LINCOLN’S SPRINGFIELD

THE EARLY AFRICAN AMERICAN POPULATION
OF SPRINGFIELD, ILLINOIS
(1818-1861)

Spring Creek Series

Richard E. Hart
Front Cover photograph: The earliest known photograph of a Springfield African American. This tintype was taken by Springfield photographer Marcel Duboce circa 1860s. The original is in the collection of the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library, Springfield, Illinois.

Back Cover photograph: May 4, 1865 photograph taken in front of the funeral decorated Lincoln Home With Reverend Henry Brown to the Left or Rear of “Old Bob,” and The Reverend Trevan on the Right or Front of the Horse.1

For Ann.
The history of the colored people in Sangamon County, like the sources of the common law, is shrouded in some mystery. The writer is confronted with an embarrassing lack of available data and must draw his material from the memories of such of the older settlers as remain, and to a still larger extent, from their descendants.

W. T. Casey, History of the Colored People of Sangamon County, an inclusion in the 1926 “Directory of Sangamon County’s Colored Citizens.”

There shall be neither Slavery nor involuntary Servitude in the said territory.

Article 6, Northwest Ordinance, 1787.

Many of the well-to-do first immigrants brought with them their slaves, and held them as such, and the relation of master and servant was by common consent recognized.

Zimri Enos

...tho slavery in a modified or indenture form existed in this state under legal sanction, there is no record of its having stained the fair name of Sangamon.

W. T. Casey, History of the Colored People of Sangamon County, an inclusion in the 1926 “Directory of Sangamon County’s Colored Citizens.”

That the benefits which it confers upon the colored race, without injuring the white man, and the blessings which it proposes to dispense to the two Continents in its humane and missionary operations -- the cause of African Colonization is worthy of the entire confidence, and the active, unwearied support of the American Patriot, the Philanthropist, and the Christian.

Resolution of Sangamon County Colonization Society, October 1839.

The Lincoln of 1860 knew the Negro of dialect story, minstrel stage, and sea chantey.

Benjamin Quarles, Lincoln and the Negro, 1962.
Received of Joseph Reavis, three hundred Dollars it being in full for a negro boy named Jack aged about Eight years old. Which negro boy we do warrant to be clear from all impediment and further agree to warrant, and forever defend the right & title of said Jack, to the said Reavis ... and from all other claims lawfully claiming the said negro boy Jack, this Eighteenth day of March A. D. 1822.

Henry Kelly                                            Mary Kelly

Receipt of Henry and Mary Kelly upon the sale of Negro Jack, March 18, 1822.

This deponent...says that after John Howard the coroner had levied the execution upon...Nance she saw...Nance in Howards custody confined with chains...Nance became very sick while thus confined, that this deponent...saw Howard the coroner sell...Nance under the execution...Nathan Cromwell became the purchaser after which he asked...Nance if she would go and live with him...Nance refused...Cromwell then told the coroner to take her where he brought her from, and...the coroner tied her & took her back to the old salt house.

Statement of Jane Cox in the Sangamon County habeas corpus suit by Nance, a negro girl vs. Nathan Cromwell, October 6, 1827.

That we cannot regard the “Illinois State Colonization Society,” as a charitable institution, deserving the sympathy and support of the Christian public, or as a public benefit, for the support of which it is the duty of the Legislature to tax the good people of this State, in as much as we are not aware of any benefit which it is calculated to bestow, either upon the State at large or upon the colored people particularly; with all due submission to the superior wisdom of the gentlemen who have organized and who manage the Colonization society, we cannot perceive what benefit it will be to the State of Illinois to remove from it the five or ten thousand laborers composing our colored population. The State needs laborers to cultivate its fields and to perform various other services, and we are both able and willing to work. We also believe that the colored people of this State are, in general, as industrious and inoffensive a population as can anywhere be found. We do not interfere with other people, and only ask that we may be let alone, and simply protected in our “inalienable rights to life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness, as are other citizens of the State. We have no desire to exchange the broad prairies, fertile soil, healthful climate and Christian civilization of Illinois, for the dangerous navigation of the wide ocean, the tangled forests, savage beasts, heathen people and mismatic shores of Africa. We also believe that the operations of the Colonization Society are calculated to excite prejudices against us, and to impel ignorant or ill disposed persons to take measures for our expulsion from the land of our nativity, from our country and from our homes. We, therefore, beg the Legislature and the people of this State, that they will lend no countenance to such a project.

Resolution of a meeting of colored citizens of Springfield held to consider the Liberia question on February 12, 1858.
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Marriage of William H. Butler and Diana Devillah (DuVall/Deville)

Meeting of The Sangamon County Colonization Society

Marriage of John C. W. Stewart and Melvina A. Shelby

Abraham Lincoln Successful in Defense of Marvin B. Pond Tried for Harboring Slave

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John Bundy, a Colored Man, Former Slave of William David Jarrett

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1844

Samuel Willard Helps Runaway St. Louis Slave From Jacksonville to Farmington

William Fleurville Advertises Location of New Barber Shop

Notice of Runaway Slave, James Nicholas, Being Held in the Macoupin County Jail

African American Ben Henderson Takes Runaway Slave From Jacksonville to Springfield

The Illinois State Colonization Society Organized

Samuel S. Ball Residing in Springfield

Elizabeth Jones, “A Girl Of Colour,” Indenture To Robert Irwin

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Abraham Lincoln Represents Marvin B. Pond Indicted for Harboring Slave

Birth of John Edward Jackson and First Appearance of John and Matilda Foster Jackson Family

Abraham Lincoln Writes to Williamson Durley, Abolitionist

Abraham Lincoln Successful in Defense of Marvin B. Pond Tried forHarboring Slave

Marriage of John C. W. Stewart and Melvina A. Shelby

Springfield’s Population

Meeting of The Sangamon County Colonization Society

1845

Marriage of William H. Butler and Diana Devillah (DuVall/Deville)

Reorganizational Meeting of The Sangamon County Colonization Society

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INTRODUCTION

My interest in the early 19th century history of Springfield African Americans was sparked by a comment whispered to me by Carol Hall at a distant meeting of the Sangamon County Historical Society. As if revealing a dark and closely held secret, Carol confided that some of Springfield’s early white residents were slave owners. I was somewhat skeptical of his revelation, but I recognized that Carol knew far more than I about the early history of Springfield. A short time later my curiosity got the best of me, and I began a search in my home library of Springfield and Sangamon County histories and of the indexes of the Sangamon Valley Collection at Lincoln Library and the Illinois State Historical Library for evidence of slavery in early Springfield. The bits and pieces initially found confirmed Carol’s assertion—there were “slaves” in early Springfield. But even more startling to me was the sad realization that aside from brief references and anecdotes, the histories of Springfield have largely ignored the presence of African Americans in the town’s early life. Their stories were hidden in the shadows of early Springfield history.

I was not the first, however, to recognize the difficulty of finding African American primary sources and to conclude that mystery surrounded the history of Springfield’s early African Americans. In 1926, Springfield African American W. T. Casey wrote the History of the Colored People of Sangamon County, which was printed as an inclusion in the 1926 “Directory of Sangamon County’s Colored Citizens.”

Casey observed that:

“The history of the colored people in Sangamon County, like the sources of the common law, is shrouded in some mystery. The writer is confronted with an embarrassing lack of available data and must draw his material from the memories of such of the older settlers as remain, and to a still larger extent, from their descendants.”

I was challenged by the mystery and I began to dig. I was astounded by what I found.

My examination of contemporary newspapers, correspondence, the reminiscences of early settlers, court and church records, deeds and census data in the period 1818-1862, revealed sufficient evidence to allow one to unequivocally conclude that African Americans were among the very earliest of Springfield’s residents. Their early presence was significant in shaping the culture and community conscience of the infant village of Springfield. It also clearly revealed that they have been largely ignored or overlooked by historians, both past and present.

The slight goes beyond the unjustified omission of the race from Springfield’s historical record, however. Those African Americans who were Springfield residents between 1837 and 1861 were a significant part not only of the town’s life, but of Abraham Lincoln’s life and environment during his twenty-four year residency from April 15, 1837 to February 11, 1861. Lincoln was the friend and neighbor of some, the lawyer for others and the employer of yet others. He was certainly aware that some of his most intimate friends and social, business, professional and political acquaintances possessed African American indentured servants and, in some instances, slaves. Historians have largely ignored, misinterpreted or minimized this aspect of Lincoln’s life and environment.

I would like to share the evidence that I have found and in doing so hopefully stimulate an interest in and appreciation of the contributions of Springfield’s early African Americans. I hope to put to rest some of the myths concerning the history of Springfield’s early African Americans. I would like to make four major points:

First, I will present evidence to support the proposition that African Americans were among the very earliest residents of Springfield.

Second, and as a corollary to the first point, I hope to put to rest the oft repeated myth that William
Fleurville -- Billy the Barber -- was Springfield’s first African American settler -- arriving here in 1831. Yes, he arrived in 1831, but he was not the first African-American resident of Springfield.

Third, I urge Springfield historians to recognize that there was life in Springfield before Lincoln. Springfield’s history between 1818 and 1837 has taken a back seat to the Lincoln period. There is an abundance of primary material from the earlier period to be uncovered and rediscovered and it should provide a better understanding of the environment Lincoln choose as his home in 1837.

Fourth, I urge all Lincoln scholars who have written of Lincoln’s Springfield years to revisit that period with eyes opened to primary materials and focused on Springfield’s African Americans and Lincoln’s relationships with them. I beg those scholars to reexamine their prior conclusions concerning Lincoln’s Springfield environment and his relationship with its African American residents. Perhaps such a new focus will alter their prior conclusions. But even if it doesn’t, their conclusions should be reached only after a review and study of the wealth of primary materials concerning Springfield African Americans during the Lincoln period.

Here then is a record of the early African American population of Springfield, Illinois – Lincoln’s Springfield.

Richard E. Hart
Springfield, Illinois
March 5, 2008
The Illinois Country was governed successively by France, England and the United States, and the laws and customs of each of those nations contributed to the conditions and characteristics of African American life in early Springfield.

The French Period (1682-1763)

From 1682 to 1763, France possessed and governed the area now known as the State of Illinois and permitted slavery. From these French beginnings, the institution of slavery in the Illinois Country was born.

Canadian Province (1682-1717)

During the first 35 years, 1682 to 1717, the “Illinois Country” was a part of the French Province of Canada. The early French who settled in the Canadian Province brought French laws and customs with them, including those permitting slavery.

