to Springfield. He worked at the cabinet-maker's trade in Beardstown and on his removal to this city found employment with J. Hough. Later he began business for himself in connection with Christian Link, their building being located on the present site of engine house No. 3. There their plant was destroyed by fire, causing a total loss. Mr. Williams, however, immediately erected another building and continued the manufacture of furniture on a larger scale than before. He also opened a retail furniture establishment in the center of the city and in connection with its conduct manufactured coffins, billiard tables and furniture. On dissolving partnership with Mr. Link he took the retail store and added an undertaking department. Mr. Williams was the oldest undertaker in Springfield and buried the first body in Oak Ridge Cemetery, about 1861, when there was nothing but hazel brush in what is now one of the most beautiful cemeteries of Illinois. He sold his furniture department and removed the undertaking business, in 1888, to No. 420 East Washington street, where he continued up to the time of his death.

Mr. Williams was married in Springfield to Miss Sarah Wahl, who was born in the north of Ireland and was educated in the Presbyterian faith. They had two sons, James H. and Franklin E. The former was born in October, 1850, was in his father's employ for a long period, and died in Springfield at the age of forty-five years. The family home was on Madison street, between First and Second streets, where the father lived for forty-four years. His wife died March 3, 1888, at the age of sixty-five years. He afterward left the old home and in 1896 purchased the family residence at No. 1027 South Second Street, where he remained until his death, November 1, 1902.

<sup>182</sup> *Register*, Monday, October 9, 1854, p. 2.

## Charles C. Phelps Chest of Drawers Chairs and Cabinets



*Register*, Friday, August 9, 1901.<sup>183</sup>

Rising like a Phoenix from her ashes come this old chest of drawers, as a reminder of a man and his immortality gained by the mission for which he seems to have been the chosen of an all-wise God.

This "chest of drawers," as the old Germans called it, from the fact, as we presume, that they were the first to make and use them, is well represented in the picture taken of it by a young lady artist, is now in the hands of a third ownership. This bureau was purchased from Charles Phelps, a furniture dealer, and father of Phelps, the florist, in 1854, and was sold to John E. Roll, Esq., an esteemed friend of the lamented martyr, when Mr. Lincoln was preparing to occupy the presidential chair. Mr. Roll himself informed us that Mr. L. had given him his

President of the greatest republic on earth, as Mr. Lincoln had been.

When fancy runs back to that period, when Abraham Lincoln used to sit on "Abe's log" at Sangamon town, and delight his young companions with his stories, not one of that gallant crowd—for they were all pioneers of civilization—ever dreamed that a Kentucky lady would become the owner by purchase, from the estate of John Roll, "a chest of drawers," once owned by the captain of that lot of young men. Event upon event in the life of Abraham Lincoln will crowd memory with the history of the times in which they lived and the things that have occupied those drawers: the farious ones who have pulled them out or pushed them back in the years they graced the home of the immortal martyr, or when his co-boat-builder, John Roll, owned them in an humbler home. Those men have passed to the great beyond.

<sup>183</sup> *Register*, Friday, August 9, 1901, p. 8.

## Highboy Lincoln Owned Back Again In His Home Here

The addition of a mahogany highboy owned by Abraham Lincoln, to the collection of original furniture in the Lincoln home in Springfield, was announced yesterday by Director W. A. Rosenfield of the state department of public works and buildings.

The highboy, which Lincoln kept in his household from 1854 until he left to become president, is a gift to the state from Mrs. Joseph E. Davies, wife of the former American ambassador to Russia. She obtained it from her late father, C. W. Post, who was a former Springfield resident.

According to records, Lincoln purchased the piece of furniture from Charles Phelps and later gave it to an old friend, John E. Roll. Through subsequent sales, the highboy came into possession of Post.

Besides the highboy, the Lincoln home now has the original dining room table, four chairs and several smaller pieces.

The highboy, which Lincoln kept in his household from 1854 until he left to become president, is a gift to the state...

According to records, Lincoln purchased the piece of furniture from Charles Phelps and later gave it to an old friend, John E. Roll. Through subsequent sales, the highboy came into possession of Post...

*Journal*, Tuesday, January 27, 1942.<sup>184</sup>

**John A. Hough**  
(1839-1860+)  
Cabinets

**J. A. HOUGH,**  
*Proprietor and Manager of the Great*  
**CABINET FURNITURE WARE ROOMS**  
**CARPET EMPORIUM, Looking Glass Depot,**  
Clock establishment and general House Furn-  
ishing concern, South Fifth street, west side, calls  
the attention of the public to his large and com-  
plete assortment of goods. Having recently added to the  
business, a very complete assortment of Carpetings, Rugs,  
Oil and Floor Cloths, Matting, Stair Rods, &c., embracing  
over 50 patterns and styles. Buyers will be benefited by  
calling at this house before purchasing. nov25dtf

*Name:* Cabinet Furniture Ware Rooms

*Name:* John A. Hough

*Date:* November 25, 1854

*Location:* South Fifth street, west side

*Type:* general house furnishings; Cabinet  
furniture;

*Age:* 39

*Origin:* Virginia

*Journal*, Saturday, August 4, 1855.<sup>185</sup>

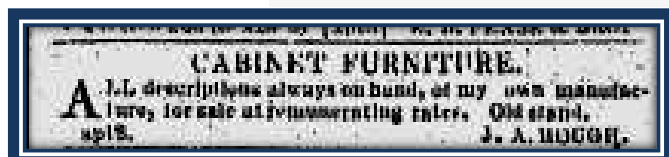
<sup>184</sup> *Journal*, Tuesday, January 27, 1942, p. 3.

<sup>185</sup> *Journal*, Saturday, August 4, 1855, p. 4.

## John A. Hough

(1839-1860+)

Cabinets



Name: John A. Hough

Date: November 25, 1854

Location: South Fifth street, west side, old stand

Type: all descriptions; Cabinet furniture;

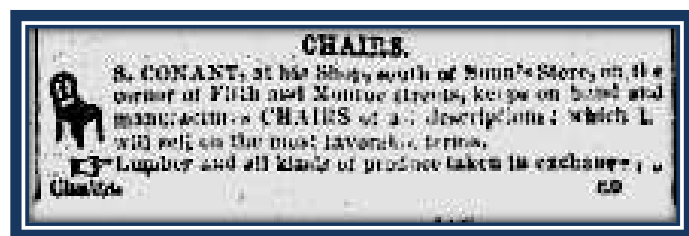
Age: 39

Origin: Virginia

## Sullivan Conant

(1842-1859)

Chairs



Name: Chairs.

Name: Sullivan Conant

Date: 1854

Location: south of Bunn's store, on the corner of Fifth and Monroe.

Type: Chairs manufacture and sale.

Exchange: lumber and produce for chairs

Age: 53

Origin: Massachusetts

*Journal*, Tuesday, August 1, 1854.<sup>186</sup>

## William S. Conant

Petersburg, Illinois

Chairs



Name: Chairs.

Name: William S. Conant

Date: June 12, 1854

Location: Petersburg.

Type: Chairs manufacture and sale.

*Journal*, Friday, October 27, 1854.<sup>187</sup>

<sup>186</sup> *Journal*, Tuesday, August 1, 1854, p. 4.

<sup>187</sup> *Journal*, Friday, October 27, 1854, p. 3.



1855

As in 18\_\_, the year 1855 newspapers contained only one advertisement for chair and cabinet makers. This is inexplicable, and I hope someone will be able to explain why or find more advertisements.

**Phelps & Strickland**

(1853-1857)

Chairs and Cabinets



*Journal*, Saturday, August 4, 1855.<sup>188</sup>

*Name:* Sangamo Furniture Ware Rooms

*Name:* Charles C. Phelps and George Strickland

*Date:* June 16, 1855

*Location:* No. 3, Enterprise Row, 2<sup>nd</sup> Story above Richardson & Co. Shoe Store

*Type:* Mahogany chairs, cottage bedsteads (new style), painted chamber sets; mahogany and walnut bureaus; book cases; wash stands; furniture and chairs

*Age:* Phelps 40 Massachusetts Strickland 43 Massachusetts

“Just received” indicates that they are not manufacturing all of their furniture.

<sup>188</sup> *Journal*, Saturday, August 4, 1855, p. 4.



1856

**John A. Mason**

(1850-1863)

Cabinets

**NEW ARRIVALS.**

**CHOICE FURNITURE.**  
I HAVE NOW ON HAND, AND  
Intend hereafter to keep, a  
**LARGE STOCK OF FURNITURE,**  
such as I can recommend for beauty of style and durability  
of workmanship—consisting in part of the following articles,  
which are offered for sale, **CHEAP**, at my  
**Mammoth Ware-Rooms, Journal Buildings,**  
over Maxcy's auction store, and also at the Old Stand,  
nearly opposite—

Dress and Com Bureaus,	Rocking Chairs,
Sofas,	Manogany do
Wardrobes,	Splint do
Cupboards,	Common do
Bedsteads, (variety,)	Cane Seat do (variety,)
Centre Tables,	Stools, for stores,
Card do	Mattresses,
Dining do	Looking Glasses,
Breakfast do	Clocks,
Work Stands,	Whatnots, &c., &c., &c.
Wash do	

Also, **DODGE'S PATENT PORTABLE BEDSTEAD**,  
with spring bottom, one of the most popular articles ever  
introduced, and which for economy and comfort cannot be  
beat. Oail and see them. Read the following certificates:

We have seen a recent improvement, to which a premium  
was awarded at the Ohio State Fair of last year, which,  
perhaps, combines more of simplicity and positive excel-  
lence, than any article of dormitory furniture in the mar-  
ket. It is a combined spring bed and bedstead, manufac-  
tured by J. R. & H. R. Dodge, at Springfield, in this State  
—very portable, and unusually cheap—furnished at from  
\$15 to \$50. We learn that they are rapidly coming into  
general use.—Cincinnati Gazette.

It is designed to supersede the use of feathers, and at the  
same time give to the bed the softness and elasticity of  
feathers.—Xenia Torchlight.

These bedsteads are manufactured so cheap, that they  
will, in all probability, come into common use. So soft, so  
pleasant are these beds, that feathers will wli soon be out  
of use.—Obit. Statesman.

We have tried one of their beds, and can conscientiously  
recommend it as superior to any other of which we have  
any knowledge. \* \* \* In a philanthropic point of  
view, we can recommend it as adapted to ease some of "the  
tires that flesh is heir to."—Free Presbyterian.

All I ask is the pleasure of a call, feeling confident  
that I can give entire satisfaction to all who wish to pur-  
chase any thing in my line.  
J. A. MASON,  
Journal Buildings.

Name: John A. Mason

Date: May 16, 1856

Location: Journal Building, over  
Maxcy's auction store and at Old  
Stand nearly opposite: 6th Street  
Jefferson to Washington East  
Side 1854 Hart Map.

Type: furniture dealer, carpets,  
looking glasses, clocks, window  
shades, etc.

Home: boards southwest corner  
4th and Monroe: 1860 C.D.  
Home: boards at St. Nicholas  
Hotel.

Age: 42

Origin: Vermont

*Journal*, Saturday, August 2, 1856.<sup>189</sup>**John A. Hough**

(1839-1860)

Cabinets

John A. Hough placed an advertisement in the Thursday, May 22, 1856, *Register*  
wanting two or three journeymen cabinet makers.

**JOURNEYMEN CABINET MAKERS.**  
**TWO and three Jour. Cabinet Makers wanted, by**  
**may23 (Jour.) J. A. HOUGH.**

*Register*, Thursday, May 22, 1856.<sup>190</sup><sup>189</sup> *Journal*, Saturday, August 2, 1856, p. 1.<sup>190</sup> *Register*, Thursday, May 22, 1856, p. 2.

**John Hutchinson**

(1844-1860+)

Cabinets

**BULLETIN EXTRAORDINARY.**  
**J HUTCHINSON, AGAIN CALLS PAR-**  
 ticular attention to the fact, that he has made large additions to his facilities for the MANUFACTURE and sale of RICH and BEAUTIFUL FURNITURE, in the most elaborate styles, from the gorgeous Louis the Fourteenth, Elizabethan, to the beautiful chaste Cottage varieties of Cabinet Furniture, together with the plain and useful articles of Kitchen, Chamber, and Farm House articles, well adapted for the trade. Has also, at all times, a choice assortment of CHAIRS.

I have also made arrangements for a constant supply of Eastern work, gilt mouldings, Looking Glasses, Glass Plates, &c., &c. Persons wishing to fill orders, can do so at as reasonable terms as at St. Louis or any other western city.

French, cottage, trundle and common Bedsteads  
 Elizabethan and sewing chairs  
 Cupboards and Presses  
 Dress and common Bureaus  
 Centre and card Tables; Wardrobes; Orbits  
 Egyptian and Italian marble top centre and card tables  
 Lounges, cottage style; Fire screens; Sofas  
 Dining and breakfast tables;  
 Card and side tables; Closed and plain Wash-stands  
 Work Tables and Stands

All I ask is to give me a call before purchasing, and I feel confident you will not purchase elsewhere At the old stand—Yellow brick.

**J. HUTCHINSON.**  
 N. B. One room of my establishment is devoted entirely to Ready-Made Coffins, of all sizes and qualities, where people from the country or city can be supplied at a moment's notice. Lots for sale in Hutchinson's Burying Ground, and Undertaking in all its branches attended to as formerly. Great Hearse with two horses.