Louisiana Province (1717-1763)

From 1717 to 1763, the “Illinois Country” was a part of the French Province of Louisiana. In 1720, Philippe Francois Renault, agent and manager of the St. Phillips company and the French director of mines, purchased black slaves in Santo Domingo and brought them into the Illinois Country. Some of them were used in Renault’s mining ventures in northwestern Illinois and in Missouri and others were used in the farming operations around the now vanished French village of St. Philippe, one of five distinct settlements made in the Illinois Country before 1730 and located 45 miles south of Cahokia. It was here that Renault established a French colony of white settlers and black slaves from Santo Domingo. These were probably the first blacks in what is now Illinois.

Before returning to France in 1744, Renault sold his black slaves to the inhabitants of the Illinois Country. Thereafter, priests and even the less affluent French villagers owned slaves, mostly black but some of them captured Indians.

The total number of slaves in the Illinois Country during the French Period appears to have increased very little after Renault’s 1720 import of black slaves from Santo Domingo. The census of 1732 reported 165 black slaves. According to Jesuit mission records, there were only 300 blacks and 60 Indians held as slaves in Illinois in 1750. If correct, these census reports may disprove the oft-repeated tradition that Renault imported 500 black slaves.

In 1763 France ceded the Illinois Country to England bringing to a close the 83 year French Period. At that time, the Illinois Country had an estimated population of no more than 3,000, including an estimated 900 black slaves, or about 30% of the total population.

The English Period (1763-1778)

English colonial law of 1763 recognized slavery in all of England’s American Colonies, just as it had been recognized in the French Provinces. Nevertheless, the Franco-American slaveholders living in the Illinois Country feared that the change to English governance would alter their continued ownership of black slaves. In an attempt to quell that fear, British General Gage took possession of the Illinois Country in 1765 and issued a proclamation to the “late subjects of France” stating that those who chose to retain their lands and become British subjects would enjoy the same rights and privileges, the same security for their persons and “effects” and liberty of trade, as they had enjoyed as French subjects. This proclamation merely extended the English colonial laws and customs to the inhabitants of the Illinois Country, and continued the legal recognition of slavery.

Gage’s efforts to calm the old French residents was not entirely successful, and between 1763 and 1770, about one-third of the population or about 1,000, including in excess of 300 blacks moved to other areas.
Spanish controlled territory west of the Mississippi River where slavery was permitted. By 1770 there were no more than 600 black slaves remaining in the Illinois Country, a 30% loss in seven years.

On the east bank, alarm spread with word that the Illinois country had been turned over to Protestant England. The French assumed that their slaves would be freed, and some went to Ste. Genevieve or back to New Orleans, but La Clede persuaded many of them to cross over to his town (St. Louis). Some floated their houses to the west side. A general exodus of community leaders continued for several years.

The County Of Illinois in Virginia (1778-1784)

The thirteen-year English Period came to a close during the American Revolutionary War. On July 4, 1778, Colonel George Rogers Clarke, at the direction of the Governor and Council of Virginia, led an expedition against Fort Gage, the British garrison at Kaskaskia, Illinois, and took the Illinois Country from the English. Due to an exodus of French settlers to St. Louis and Louisiana at that time, the population dropped to about 1,000 white settlers and 1,000 blacks and Indians.

The following October, Virginia established the Illinois Country as a Virginia county known as the County of Illinois, and it remained such until March 1, 1784. “It embraced all of that part of Virginia west of the Ohio River, and was probably the largest county in the world, exceeding in dimensions the whole of Great Britain and Ireland and embracing the territory now included in the states of Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, Wisconsin and Michigan.”

On December 12, 1778, Virginia Governor Patrick Henry appointed John Todd of Lexington, Kentucky civil commandant and Lieutenant Colonel of the County of Illinois. Todd established the county seat of government at Kaskaskia, and was in fact, although not in name, the first Governor of Illinois.

Kaskaskia Village lies on the S.W. bank of the river of the same name, and 12 miles from its mouth, but not half that distance from the Mississippi. It contains 80 houses, many of them well built; several of stone, with gardens, and large lots adjoining. About 20 years ago (1778) it contained about 500 whites, and between 4 and 500 negroes. The former have large flocks of black cattle, swine, etc.

The Post Revolutionary War Period (1784-1787)

On March 1, 1784, Virginia ceded all of its territory north of the Ohio River, including the County of Illinois, to the United States of America, expressly stipulating in the cession that the “rights and liberties” of the Franco-Americans would be protected (i.e. slavery would be permitted). The United States accepted the Virginia cession with the slavery stipulation and established a form of government that permitted slavery. This form of government continued until the passage of the Northwest Ordinance in 1787.

SUMMARY
1682-1787

Prior to 1787, slavery had a long history and was firmly established in the Illinois Country. Slavery was permitted in the Illinois Country during the 108 years it was governed successively by France, England, Virginia and the United States of America prior to the passage of the Northwest Ordinance in 1787.

The Northwest Territory (1787-1799)

The Northwest Ordinance

The most significant event in the African American history of the Illinois Country occurred on July 13, 1787. On that date, Congress adopted the Northwest Ordinance of 1787, Article 6 of which provided that:

“There shall be neither slavery nor involuntary servitude in the said territory, otherwise than in the punishment of crime, whereof the party shall have been duly convicted; provided always, that any person escaping into the same, from whom labor or service is lawfully claimed in any one of the original states, such fugitive may be lawfully reclaimed and conveyed to the person claiming his or her service as aforesaid.”
Sidestepping the Northwest Ordinance: The System of Voluntary Servitude System

Article 6 of the Northwest Ordinance was in direct contradiction to the established customs and practices of many of the residents of the Illinois Country. Many of them opposed the provision and hoped to subvert Article 6 until the law could be repealed. The more influential of these early residents, including the old French inhabitants, strongly favored the repeal or at least the suspension of the anti-slavery Article 6, but that never occurred. Instead, for the next fifty years, Article 6 was successfully sidestepped so that slavery in disguise continued in the Illinois Country.

Arthur St. Clair, the first Governor of the Northwest Territory was pro-slavery and the first to sidestep Article 6. In February of 1790, he visited Kaskaskia and found its French residents continuing to live by their old French laws and customs, including the possession of slaves. In 1793 St. Clair accommodated these French slave owners and his own pro-slavery preference by interpreting Article 6 as applying only prospectively. He held that additional slaves could not be brought into the Northwest Territory, but those who were held as slaves prior to 1787 would remain slaves. The St. Clair interpretation was accepted by the residents and courts of the Northwest Territory, and the French were allowed to continue possessing their slaves despite the provisions of Article 6.

The St. Clair interpretation did not permit the importation of slaves from a slave state into the Northwest Territory. This would have encouraged emigration to the Northwest Territory by slaveholders and their slaves from the slave states and territories. In order to address this problem, a second sidestep of Article 6 was devised — a system of African American servitude called “voluntary servitude.” The contrived system played with the words of Article 6, which prohibited slavery and “involuntary servitude.” African American slaves brought into what became Illinois and Indiana were “requested” to enter into contracts of service with individuals, overwhelmingly white males, who in essence became their masters. Each contract was called an indenture, and rather than being called “slaves,” the African Americans were called “indentured servants.” Males could be indentured until age 35, and females until age 32. Children born to African Americans during their period of service could also be indentured to serve. Boys could be indentured until age 30, and girls until age 28. This system of “voluntary servitude” was deemed not to be prohibited by Article 6 and established a precedent that resulted in the continuation of de facto slavery or “voluntary servitude” in Illinois for half a century thereafter.

In 1796, residents of St. Clair and Randolph Counties petitioned Congress to repeal or alter Article 6 for a limited period of time and suggested that a law be made permitting the introduction of slaves as servants for life and providing that the servants’ children should serve their masters. A Congressional committee reported adversely on the petition.

In 1800, a second petition requested a limited form of slavery allowing the admission of slaves into Illinois Country where they would remain slaves until death, but their children would be freed—males at age 31 and females at age 25. Congress took no action on the petition.

The Louisiana Purchase in 1803 prompted pro-slavery leaders in the Illinois Country to petition Congress requesting that the Illinois Territory be annexed to the Louisiana Territory. In 1805 and 1806 petitions from the Illinois Country and in 1807 by the Legislature of the Indiana Territory requested Congress to amend or suspend Article 6 so as to permit slavery. The petitions met with Congressional failure.

The County of Illinois in the Territory of Indiana (1800-1809)

In 1802, Congress partitioned the Northwest Territory and established the western part, including the Illinois Country, as the Territory of Indiana. William Henry Harrison was named its governor. Harrison continued St. Clair’s interpretation of Article 6. In November of 1802, Harrison called a special convention which resolved that Article 6 should be suspended for 10 years, that slaves introduced into the Territory should remain bondsmen for life and that their children might be emancipated at adulthood. The resolution was delivered to Congress and was considered by several committees, but it never reached the floor of Congress.
In 1803 the Indiana Territorial legislature, being Governor Harrison and the judges of his court, passed “A Law Concerning Servants,” commonly known as the “slave or black code.” The code was copied from the codes of Kentucky and Virginia, and provided that a person who came into the Territory of Indiana from another state of the Union under a contract to serve another in any trade or occupation was required to specifically perform the contract during its term. It elaborately defined the relationship between masters and servants. Masters were to provide sufficient food, clothing and lodging and servants found guilty of laziness, disorderly conduct, misbehavior or refusing to work were to be corrected with stripes. The 1803 “black code” was the legal origin of the voluntary or indenture system.

In 1805, the Indiana Territorial legislature extended the 1803 law to permit the importation of slaves into the territory where they were allowed to be indentured before a clerk of the court for a definite period. Any slaveholder whose slaves refused to comply with the indenture law within fifteen days of coming into Indiana was required by law to leave Indiana. The terms of service for slaves under the age of fifteen allowed them to be held to labor without their consent until males reached the age of 35 and females 32. Children of “indentured” slaves, were required to serve their parents’ masters well into adulthood.

An 1806 law established a rigorous code of behavior for servants and slaves.

In 1807, the Indiana Territorial Legislature adopted statutes recognizing the legality of the voluntary servitude system. Within thirty days of being brought into the Indiana Territory, slaves were to be brought to the Clerk of the Court of Common Pleas office where they and their master would formally record the indenture or contract of service between the slave and the master. If the slave refused to consent to the indenture, the master had the right to remove the slave to a state or territory where slavery was legal. If the slave consented to the indenture, he or she had “voluntarily” agreed to servitude. A slave’s decision to “voluntarily” enter into the contract was a choice between either remaining a slave for life and returning to absolute slavery from whence he or she came or entering into the contract for service for a term of years. The terms “slave” and “involuntary servitude” were avoided and instead the term “servant” was used in order to comply with the prohibition of slavery contained in Article 6 of the Northwest Ordinance. The process was sanctioned by law and given legal recognition and force by filing a copy of the indenture with the Court. It was this system, with variations, which prevailed in Illinois from 1807 until the Civil War. There are numerous Springfield examples.

**The Territory of Illinois (1809-1818)**

On February 3, 1809, Congress carved out the Illinois Country from the Indiana Territory and organized it as the Illinois Territory. At that time, there were three categories of African Americans living in the Illinois Country, namely: French black slaves, indentured blacks under the voluntary servitude system and free blacks.

Illinois’ pro-slavery advocates quickly prepared what is known as the “Indenture Law,” a copy of the Indiana law, thereby continuing the legal legitimacy of the voluntary servitude system. This was one of the first acts declared to be the law of Illinois by Illinois Territorial Governor Ninian Edwards and the judges.

**An Act Relating to The Introduction Of Negroes And Mulattos Into The Territory**

In 1812, the Indenture Law was re-enacted by the first Illinois Territorial Legislature, and was entitled, “An Act relating to the Introduction of Negroes and Mulattos into the Territory”. The Act allowed one to bring slaves over 15 years old into Illinois, on the condition that they be registered. They then could be held in bondage or “voluntary servitude” until they reached the age of 35, if males, and 30, if females. The children of registered female slaves were born with the saddle of being the slave or indentured servant of their mother’s master until the age of 30 or 28, according to sex. As a result of the Indenture Law, the number of slaves or “indentured servants” in Illinois rapidly increased. The 1810 federal Census of Illinois listed 129 slaves and 500 indentured servants. The 1820 Census gave the number of slaves/indentured servants as 917 and of free African Americans as 457. In that ten year period, the number of slaves/indentured servants increased by 288 or 45.7%.
Robert Pulliam’s Indenture of Adam, a Black Man

On June 21, 1816, Robert Pulliam registered his indenture of Adam, a 21 year-old black man, in Madison County, Illinois. The indenture was for a period of 36 years. Adam was to be free in 1852. On December 8, 1817, Mrs. Francis Pulliam registered her indenture of Dilsey, a 24 year-old black woman. The indenture was registered in Madison County, Illinois, and was for a period of 99 years.47

December 10, 1817
Charles R. Matheny Introduces Bill to Repeal Indenture Law of 1814

In …[1817], [Charles R.] Matheny of St. Clair [County] introduced a bill to repeal the indenture law of 1814; the preamble to Matheny’s bill declared that the 1814 act had violated the paramount law of the land, the Ordinance of 1787. Significantly, he chose to introduce the bill on December 10, 1817, only a single day before the memorial requesting statehood was passed by the Territorial legislature. Matheny’s goal was clearly to secure the repeal of the indenture law before Illinois achieved statehood. The proposed legislation provoked a heated discussion among the representatives who finally decided to lay the bill on the table until the following day.

The brief cooling off period, however, did little to dissipate the heat of the tenth. On December 11, Matheny’s colleague from St. Clair County, Bradbsy, ridiculed the provision of the indenture law which required the “voluntary consent” of a bondsman before he could be “indentured” in Illinois, arguing that a master could easily coerce a slave to accept servitude in Illinois by threatening sale to the South. Bradbsy then offered what he considered to be another powerful objection to the indenture law. “I wish,” he declared, “to prevent that accumulation of free people of color, which must result from this cobweb of legislation.” The Speaker of the House, Dr. Fisher, rose to disagree with the two gentlemen from St. Clair. The Doctor claimed that Illinois had been “much benefited by the introduction of negroes” while their situation had been “much ameliorated” by the indenture system. It would be unwise, he warned, “to infuse their anxiety for freedom, by repealing this law.” Though the 1814 law rendered servants under contract “restless,” he observed that the law ensured the “rights” of masters who had immigrated to Illinois under the belief that the indenture of their bondsmen was constitutional. Fisher concluded that if the law really were unconstitutional as Bradbsy and Matheny claimed there was no need to repeal it. The Speaker of the House, however, was unable to save the day for the proslavery men of Illinois; apparently, the opposition had gained control of both houses of the legislature. The repeal bill passed the House and the Legislative Council, though in the latter by the narrow margin of three to two. According to the provisions of territorial government in the Northwest, it was then sent to Governor Ninian Edwards for his approval.48 Governor Edwards vetoed the bill.

Early Statehood (1818-1824)

The Constitution of 1818 Recognizes Modified Voluntary Servitude System

Illinois was admitted as a state of the Union on December 3, 1818. Earlier that year, the delegates to its Constitutional Convention divided over the issue of slavery: some opposed slavery in any form, some were in favor of slavery in its absolute form and some favored a middle course--that is, the existing voluntary servitude or indenture system.49 The middle course prevailed and was incorporated into the Constitution of 1818, which drew a distinction between slavery and voluntary servitude.50 It provided that neither slavery nor involuntary servitude should “hereafter” be introduced into Illinois unless as a punishment for crimes. The “voluntary” servitude system, however, was fully recognized.

Each and every person who has been bound to service by contract or indenture, in virtue of the laws of Illinois Territory, heretofore existing, and in conformity to the provisions of the same, without fraud or collusion, shall be held to a specific performance of their contract or indentures, and such negroes and mulattos as have been registered in conformity with the aforesaid laws, shall serve out the time appointed by said laws; provided, however, that the children hereafter born of such persons, negroes or mulattos, shall become free, the males at the age of twenty-one years, the females at the age of eighteen years. Each and every child born of indentured parents shall be entered with the clerk of the county in which they reside by their owners within six months after the birth of said child.51

The Constitution did not affect the terms of service of slaves or indentured servants already under a contract or indenture of service. Existing relationships between master and slave or servant were protected, but no further relationships were to be contracted52 and indentured servants were required to fulfill their contracts strictly. The practice of indenturing continued and in some instances the constitutional provision prohibiting slavery was simply ignored.53
The Constitution lowered the age of required manumission from 35 to 21 for males and 32 to 18 for females. Subsequent modifications in the “voluntary servitude system” shortened the permitted term of indentured service for a man to one year, and for children of indentured slaves to no longer than age 21 for boys and age 18 for girls.

Although the Constitution of 1818 barred slavery from Illinois in the future, it expressed no present intent to abolish slavery and the French African American slaves who were in the territory prior to the admission of Illinois into the Union remained slaves. Some historians believe that it was only because of the requirement of the Congressional Enabling Act that the convention enacted the provision that “Neither slavery nor involuntary servitude shall hereafter be introduced into this state.” The 1818 Illinois Constitution was approved by Congress.

As soon as Illinois was admitted as a state of the Union, a number of its citizens began agitating for a convention to repeal or soften the no-slavery article in the 1818 Constitution.

1819

The Black Laws

In March of 1819, Illinois’ first Legislative session re-enacted the “Black Laws” which had been in force in the Illinois Territory and which had been copied largely from the slave codes of Kentucky and Virginia. They were amended several times thereafter and existed until February 7, 1865. Under these laws, an African American, free or slave, was practically without legal protection. The objective of the Black Laws was to force all Illinois African Americans, other than French African American slaves, into the voluntary servitude system by making a free African American’s condition more deplorable than that of a French African American slave or an indentured servant.

A free African American could not become a resident of Illinois unless he had proof of his freedom in the form of a “certificate of freedom” from a court of record. Without such a certificate, the African American could be arrested, imprisoned and sold to service by the county sheriff for a period of one year. But even though certified as “free,” he still could not bring suit, testify in court when a white person was concerned, vote or travel, except in very restricted areas. If he sought employment, he was in constant danger of being kidnapped by the desperadoes who infested the country and sold “down the river.” In short, the free African American did not have the security of his master’s house and was an outcast who could be hunted down and by force or fraud deprived of his freedom.

In contrast to the “free” African American, the slave or indentured servant had a master and a home. If found away from home, he was publicly whipped. He might be sold upon execution or mortgaged to pay or secure his master’s debt, and upon his master’s death, he passed to the administrator or executor of the master, along with the master’s horses and mules. But, an African American who had a master—either as a slave or an indentured servant—had the security of a home. Thus, the choice between being a “free” African American or an indentured servant under the “voluntary system” was not a difficult one for most Illinois African Americans.
The first settlement in Illinois by American population was made in the southern part of the State by immigrants, almost exclusively from the slave states, and extended gradually north to the middle of the State.\(^{57}\)

In 1818, the future site of Springfield was at the center of a vast prairie that stretched across Central Illinois. The expanse was broken only by rivers and streams and an occasional island of trees. Scouting parties and Rangers had passed through the area in the past, but other than that, few whites had disturbed the hunting and gathering grounds of the Native American Kickapoo. This was about to be changed by an invasion of two main streams of population. The first stream was nomadic, young—mostly in their mid-twenties—first or second generation, upland white Southerners from Kentucky, Tennessee, Virginia, and the Carolinas—and a later second stream was from New York and New England.

The first stream of Southerners had little need and no desire for a settled or socially structured society. They moved easily and often, being almost generationally nomadic. They were independent, adventurous, risk taking and self-confident. These earliest Springfield settlers brought little with them other than the customs and practices of their prior Southern life, which in a few instances included the ownership or possession of African American slaves. From Springfield’s beginning, African Americans were a part of the community’s life.

The upland Southern culture transplanted well to early Springfield and established the village’s early vision and treatment of African American residents. The first whites moving from Southern slave states north and west into the central Illinois frontier adapted to the “voluntary servitude system,” the Illinois equivalent of slavery. An examination of these earliest white Springfield residents is helpful in understanding the village’s early culture and mores, particularly those relating to its African American residents.

1818

The First of the Southern Arrivals: Elisha Kelly and The Beginning of Kelly Settlement on Spring Creek

Springfield’s founding family—the Kelly’s—originated in the western North Carolina county of Rutherford, an upland Southern community in the Appalachian Mountains, where slavery was recognized in its absolute form. The 1810 United States Census of that county lists Henry Kelly, the patriarch of the family, as the owner of at least three slaves.\(^{58}\)

Henry Kelly’s son, Elisha, is conventionally attributed to have been Springfield’s first white settler.\(^{59}\) In 1817 at the age of 20, Elisha left his home in Rutherford County, North Carolina and traveled to what was then Madison County, Illinois and is now Macoupin County. He stayed there for a short time\(^{60}\) and in the early spring of 1818, moved north to what is now Springfield. He settled in a wilderness on the banks of Spring Creek where he built a log cabin at approximately Fourth and Miller Streets. He then returned to North Carolina to persuade other family members to join him. Within the next few years, his father and mother, two sisters, four brothers and their families—and slaves—joined him on Spring Creek.\(^{61}\) Within a short time, six other families joined what became known as the “Kelly Settlement” and within a year nine cabins stood along Spring Creek.\(^{62}\)

The 1818 Census

According to the 1818 Census, Illinois’ population of 40,00 included 326 “free persons of color” and 847 “servants or slaves.” African Americans constituted 3% of the total population.\(^{63}\)

Illinois Admitted as a State of the Union

On December 3, 1818, Illinois was admitted as a state of the Union.
1819

Arrival of John and Mary Whitesides Kelly and Family

In the Spring of 1819, John Kelly, Elisha’s 36 year-old brother, and his wife, Mary Whitesides, and five children arrived at the Kelly Settlement. John built a double log cabin at the northwest corner of what is now Jefferson and Klein Streets, the present site of the Illinois Department of Revenue Building (Willard Ice Building).  