My residence is two doors south of the shop. ap7

Name: John A. Hutchinson

Date: April 7, 1856

Location: At the old stand—yellow brick

Type: furniture and one room devoted to coffins, lots for sale in Hutchinson Burying Ground, undertaking, good hearse with two horses

*Journal*, Wednesday, April 9, 1856.<sup>191</sup>*Register*, Wednesday, January 16, 1856.<sup>192</sup>**Sale of Real Estate in Daniel E. Ruckel Estate**

The Tuesday, August 5, 1856, *Journal* contained an advertisement for the public sale of the home of the late Daniel E. Ruckel. The house was on 4<sup>th</sup> Street a short distance south of the Governor's House.

**ADMINISTRATORS' SALE**  
**OF REAL ESTATE BELONGING TO THE**  
 Estate of D. E. Ruckel. By virtue of an order of the Sangamon county court, made at the June term, A. D., 1856, we will sell at public auction on FRIDAY, the EIGHTH day of AUGUST next, on the premises, sale to commence at 2 o'clock p. m.

First. The House and Lot formerly occupied by the deceased, being lot 8, block 2, Allen's addition to Springfield.

Second. Lot 10, block 2, adjoining the above.

Third. Lot 11, and fraction lot 12, block 2, adjoining.

The above property is located on Fourth street, a short distance south of the Governor's house.

**TERMS OF SALE**—Six and twelve months credit, without interest, the purchasers executing notes with approved security, also, a mortgage on the premises.

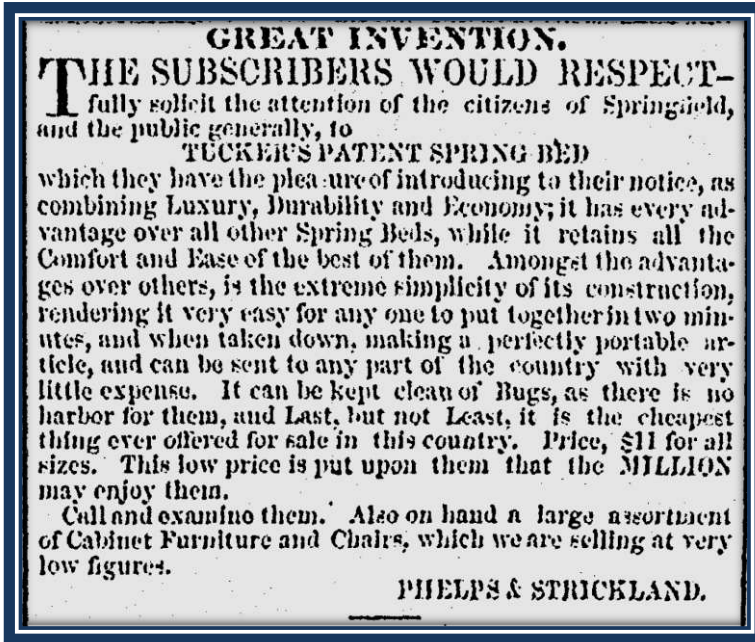
**JACOB RUCKEL,**  
 R. H. BEAON, Adm'rs.  
 of D. E. Ruckel, deceased.  
**MAXCY & McALLISTER, Auc'rs.** June 26<sup>th</sup> 1856

*Journal*, Tuesday, August 5, 1856.<sup>193</sup><sup>191</sup> *Journal*, Wednesday, April 9, 1856, p. 3.<sup>192</sup> *Register*, Wednesday, January 16, 1856, p. 4.<sup>193</sup> *Journal*, Tuesday, August 5, 1856, p. 3.

**Phelps & Strickland**

(1853-1857)

Chairs and Cabinets



Name: Charles C. Phelps and

George Strickland

Date: \_\_\_\_\_, 1856

Location: None given.

Type: Tucker's Patent Spring

Bed for \$11; Cabinet

furniture and chairs;

Tucker's Patent Spring Beds;

cabinet furniture and chairs

Age: Charles C. Phelps 41

Origin: Massachusetts

Age: George Strickland 44

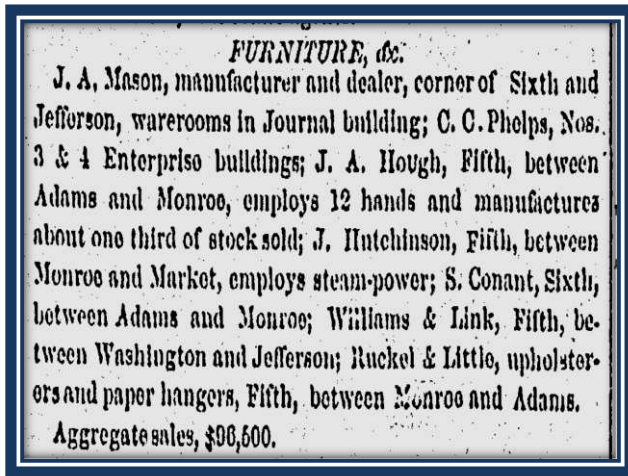
Origin: Massachusetts

*Journal*, Monday, September 15, 1856.<sup>194</sup>

<sup>194</sup> *Journal*, Monday, September 15, 1856, p. 2.

1857

### List of Furniture Manufacturers and Dealers



*Journal*, Tuesday, January 6, 1857.<sup>195</sup>

J. A. Mason, manufacturer and dealer  
 Sixth and Jefferson  
 C. C. Phelps  
 # 3 and 4 Enterprise Building  
 J. A. Hough, employs 12 hands and  
 manufactures a third of stock sold  
 Fifth between Adams and Monroe  
 J. Hutchinson, steam power  
 Fifth, between Monroe and Market  
 S. Conant  
 Sixth, between Adams and Monroe  
 Williams & Link  
 Fifth, between Washington and  
 Jefferson  
 Ruckel & Little, upholsterers and  
 paper hangers  
 Fifth Between Monroe and Adams

### L. Damours

On Wednesday, July 8, 1857, L. Damours opened a carving shop on Jefferson opposite the St. Nicholas Hotel.



*Register*, Wednesday, July 8, 1857.<sup>196</sup>

Name: L. Damours  
 Date: June 13, 1857  
 Location: Jefferson Street, opposite St. Nicholas Hotel.  
 Type: carving.

<sup>195</sup> *Journal*, Tuesday, January 6, 1857, p. 3.

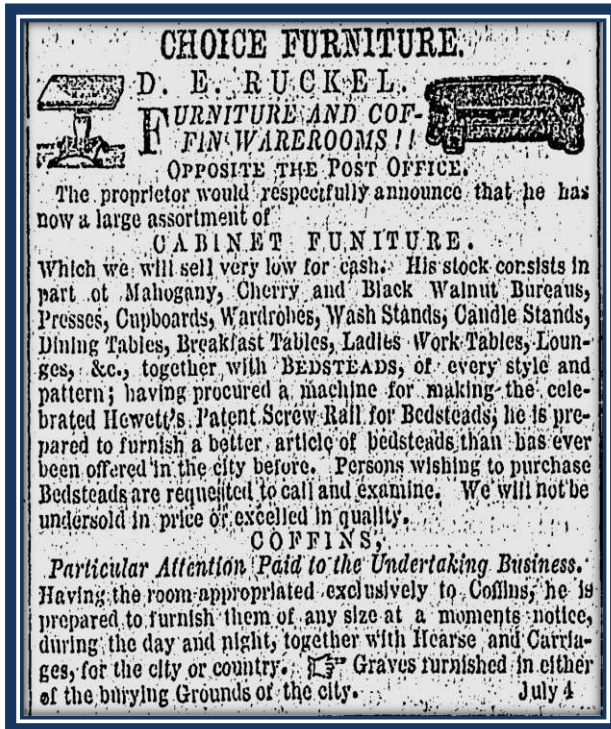
<sup>196</sup> *Register*, Wednesday, July 8, 1857, p. 2.



**Daniel E. Ruckel**

(1841-1859)

Cabinets



**CHOICE FURNITURE.**  
**D. E. RUCKEL.**  
**FURNITURE AND COFFIN WAREROOMS!!**  
**OPPOSITE THE POST OFFICE.**

The proprietor would respectfully announce that he has now a large assortment of  
**CABINET FURNITURE.**  
 Which we will sell very low for cash. His stock consists in part of Mahogany, Cherry and Black Walnut Bureaus, Presses, Cupboards, Wardrobes, Wash Stands, Candle Stands, Dining Tables, Breakfast Tables, Laddies Work Tables, Lounges, &c., together with **BEDSTEADS**, of every style and pattern; having procured a machine for making the celebrated Hewett's Patent Screw Rail for Bedsteads; he is prepared to furnish a better article of bedsteads than has ever been offered in the city before. Persons wishing to purchase Bedsteads are requested to call and examine. We will not be undersold in price or excelled in quality.

**COFFINS.**  
*Particular Attention Paid to the Undertaking Business.*  
 Having the room appropriated exclusively to Coffins, he is prepared to furnish them of any size at a moment's notice, during the day and night, together with Hearse and Carriages, for the city or country. Graves furnished in either of the burying Grounds of the city.

July 4

Name: Daniel E. Ruckel

Date: July 4, 1857

Location: Opposite the Post Office

Type: Cabinet furniture; coffins;

Bureaus, bedsteads, tables, wash-stands, lounges, cradles.

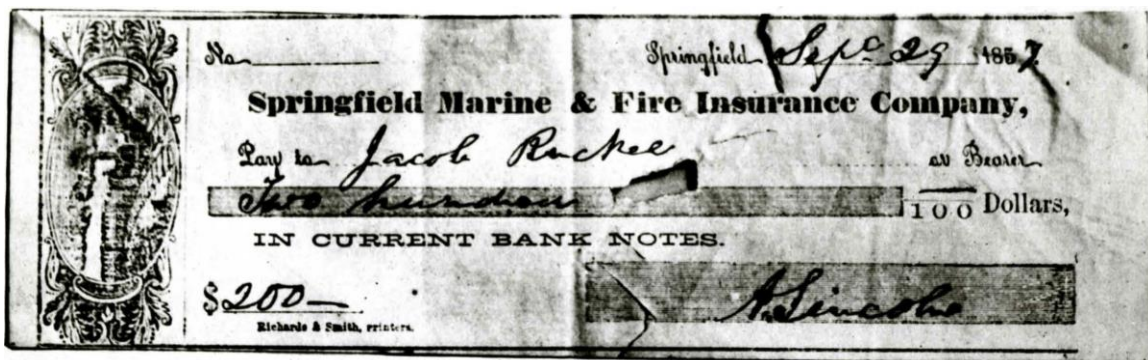
Furniture and Coffin Warerooms

Age: 46

Origin: New York City

**Abraham Lincoln Writes Check to Jacob Ruckel**

On September 29, 1857, Abraham Lincoln wrote a check to Jacob Ruckel in the amount of \$200.<sup>197</sup> This was a loan by Lincoln to Ruckel and it was secured by a mortgage.



<sup>197</sup> Library of Congress. <http://lincolnpapers2.dataformat.com/images/1857/09/297356.pdf>



**Charles C. Phelps**  
(1835-1860)  
Chairs and Cabinets

This advertisement by Charles C. Phelps alone indicates that the partnership of Phelps & Strickland was ended.

**Sangamo Furniture**  
**WARE-ROOMS,**  
**NOS. 3 AND 4, ENTERPRISE ROW, 2d**  
story, where I have a large assortment of  
**FURNITURE,**  
of the following kinds:  
Rosewood and Marble-top Bureaus;  
Marble-top Wash Stands and Tables;  
Sofas and Sofa Beds;  
Mahogany Chairs and Rockers;  
Hall Stands; What-Nots;  
Mahogany, French and Cottage Bedsteads;  
Walnut, Cottage and Common Bedsteads;  
Dining, Breakfast and Side Tables;  
Dress and Common Bureaus;  
Toilet Glasses and Mirrors;  
Cane Seat and Windsor Chairs;  
Cupboards; Tin Safes;  
Tucker's Spring Beds;  
Mahogany and Cane Seat, Pivot Chairs, &c.  
**CHAIRS AND CABINET WORK,**  
Made to order; and we warrant all of our goods equal in  
workmanship to any in market. To those that have the  
cash, I would say, here is a chance for a bargain. Call and see.  
dec 17 C. C. PHELPS.

*Journal*, Friday, December 18, 1857.<sup>198</sup>

**John Hutchinson**  
(1844-1860+)  
Cabinets

An 1857 advertisement showed that J. Hutchinson was still concerned with the competition from St. Louis. It read:

I have also made arrangements for a constant supply of Eastern work .... Persons wishing to fill orders can do so at as reasonable terms as St. Louis or any other western city.

*Name:* Sangamo Furniture Ware-Rooms

*Name:* Charles C. Phelps

*Date:* December 17, 1857

*Location:* Nos. 3 and 4, Enterprise Row,  
2nd story

*Type:* Furniture-chairs and cabinet work  
marble top and mahogany bureaus; marble  
top and mahogany center and card tables;  
ottomans and hat racks, sofas, tete-a-tete and  
rocking chairs, mahogany, cane and Windsor  
chairs; rosewood and mahogany looking  
glasses; sink, enclosed and common  
washstands; secretaries and bookcases,  
common cottage and misses bedsteads, tin  
safes, cupboards

*Home:* southwest corner of Third and Adams  
streets.

*Age:* 43

*Origin:* Massachusetts

<sup>198</sup> *Journal*, Friday, December 18, 1857, p. 2.

**John A. Hough**

(1839-1860+)

Cabinets

**FURNITURE.**  
**FURNITURE FOR THE MILLION!**  
**J. A. HOUGH,**  
DEALER IN HOUSEHOLD FURNITURE, CARPETS,  
CURTAIN GOODS, &c., &c.  
South Fifth street, SPRINGFIELD, ILLINOIS.