Springfield’s First African American:  
Arrival of Henry and Mary Kelly and Negro Jack

In the fall of 1819, Elisha and John’s 78 year-old father, Henry Kelly,65 and mother, Mary, and two brothers, Elijah, age 32,66 and William, and his wife, Dicey Ann Cook, and their children,67 arrived at the Kelly Settlement and lived with John Kelly in his new cabin.68 As noted earlier, Henry Kelly was a slave owner in Rutherford County, North Carolina, and it is probable that Henry and Mary brought at least one of their slaves with them to Springfield. Evidence for this conclusion appears in March of 1822, when Henry and Mary Kelly sold “Negro Jack” to Joseph Reavis. In 1819, Negro Jack would have been about five years-old and he was probably Springfield’s first African American resident.69

Arrival of Andrew Elliott and Family

Also arriving by wagon in the fall of 1819 from Rutherford County, North Carolina were 27 year-old Andrew Elliott70 and his 22 year-old wife, Zilpha H. Kelly (1797-1842), the daughter of William and Dicey Ann Cook Kelly, whom Andrew had married in Rutherford County, North Carolina. They brought their two children, Elizabeth M., age 4, and Sarah M., age 1. Andrew had been a soldier in the War of 1812. Upon arriving, Andrew ‘tented” and camped for a while in the area bounded by present day North Grand Avenue on the north, Walnut on the west, near Calhoun on the south and the section line east of First Street on the east, near what is now the entrance to Monument Avenue (Third and Rutledge).

Arrival of John Taylor Family At Sugar Creek  
Store On Sugar Creek

In 1819, John and Elizabeth Burkhead Taylor and their children moved from Edwardsville to the west side of Sugar Creek in Section 29, Ball Township, Sangamon County.71 John was born in Danville, Kentucky. When a young man, he came to Madison County, Illinois, and married Elizabeth Burkhead,
who was born near Charleston, South Carolina. They moved to Kentucky, and had three children there, and then moved to Edwardsville, Illinois, where they had one child. John and Elizabeth Taylor were Southerners and followed the southern route of immigration from Kentucky and South Carolina to the Sangamo Country. In 1820, John was listed in the Madison County Census. John was a Jacksonian Democrat. In 1822, the family moved to Springfield. John may have brought African Americans with him.

**Illinois’ 1819 Black Code**

The “black code” of 1819 provided for the right control of black-bondsmen, subjecting those who were disorderly or disobedient to punishment by stripes. The 1819 statute failed to protect the basic human rights of slaves: families could be separated, marriages violated and black women sexually exploited with impunity. Though the laws did provide for the punishment of masters who “mistreated” slaves, the likelihood of enforcement was remote.

**1820**

**Arrival of Eleanor and Joseph Reavis, Sally and Mr. Greenwalt and Six Slaves**

Circa 1820, Henry and Mary Kelly’s two daughters, Eleanor, who married in North Carolina to Joseph Reavis, and Sally, who married a Mr. Greenwalt, arrived in Springfield with their six slaves. They remained in Springfield for less than thirty days and then moved on to Missouri where slavery was permitted.

The daughters had three slaves, each; and, after tarrying less than thirty days in Sangamon county, moved on to Missouri. …the sisters halted here on their way to Missouri, where they went because they could not keep their slaves in Illinois.

In 1820, the Illinois Black Laws required that slaves brought into Illinois be registered as indentured servants within thirty days. It was perhaps in order to avoid this registration requirement that the daughters stayed “less than thirty days.” Why didn’t they register the slaves as “indentured servants?” Did they take Henry Kelly’s Negro Jack with them to Missouri.

**Power of Attorney to Sell Three “Negroes”**

On February 22, 1820, Henry Kelly gave Joseph Reaves the power to sell three “Negroes,” 19 year-old Alse, 6 year-old Jack and 3 year-old Doll. If he choose to keep them, Reaves was to pay Kelly $1,000 in silver. This Power of Attorney to Sell Three “Negroes” is the earliest documented evidence of Springfield residents treating an African American as property that could be bought and sold.

**Arrival of Edward Voluntine and Stephen Stillman and Family**

In the spring of 1820, Stephen Stillman, who was born in Massachusetts, his mother, Abigail Bennett Stillman the widow of Benjamin Stillman, his brothers, Dr. Joseph Bennett, born in Massachusetts in 1779 and a physician, and Isaiah, and probably a 15 year-old African American man, Edward Voluntine, settled one and a half miles west of Williamsville in Sangamon County, Illinois. Stephen was listed in the 1820 United States Census, but not in the Illinois Census taken in August of the same year.

Stephen Stillman served in the War of 1812. He gave the name of Fancy Grove and Fancy Creek to those natural features of north Sangamon, names which they still bear. When the first post office north of the Sangamon River was established at Williamsville, Stephen was made postmaster. In 1822, he was
also the first state Senator elected from Sangamon County. He was an anti-convention advocate and an ally of Governor Coles. He sat upon the grand jury which indicted Nathaniel Vannoy for homicide. Vannoy was executed on November 20, 1826, the earliest instance of capital punishment in the county. Stephen was 1st Master of Masonic Lodge in Sangamon County. Stephen was unmarried. He died in Peoria between 1835 and 1840.

The Forgotten Settlement At Fancy Grove

One of the earliest but least known settlements in Sangamon County was the community of Fancy Grove. Located along the headwaters of Fancy Creek in modern-day Williams Township about three miles southwest of the village of Williamsville, Fancy Grove was unique in that most of its residents consisted of families from the state of New York. One of its residents, Stephen Stillman, is credited with giving the Grove its name as well as Fancy Creek. Stillman bought the southeast quarter of Section 8 in which a grove of trees stood. Rather than being a platted town or village, Fancy Grove was a collection of farms located across four adjoining sections of land, 7, 8, 17 and 18. The Stillman family consisting of the mother, Abigail, along with her sons, Stephen, Isaiah and a daughter arrived in Sangamon County in the spring of 1820 when it was a part of Madison County. James Stewart, who was married to Roxanna Stillman, arrived in Sangamon County in 1819 but joined the Stillmans upon their arrival. A few businesses along with a post office were established in the early 1820s. The post office, which was known as Fancy Grove, was conducted in the home of Stephen Stillman, who served as postmaster. For no particular reason, the community began to break up around 1825.

First Record of Sylvania White, a Black Girl

On April 30, 1820, William and Elizabeth Archer and their family arrived in what is now Curran Township, Sangamon County. Six years later, William signed a document which freed a “Black girl” named Sylvania White, who had been bound to him by virtue of claim under the register laws of the “late Territory of Illinois.” One can presume that in 1820, 14 year-old Sylvania came with the family to Curran Township.

Negro Jack, the six unnamed Kelly sister slaves, Edward Voluntine and Sylvania White were Springfield and Sangamon County’s first African American residents.

The 1820 United States Census

The 1820 United States Census of Illinois listed 1,512 “free persons of color” and 668 “servants” or “slaves.” Madison County then encompassed what is now Sangamon County, and the census of that county, taken in August, listed 45 free persons of color and 96 servants or slaves. No free colored person, servant or slave was listed in the census for the area where Springfield now stands.

1821

Sangamon County Established

On January 30, 1821, the Illinois General Assembly established Sangamon County, carving it from a part of Madison and Bond Counties. In addition to present Sangamon County, it included all of what are now Logan, Mason, Cass, Tazwell and parts of Putnam, Marshall, Woodford, McLean, and Christian Counties.

Sangamon County Government Organized

On April 2, 1821, Sangamon County’s first election was held at John Kelly’s double log cabin at what is now the northwest corner of Jefferson and Klein Streets. Three Sangamon County commissioners, William Drennan, Zachariah Peter and Rivers McCormick (Cormack), were elected and met the next day at John Kelly’s to begin discharging their duties. On April 10, 1821, Stephen Stillman was named a justice of the peace for Sangamon County. Edward Voluntine, a 16 year-old African American, was living with him.

On Monday, May 7, 1821, the first term of the Sangamon County Circuit Court was held at John Kelly’s cabin. The presiding judge was John Reynolds, the Chief Justice of the Illinois Supreme Court and later its Governor and historian.
Sangamon County Seat Selected and Named Springfield

In June of 1821, the Sangamon County seat was selected and named Springfield, and John Kelly was hired to build a new court house at what is now the northwest corner of Second and Jefferson Streets. By June 4, John had completed the new court house and the Court moved from his cabin to the new facility. For the first time the county was called “Sangamon” County, the name of “Sangamo” being changed by adding the letter “n”.

“Prior to 1831, the town centered about the small square at Second and Jefferson streets, where Iles’ store and the first court house were located. The present square was on the fringe of settlement.”

Arrival of Charles R. Matheny

In the spring of 1821, Charles R. Matheny moved from St. Clair County, Illinois to Springfield, having been appointed county clerk, county auditor and circuit clerk and given “some other prospective advantages.”

Arrival of Elijah Iles

In June of 1821, Elijah Iles, a 25 year-old Kentuckian who had lived and been a successful land speculator in Missouri, arrived in Springfield and boarded with 38 year-old John Kelly at his double log cabin at what is now the northwest corner of Jefferson and Klein Streets.

I first boarded with John Kelly, a North Carolinian and a widower. His household consisted of himself and two children, two younger brothers (George and Elisha), his aged father and mother, and myself. The board to my notion, has never been excelled.

Elijah, one of the four original proprietors of Springfield, is conventionally known as Springfield’s founder.

Elijah Iles Raised by “Aunt Milly,” a Negro Woman

Elijah Iles’ mother died in 1802 when he was six, and he and his brother William were raised in large part by an African American woman, “Aunt Milly.”

My mother died in 1802, leaving five children... Polly, Elijah, William, and Betsy--the youngest being 8 days old We were in a bad fix...but my Aunt Crocket...took myself and brother William until my father visited his sister at Winchester, Virginia, and bought and brought home a negro woman, and myself and William were taken home and put under her charge and care; we were taught to call her Aunt Milly, and to obey her; she proved to be a good woman.

After living eight years (1802-1810) a widower, my father married the widow Wheeler, with two children... and soon after bought mill property and moved to Licking river, leaving myself (age 14), the black woman, and a negro man to carry on the farm.