**FURNITURE—CHAMBER SUITS, ROSE-**  
wood in Brocatello suits, &c., &c. Sofas from \$25 to  
\$150. Parlor suits of Rosewood and every other description.

Fine Mahogany Dressing Bureaus  
Black Walnut do  
Plain Black Walnut do  
Side, Centre, Stand, Breakfast,  
Tea and Dining Tables  
Enclosed Wash Stands  
Book Cases, Lounges, Cribs,  
Parlor, Office and Cane Seat  
Chairs, Rocking Chairs  
Split Bottom Chairs  
Fine French Cottage  
Bedsteads  
Plain Sugar Tree,  
Black Walnut  
and Trundle do;  
Mattresses, &c., &c.

Fine enameled chamber suits.

**Carpets.**  
A larger assortment than all others in the city combined.  
Splendid Medallions  
Velvets and Wiltons  
Beautiful Tapestry  
Royal Six thread Brussels  
Imperial Three-Ply  
Fine, Superfine and  
Tapestry Ingrains,  
Berlins, Venetian Carpet  
and Hemp Rugs,  
Mats and Stair Rods.

**Oil Cloths.**  
FLOOR AND TABLE OIL CLOTHS—of the best foreign and  
domestic manufactures, from a half yard to 24 feet wide.

Name: John A. Hough

Date: September 4, 1857

Location: South Fifth street, west  
side

Type: Cabinet furniture

Age: 42

Origin: Virginia

*Journal*, Wednesday, December 30, 1857.<sup>199</sup>**John A. Hutchinson**

(1844-1860+)

Cabinets

**Campaign Commenced!**  
**J. HUTCHINSON HAS HIS EXTEN-**  
sive Warerooms now filled to repletion with  
the superb Furniture of his own manufacture, that  
the present season of time, and the result of past  
experience has enabled him to produce for this  
market. The stock is such as to defy competition, especially  
that from the Eastern cities, with which the city is flooded  
at present.

**FURNITURE**, in the most elaborate styles; from the gorge-  
ous Louis the Fourteenth, Elizabethan, to the beautiful cottage  
variety of Cabinet Furniture, together with the plain  
and useful articles of the Kitchen, Chamber and Parlor House  
articles, well adapted for the trade. Rec also, at all times, a  
choice assortment of **CHAIRS**.

I have also made arrangement for a constant supply of East-  
ern work, gilt moldings, looking Glasses, Glass Plates, &c.,  
&c. Persons wishing to fill orders, can do so at as reasonable  
terms as St. Louis or any other western city.

French, cottage, trundle and common Bedsteads.  
Elizabethan and sewing chairs.  
Cupboards and Presses.  
Dress and common Bureaus.  
Centre and card Tables; Wardrobes; Cribs.  
Egyptian and Italian marble top centre and card tables.  
Lounges, cottage style; Fire screens Sofas.  
Dining and breakfast tables.  
Card and side tables; Closed and plain wash stands.  
Work tables and stands.

All I ask is to give me a call before purchasing, and I feel con-  
fident you will not purchase elsewhere. At the old stand.—  
Yellow brick. **J. HUTCHINSON.**

**N. B.** One room of my establishment is devoted entirely to  
Ready made Coffins, of all sizes and qualities, where people  
from the country or city can be supplied at a moment's notice.  
Lots for sale in Hutchinson's Burying Ground and Under-  
taking in all its branches attended to as formerly. Good  
Hearse with two Horses.

My residence is two doors south of the shop. sep4

**METALIC BURIAL CASES.**



**OF ALL SIZES—ALWAYS ON HAND**  
and for sale by **J. A. HOUGH.**  
Orders from a distance promptly attended to, with di-  
rections for using. sep4

**N. B.—A LARGE AND SPLENDID LOT**  
of Gilt Mouldings, for picture frames, just received  
**J. HUTCHINSON.**

Name: John A. Hutchinson

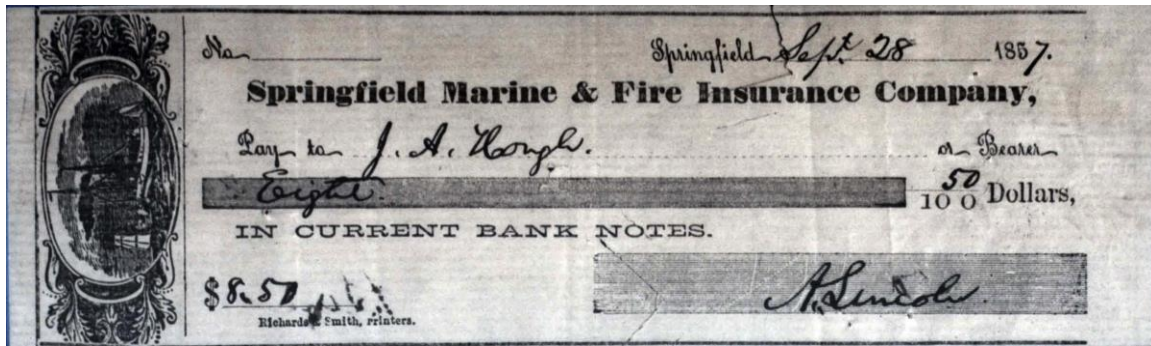
Date: December 1857

Location: At the old stand—yellow brick

Type: furniture and one room devoted to  
coffins, lots for sale in Hutchinson  
Burying Ground, undertaking, good  
hearse with two horses*Journal*, Wednesday, December 30, 1857.<sup>200</sup><sup>199</sup> *Journal*, Wednesday, December 30, 1857, p. 4.

### Abraham Lincoln Writes Check to J. A. Hough

On September 28, 1857, Abraham Lincoln wrote a check in the amount of \$8.50 to John A. Hough.<sup>201</sup>



### Abraham Lincoln Pays John Hutchinson \$11

Monday, September 28, 1857.  
Springfield, IL.

Lincoln writes two more checks—one for \$11 to John Hutchinson, other for \$10 to Bailhache and Baker, publishers of “Illinois State Journal.”

### Abraham Lincoln Loans Jacob Ruckel \$500.

Monday, September 28, 1857.  
Springfield, IL.

Lincoln loans Jacob Ruckel \$500 and takes mortgage, which he draws himself, to secure debt. Interest is 10 per cent per annum, and loan is to run one year.<sup>202</sup>

<sup>200</sup> *Journal*, Wednesday, December 30, 1857, p. 4.

<sup>201</sup> Library of Congress. <http://lincolnpapers2.dataformat.com/images/1857/09/297356.pdf>

<sup>202</sup> Mortgage and Note Drawn for Jacob Ruckel, 28 September 1857, *Collected Works*, Vol. 2, pp. 422-23.

1858

**Charles C. Phelps**

(1835-1860+)

Chairs and Cabinets

*Journal*, Monday, May 10, 1858.<sup>203</sup>

Name: Sangamon Furniture Ware Rooms

Name: Charles C. Phelps

Date: May 9, 1858

Location: Nos. 3 and 4, Enterprise Row, 2<sup>nd</sup> story

Type: Furniture: marble top and mahogany bureaus; marble top and mahogany center and card tables; ottomans and hat racks, sofas, tete-a-tete and rocking chairs, mahogany, cane and Windsor chairs; rosewood and mahogany looking glasses; sink, enclosed and common washstands; secretaries and bookcases, common cottage and misses bedsteads, tin safes, cupboards

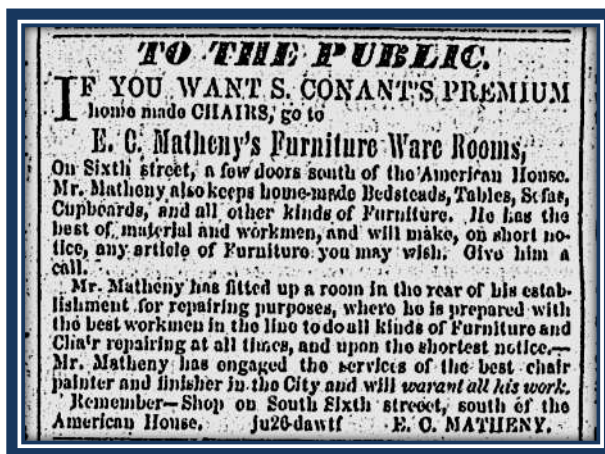
Age: 44

Origin: Massachusetts

“Have received a large lot of new furniture.” It would appear that he is not manufacturing.

**Sullivan Conant**

Chairs

**E. C. Matheny***Journal*, Friday, July 23, 1858.<sup>204</sup>

Name: E. C. Matheny's Furniture Ware Rooms

Name: Sullivan Conant

Date: June 26, 1858

Location: on 6<sup>th</sup> street a few doors south of American House.

Type: bedsteads, tables, sofas, cupboards and other furniture; manufacture and sale

Age: 57

In the 1855 Springfield City Directory, Levi J. Conant, chairmaker (cabinet maker) resided at the northwest corner of 5th Wright streets.<sup>205</sup>

<sup>203</sup> *Journal*, Monday, May 10, 1858, p. 4.<sup>204</sup> *Journal*, Friday, July 23, 1858, p. 4.



**R. B. Bell**  
(1858-1858)



*Register*, Thursday, July 22, 1858.<sup>206</sup>

**Charles C. Phelps**  
(1835-1860+)  
Cabinets



*Journal*, Friday, June 4, 1858.<sup>207</sup>

Name: R. B. Bell

Date: May 18, 1858

Location: South of Great Western Depot

Type: Bedstead manufacture and sale; turned stuff: bedsteads, chairs, tables, stair banisters

Age: 44

Name: Sangamo Furniture Ware-Rooms

Name: Charles C. Phelps

Date: May 27, 1858

Location: Nos. 3 and 4, Enterprise Row, 2<sup>nd</sup> story

Type: Furniture: walnut and maple cane seat chairs, Windsor chairs and rockers, bureaus, cupboards, marble top wash stands and tables, hall stands, what nots, walnut, cottage and cone bedsteads, sofas, mahogany chairs, dining, card and center tables, looking glasses, tin safes, Tuckers' spring beds; chairs and cabinet ware made to order.

Age: 44

Origin: Massachusetts

<sup>205</sup> 1860 census, p. 105 (Mass.)(28). 0/\$200. 1860 C.D.: Douglas and 5th Northeast Corner.

<sup>206</sup> *Register*, Thursday, July 22, 1858, p. 4.

<sup>207</sup> *Journal*, Friday, June 4, 1858, p. 3.



**Charles C. Phelps**  
(1835-1860+)  
Cabinets



*Journal*, Saturday, July 24, 1858.<sup>208</sup>

Name: Sangamo Furniture Ware-Rooms

Name: Charles C. Phelps

Date: July 22, 1858

Location: Nos. 3 and 4, Enterprise Row, 2<sup>nd</sup> story

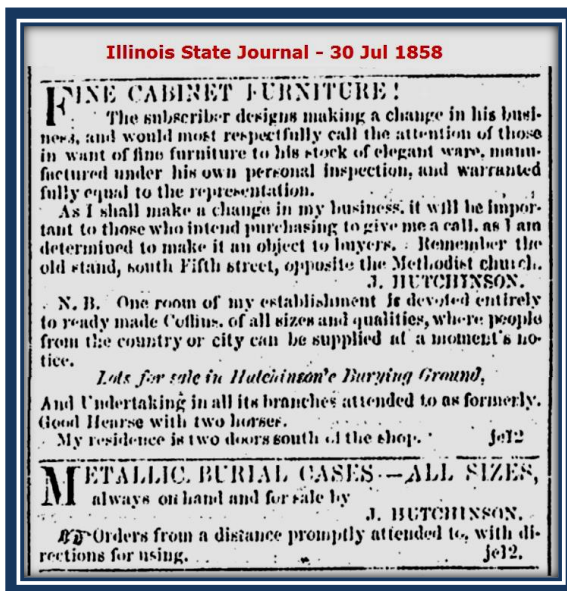
Type: Furniture; new arrivals sofas, mahogany chairs, centre and sided tables; walnut and maple cane chairs; cottage bedsteads, looking glasses, tucker's Spring Beds; children's buggies

Age: 44

Origin: Massachusetts

It would appear that he is not manufacturing

**John A. Hutchinson**  
(1844-1860+)  
Cabinets



*Journal*, Friday, January 28, 1859.<sup>209</sup>

Name: Fine Cabinet Furniture

Name: John A. Hutchinson

Date: June 12, 1858

Location: At the old stand; south Fifth, opposite the Methodist church

Type: Fancy and Windsor chairs manufacture and sale.

<sup>208</sup> *Journal*, Saturday, July 24, 1858, p. 2.

<sup>209</sup> *Journal*, Friday, January 28, 1859, p. 4.

**John A. Hutchinson**

(1844-1860+)

Cabinets



Name: John A. Hutchinson

Date: July 30, 1858

Location: South 5<sup>th</sup> opposite the Methodist Church

Type: cabinet furniture manufacture and sale.

Undertaking: One room devoted to coffins; lots for sale in Hutchinson's Burying Ground; hearse with two horses

Residence: 2 doors south of shop

*Register*, Thursday, February 24, 1858.<sup>210</sup>**Charles C. Phelps**

(1835-1860+)

Cabinets



Name: Sangamon Furniture Ware-Rooms

Name: Charles C. Phelps

Date: October 14, 1858

Location: Nos. 3 and 4, Enterprise Row, 2<sup>nd</sup> story

Type: Furniture: walnut and maple cane seat chairs, Windsor chairs and rockers, bureaus, cupboards, marble top wash stands and tables, hall stands, what nots, walnut, cottage and cone bedsteads, sofas, mahogany chairs, dining, card and center tables, looking glasses, tin safes, Tuckers' spring beds; chairs and cabinet ware made to order.