Upland Southern Culture of Early Springfield

The Southerners–the Kelly’s, the Elliot’s, the Taylor’s, the Iles’ and those who shortly followed them–were significant contributors to Springfield’s early African American history. They were the first to transplant upland Southern values and customs, including slave ownership, to Springfield. They were representative of one of two principal migratory and cultural patterns which established the customs and practices which defined African American life in early Springfield and Sangamon County. It is most likely that a five year-old African American boy, Negro Jack arrived with Henry Kelly and his family in
the fall of 1819, and that Negro Jack was Springfield’s first African American resident and the first African American in Springfield to be held as the property of another person—a slave. It was from this Southern mold that early Springfield developed.

The New England Strain

A second cultural strain was also present in early Springfield—the New England strain. The early New England settlers represented another pattern of migration, customs and practices, but they entered a stage already set by the early history of Illinois and the early Southern settlers at Springfield. While some of the New Englanders were active in attempting to bring about change in the existing Southern order, others acquired and acquiesced or participated in the customs and practices of the Southern culture.94

Arrival of Erastus Wright

On November 21, 1821, forty-two year-old Erastus Wright, a native of Bernarstown, Massachusetts, arrived in Springfield. Erastus was of the New England strain, perhaps the quintessential Springfield New Englander. He was Springfield’s second teacher and one of its early abolitionists.95

Not content with their efforts to smear the Whig presidential candidate, the editors of the Democratic paper launched an attack on Erastus Wright whom they labeled the “Abolitionist School Commissioner of Sangamon County.” Claiming that Wright had declared that it would not be many years before the abolitionists would elect the President of the Unites States and a majority of the members of Congress, they charged that leading Illinois Whigs, including Abraham Lincoln, had voted against a bill in the General Assembly that would have made the office of county school commissioner elective. The “coalition” of Illinois “Abolitionist” and “Federalists,” the article argued, had opposed the measure because of a desire to sustain Wright in office.96

Early Abolitionist Louis Laughlin Arrives in Ball Township

In 1821, Louis Laughlin with his family settled on Section 29, in Ball Township, where they remained about 15 years and then moved to Wisconsin. Louis Laughlin was one of the first persons in Sangamon County to advocate the abolition of slavery.97

1822

The Sale of Negro Jack by Henry and Mary Kelly

On March 18, 1822, Henry and Mary Kelly sold eight year-old Negro Jack to their son-in-law, Joseph Reavis for $300. Henry may have brought Negro Jack with him from North Carolina when he came to Springfield in the fall of 1819, or his daughter and son-in-law, Eleanor and Joseph Reavis, may have brought Negro Jack with them when circa 1820 they stopped in Springfield for less than 30 days and then went on to Missouri where outright slavery was permitted. The attestation clause of Henry and Mary’s Bill of Sale states that Negro Jack had been living with Joseph Reavis in Missouri for the last 29 months, or since November of 1819, about the time Henry and Mary’s two daughters passed through Springfield on their way to Missouri with their slaves. Therefore, it is likely that Negro Jack came with Henry and his daughters and then went on to Missouri with Henry’s daughter, Eleanor Reavis.

Henry and Mary Kelly’s Bill of Sale of Negro Jack, March 18, 1822

Received of Joseph Reavis, three hundred Dollars it being in full for a negro boy named Jack aged about Eight years old. Which negro boy we do warrant to be clear from all impediment and further agree to warrant, and forever defend the right & title of said Jack, to the said Reavis his heirs and assigns from
us, or heirs our assigns forever and from all other claims lawfully claiming the said negro boy Jack, this
Eighteenth day of March A. D. 1822.

his
Henry X Kelly
mark

her
Mary X Kelly
mark

State of Illinois
Sangamon County

Be it remembered that on the ninth day of March one thousand Eight hundred and twenty-two personally
appeared Henry Kelly and Mary Kelly before me the subscriber a Justice of the Peace for the County
foresaid and acknowledged the within Bill of Sale to be their free voluntary act and deed and that the
within named Jack is the right and property of the within said Joseph Reavis for value received the said
Reavis having in possession the said Jack in the State of Missouri for nearly the space of twenty nine
months.  (Since November 1820)

Given under my hand and seal this day year also written desiring this to be recorded.
John Lindsay J.P. S. C.

John Taylor Family Move From Sugar Creek to Springfield

Sometime in 1822, John Taylor and his family moved from Sugar Creek to Springfield. John was a
Jacksonian Democrat. In 1821, he was appointed the first sheriff of Sangamon County, and by re-election
held the office about six years. He was appointed the second Receiver of the United States Land Office at
Springfield. He was one of the four original proprietors of the town and did much in the way of
improvements to advance its interests. He was granted a tavern license by the County Commissioners.

The 1830 United States Census shows 12 people in John’s household, John, Elizabeth, seven
children and three slaves: one male: 10-24; one female: under 10; one female: 10-24. The females were
probably Nance and Dice, both of whom Taylor purchased at Colonel Thomas Cox’s public auction on
July 12, 1827.

Proposal to Amend the 1818 Illinois Constitution to Permit Slavery (1822-1824)

Southern slaveholders migrating across Illinois on their way to Missouri often expressed regret that
Illinois was not a slave state. If it were, they would have preferred to settle with their slaves on the fertile
prairies of Illinois. They were not unlike the Kelly sisters, who stopped briefly in Springfield, then moved
on to Missouri with their six slaves, including their parents’ slave, Negro Jack.

Slavery Primary Issue in 1822 Gubernatorial Election

Southern Illinois pro-slavery advocates believed that a great mistake had been made in bringing
Illinois into the Union as a free state. They urged that a convention be called to change the Constitution of
1818 to permit slavery. The issue was presented and defeated in a referendum held on August 5, 1822, in
which Edward Coles, a strong anti-slavery man who had migrated from Virginia to Illinois three years
before and who had freed his slaves, was elected Illinois’ second Governor by a plurality of only 46 votes.
Coles received only one third of the vote. The two pro-slavery candidates, Justice Thomas C. Browne,
who was supported by the Ninian Edwards faction, and Chief Justice Joseph Phillips, who was supported
by the Governor Bond faction, together received two-thirds of the vote.

The Springfield voting took place at the new Court House at the northwest corner of Second and
Jefferson Streets. The Springfield vote was 147 for anti-slavery Coles and 86 for pro-slavery Joseph
Phillips. Among those early Springfield residents voting for anti-slavery Coles were William Kelly,
John D. Lindsey, Levi Ellis, Andrew Elliot, Henry Kelly, George Kelly, Jacob Ellis, John Kelly and Elisha
Kelly. Among those voting for the pro-slavery Phillips were Elijah Iles, Charles R. Matheny, Henry Little
and James Adams. One 1822 Springfield resident described the election and noted the presence of what
he called “Darkies.”

From the first, the Sangamo settlers took an interest in politics. Years afterward a voter described the
first election held in Springfield for members of the General Assembly. “I was present at the general
election, August 1822,” he wrote. “…The voters were chiefly emigrants from the East and South,
though a large portion of the men present were Indians and Darkies, they of course not being allowed the right of suffrage. The voting portion of the community were then called Yankees and white men. Three men named Kinny, Parkerson and Edwards, had a long bench ranged along the Court House, on which they set their liquors. The polls were held in the interior. We all got plenty to drink. The white men sang songs, the Indians and darkies danced, and a general frolic occurred; but what has surprised me, as I have reflected upon those early days, we had no fighting.”

Arrival of Thomas Cox and Family and Nance and Dice, His Colored Slaves

In 1822 Thomas Cox (1787-1844), a 35 year-old Kentucky native, his wife of seven years, Roba Bartlett Cox (1793-1883) and his two female slaves, Nance (circa 1813-1873) and Dice, arrived in Springfield from Union County, Illinois. Nance was about 11 years old and had lived with the Cox family since her birth in 1811 (1813) at Thomas Cox’s boarding house at the Illinois Territorial Capitol at Kaskaskia. She was the subject of the 1839 case of Bailey vs. Cromwell, a case in which Abraham Lincoln was the attorney for Bailey on appeal.

Cox was born in Kentucky in 1787, the son of Robert and Jane Robinson Cox. The family emigrated to Kaskaskia, Illinois in 1809. In 1810 Governor Ninian Edwards appointed 23 year-old Thomas Cox a deputy-sheriff. On March 24, 1813, Cox was appointed an ensign in the Second Regiment, and on April 19, 1814, he was appointed lieutenant in the Second Regiment. He had become familiar with Central Illinois when he rode across the area as a scout in 1813, during the War of 1812. On February 15, 1814, Cox sold his slaves, “Randle, age 35, … Ann, and Ann’s two children, a boy 3-years old and girl 2-months old” to William Morrison for $400. Randle had about 10 or 12 years to serve, while Ann had about 20 years to serve.

In 1815 at Ste. Genevieve, Missouri, Cox married 22 year-old Roba Bartlett, who had been raised as a Quaker. In 1816, Thomas and Roba moved to Jonesboro in Union County, Illinois. In 1817, Thomas’ father, Robert, died in a river crossing accident, and 30 year-old Thomas became responsible for his mother, Jane, and inherited a slave named Ned. On April 8, 1818, Thomas was appointed Justice of the Peace for Union County, and on June 3 in the same year, he was appointed a captain in the Third Regiment. From 1818 to 1822, he was a state senator from Union County.

In 1819, Senator Thomas Cox of Union County was selected by the legislature as one of the commissioners to select a location for a new state capitol. Vandalia was selected and Cox moved there from Jonesboro with his family, Roba and their three children, his mother, Jane, servant Annica and probably a mature male slave, Ned, and servant children, Reuben, Nance and Dice. He built the Columbia Hotel, under the sign of George Washington.

A horseman had set out from the old French village of Kaskaskia on a May day in 1819. His horse carried him slowly north along the Kaskaskia River. Behind the rider, spread out on a low flat between the Mississippi and Kaskaskia rivers, lay the largest settlement and temporary capital of the new state of Illinois. The horseman was Thomas Cox, senator from Union County. He rode north on a mission which would end Kaskaskia’s eminence. The old territorial capital was subject to regular floods and badly situated with respect to the state boundaries recently marked out by Congress. A stronger influence, however, in sending Senator Cox on his journey north, was desire for profit. To clear the wilderness and erect a new seat of government was expected to boost land values to the advantage of all participants. Not wishing to leave this bright prospect to chance, the politicians who made up the 1818 constitutional convention directed the first legislature to petition Congress for a grant of land farther north on the Kaskaskia River. The First General Assembly accordingly asked Congress for a grant of from one to four sections of public land for a new capital, astutely pointing out that such a course would increase the value of nearby federal lands. Congress agreed, and made a grant of four section in March, 1819. The legislature appointed Samuel Whiteside of Madison County, Levi Compton of Edwards
From May 15, 1820 until January 20, 1823, Cox served as Register of the United States Land Office at Vandalia, an appointment made by President Monroe. On June 14, 1820, Thomas sold African American “Annica” to Judge R. M. Young, thus depriving Reuben and Nance of their mother. Like Elijah Iles, Thomas Cox had been a land speculator. He purchased land in southeastern Missouri, in the northeastern Arkansas region of the “sunken lands” and in southern Illinois.