Age: 44

Origin: Massachusetts

*Journal*, Monday, January 17, 1859.<sup>211</sup><sup>210</sup> *Register*, Thursday, February 24, 1859, p. 4.<sup>211</sup> *Journal*, Monday, January 17, 1859, p. 2.

**Charles C. Phelps**

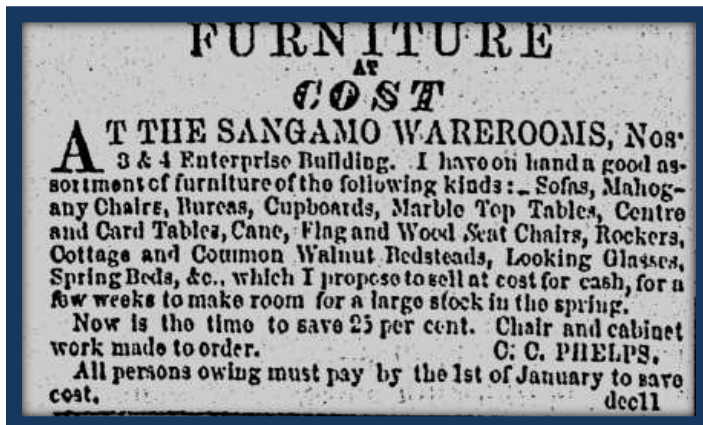
(1835-1860+)

Cabinets

*Journal*, Friday, November 5, 1858.<sup>212</sup>*Name:* Sangamo Furniture Ware-Rooms*Name:* Charles C. Phelps*Date:* October 14, 1858*Location:* Nos. 3 and 4, Enterprise Row, 2<sup>nd</sup> story*Type:* Furniture: walnut and maple cane seat chairs, Windsor chairs and rockers, bureaus, cupboards, marble top wash stands and tables, hall stands, what nots, walnut, cottage and cone bedsteads, sofas, mahogany chairs, dining, card and center tables, looking glasses, tin safes, Tuckers's spring beds; chairs and cabinet ware made to order; flag seat chairs.*Age:* 44*Origin:* Massachusetts**Charles C. Phelps**

(1835-1860+)

Cabinets

*Journal*, Tuesday, February 1, 1859.<sup>213</sup>*Name:* Sangamo Warerooms*Name:* Charles C. Phelps*Date:* December 11, 1858*Location:* Nos. 3 and 4, Enterprise Row, 2<sup>nd</sup> story*Type:* Furniture*Age:* 44*Origin:* Massachusetts<sup>212</sup> *Journal*, Friday, November 5, 1858, p. 2.<sup>213</sup> *Journal*, Tuesday, February 1, 1859, p. 4.



1859

**John A. Mason**

(1850-1863)

Cabinets

*Name:* Mason, John A.*Date:* January 13, 1859

*Type:* marble top bureaus, mahogany, walnut and rosewood, different styles; marble top centre tables; centre, card and common tables, fine chamber sets, sofas, tet-a-tetes and lounges; fine chairs haircloth seats; cane, flag and wood seats; office same; spring cane and wood; book cases, writing desks, ladies' writing desks and what nots; two fine barber chairs; common furniture of all kinds; furniture dealer, carpets, looking glasses, clocks, window shades, etc.

*Occupation:* cabinet maker*Age:* 45*Origin:* Vermont*Journal*, Monday, January 17, 1859.<sup>214</sup>*Died:* March 5, 1866 in Springfield, aged 51 years, 4 months, and 9 days.*Buried:* Oak Ridge Cemetery: Block 11 Lot 65.

Charter member of Second Presbyterian Church May 26, 1835.

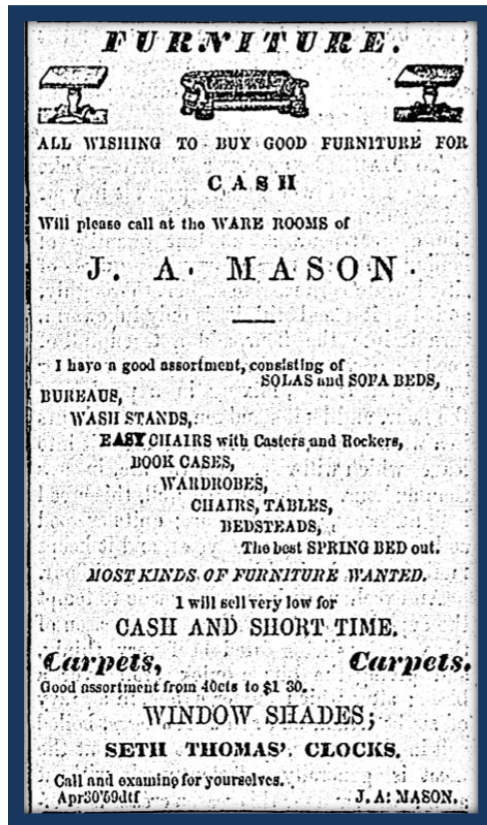
Immigrated, with the other colonists to Princeton, Illinois in May, 1831, but then joined his parents in Springfield and remained there the rest of his life.

<sup>214</sup> *Journal*, Monday, January 17, 1859, p. 2.

**John A. Mason**

(1850-1863)

Cabinets

*Name:* John A. Mason*Date:* April 30, 1859*Type:* furniture dealer; beds, bureaus, wash stands, easy chairs book cases, wardrobes, chairs tables, bedsteads, carpets, looking glasses, clocks, window shades, etc.*Age:* 45*Origin:* Vermont*Journal*, Friday, May 6, 1859.<sup>215</sup>**Agreement with John Hutchinson Regarding Hutchinson Cemetery**

September 3, 1859

We, the undersigned, proprietors of lots in Hutchinsons Cemetery, in the City of Springfield, Illinois, constitute and appoint John Hutchinson our agent to take charge, and general superintendence of said Cemetery, until February 1st. 1861--- which agent is assured any expenses which he, in his discretion, may incur, in such superintendence, we bind ourselves to pay. Sept. 3, 1859

A. Lincoln	Absalom Kalb	J. G. Loose
Thos. Moffett	George Leggott	D. Sherman
E. B. Hawley	Isaac A. Hawley	James C. Conkling
Asahel Stone	Phinias H. Conant	Sanford Bell
J. H. Kent	Willard & Zimmerman	*J. A. Hough
Isaac Lindsay	J. Bunn	D. Wickersham
*Francis Springer <sup>216</sup>		

<sup>215</sup> *Journal*, Friday, May 6, 1859, p. 2.<sup>216</sup> *Collected Works of Abraham Lincoln*, Volume 3, p.



# **Williams & Link** Cabinets



*Register*, Thursday, June 21, 1860.<sup>217</sup>

*Name:* Williams & Link

*Date:* June 2, 1860

*Location:* Warehouse, south Fifth, between Washington and Jefferson; factory South Fourth Street

*Type:* manufacturer: cabinet furniture of all sizes, shrouds, coffins trimmings of all kinds and a fine hearse

# **Charles C. Phelps** (1835-1860)



*Journal*, Tuesday, March 13, 1860.<sup>218</sup>

*Name:* Sangamo Furniture

*Name:* Charles C. Phelps

*Date:* December 29, 1859

*Location:* Nos. 3 and 5, Enterprise Buildings

*Type:* Furniture and chairs; sofas, sofa beds, spring lounges, mahogany chairs and rocking chairs, cane seat and Windsor chairs, book cases, wardrobes, clocks, center, side and dining tables, gilt, mahogany and walnut mirrors; manufacture and sale

*Age:* 45

*Origin:* Massachusetts

<sup>217</sup> *Register*, Thursday, June 21, 1860, p. 3.

<sup>218</sup> *Journal*, Tuesday, March 13, 1860, p. 3.

1860

**John A. Hough**

(1839-1860+)

Cabinets

**FURNITURE FOR THE MILLION!**

J. A. HOUGH, DEALER IN HOUSEHOLD FURNITURE,  
Carpets, curtain goods, &c., &c., South Fifth street  
Springfield, Illinois.

**FURNITURE.**

CHAMBER Suits, Rosewood in Brocatello suits, &c.,  
Sofas from \$25 to \$150. Parlor suits of Rosewood and every  
other description.

Fine Mahogany Dressing Bureaus,  
Black Walnut do  
Plain black Walnut do  
Side, center, stand, breakfast,  
Tea and dining tables,  
Enclosed wash stands,  
Book cases, Lounges, cribs,  
Parlor, office and cane seat  
Chairs, rocking chairs,  
Split bottom chairs,  
Fine French cottage bedsteads,  
Plain sugar tree,  
Black walnut  
And trundle do  
Mattresses, &c., &c., &c.

Fine enameled chamber suits.

**CARPETS:**

A larger assortment than all others in the city combined,  
Splendid medallions,  
Velvets and wiltons,  
Beautiful tapestry,  
Royal six threaded sets,  
IMPERIAL THIRTY PLYS.

Fine, superior and tapestry, ingrain, erlins, Venetian  
carpets and hemp rugs, mats and stair rods.

**OIL CLOTHS.**

FLOOR AND TABLE OIL CLOTHS,  
Of the best foreign and domestic manufactures, from half  
yard to twenty-four feet wide.

**MATTING**

Always on hand, a large stock of matting; also, superior  
cocoa matting in all widths, suitable for offices, saloons, &c.  
J. A. HOUGH.

*Name:* John A. Hough*Date:* August 15, 1860*Location:* South Fifth street

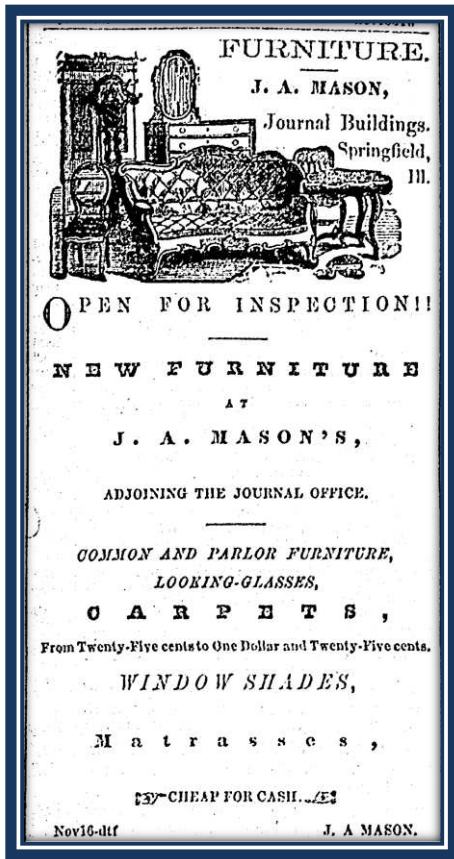
*Type:* Household furniture: chamber  
suites, rosewood in Brocatello  
suites, sofas, parlor suits of  
Rosewood and fine mahogany  
dressing bureaus, black walnut and  
plain black walnut dressing  
bureaus, side, center, stand,  
breakfast, tea and dining tables,  
enclosed wash stands, book cases,  
lounges, cribs, parlor, office and  
cane seat chairs, rocking chairs,  
split bottom chairs, fine French  
cottage bedsteads, plain sugar tree,  
black walnut and trundle,  
mattresses, and fine enameled  
chamber suite

*Age:* 45*Origin:* Virginia*Register*, Friday, April 27, 1860.<sup>219</sup><sup>219</sup> *Register*, Friday, April 27, 1860, p. 1.

## John A. Mason

(1850-1863)

Cabinets



*Name:* John A. Mason

*Date:* November 16, 1860

*Location:* Journal Building, adjoining Journal office; 6th Street Jefferson to Washington East Side  
1854 Hart Map.

*Type:* furniture dealer, common and parlor furniture; carpets, looking glasses, clocks, window shades, etc.  
boards southwest corner 4th and Monroe: 1860 C.D.

*Age:* 46

*Origin:* Vermont

*Journal*, Wednesday, November 21, 1860.<sup>220</sup>

## William Solle

The 1860 *City Directory* listed William Solle as a cabinet maker working at John Hutchinson's.

## Gerhart Westenberger

The 1860 *Springfield City Directory* listed Gerhart Westenberger as a cabinet maker working at John A. Mason's.

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<sup>220</sup> *Journal*, Wednesday, November 21, 1860, p. 2.

1861

**John A. Hough Invited to Accompany Lincoln on Train to Washington**

THE LAST DAY AT HOME.      SPRINGFIELD, ILL. Feb. 10, 1861.

The President is spending this last day of his stay in Springfield quietly in a select circle of friends. Edward Bates was invited to accompany Mr. Lincoln to Washington, but telegraphed last night that he would not be enabled to go.

Invitations to accompany Mr. Lincoln to Washington have been extended to the following parties. The list comprises prominent republicans and Douglas and Breckinridge democrats:—Governor Yates, Ex-Governor Moore, Honorables O. M. Hatch, William Butler, N. Baleman and E. Peck, J. Grimshaw, William R. Morrison. L. M. Ross, M. H. Cassel, William S. Underwood, William H. Carlin, J. A. Hough, D. H. Gilman and Colonel Burgess. Carl Schurz was invited, but is obliged to decline.<sup>221</sup>

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<sup>221</sup> *The New York Herald*, February 12, 1861.