1823
Thomas Cox Appointed Register of Land Office at Springfield

The Springfield District of the United States Land Office was formed in 1823, and President James Monroe, who had the power to appoint a Register and a Receiver, did so with the recommendation of Illinois United States Senator Ninian Edwards. Edwards recommended Thomas Cox as Receiver, and President James Monroe wrote to Edwards regarding the recommendation:

Confidential
January 23, 1823

Dear Sir:—On further consideration I think that it will be best, to withdraw the nomination of Mr. Cox and Mr. Enos, and to change the order for that first proposed by you, by nominating Col. Cox as Register, and Mr. Enos as the Receiver. Should the nominations be taken up be so kind as to have them postponed for this purpose, tho’ it will be better, to say nothing as to the motive.

Very Sincerely Yours
James Monroe
Governor Edwards, of the Senate.

Five days later on January 28, 1823, President Monroe appointed Thomas Cox to a four-year term as the first Register of the United States Land Office at Springfield. At the same time, President Monroe appointed Pascal P. Enos to the position of Receiver. In Springfield, Cox bought out the “Kelly improvements” and entered the quarter section where they were located. He built his house, one of the finest in Sangamon County, at the northeast corner of what is now First and Jefferson Streets. In December 1822, after the family’s arrival in Springfield, his wife, Roba, gave birth to a daughter, Cordelia. Cox also ran a distillery. In 1831, Cox served in Black Hawk War and in August of 1832, moved to Ste. Genevieve, Missouri.

Arrival of Pascal P. Enos Family

In January of 1823, President Monroe appointed Pascal P. Enos Receiver of the United States Land Office at Springfield. In September, Pascal moved to Springfield where he established his residence and opened the Land Office in a double log cabin at the northwest corner of what is now Third and Jefferson Streets, the present site of Isringhausen Motors. This would have been next door to Stephen T. Logan’s (William Butler’s) residence. He served as Receiver until January 28, 1831.

Enos was born in 1770 in Windsor, Connecticut. He graduated from Dartmouth College in 1794 and was elected to the Vermont Legislature in 1804. In 1815 he married Salome Paddock at Woodstock, Vermont, and in the same year moved to Cincinnati, Ohio. In 1816 he went to St. Charles, Missouri and in 1817 moved to St. Louis. As early as 1818, he came to Madison County, Illinois, and in 1821 he located six miles north of Edwardsville, Illinois. He was a Whig. He died in Springfield in April of 1832.

Zimri Enos’ Recollection of Thomas Cox

This is what Pascal P. Enos’ son, Zimri, had to say about Thomas Cox, his father’s fellow appointee:

Colonel Cox, when he first came to Springfield in 1823, was a man of recognized ability and standing in the State, and was appointed by President Monroe, Register of the Land Office at this place. He bought out the Kelly improvements and entered the one-quarter section upon which they were located, and which at that time was considered the choice one-quarter of the four quarter sections that embraced the
town plat, the outlots and subdivisions before mentioned. He immediately engaged in some expensive improvements for that day of limited means, such as his mill, distillery, his hewn log dwelling house with a hall and brick chimneys, one of the finest houses in the county. He also erected a two-story building adjoining the back of his dwelling. For what purpose it was constructed, I never understood, perhaps for his Register office. I remember going up an outside stairway on the east side into a printing office in the second story, most likely Hooper Warren’s establishment. [Arrived in winter of 1826] These improvements and the purchase of the Kelly building involved him in considerable indebtedness. But the great misfortune that happened him at this time and, that finally ruined him, was that he became too great a patron of his own distillery. He acquired so great a passion for, and indulged to such an extent in liquor, that he became totally incapacitated and indifferent to his business and suffered all his property to be covered with mortgages, judgments, liens, and executions, and it was to satisfy two of these judgments and executions that these girls were finally put up at public auction and sold. [July 1827] Many persons would regard this as but the dream of a six year-old boy, and would not believe it, but the facts were so indelibly impressed upon my mind, that I went to the Circuit Clerk’s office, and giving him the names and dates, the old records were soon found. Circuit Clerk Jones kindly furnished me with the copies, that are hereby attached. Colonel Cox shortly after moved to the lead mines, and then across into Iowa, where he reformed and became a leading citizen, and was elected presiding officer of one of its legislative bodies.

The name of one these judgment creditors mentioned in the records, Nathan Cromwell, a merchant who came here about the year 1825, and had a store in a little frame building on the north side of Jefferson st., and on the west side of Lot 8, Block 6.

**Illinois Legislature Submits to Voters the Question of Slavery in Form of a Proposal For Constitutional Convention**

The 1822 election of anti-slavery governor, Edward Coles, did not settle the slavery issue in Illinois. A majority of the members of the Legislature were pro-slavery, and at the 1823 legislative session the pro-slavery majority mustered the necessary two-thirds vote to submit to Illinois voters the question of calling a constitutional convention. If the voters chose to call such a convention, the proposal before the convention would be to amend the 1818 Constitution to permit slavery.

By the Ordinance of 1787 slavery had been forbidden in the Northwest Territory, but it nevertheless existed in some portions of Illinois. A considerable number of the settlers of the state being southerners who favored the institution, an attempt was made in the early twenties to call a convention to revise the state constitution in such a manner as to make slavery lawful. The defeat of the plan came in 1824 and from that time dates an increase in immigration.

**Beginning of Anti-Slavery Movement in Illinois**

For eighteen months preceding the vote on the call of a constitutional convention, there was a bitter contest between pro-slavery “conventionists” and their opponents. The proposal made in 1823 to call a state constitutional convention precipitated a full-scale antislavery movement in Illinois. Since it was popularly believed that the purpose of holding the convention was to legalize slavery in the state, the months before the vote on the question witnessed an intensive and searching discussion of the merits of Negro slavery. Practically every religious, moral, economic and political argument that was ever to be presented against that institution was heard during those years. Antislavery pamphlets and antislavery newspapers were printed; antislavery sermons were delivered and antislavery societies established; eventually the antislavery forces were organizing for direct political action, not only to prevent alteration of the state constitution but also to elect antislavery men to public office.

**Thomas Cox Leads Pro-Slavery Supporters of Constitutional Amendmenta**

United States Senator Jesse Burgess Thomas, a Marylander, led those who favored slavery in Illinois and who would vote for the convention. Thomas Cox assisted him in leading those in favor of the convention. Hooper Warren, a New Englander, and Ninian Edwards and his son-in-law, Daniel P. Cook, both Kentuckians, opposed the convention. On February 15, 1823, the conventionists held a meeting of citizens “from all parts of the state” in the hall of the House of Representatives. With Colonel Thomas Cox presiding as Chairman, a committee of seven was appointed to draft an address to be delivered at the State House on February 17. The introduction of slavery was not mentioned in the address. The convention party failed to develop a network of county organizations comparable to that of the opposition.
Though not a member of the state legislature, Colonel Thomas Cox was one of several wealthy and influential men who visited Vandalia during the convention campaign in order to aid the proslavery cause. Cox himself owned four slaves.\(^{123}\)

**Arrival of Archer G. Herndon**

Archer G. Herndon, who moved from German Prairie in Sangamon County into Springfield in 1823, was typical of the Southern strain of early Springfield residents who favored slavery.\(^{124}\) During the 1822-3 effort to change Illinois to a slave state, Archer Herndon took an active part on the side of slavery.\(^{125}\)

Archer G. Herndon was born in 1795 in Culpepper County, Virginia. His family moved to Green County, Kentucky, when he was about ten years of age (1805). In 1816 this sturdy, keen-minded, rollicking youth married Rebecca Johnson, a young widow whose maiden name was Day. Their first child, William Henry, was born at Greensburg, Kentucky, December 28, 1818. Two years later Archer Herndon moved with his wife and son to Troy, Madison County, Illinois, where a second child was born. The following year, 1821, they came to Sangamon County, arriving in a cart drawn by one mule, and settled on what is now German Prairie, five miles northeast of Springfield.\(^{126}\)

**Mr. Dulaney Relinquishes Claim to Joyce, a Colored Girl, to Her Mother**

On March 20, 1823, Mr. Dulaney relinquished his claim on Joyce, a colored girl “now in my possession” to her mother, Lucretia White. The consideration was $10.\(^{127}\)

**Birth of Maria Bartlett**

Maria Bartlett was born the second Sunday in October” between 1820 and 1823. Her parents were Phebe and George Bartlett. Maria was born ‘Mariah Bartlett” in Illinois in 1819.\(^{128}\) Maria stated that her mother, Phebe, had been a slave owned by S[tephen] Shelton [Chilton].\(^{129}\)

…her birth might have taken place sometime between 1820 and 1823 or so, with her sister’s year after hers. That very rough estimate works fairly well with other known facts and calculations. She named her mother as being a “Mrs. Bartlett,” but did not identify her father, only stating in 1880 that he had been born in Tennessee. In 1900 she declared his nativity as being in Virginia. The latter seems correct, since the Sheltons came from there. However, the mystery seems to be a probate record for “Black George” Bartlett in Sangamon County disposing of his personal effects—no real estate—on April 25, 1823. This document shows that he was in Illinois prior to that date. No other black, male Barlett can be found in the county during these early years in question. It is probable that this man was the “husband” of “Phebe” Bartlett. George must have accompanied the Sheltons to Illinois and fathered one or both daughters shortly before his demise. Mariah and her sister had to have been only babies when he died and never remembered him at all.”

Maria Bartlett married Henry Vance on January 20, 1842. The marriage was performed by John Bergen. Maria’s reminiscences state that:

…I was never a slave. My kin folks lived just across the Ohio (River) from Kaintucky. …I’s right proud I’s real black. Had a black Pappy and black Mammy. African black with good red blood and white hearts. …we done went farther north and west. Wound up in Illinois somewhere close to Springfield. That’s where I met my Henry. I was just a skit of a gal when we got hitched. Five younguns in eight years was born to us by the time we set foot in Springfield in 1830. We didn’t have much but younguns an old mule an old wagon a caret and a wee bit of plunda. Rent was only 75 cents a week.\(^{130}\)
Estate of George Bartlet, a Free Negro

George Bartlet, known as “Black George,” was a resident of Sangamon County at the time of his death in the spring of 1823. He died without a will and his estate was administered by Joshua Chilton as the fourteenth probate matter in the Sangamon County Circuit Court. An inventory of Bartlet’s personal property was taken on April 14, 1823, and on the following day the property was sold at public auction. The inventory of George’s personal property reads like the findings from an archeological dig. It is probably a representative list of the personal property used in the everyday, Sangamon County life of an 1820’s resident. It is also unique in that it is a list of the property of a single African American man who appears to have farmed and fished.

Inventory of Personal Property of George Bartlet

April the 14 1823

80 Bushels of corn appraised to 25cts pr bushel $20
potatoes at 37 ½ per bushel 4.50
Rifle gun appraised to 7.00
powder appraised to .50
1 Settouf coat praised to 3.00
1 close coat praised to 2.00
1 money purse praised to .50
1 wiscoat praised to 1.00
1 ____ praised to 1.50
Set of Shoe tools praised to 1.00
1 Saddle & bridle praised to 2.00
2 Buckskins praised to 1.00
3 gallons of vinegar praised to 7.50
1 oven praised to 1.75
1 Stewkittle praised to 1.__
2 Crock & candlesticks praised to .50
1 pail praised .50
1 chest praised to 1.12 1/__
3 bee gums praised to 4.50
1 fish gig praised to 1.00
2 hats praised to 1.50
11 head of hoggs praised to 15.50
10 foot of plank praised to .25

$59.26

Appraisement of the property of George Bartlet (a black man)

David Ditson Indenture to Ebenezer Capps

Indentured servitude was a significant part of 19th century American life. It was not uncommon for a young person – white or African American – to be indentured to a white male for a period of time. The young person was to be taught a trade or art – such as housekeeping or farming. At the age of maturity – variously defined – the indentured servant was to be released from the indenture. It was analogous and perhaps the same as apprenticeship. It was used widely to bind African Americans to a white master.

The earliest Springfield indenture that I have found is that of 15 year-old boy, David Ditson, to Ebenezer Capps, a 25 year-old native of London, England who had arrived in Springfield in 1820. I believe David Ditson was white, as he is not identified by the common term for African Americans, a “colored boy,” or by other similar descriptive words which were commonly used in documents when African Americans were named. Capps was a Springfield grocer and shoemaker who moved to Vandalia in 1830.

The indenture is dated April 27, 1823, and is between Capps and Jesse Ditson, by and with the consent of Ditson’s 15 year-old son, David. David’s indenture was for a period of five years. He was to be taught “the art of shoemaking and card weaving.” The contract read, “that during that time he shall honestly demean himself toward all his master’s lawful orders. He shall keep his master’s goods, shall not
waste anything, shall not play cards or any other unlawful games, shall not frequent ale houses and shall not get married.” Capps in return was to furnish the boy with food and lodging and at the end of his five years work, David was to receive a kit of tools and “a good suit of woolen manufactured” clothes.

First 4th of July Celebration Opposes the Introduction of Slavery

Springfield held its first celebration of the 4th of July in 1823. Historian Paul Angle described the event:

Fourth of July celebrations made an early appearance, the first one being held in 1823. At the first celebration the attitude of the settlers on the question which was then agitating the entire state—that is, whether a convention should be called to amend the constitution so as to permit the introduction of slavery—was made clear. One would naturally expect to find sentiment in favor of the change. Most of the settlers came from states below the Ohio River, and made no secret of their antipathy toward Yankees and Yankee prejudices. Moreover, in Springfield itself Negroes were held in practical bondage through the harsh indenture system permitted by the constitution. Nevertheless, the citizens were outspoken against the calling of a convention. Eleven cheers greeted the toast, “The Tree of Liberty, planted by the Ordinance of 1787, nourished by Ohio and Indiana—may Illinois never cut it down.”

United States Land Office Opened At Springfield and Four Town Proprietors Buy Land

On November 6, 1823, the United States Land Office for the Springfield District opened. Springfield was not surveyed and laid out as a town until after the Land Office opened and thereafter the government sold land and gave “good” title to each purchaser. On November 7, 1823, Elijah Iles, Pascal P. Enos, Thomas Cox and John Taylor, each bought 160 acres, a quarter section, from the government at a price of $1.25 per acre, $115 for a quarter section.

Today, the obvious conflict between holding public office as Receiver and Register of the United States Land Office on the one hand and purchasing land in one’s private capacity from that Land Office on the other would taint the transactions of at least Thomas Cox and Pascal Enos. Such bright line rules appear to have played little part in the ethics of the period.

Town Platted and Named Calhoun

The four town proprietors were ardent admirers of John C. Calhoun, then a member of President Monroe’s Cabinet. On December 5, 1823, they honored Calhoun by changing the name of the town from Springfield to Calhoun when they recorded a plat of survey captioned “Town of Calhoun,” a 24 block area carved from the from parts of the quarter sections they had purchased the previous month. The formal beginning of Springfield is marked from this date. The new name of “Calhoun” was unpopular with the towns’ people because of Calhoun’s stand on the nullification question, and the name was soon dropped and the old name, Springfield, reinstated.
Reminiscence of Zimri Enos: Early Settlement and Slavery in Springfield

Zimri Enos was two years old in 1823 when he and his parents, Pascal and Salome, arrived in Springfield. Years later Zimri recalled those early Springfield days, and his reminiscence is perhaps the most specific contemporary remembrance of the presence of an individual African American in Springfield.

The first settlement in Illinois by American population was made in the southern part of the State by immigrants, almost exclusively from the slave states, and extended gradually north to the middle of the State. Many of the well-to-do first immigrants brought with them their slaves, and held them as such, and the relation of master and servant was by common consent recognized. Some of the first settlers of Sangamon county brought with them one or more slaves. One of the Kirkpatricks [arrived in 182_]. One brought with him his colored boy Titus; Col. Thomas Cox [arrived in 1823]. Two girls, Nance and Dice; Daniel Cutright [arrived in 182_]. His boy Major; Dr. Todd [arrived in 1827]. His colored woman Phoebe, and George Forquer [arrived in 1829]. These colored persons were known and called by the surnames of their masters, the same as in the slave states. That this condition of servitude was recognized in the community is evidenced by the mortgages, judgments, levies, appraisement and final public sale of Nance and Dice Cox. They were, after the sale, called Nance and Dice Taylor, the name of their new master. This sale created a great amount of talk and sympathy, not for the two girls, but for Mrs. Cox and her two children, who were of the best and most intelligent class of the early settlers. They were turned out of house and home, stripped of nearly everything and compelled to take shelter in a little deserted log cabin a mile and a half from town.

From Zimri Enos’ account, we know that five early white Springfield settlers brought six slaves with them:

- One of the Kirkpatricks (arrived in 1829): a “colored boy” Titus Kirkpatrick;
- Thomas Cox (arrived in 1823): two girls, Nance and Dice Cox;
- Daniel Cutright (arrived in 182_): a “boy” Major Cutright;
- Dr. John Todd (arrived from Kentucky in 1827): a “colored woman” Phoebe; and
- George Forquer (arrived in 1829): a “boy” Smith Forquer.

1824

Estate of George Bartlet, Accounting

On April 20, 1824, an account of the transactions in the Estate of George Bartlet was filed in the Sangamon County Probate Court.

Estate of Benjamin Farmer, Sangamon County Slave Owner

Even though the majority of Springfield and Sangamon County residents philosophically opposed the constitutional convention and thus slavery in Illinois, there were those in the minority who had a less abstract interest in the outcome of the question. The will of Benjamin Farmer, which was found in the files of the Sangamon County Probate Clerk, recognizes the uncertainty of the slavery issue in March of 1824, and makes alternative provisions for the disposition of Farmer’s African Americans, Reuben, Franky and Tom, depending upon the outcome of the August 1824 election. The will was dated March 26, 1824.
Last Will and Testament of Benjamin Farmer

In the name of God Amen. I Benjamin Farmer of the State of Illinois and Sangamon County being ill in body but of sound mind and memory do make this my last will and testament revoking all former wills by me made-

First. I commit my body to my friends to be decently interred and my spirit to god who gave it.

Second. I bequeath to my five youngest children. viz Lewis W. Farmer, Nancy S. Farmer, Joseph A. Farmer, Charles C. Farmer and Sally M. Farmer a negro boy named Tom and a negro girl named Franky which I wish to be hired out until it is ascertained whether slavery will be admitted in this state in the course of two years or not from this date (March 26, 1824) and if not admitted in that time I wish the two negroes to be sold by my wife Elizabeth Farmer or the executor for ready money and the money to be laid out by them in lands for the above named five children. But if slavery is admitted in the above named two years I wish the two negroes to be kept in the family and their increase for the equal benefit of the above named five children and the hire of the two negroes for the above named two years I wish to go for the support and schooling of the above named five children with as much more of my estate as may be deemed necessary for that purpose.

Third. all my cash bonds or notes (viz) one for two hundred dollars due the first day of October 1824 on Croferd Terry and John Austry dated this 22nd day of February 1823. One other for one hundred dollars due two years after date and John Austry dated this 24th day of February 1822. One other for eighty dollars due the first day of May 1825 and dated this 1st day of May 1824 on Joseph Charles. One other for fifty dollars due this first day of May 1824 on D. Lam in St. Lewis. One other for eight dollars due three years after date on Charles Lewis and dated this 28th day of February 1823. I wish my wife Elizabeth as the executor to collect for their use and benefit of the above named five children equally.

Fourth. It is my will that --- my stud horse be sold at twelve month credit and the proceeds thereof for the above named children.

Fifth. It is my will that all the balance of my horses cattle and hogs with all my house hold and kitchen furniture with the improvements on which I now live with all the farming utensils to be for the benefit of my wife and the above named five children for the support of and benefit of the family until the oldest child become of age and then to be equally divided between the five children including the increase of the stock etc.

Sixthly It is my will that my dear wife Elizabeth have a handsome support during her natural life out of the above named estate.

Seventh It is my will that Mary Hurst, Benjamin Farmer, Elizabeth Green, Catherine Sconce and Anne Davis have five dollars each out of the above estate as their part with what they have already had.

Eighth It is my will that William Farmer keep the negro boy Reuben I let him have as his part of my estate.

Ninth It is my will and I do hereby appoint Elizabeth Farmer my wife and Shadreck Scott as my executrix and executor to this my last will and testament.

Given under my hand and seal this 26th day of March 1824

Benjamin Farmer  SEAL

Witness  Ledekiah Green
         Ezekiel B. Harrison

Benjamin Farmer’s will touches one’s soul. In 1824 Sangamon County, Illinois, the fate of “a negro boy Reuben,” “a negro boy named Tom” and “a negro girl named Franky” rested upon the outcome of the coming 1824 election.

Sangamon County Grand Jury Position on Slavery

...the attitude of the people on the slavery question was given expression in an address issued by fourteen of the eighteen men impaneled for the April (1824) grand jury.