## John A. Mason Obituary

## OBITUARY.

## JOHN A. MASON.

John A. Mason departed this life at noon on Saturday, Feb. 26, at Buffalo, in this county. Mr. Mason was born June 14, 1814, in Swanton, Franklin county, Vt., and was therefore in his 67th year. Mr. Mason came to Springfield in the spring of 1837, and immediately apprenticed himself to Sullivan Conant, Esq., to learn the trade of manufacturing chairs and furniture. He continued with Mr. Conant until 1839 or 1840, and then went into business, forming a partnership with Mr. R. B. Zimmerman, and engaged in manufacturing furniture. This partnership was terminated in 1841 or 1842, and immediately thereafter he embarked in the same business on his individual account. He continued in this business until about 1870, having amassed quite a fortune by careful habits and great attention to business. Upon his retirement from active business he gave his attention to his property and thus has spent the last ten years of his life. For many years he has been in impaired health but with little notice the final summons came. Within a week before his death he was in this city and on Tuesday of last week was about his duties as usual. On Wednesday he was attacked with pneumonia, and he gradually grew worse until the end came. Mr. Mason has always been a faithful, active Christian. On October 1st, 1837, he became a member of the Second Presbyterian Church, and has for these 44 years walked worthy his calling, and always found where duty called and ever ready with his means to do what was needed to support the gospel at home and in foreign lands. The Second Church has lost in his death one of its most worthy members.

Mr. Mason has no relatives in this county. A brother resides in Buffalo, N. Y., another brother in Kansas and the balance of the family still reside in Vermont.

His funeral will take place from the Second Presbyterian Church at 2:30 o'clock this afternoon. All his friends are invited to attend without further notice.

## FUNERAL OF J. A. MASON.

## The Services Yesterday at the Second Presbyterian Church.

The funeral services of the late John A. Mason were held yesterday afternoon at the Second Presbyterian church in this city. The spacious auditorium was well filled with friends and acquaintances of the deceased, who were there to pay the last tribute of respect to one who was widely known and respected for his many virtues. The coffin, elegantly decorated with flowers, rested in front of the pulpit, and through the glass the features were plainly visible. They wore a calm, placid expression, and had none of that distorted, pinched appearance which accompanies death from a painful or lingering illness.

The Rev. Mr. Wines, with Father Hale, occupied the pulpit and delivered a short but eloquent address, in which he spoke of the many good qualities of the deceased brother. How he had always led a consistent Christian life, and he was confident was now among the saved and sanctified ones who stood in the presence of God. Father Hale closed the services with a short address, stating that he was too much overcome to say much; that he had known and loved Brother Mason for many years past; that he had admired the beautiful Christian character of the one who had gone before, and he had no doubt that he was now reaping the reward of a well-spent life. Father Hale was quite feeble and seemed overcome with emotion, but his words found a responsive chord in the breasts of all who heard him. The old but beautiful hymn "Rock of Ages, cleft for me," was then given by the choir, and the audience passed in front of the casket to view for the last time the features of the dead brother, a few short days ago in the enjoyment of life and happiness, and now stilled by the icy hand of death. The remains were then taken to Oak Ridge, where they were laid away to rest the rest of the righteous.

*Journal*, Monday, February 28, 1881.<sup>222</sup>

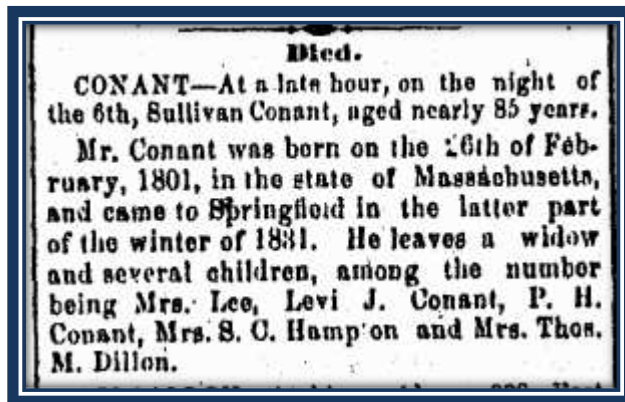
*Register*, Tuesday, March 1, 1881.<sup>223</sup>

<sup>222</sup> *Journal*, Monday, February 28, 1881, p. 1.

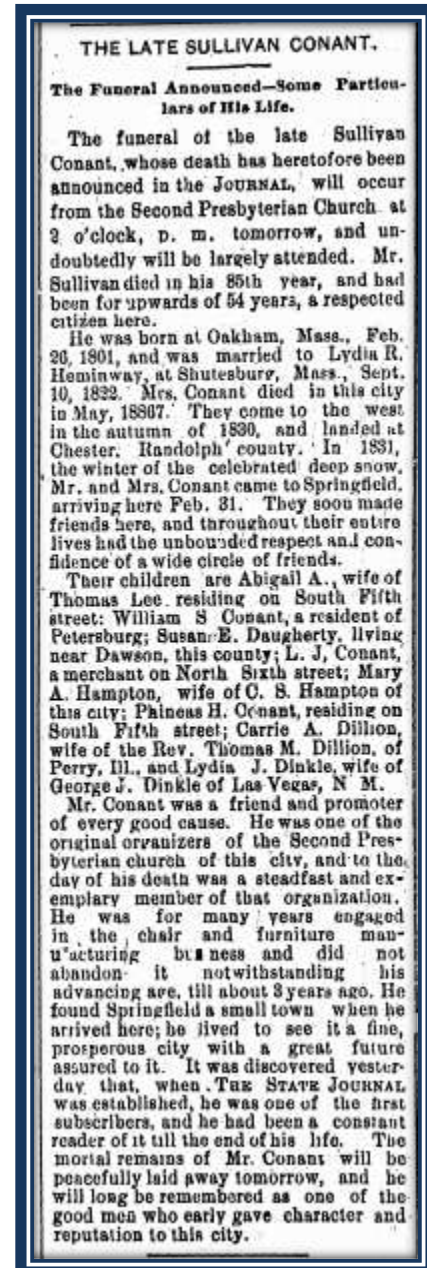
<sup>223</sup> *Register*, Tuesday, March 1, 1881, p. 4.



## Sullivan Conant Obituary



*Register*, Thursday, January 7, 1886.<sup>224</sup>



*Journal*, Saturday, January 9, 1886.<sup>225</sup>

<sup>224</sup> *Register*, Tuesday, March 1, 1881, p. 4.

<sup>225</sup> *Journal*, Saturday, January 9, 1886, p. 8.

## Jacob H. Ruckel Obituary

### Death of Jacob H. Ruckel

#### A Pioneer Business Man of Springfield Passes Away

Ruckel—At his home \_\_\_\_ North Seventh street, at 7:20 p.m., Saturday, Jan. 24, 1903, of debility, Jacob Ruckel, aged 87 years, 2 months and 28 days.

Jacob Ruckel was one of the earliest settlers of Springfield, having come to this city from New York in 1837. He at once engaged with his brother, Edgar (Daniel), in the business of cabinet making, upholstering and undertaking; also in selling window shades and wall paper. A few years later Mr. Ruckel established a saw mill at old Sangamo Town on the Sangamon river, near where Salisbury now is. He soon gave this up. Some years later after the death of his brother, Mr. Ruckel continued the business in partnership with Edward Little and E. G. John, successively. After the death of Mr. John in 1863, he continued in the wall paper business alone until 1894, when he sold the business and retired. At this time Mr. Ruckel was the only merchant remaining in business in Springfield, with the exception of E. R. Thayer, who was in business at the time he began in 1837. With the exception of a year or two he was in business in one block for fifty-seven years, and was probably the first dealer in wall paper in Illinois.

Mr. Ruckel was one of the original members of the old Third Presbyterian church, when it was organized out of the First Presbyterian church.

Surviving him are his children, Samuel, Frances A., Walter, John H., and Joseph B. Ruckel, all of Springfield, and one sister, Mrs. W. S. Ludlam of New York City.

The funeral will be held from their residence at 10 o'clock tomorrow morning. The Rev. W. Francis Irwin, pastor of the Second Presbyterian church, of which Mr. Ruckel had been a member for many years, will officiate. The interment will be in Oak Ridge.



*Register*, Tuesday, January 27, 1903.<sup>226</sup>

<sup>226</sup> *Register*, Tuesday, January 27, 1903, p. 3.

### **Chair Makers**

Biedler, A. & H. 1849  
Biedler, A. 1849  
Biedler, H. 1849  
Conant, Levi J. \_\_\_\_\_  
Conant, Sullivan 1842-1859  
Doyle, William G. 1832-1834  
Francis, Charles B. 1836-1837  
Francis, Josiah, Jr. 1836-1852  
Grosh, D. F. 1836  
Hempstead, O. 1840  
Mason, John A. 1850-1860+  
Phelps, Charles C. 1835-1860+  
Phelps & Powell 1835-1836  
Phelps & Strickland 1853-1856  
Phelps & Zimmerman 1835-1840  
Powell, W. B. 1835-1836  
Ruckel & Little 1857  
Strickland, George 1853-1857  
Williams & Link 1854-1857  
Willard, \_\_\_\_ 18\_\_-18\_\_  
Zimmerman, Robert B. 1835-1841

### **Cabinet Makers**

Biedler, A. 1849  
Biedler, H. 1849  
Bilson, Thomas 1842-1843  
Campbell, John A. 1842-1843  
Davis, Walter 1839-1848  
Edmundson, Joseph 1836-1837  
Edmundson & Weber 1836-1837  
Eubanks, S. G. 1842  
Francis, Charles B. 1836-1837  
Francis, Josiah, Jr. 1836-1850(?)  
Grosh, D. F. 1836  
Hough & Davis 1839-1848  
Hough, John A. 1839-1860+  
Hutchinson, John A. 1843-1860+  
Moffett, J. B. 1831-1833  
Moore, John 1823-1831 and maybe before  
Moore & Walters 1831  
Moore, Randolph 1831  
Pilcher, Ezekiel 1836-1842  
Ruckel, Daniel E. 1838-1839 and 1846-1859 (Sangamo Town 1840-1843)  
Ruckel, Jacob 1838-1839 (Sangamo Town 1840-1843)  
Ruckel, Bilson & Co. 1842-1843  
Shoop, William 1832  
Smith & Moffett 1831-1833  
Smith, James H. 1831-1833  
Solle, William 1860  
Tabor, B. C. 1831-1832  
Tabor, Elisha 1831-1832  
Walters, Thomas 1831  
Webber, \_\_\_\_ 1835-1836  
Westenberger, Gerhart 1860

### **Chronological List of Chair and Cabinet Makers**

#### **1823**

Moore, John 1823-1831 and maybe before

#### **1831**

Moffett, J. B. 1831-1833  
Moore, John 1823-1831 and maybe before  
Moore & Walters 1831  
Moore, Randolph 1831  
Smith & Moffett 1831-1833  
Smith, James H. 1831-1833  
Tabor, B. C. 1831-1832  
Tabor, Elisha 1831-1832  
Walters, Thomas 1831

#### **1832**

Doyle, William G. 1832-1834  
Moffett, J. B. 1831-1833  
Smith & Moffett 1831-1833  
Smith, James H. 1831-1833  
Shoop, William 1832  
Tabor, B. C. 1831-1832  
Tabor, Elisha 1831-1832

#### **1833**

Doyle, William G. 1832-1834  
Moffett, J. B. 1831-1833  
Smith & Moffett 1831-1833  
Smith, James H. 1831-1833  
Tabor, B. C. 1831-1832  
Tabor, Elisha 1831-1832

#### **1834**

Doyle, William G. 1832-1834

#### **1835**

Phelps, Charles C. 1835-1860+  
Phelps & Powell 1835-1836  
Phelps & Zimmerman 1835-1840  
Powell, W. B. 1835-1836  
Zimmerman, Robert B. 1835-1840

#### **1836**

Edmundson, Joseph 1836-1837  
Edmundson & Weber 1836-1837  
Francis, Charles B. 1836-1837  
Francis, Josiah, Jr. 1836-1852  
Pilcher, Ezekiel 1836-1842  
Phelps, Charles C. 1835-1860+  
Phelps & Powell 1835-1836  
Phelps & Zimmerman 1835-1841  
Powell, W. B. 1835-1836  
Ruckel, Daniel E. 1836-1839 and 1846-1859  
Ruckel, Jacob 1836-1839  
Webber, \_\_\_\_\_ 1835-1837  
Zimmerman, Robert B. 1835-1841

**1837**

Edmundson, Joseph 1836-1837  
Edmundson & Weber 1836-1837  
Francis, Charles B. 1836-1837  
Francis, Josiah, Jr. 1836-1852  
Pilcher, Ezekiel 1836-1842  
Phelps, Charles C. 1835-1860+  
Phelps & Zimmerman 1835-1841  
Ruckel, Daniel E. 1836-1839 and 1846-1859  
Ruckel, Jacob 1836-1839  
Webber, \_\_\_\_\_ 1835-1837  
Zimmerman, Robert B. 1835-1841

**1838**

Francis, Josiah, Jr. 1836-1852  
Phelps, Charles C. 1835-1860+  
Phelps & Zimmerman 1835-1841  
Pilcher, Ezekiel 1836-1842  
Ruckel, Jacob 1836-1839  
Ruckel, Daniel E. 1836-1839 and 1846-1859  
Zimmerman, Robert B. 1835-1841

**1839**

Davis, Walter 1839-1848  
Francis, Josiah, Jr. 1836-1852  
Hough, John A. 1839-1860+  
Hough & Davis 1839-1848  
Phelps, Charles C. 1835-1860+  
Phelps & Zimmerman 1835-1841  
Pilcher, Ezekiel 1836-1842  
Ruckel, Daniel E. 1836-1839 and 1846-1859  
Ruckel, Jacob 1836-1839  
Zimmerman, Robert B. 1835-1841

**1840**

Davis, Walter 1839-1848  
Francis, Josiah, Jr. 1836-1852  
Hempstead, O. 1840  
Hough, John A. 1839-1860+  
Hough & Davis 1839-1848  
Mason, John A. 1850-1863  
Phelps, Charles C. 1835-1860+  
Phelps & Zimmerman 1835-1841  
Pilcher, Ezekiel 1836-1842  
Zimmerman, Robert B. 1835-1841  
Zimmerman & Co. 1849

**1841**

Davis, Walter 1839-1848  
Francis, Josiah, Jr. 1836-1852  
Hough & Davis 1839-1848  
Hough, John A. 1839-1860+  
Phelps, Charles C. 1835-1860+  
Phelps & Zimmerman 1835-1841  
Pilcher, Ezekiel 1836-1842



**1842**

Bilson, Thomas 1842-1843  
Campbell, John A. 1842-1843  
Conant, Sullivan 1842-1859  
Davis, Walter 1839-1848  
Eubanks, S. G. 1842  
Francis, Josiah, Jr. 1836-1852  
Hessin, J. D.  
Hough, John A. 1839-1860+  
Hough & Davis 1839-1848  
Hutchinson, John 1842-1860+  
Phelps, Charles C. 1835-1860+  
Pilcher, Ezekiel 1836-1842  
Ruckel, Daniel E.-1838-1839 and 1842-1859 (Sangamo Town 1840-1843)  
Ruckel, Bilson & Co. 1842-1843

**1843**

Bilson, Thomas 1842-1843  
Campbell, John A. 1842-1843  
Conant, Sullivan 1842-1859  
Francis, Josiah, Jr. 1836-1852  
Hough, John A. 1839-1860+  
Hough & Davis 1839-1848  
Hutchinson, John 1842-1860+  
Phelps, Charles C. 1835-1860+  
Ruckel, Daniel E. 1838-1839 and 1842-1859 (Sangamo Town 1840-1843)  
Ruckel, Bilson & Co. 1842-1843

**1844**

Conant, Sullivan 1842-1859  
Francis, Josiah, Jr. 1836-1852  
Hough, John A. 1839-1860+  
Hough & Davis 1839-1848  
Hutchinson, John 1842-1860+  
Phelps, Charles C. 1835-1860+

**1845**

Conant, Sullivan 1842-1859  
Francis, Josiah, Jr. 1836-1852  
Hough, John A. 1839-1860+  
Hough & Davis 1839-1848  
Hutchinson, John 1842-1860+  
Phelps, Charles C. 1835-1860+

**1846**

Conant, Sullivan 1842-1859  
Francis, Josiah, Jr. 1836-1852  
Hough, John A. 1839-1860+  
Hough & Davis 1839-1848  
Hutchinson, John 1842-1860+  
Phelps, Charles C. 1835-1860+  
Ruckel, Daniel E. 1836-1839 and 1846-1859

**1847**

Conant, Sullivan 1842-1859  
Francis, Josiah, Jr. 1836-1852  
Hough, John A. 1846-1860+  
Hough & Davis 1839-1848  
Hutchinson, John 1842-1860+  
Phelps, Charles C. 1835-1860+

**1848**

Conant, Sullivan 1842-1859  
Davis, Walter 1839-1848  
Francis, Josiah, Jr. 1836-1852  
Hough, John A. 1846-1860+  
Hough & Davis 1839-1848  
Hutchinson, John 1842-1860+  
Phelps, Charles C. 1835-1860+  
Ruckel, Daniel E. 1836-1839 and 1846-1859

**1849**

Biedler, A. 1849  
Biedler, H. 1849  
Conant, Sullivan 1842-1859  
Francis, Josiah, Jr. 1836-1852  
Hough, John A. 1846-1860+  
Hutchinson, John-1842-1860+  
Phelps, Charles C.-1835-1860+  
Pilcher, Ezekiel  
Ruckel, Daniel E. 1836-1839 and 1846-1859

**1850**

Conant, Sullivan 1842-1859  
Francis, Josiah, Jr. 1836-1852  
Hough, John A. 1846-1860+  
Hutchinson, John 1842-1860+  
Mason, John A. 1850-1860+  
Phelps, Charles C. 1835-1860+  
Ruckel, Daniel E. 1836-1839 and 1846-1859

**1851**

Conant, Sullivan 1842-1859  
Francis, Josiah, Jr. 1836-1852  
Hough, John A. 1846-1860+  
Hutchinson, & Powell  
Hutchinson, John A. 1842-1860+  
Mason, John A. 1850-1860+  
Phelps, Charles C. 1835-1860+

**1852**

Conant, Sullivan 1842-1859  
Francis, Josiah, Jr. 1836-1852  
Hough, John A. 1846-1860+  
Hutchinson, John A. 1842-1860  
Mason, John A. 1850-1860+  
Phelps, Charles C. 1835-1860+

**1853**

Conant, Sullivan 1842-1859  
Hough, John A. 1839-1869+  
Hutchinson, John 1842-1860+  
Mason, John A. 1850-1860+  
Phelps, Charles C. 1835-1860+  
Phelps & Strickland 1853-1856  
Strickland, George 1853-1856

**1854**

Conant, Sullivan 1842-1859  
Hough, John A. 1846-1860+  
Hutchinson, John A. 1842-1860+  
Mason, John A. 1850-1860+  
Phelps, Charles C. 1835-1860+  
Phelps & Strickland 1853-1856  
Strickland, George 1853-1856  
Williams & Link 1854-1857

**1855**

Conant, Sullivan 1842-1859  
Hough, John A. 1846-1860+  
Hutchinson, John A. 1842-1860  
Mason, John A. 1850-1860+  
Phelps, Charles C. 1835-1860+  
Phelps & Strickland 1853-1856  
Strickland, George 1853-1856  
Williams & Link 1854-1857

**1856**

Conant, Sullivan 1842-1859  
Hough, John A. 1846-1860+  
Hutchinson, John A. 1842-1860+  
Mason, John A. 1850-1860+  
Phelps, Charles C. 1835-1860+  
Phelps & Strickland 1853-1856  
Strickland, George 1853-1856  
Williams & Link 1854-1857

**1857**

Conant, Sullivan 1842-1859  
Hough, John A. 1846-1860+  
Hutchinson, John 1842-1860+  
Mason, John A. 1850-1860+  
Phelps, Charles C. 1835-1860+  
Ruckel & Little 1857  
Ruckel, Daniel E. 1836-1839 and 1846-1859  
Williams & Link 1854-1857

**1858**

Bell, R. B. 1858-1859  
Conant, Sullivan 1842-1859  
Hough, John A. 1846-1860+  
Hutchinson, John A. 1842-1860+  
Mason, John A. 1850-1860+  
Phelps, Charles C. 1835-1860+

**1859**

Bell, R. B. 1858-1859  
Conant, Sullivan 1842-1859  
Hough, John A. 1846-1860+  
Hutchinson, John A. 1842-1860+  
Mason, John A. 1850-1860+  
Phelps, Charles C. 1835-1860+

**1860**

Hough, John A. 1846-1860+  
Hutchinson, John A. 1842-1860+  
Mason, John A. 1850-1860+  
Phelps, Charles C. 1835-1860+  
Solle, William 1860  
Westenberger, Gerhart 1860

**List of Chair and Cabinet Makers by Years Worked in Springfield (1831-1860)****Six to 25 Years**

Phelps, Charles C.	1835-1860	25
Hough, John A.	1839-1860	21
Hutchinson, John A.	1842-1860	18
Francis, Josiah, Jr.	1836-1852	16
Ruckel, Daniel E.	1838-1839 and 1846-1859	14
Mason, John A.	1850-1860	10
Moore, John	1831 and before	10
Davis, Walter	1839-1848	9
Pilcher, Ezekiel	1836-1842	6

**Two Years or Less**

Smith & Moffett	1831-1833	3
Smith, James H.	1831-1833	3
Tabor, B. C. & Elisha	1831-1833	3
Edmundson & Weber	1836-1837	2
Francis, Charles B.	1836-1837	2
Hough & Davis	1839-1848	2
Moffett, J. B.	1831-1833	2
Ruckel, Jacob	1838-1839	2
Ruckel, Bilson & Co.	1842-1843	2
Bilson, Thomas	1842-1843	2
Walters, Thomas	1831	1
Biedler, A.	1849	1
Biedler, H.	1849	1
Eubanks, S. G.	1842	1
Grosh, D. F.	1836	1
Moore & Walters	1831	1
Moore, Randolph	1831	1
Shoop, William	1832	1
Webber, _____	1835-1836	2
Westenberger, Gerhart	1860	1
Solle, William	1860	1
Bell, R. B.	1858	1



### **Origin of Chair and Cabinet Makers**

**Vermont**  
John Moore  
John A. Mason

**New York**  
Daniel Ruckel  
Jacob Ruckel

**Pennsylvania**  
Robert A. Zimmerman

**Massachusetts**  
Sullivan Conant  
Charles B. Francis  
Josiah Francis  
Charles C. Phelps  
George Strickland

**Ohio**  
William G. Doyle  
B. C. Tabor  
Elisha Tabor

**Virginia**  
John A. Hough

**Kentucky**  
Ezekiel Pilcher

### **Abolitionist Chair and Cabinet Makers**

**Abolitionists**  
Sullivan Conant  
Elisha Tabor  
Charles B. Francis  
Josiah Francis

**Springfield Anti-Slavery Society**  
George Strickland  
Charles C. Phelps

**Second Presbyterian Church**  
John A. Mason  
Robert A. Zimmerman

**Signed Lovejoy Petition**  
Sullivan Conant  
Charles B. Francis  
Josiah Francis

## RICHARD E. HART

Richard E. Hart was born in Ottawa, Illinois, and attended school and was raised in Springfield. He attended the University of Illinois at Champaign-Urbana where he received his B.A. in 1964 and his J.D. in 1967. He was admitted to practice law in 1967 and has been a practicing attorney in Springfield, Illinois for the last fifty years. He is a partner in the firm of Hart, Southworth & Witsman. Hart is married to Ann and they have three children and six grandchildren.

Hart is a past President of The Abraham Lincoln Association and member of the Illinois Abraham Lincoln Bicentennial Commission. He is a past President and board member of the Sangamon County Historical Society, past Chairman of the Advisory Board of The Lincoln Legal Papers and past President and member of the Board of Directors of the Elijah Iles House Foundation. Hart was largely responsible for raising the funds and managing the day-to-day restoration of the Elijah Iles House and the Strawbridge-Shepherd House, two 1840 Greek Revival residences.

Hart is also past President of Springfield Preservation, Ltd., a for profit corporation that has restored and leased five Lincoln era houses in Springfield's German Settlers Row.

Hart suggested the format for the *Looking for Lincoln* project in Springfield and donated his personal historical research and ideas that were used for that project.

Hart and his wife Ann were also responsible for proposing the design for the City of Springfield's streetscape. Their design proposal and advocacy was adopted in lieu of another proposal for a contemporary design. As a part of their advocacy, the Harts purchased and donated the first period lights for Springfield's streetscape. Since that first donation, the use of the design has spread throughout downtown Springfield and is now moving into several neighborhoods, including the Iles Park Neighborhood.

In 1999, Hart was given the City of Springfield's Preservationist of the Year award.

In 2012, Hart was presented with the Logan Hay Medal. The bronze medal is awarded infrequently and is the highest honor given by The Abraham Lincoln Association to recognize individuals who have made noteworthy contributions to the mission of the Association.

In 2014, Hart was awarded the Illinois State Historical Society's Lifetime Achievement Award for his outstanding contributions over the decades to promoting the history of the Prairie State.

In 2015, Hart was awarded the Springfield NAACP Chapter's 2015 Legal and Political Award.

Hart served on the Board of Managers of Oak Ridge Cemetery and was Chairman of the Board of Managers of Oak Ridge Cemetery. He is a founding member of the Board of Directors of Springfield Illinois African American History Foundation Museum. Hart remains a member of the Board of Directors of The Abraham Lincoln Association and the Elijah Iles House Foundation.

For the last ten years Hart has been the editor of *For The People*, a newsletter of The Abraham Lincoln Association, and the *Iles Files*, a newsletter of the Elijah Iles House Foundation.

Hart's personal interest has been in the history of Springfield during the time that Abraham Lincoln lived there and in particular on the presence there of African-Americans. He is also interested in particular areas of Sangamon County during the period of early settlement. He has divided his published research on these two areas into the Spring Creek Series focusing on Lincoln's Springfield and the Sugar Creek Series focusing on the early settlement of Cotton Hill and Ball Townships in Sangamon County.

### **Spring Creek Series**

Lincoln's Springfield – The Public Square (1823-1865) (2004)  
Springfield, Illinois' Nineteenth Century Photographers (2005)  
Early Sangamon County Antiques – The Barringer Exhibit (2005) (Editor)  
Lincoln's Springfield – The Underground Railroad (2006)  
Lincoln's Springfield – The Early African American Population (2008)  
The Early Court Houses of Sangamon County, Illinois (1821-1837) (2008)  
Lincoln In Illinois: The Bicentennial of The Birth of Abraham Lincoln (2009) (Editor)  
Lincoln's Springfield – Abel W. Estabrook : Robert Todd Lincoln's Abolitionist Teacher (2009)  
Lincoln's Springfield – Springfield's Early Schools (2009)  
The Colored Section, Oak Ridge Cemetery (2009)  
Lincoln's Springfield – Greek Revival Architecture on The Prairie (2011)  
Camp Butler: A Civil War Story: Photographs of Union Soldiers (2013)  
Circuses in Lincoln's Springfield (1833-1860) (2013)  
Preston Butler: Photographer in Lincoln's Springfield (2014)  
Jameson Jenkins and James Blanks, African Americans in Lincoln's Springfield (2014)  
Lincoln's Springfield: The Funeral of Abraham Lincoln: Mary 3rd and 4th, 1865 (2015)  
Lincoln's Springfield Neighborhood (2015)

### **Sugar Creek Series**

Jones Cemetery Tour: Ball, Cotton Hill & Woodside Township, Sangamon County, Illinois (2002)  
Philemon Stout Cemetery: Ball Township, Sangamon County, Illinois (2006)  
Christopher Newcomer Cemetery: Woodside Township, Sangamon County, Illinois (2009)  
Sugar Creek Cemetery: Ball Township, Sangamon County, Illinois (2010)  
Vigal Cemetery: Cotton Hill Township, Sangamon County, Illinois (2010)  
David Brunk Cemetery: Ball Township, Sangamon County, Illinois (2010)  
Cumberland Sugar Creek Cemetery, The Old Burying Ground (2012)  
George Brunk Cemetery, Cotton Hill Township, Sangamon County, Illinois (2012)  
The Strawbridge – Shepherd Farm Site  
Thomas Royal Revolutionary War Soldier and Early Sangamon County Settler (2016)  
A Genealogy of the Descendants of John Ashmore: A Tribute to James Newton Ashmore (2016)

## Index

- 1824**  
Moore, John  
    presence in Springfield-July 5, 1824.....3
- 1831**  
Moffett, J. B. cabinet maker 3  
Moore, John cabinet maker 3  
Moore, Randolph cabinet maker 4  
More & Walters cabinet makers 4  
Smith & Moffett cabinet makers 3  
Smith, James H. cabinet maker 3  
Tabor, B. C. cabinet maker 5  
Tabor, Elisha cabinet maker 5  
Walters, Thomas cabinet maker 4
- 1832**  
Doyle, William G. cabinet maker 6  
Shoop, William cabinet maker 6  
Smith, James H. cabinet maker 7  
Tabor, B. C. cabinet maker 7  
Tabor, Elisha cabinet maker 7
- 1833**  
Moffett, J. B. cabinet maker 8  
Smith, James H. cabinet maker 8
- 1834**  
Doyle, William G. death-September 1834 11
- 1835**  
Phelps, Charles C. chair maker 12, 14, 15, 19  
Powell, W. B. chair maker 15  
Zimmerman, Robert B. chair maker 14
- 1836**  
Edmundson & Weber cabinet makers 18  
Francis, Charles B. chair maker 20, 21  
Francis, Josiah, Jr. chair maker 20, 21  
Grosh, D. F., chair maker 22  
Phelps, Charles C. chair maker 17, 19, 21  
Pilcher, Ezekiel cabinet maker 16  
Powell, W. B. chair maker 17, 19  
Zimmerman, Robert B. chair maker 19, 21
- 1837**  
Francis, Charles B. chair maker 23  
Francis, Charles B. signs petition for Anti Slavery Convention 23  
Francis, Josiah, Jr. chair maker 23  
Francis, Josiah, Jr. signs petition for Anti Slavery Convention 23
- 1838**  
Francis, Josiah, Jr. cabinet maker 27  
Francis, Josiah, Jr. chair maker 27  
Phelps, Charles C. chair maker 28  
Ruckel, Daniel E. cabinet maker 25  
Ruckel, Jacob cabinet maker 25  
Zimmerman, Robert B. chair maker 28
- 1839**  
Davis, Walter cabinet maker 29, 30  
Hough, John A. cabinet maker 29, 30, 31  
Ruckel, Daniel E. cabinet maker 29  
Ruckel, Jacob cabinet maker 29
- 1840**  
Francis, Josiah, Jr. cabinet maker 32, 33  
Hempstead, O. chair maker 33  
Hough, John A. cabinet maker 31  
Mason, John A. chair maker 33  
Phelps, Charles C. chair maker 31, 32, 34  
Ruckel, Daniel E. moves to Sangamo Town 33  
Ruckel, Jacob moves to Sangamo Town 33  
Zimmerman, Robert B. chair maker 31, 33
- 1841**  
Davis, Walter cabinet maker 35
- Francis, Josiah, Jr. cabinet maker 35, 63  
Hough, John A. cabinet maker 35  
Hough, John A., music teacher 36  
Phelps, Charles C. chair maker 35, 36  
Willard, A. P. chair maker 36  
Zimmerman, Robert B. chair maker 36
- 1842**  
Bilson, Thomas cabinet maker 38  
Campbell, John A., Jr. cabinet maker 40  
Campbell, John A., Jr. cabinet makers 38  
Campbell, John A., Jr., cabinet maker 40  
Conant, Sullivan chair maker 41  
Eubanks, S. G. cabinet maker 38  
Francis, Josiah, Jr. cabinet maker 37  
Hessin, J. D. cabinet maker 38  
Hough & Davis cabinet makers 42  
Hough, John A. cabinet maker 42  
Hutchinson, John A. cabinet maker 38  
Pilcher, Ezekiel cabinet maker 40  
Ruckel, Bilson & Co. cabinet makers 38, 41  
Ruckel, Daniel E. bankruptcy 37  
Ruckel, Daniel E. cabinet maker 38  
Ruckel, Jacob bankruptcy 37  
Ruckel, Jacob cabinet maker 38
- 1843**  
Campbell, John A., Jr. cabinet maker 39  
Eubanks, S. G. cabinet maker 39  
Hessin, J. D. cabinet maker 39  
Hutchinson Cewmetry established 44  
Phelps, Charles C. chair maker 43  
Ruckel, Bilson & Co. cabinet makers 43  
Ruckel, Daniel E. cabinet maker 39  
Ruckel, Jacob cabinet maker 39
- 1844**  
Conant, Sullivan chair maker 46  
Hutchinson, John A. furniture dealer 46  
Ruckel, Daniel E. cabinet maker 45
- 1845**  
Phelps, Charles C. chair maker 47  
Ruckel, Daniel E. cabinet maker 47
- 1846**  
Conant, Sullivan chair maker 49  
Hough, John A. cabinet maker 49  
**Hutchinson, John A. cabinet maker** 50  
Phelps, Charles C. cabinet maker 49  
Ruckel, Daniel E. cabinet maker 48, 55  
Ruckel, Jacob chair maker 48
- 1847**  
Francis, Josiah, Jr. chair maker 51  
**Hough, John A. cabinet maker** 52  
**Hutchinson, John A. cabinet maker** 51  
Phelps, Charles C. chair maker 51
- 1848**  
Davis, Walter cabinet maker 53  
Hough & Davis cabinet makers 53  
Hough, John A. cabinet maker 53, 55, 56, 57  
**Hutchinson, John A. cabinet maker** 56  
Phelps, Charles C. chair maker 55  
Ruckel, Daniel E. cabinet maker 57
- 1849**  
Biedler, A. chair and cabinet maker 58  
Biedler, H. chair and cabinet maker 58  
Conant, Sullivan chair maker 61  
Hough, John A. cabinet maker 61  
Hough, John A. chair maker 63  
Hough, John A., cabinet maker 59  
Phelps, Charles C. chair maker 60, 62

Ruckel, Daniel E. chair maker	61, 62	Westenberger, Gerhart cabinet maker	106
<b>1850</b>		Williams & Link, cabinet makers	104
Conant, Sullivan chair maker	68	<b>1861</b>	
Hutchinson, John A. cabinet maker	65	Hough John A. invited to accompany Lincoln on train to Washington	107
Mason, John A. chair maker	65, 67, 68	Lincoln, Abraham invites John A. Hough to travel by train to Washington	107
Phelps, Charles C. chair maker	67	<b>1881</b>	
Ruckel, Daniel E. cabinet maker	67, 69	Mason, John A. obituary	108
<b>1851</b>		<b>1886</b>	
Conant, Sullivan chair maker	71	Conant, Sullivan obituary	109
Hough, John A. cabinet maker	72	<b>1903</b>	
Mason, John A. furniture dealer	71, 72	Ruckel, Jacob H. obituary	110
Phelps, Charles C. chair maker	70, 71	<b>Abolitionists</b>	
Ruckel, Daniel E. chair maker	72	Conant, Sullivan	24
Scarritt & Mason chair makers	71	Francis, Charles B.	24
<b>1852</b>		Francis, Josiah, Jr.	24
Conant, Sullivan chair maker	76, 78	Tabor, Elisha	24
Hough, John A. cabinet maker	74, 77, 78	<b>Anti Slavery Covention</b>	
Hutchinson, John A. cabinet maker	75	Francis, Charles B. signs petition for-1837	23
Mason, John A. furniture dealer	76, 78	Francis, Josiah signs petition for-1837	23
Phelps, Charles C. chair maker	76	<b>Bell</b>	
Ruckel, Daniel E. cabinet maker	77	R. B.	
Ruckel, Daniel E. chair maker	75	chair maker-1858 .....	98
<b>1853</b>		<b>Biedler</b>	
Hough, John A. cabinet maker	81	A.	
Hutchinson, John A. cabinet maker	82	chair and cabinet maker-1849 .....	58
Mason, John A. furniture dealer	79, 81	H.	
Phelps, Charles C. chair maker	80	chair and cabinet maker-1849 .....	58
Ruckel, Daniel E. chair maker	82	<b>Bilson</b>	
Strickland, George furniture dealer	80	Thomas	
<b>1854</b>		cabinet maker-1842 .....	38
Conant, Sullivan chair maker	87	<b>Cabinet Makers</b>	
Conant, William S. chair maker	87	Biedler, A.-1849	58
Hough, John A. cabinet maker	86	Biedler, H.-1849	58
Williams & Link cabinet makers	84	Bilson, Thomas-1843	39
<b>1855</b>		Campbell, John A., Jr.-1842	38, 40
Conant, Levi J. chair maker	97	Campbell, John A., Jr.-1843	39
Phelps, Charles C. chair maker	88	Campbell, John A.-1842	40
Strickland, George furniture dealer	88	Davis, Walter-1839	29, 30
<b>1856</b>		Davis, Walter-1841	35
Hough, John A. cabinet maker	89	Doyle, William G. death-September 1834	11
Hutchinson, John A. cabinet maker	90	Doyle, William G.-1832	6
Mason, John A. chair maker	89	Edmundson & Weber-1836	18
Phelps, Charles C. chair maker	91	Eubanks, S. G.-1842	38
Strickland, George furniture dealer	91	Eubanks, S. G.-1843	39
<b>1857</b>		Francis, Josiah	
Damours, L. carving	92	cabinet maker-1841 .....	63
Hough, John A.		Francis, Josiah, Jr.-1838	27
Abraham Lincoln writes check to-1857 .....	96	Francis, Josiah, Jr.-1842	37
Hough, John A. cabinet maker	95	Francis, Josiah, Jr.-1847	51
Hutchinson, John A.		Francis, Josiah-1840	32, 33
Abraham Lincoln pays \$11 to.....	96	Francis, Josiah-1841	35
furniture and coffins .....	95	Hessin, J. D.-1842	38
Hutchinson, John A. cabinet maker	94	Hessin, J. D.-1843	39
Phelps, Charles C. chair maker	94	Hough & Davis-1842	42
Ruckel, Daniel E. cabinet maker	93	Hough & Davis-1848	53
Ruckel, Jacob		Hough, John A.-1839	29, 30
Abraham Lincoln loans \$500 to.....	96	Hough, John A.-1841	35
Abraham Lincoln writes check to .....	93	Hough, John A.-1842	42
<b>1858</b>		Hough, John A.-1846	49
Bell, R. B. chair maker	98	<b>Hough, John A.-1847</b>	52
Conant, Sullivan chair maker	97	Hough, John A.-1848	53, 55, 56, 57
Hutchinson, John A. cabinet maker	99	Hough, John A.-1849	59, 61
Hutchinson, John A. furniture dealer	100	Hough, John A.-1851	72
Phelps, Charles C. chair maker	97, 98, 99, 101	Hough, John A.-1852	74, 77, 78
<b>1859</b>		Hough, John A.-1853	81
Mason, John A. furniture dealer	102, 103	Hough, John A.-1854	86
Phelps, Charles C. chair maker	104	<b>Hough, John A.-1856</b>	89
<b>1860</b>		Hough, John A.-1857	95
Hough, John A. furniture dealer	105	Hutchinson, John A.-1842	38
Mason, John A. furniture	106		
Solle, William, cabinet maker	106		



<b>Hutchinson, John A.-1846</b>	50	Conant, Sullivan-1849	61
<b>Hutchinson, John A.-1847</b>	51	Conant, Sullivan-1850	68
<b>Hutchinson, John A.-1848</b>	56	Conant, Sullivan-1851	71
Hutchinson, John A.-1850	65	Conant, Sullivan-1852	76, 78
Hutchinson, John A.-1852	75	Conant, Sullivan-1854	87
<i>Hutchinson, John A.-1853</i>	82	Conant, Sullivan-1858	97
Hutchinson, John A.-1856	90	Francis, Charles B.-1836	20, 21
Hutchinson, John A.-1857	94, 95	Francis, Charles B.-1837	23
<i>Hutchinson, John A.-1858</i>	99	Francis, Josiah, Jr.-1837	23
Moffett, J. B.-1831	3	Grosh, D. F.-1836	22
Moffett, J. B.-1833	8	Hempstead, O.-1840	33
Moore & Walters-1831	4	Hough, John A.-1848	55
Moore, John-1824	3	Hough, John A.-1849	63
Moore, John-1831	3	Mason, John A.1840	33
Moore, Randolph		Mason, John A.-1850	65, 67, 68
forms partnership with Thomas Walters for cabinet		Mason, John A.-1856	89
making-December 14, 1831 .....	4	Phelps, Charles C.-1835	12, 14, 15
Moore, Randolph-1831	4	Phelps, Charles C.-1836	17, 19, 21
Pilcher, Ezekiel-1836	16	Phelps, Charles C.-1838	28
Pilcher, Ezekiel-1842	40	Phelps, Charles C.-1840	31, 32, 34
Ruckel, Bilson & Co.-1842	38, 41	Phelps, Charles C.-1841	35, 36
Ruckel, Daniel E.-1838	25	Phelps, Charles C.-1843	43
Ruckel, Daniel E.-1839	29	Phelps, Charles C.-1845	47
Ruckel, Daniel E.-1842	38	Phelps, Charles C.-1846	49
Ruckel, Daniel E.-1843	39	Phelps, Charles C.-1847	51
Ruckel, Daniel E.-1844	45	Phelps, Charles C.-1848	55
Ruckel, Daniel E.-1845	47	Phelps, Charles C.-1849	62
Ruckel, Daniel E.-1846	48, 55	Phelps, Charles C.-1850	67
Ruckel, Daniel E.-1848	57	Phelps, Charles C.-1851	70, 71
Ruckel, Daniel E.-1850	67, 69	Phelps, Charles C.-1852	76
Ruckel, Daniel E.-1852	77	Phelps, Charles C.-1853	80
Ruckel, Daniel E.-1857	93	Phelps, Charles C.-1855	88
Ruckel, Jacob-1838	25	Phelps, Charles C.-1856	91
Ruckel, Jacob-1839	29	Phelps, Charles C.-1857	94
Ruckel, Jacob-1842	38	Phelps, Charles C.-1858	97, 98, 99, 101
Shoop, William-1832	6	Phelps, Charles C.-1859	104
Smith, James H.-1831	3	Powell, W. B.-1835	15
Smith, James H.-1832	7	Powell, W. B.-1836	19
Smith, James H.-1833	8	Powell, W. B.-1865	17
Solle, William-1860	106	Ruckel, Daniel E.-1849	61, 62
Tabor, B. C.		Ruckel, Daniel E.-1851	72
advertises cash for white walnut in <i>Sangamo Journal</i> -		Ruckel, Daniel E.-1852	75
December 27, 1831 .....	5	Ruckel, Daniel E.-1853	82
Tabor, B. C.-1831	5	Ruckel, Jacob-1846	48
Tabor, B. C.-September 1832	7	Scarritt & Mason-1851	71
Tabor, Elisha		Willard, A. P.-1841	36
advertises cash for white walnut in <i>Sangamo Journal</i> -		Zimmerman, Robert B.-1835	14
December 27, 1831 .....	5	Zimmerman, Robert B.-1836	19, 21
Tabor, Elisha-1831	5	Zimmerman, Robert B.-1838	28
Walters, Thomas		Zimmerman, Robert B.-1840	31, 33
forms partnership with Randolph Moore for cabinet		Zimmerman, Robert B.-1841	36
making-December 14, 1831 .....	4		
Walters, Thomas-1831	4	<b>Conant</b>	
Westenberger, Gerhart-1860	106	Levi J.	
Williams & Link-1854	84	chair maker-1855 .....	97
Williams & Link-1860	104	Sullivan	
<b>Campbell</b>		abolitionist .....	24
John A., Jr.		chair maker-1842 .....	41
cabinet maker-1842 .....	38, 40	chair maker-1844 .....	46
cabinet makers-1843 .....	39	chair maker-1846 .....	49
<b>Carvers</b>		chair maker-1849 .....	61
Damours, L.-1857	92	chair maker-1850 .....	68
<b>Chair Makers</b>		chair maker-1851 .....	71
Bell, R. B.-1858	98	chair maker-1852 .....	76, 78
Biedler, A.-1849	58	chair maker-1854 .....	87
Biedler, H.-1849	58	chair maker-1858 .....	97
Conant, Levi J.	97	obituary-1886 .....	109
Conant, Sullivan-1842	41	William S.	
Conant, Sullivan-1844	46	chair maker-1854 .....	87
Conant, Sullivan-1846	49	<b>County Commissioners</b>	

received chairs for County Court Room from William G. Doyle-April 1834	10	cabinet maker-1842.....	42
<b>Damours</b>		cabinet maker-1846.....	49
L.		<b>cabinet maker-1847.....</b>	52
carving.....	92	cabinet maker-1848.....	53, 55, 56, 57
<b>Davis</b>		cabinet maker-1849.....	59, 61
Walter		cabinet maker-1851.....	72
cabinet maker-1839 .....	29, 30	cabinet maker-1852.....	74, 77, 78
cabinet maker-1841 .....	35	cabinet maker-1853.....	81
cabinet maker-1848 .....	53	cabinet maker-1854.....	86
<b>Doyle</b>		cabinet maker-1856.....	89
William G.		cabinet maker-1857.....	95
cabinet maker-1832 .....	6	chair maker-1849 .....	63
death-September 1834 .....	11	furniture dealer-1860 .....	105
provided chairs to County Court Room-April 10, 1834 .....	10	invited to accompany Lincoln on train to Washington - 1863 .....	107
<b>Edmundson &amp; Weber</b>		Lincoln, Abraham invites to travel by train to Washington-1861.....	107
cabinet makers-1836	18	music teacher-1841 .....	36
<b>Eubanks</b>		<b>Hough &amp; Davis</b>	
S. G.		cabinet makers-1842	42
cabinet maker-1842 .....	38	cabinet makers-1848	53
cabinet maker-1843 .....	39	<b>Hutchinson.....</b>	<b>100</b>
<b>Francis</b>		John A.	
Charles B.		Abraham Lincoln pays \$11 to-1857 .....	96
abolitionist.....	24	cabinet maker-1842 .....	38
chair maker-1836.....	20, 21	<b>cabinet maker-1846.....</b>	50
chair maker-1837 .....	23	<b>cabinet maker-1847.....</b>	51
Charles B. signs petition for Anti Slavery Convention-1837.....	23	<b>cabinet maker-1848.....</b>	56
Josiah		cabinet maker-1850.....	65
cabinet maker-1840 .....	32, 33	cabinet maker-1852.....	75
cabinet maker-1841 .....	35, 63	<i>cabinet maker-1853 .....</i>	82
Josiah signs petition for Anti Slavery Convention-1837 .....	23	cabinet maker-1856.....	90
Josiah, Jr.		cabinet maker-1857.....	94
abolitionist.....	24	<i>cabinet maker-1858 .....</i>	99
cabinet maker-1838 .....	27	furniture and coffins-1857 .....	95
cabinet maker-1838 .....	27	furniture dealer-1844 .....	46
cabinet maker-1842 .....	37	<b>Hutchinson Cemetery</b>	
chair maker-1836.....	20, 21	established-1843	44
chair maker-1837.....	23	<b>Lincoln</b>	
chair maker-1838.....	27	Abraham	
chair maker-1847.....	51	invites John A. Hough to travel by train to Washington-1861.....	107
<b>Furniture Dealers</b>		loans \$500 to Jacob Ruckel-1857.....	96
Hough, John A.-1860	105	pays \$11 to John A. Hutchinson-1857 .....	96
Hutchinson, John A.-1844	46	writes check to Jacob Ruckel-1857 .....	93
Hutchinson, John A.-1858	100	writes check to John A. Hough-1857 .....	96
Mason, John A.	72, 78, 79, 89	<b>Mason</b>	
Mason, John A.-1851	71	John A.	
Mason, John A.-1852	76	chair maker-1840 .....	33
Mason, John A.-1853	81	chair maker-1850 .....	65, 67, 68
Mason, John A.-1859	102, 103	chair maker-1856 .....	89
Mason, John A.-1860	106	furniture dealer.....	79, 89
Phelps, Charles C.-1858	101	furniture dealer-1851 .....	71, 72
Strickland, George-1853	80	furniture dealer-1852 .....	76, 78
Strickland, George-1855	88	furniture dealer-1853 .....	79, 81
Strickland, George-1856	91	furniture dealer-1859 .....	102, 103
<b>Grosh</b>		furniture-1860.....	106
D. F.		obituary-1881.....	108
chair maker-1836.....	22	<b>Moffett</b>	
<b>Hempstead</b>		J. B.	
O.		cabinet maker-1831.....	3
chair maker-1840.....	33	cabinet maker-1833.....	8
<b>Hessin</b>		<b>Moore</b>	
J. D.		John	
cabinet maker-1842.....	38	cabinet maker-1831.....	3
cabinet maker-1843 .....	39	presence in Springfield-July 5, 1824.....	3
<b>Hough</b>		probably first Springfield cabinet maker-July 5, 1824 .....	3
John A.		<b>Randolph</b>	
Abraham Lincoln writes check to-1857 .....	96	cabinet maker-1831.....	4
cabinet maker-1839 .....	29, 30, 31	cabinet maker-December 14, 1831.....	4
cabinet maker-1840 .....	31		
cabinet maker-1841 .....	35		

- forms partnership with Thomas Walters for cabinet making-December 14, 1831 .....4
- Moore & Walters**  
cabinet makers-1831 ..... 4
- Phelps**  
Charles C.  
cabinet maker-1846 .....49  
chair maker-1835 ..... 12, 14, 15  
chair maker-1836 ..... 17, 19, 21  
chair maker-1838 .....28  
chair maker-1840 .....32, 34  
chair maker-1841 .....35, 36  
chair maker-1843 .....43  
chair maker-1845 .....47  
chair maker-1847 .....51  
chair maker-1848 .....55  
chair maker-1849 .....60, 62  
chair maker-1850 .....67  
chair maker-1851 .....70, 71  
chair maker-1852 .....76  
chair maker-1853 .....80  
chair maker-1855 .....88  
chair maker-1856 .....91  
chair maker-1857 .....94  
chair maker-1858 .....97, 98, 99, 101  
chair maker-1859 .....104
- Pilcher**  
Ezekiel  
cabinet maker-1836 .....16  
cabinet maker-1842 .....40
- Powell**  
W. B.  
chair maker-1835 .....15  
chair maker-1836 ..... 17, 19
- Ruckel**  
Daniel E.  
bankruptcy-1841 .....37  
cabinet maker-1838 .....25  
cabinet maker-1839 .....29  
cabinet maker-1842 .....38  
cabinet maker-1843 .....39  
cabinet maker-1844 .....45  
cabinet maker-1845 .....47  
cabinet maker-1846 .....48, 55  
cabinet maker-1848 .....57  
cabinet maker-1850 .....67, 69  
cabinet maker-1852 .....77  
cabinet maker-1857 .....93  
chair maker-1849 .....61, 62  
chair maker-1851 .....72  
chair maker-1852 .....75  
chair maker-1853 .....82  
moves to Sangamo Town-1840 .....33
- Jacob  
Abraham Lincoln loans \$500 to-1857 .....96  
Abraham Lincoln writes check to .....93  
bankruptcy-1842 .....37  
cabinet maker-1838 .....25  
cabinet maker-1839 .....29  
cabinet maker-1842 .....38  
cabinet maker-1843 .....39
- chair maker-1846 ..... 48  
moves to Sangamo Town-1840 ..... 33
- Jacob H.  
obituary-1903 ..... 110
- Ruckel, Bilson & Co.**  
cabinet makers-1842 ..... 38, 41  
cabinet makers-1843 ..... 43
- Scarritt & Mason**  
chair makers-1851 ..... 71
- Shoop**  
William  
cabinet maker-1832 ..... 6
- Smith**  
James H.  
cabinet maker-1831 ..... 3  
cabinet maker-1832 ..... 7  
cabinet maker-1833 ..... 8
- Smith & Moffett**  
cabinet makers-1831 ..... 3
- Solle**  
William  
cabinet maker-1860 ..... 106
- Strickland**  
George  
furniture dealer-1853 ..... 80  
furniture dealer-1855 ..... 88  
furniture dealer-1856 ..... 91
- Tabor**  
B. C.  
advertises cash for white walnut in *Sangamo Journal*-  
December 27, 1831 ..... 5  
cabinet maker-1831 ..... 5  
cabinet maker-September 1832 ..... 7  
presence in Springfield-1831 ..... 5
- Elisha  
abolitionist ..... 24  
advertises cash for white walnut in *Sangamo Journal*-  
December 27, 1831 ..... 5  
cabinet maker-1831 ..... 5  
cabinet maker-September 1832 ..... 7
- Walters**  
Thomas  
cabinet maker-1831 ..... 4  
forms partnership with Randolph Moore for cabinet making-December 14, 1831 ..... 4
- Westenberger**  
Gerhart  
cabinet maker-1860 ..... 106
- Willard**  
A. P.  
chair maker-1841 ..... 36
- Williams & Link**  
cabinet makers-1854 ..... 84  
cabinet makers-1860 ..... 104
- Zimmerman**  
Robert B.  
chair maker-1835 ..... 14  
chair maker-1836 ..... 19, 21  
chair maker-1838 ..... 28  
chair maker-1840 ..... 31, 33  
chair maker-1841 ..... 36



*The "Lincoln Sofa," built by Jacob Ruckel circa 1838, was in the office of former U.S. Congressman Paul Findley, Jacksonville, Illinois.*