Expressing the belief that they represented “the feelings and sentiments of much the greater portion of the people of Sangamo,” these men proclaimed: “ We hope and trust the virtue and good sense of the people of Illinois will save them from the evils with which they are now menaced (the introduction of slavery) and we call upon the friends of freedom throughout the state to array themselves under its banner, and to sustain with all their energies the edifice of our political rights as it now stands.”
Proposal for a Constitutional Convention to Permit Slavery
Defeated By Illinois Voters

The year 1824 marks a turning point in the growth of the state. By the Ordinance of 1787 slavery had been forbidden in the Northwest Territory, but it nevertheless existed in some portions of Illinois. A considerable number of the settlers of the state being southerners who favored the institution, an attempt was made in the early twenties to call a convention to revise the state constitution in such a manner as to make slavery lawful. The defeat of the plan came in 1824 and from that time dates an increase in immigration.\[154\]

On August 2, 1824, Illinois voters defeated the proposal to call a constitutional convention to amend the constitution to permit slavery. The convention proposal was defeated by a vote of 6,640 against slavery to 4,972 for slavery, a majority of 1,668 votes out of a total vote of 11,612.\[155\] The Sangamon County voters rejected the proposition by a vote of 722 against to 153 in favor, or five to one.\[156\] The Springfield vote was 373 against to 75 in favor.\[157\] In theory at least, Illinois remained a free state.

The attempt to introduce slavery into Illinois in 1824 had been resisted for a variety of reasons. Among the most powerful had been the belief that slavery was contrary to the law of God and to the principles of the Declaration of Independence. But mingled with that conviction had been a genuine distrust of the Negro race. One of the strongest arguments used against extending slavery to Illinois had been that the slave population of the untitled States must in the fullness of time rise in revolt against its white masters. ...Some persons, on the other hand, assumed that Negroes were inherently inferior to members of the white race and therefore constituted a menace to the society of the United States.\[158\]

The men who opposed the proposition to make Illinois a slave state at the time the Constitution of 1818 was framed and those who voted against the calling of a convention to amend the Constitution in 1824, were not generally in favor of emancipation. Their purpose was not so much to destroy slavery in the United States as it was to prevent the extension of the slave system into Illinois. Having successfully prevented an alteration in the constitution, they ceased their agitation against slavery. Agitation in favor of emancipation came a few years later.\[159\] But although the crusading drive against slavery was notably lacking from 1824 to 1835, the issue was at no time lost sight of nor did opposition to the continued existence of slavery completely disappear.\[160\]

The laws of antebellum Illinois clearly defined the Negro as persona non grata. An 1824 decision to ban slavery in Illinois owed as much to white hatred for blacks as it did to moral objections to the extension of slavery. Subsequent laws denied Illinois blacks the basic rights of citizenship; they were excluded from the poll booths, juries, state militia, and public schools.\[161\]

The outcome of the 1824 election quieted the clamor of the pro-slavery advocates to make Illinois a slave state, but beyond that it did little to change the existing voluntary servitude or indenture system. It continued to exist, and during the next decade Illinois’ political leaders took little aggressive action against slavery.

Negroes were used on farms in southern Illinois, but they were also used in all kinds of household work, and served as waiters in the taverns, as dairymen, as shoemakers, as cooks, and as toilers in the salt mines. The hiring of negroes for the last named industry, legalized by statute in 1824, serves as a pretext for the holding of slaves in other parts of the Territory.\[162\]

Arrival of Abolitionist Gilbert Dodds in Ball Township

Gilbert Dodds was born in Spartanburg District, South Carolina, on June 6, 1763. He was taken by his mother, first to Tennessee, and from there to Caldwell County, Kentucky. He was married on October 12, 1815, in Caldwell County to Mary Clinton. Her father, James Clinton, was Captain in a company in the Revolution. Gilbert and Mary Clinton Dodds moved to Sangamon County, Illinois, arriving in August 1824, in what is now Ball Township. They joined his brother Joseph, who came six years earlier.
Rev. Gilbert Dodds was a minister in the Cumberland Presbyterian Church. He was for many years pastor of the Sugar Creek Church, and was always an active, energetic advocate of temperance. In 1847, he moved to Menard County, a few miles south of Petersburg. Mary Gilbert Dodds died on July 9, 1866. Rev. Gilbert Dodds died on May 3, 1872, both near Petersburg. Gilbert Dodds was a strong advocate of Abolitionist party up to his death.  

Thomas Cox Borrows Money from Elijah Iles and John Taylor  

On August 24, 1824, Thomas Cox borrowed money from Elijah Iles and John Taylor and pledged property as security. 

Peter Cartwright Arrives in Sangamon County  

In November of 1824, Peter Cartwright, a Methodist lay preacher and the best known of all early Illinois preachers, moved from Kentucky to Sangamon County, Illinois, to “carry the Gospel to destitute souls that had, by their removal into some new country, been deprived of the means of grace” and to “get entirely clear of the evil of slavery” and “raise my children to work where work was not thought a degradation.” Cartwright’s comments suggested that emigrant antislavery sentiment had less to do with concern for African Americans than with fears of the debasing effects of slavery on free white farmers. He was elected to the Illinois House of Representatives in 1828, having entered politics, he claimed later, in order to oppose the forces in Illinois that wished to instate slavery in the state.

Arrival of Thomas M. Neale and Family  

On November 26, 1824, 28 year-old Thomas M. Neale, his wife of three years, Harriet Blakemore, and two daughters, 2 year-old Sinai A. and infant Mary E., arrived in Springfield from Kentucky. Thomas Neale was born in Fauquier County, Virginia in 1796, and studied law in Bowling Green, Kentucky. He served in the War of 1812 and in 1827 led the Sangamon forces in the Winnebago War. He was a lawyer, surveyor and justice of the peace. He succeeded John Calhoun as Sangamon County Surveyor in 1835, and appointed Abraham Lincoln as his deputy. Neale was an opponent of slavery. He died in 1840.

1825  

Illinois Supreme Court Voids Indentures Not Signed by Master  

In 1825, the Illinois Supreme Court voided indentures not signed by the master.

Arrival of Arthur Watson, Slave Owner, and Family  

On April 10, 1825, 55 year-old Arthur Watson, a native of Berkley County, Virginia, and his 51 year-old wife, Temperance Robinson, a Baltimore Maryland native, arrived in Springfield. Ironically, Arthur, who was a slave owner, entered and lived on the land which is now Oak Ridge Cemetery, Lincoln’s final resting place. Arthur died in 1827 and Temperance died in 1837.

Sangamon County Seat Located and Lots Sold  

In 1825, the Sangamon County seat was permanently located at Springfield and 42 acres were donated by the proprietors to secure the location. Thomas M. Neale surveyed the 42 acres and laid out 9 full blocks and 4 partial blocks divided into lots. On May 2 and 3, 1825, the lots were sold.

Arrival of Nathan Cromwell, Slave Owner  

Nathan Cromwell, age 52, arrived in Springfield sometime after June 1825, and opened a store on the north side of Jefferson between First and Second Streets. In 1824, Cromwell’s family had several deaths near Hagerstown, Maryland, and Cromwell and his 12 year-old son, William, left for Springfield. Fourteen years later after his death, his estate was a litigant in the case of the Estate of Nathan Cromwell vs. David Bailey, with Abraham Lincoln representing the defendant Bailey. Cromwell was a colorful man as evidenced by the following account from Sandburg:

These old settlers could tell about Nathan Cromwell, who went with his good-looking wife to the home of a man who had said something to or about Mrs. Cromwell; and he pointed a pistol at the man’s heart and made him get down on his knees and beg Mrs. Cromwell’s pardon.
Thomas Cox Borrows Money From Nathan Cromwell and
Pledges Nance and Dice as Collateral

On June 24, 1825, Thomas Cox was in need of cash and he borrowed $300 from Nathan Cromwell of Peoria County. As collateral for the loan, Cox gave Cromwell a mortgage on land he had purchased in Springfield and Naples. In addition he pledged his personal property, including two African American women, Nance and Dice. The debt was due on November 21, 1826.

On the 24th day of June 1825, one Thomas Cox of the town of Springfield, County of Sangamo and State of Illinois, for and in consideration of the sum of three hundred dollars to him paid by Nathan Cromwell he the said Cox sold to the said Cromwell the said negro girl Nance, the same which is mentioned in said writ of Habeas Corpus together with sundry other articles of personal property as will fully, and more particularly appear by reference to the deed of sale of the same bearing date 24th June 1825 which is here shown to the said Judge, marked A, and made a part of this return.

Thomas Cox’s Land Sold to Pay Real Estate Taxes

In 1825, the Illinois Legislature passed a law to permit the sale of real estate to collect delinquent taxes. Thomas Cox’s land was sold.

1825 Springfield Census

The February 22, 1825 *Edwardsville Spectator* published a census of Springfield, showing a total population of 236. The census shows 7 “people of color” living in Springfield.

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<th>Description</th>
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<td>Women and children</td>
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1826

Thomas Cox Borrows Money and Pledges Nance and Dice as Collateral

On March 9, 1826, Thomas Cox was in need of still additional cash. He borrowed an additional $500 from John Taylor, and gave yet another mortgage on the property he had pledged to Nathan Cromwell in 1825, and John Taylor and Elijah Iles in 1824. The debt was due on November 21, 1826.

First Appearance of African Americans, Mack and Frank Shelby:
Acquire a Springfield Lot at Southwest Corner of Third and Washington Streets

On March 23, 1826, two African Americans, 27 year-old Mac Shelby and 29 year-old Frank Shelby, paid the sum of $30 to John and Elizabeth Taylor as the purchase price for a lot located at the southwest corner of Third and Washington Streets, diagonally across the street from the present site of the Amtrak passenger station. This is first appearance of “Mac” and “Frank” Shelby.
On June 19, 1810, Macklen, an 11 year-old male negro, was indentured to David Shelby in Randolph County, Illinois. Macklen had been “removed from Kentucky.” The following year, on September 5, 1811, “Frank,” a 14 year-old male negro, was also indentured to David Shelby in Randolph County, Illinois. Frank had been “removed from South Carolina.”

**First Appearance of African American Cyrus White: Acquires Lots at the Corner of Fifth and Madison Streets**

On April 1, 1826, John and Elizabeth Taylor sold lots at the northwest corner of Fifth and Madison Streets to Cyrus White, “a man of color,” for $30. The site is now a parking lot diagonally across the street from Union Station.

**Celia [Sylvania] White, a Black Woman, Summoned as Witness in Trial of Joyce, a Black Woman**

On June 23, 1826, Celia [Sylvania] White, a “black woman,” was summoned to appear as a witness in a criminal case against Joyce, also a “black woman.”

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**African American Edward Voluntine Set Free**

On July 16, 1826, Edward Voluntine, a 21 year-old man of color, was living with Stephen Stillman as he had since March of 1820. Apparently he was legally connected as a servant to Dr. Joseph Bennett Stillman, but the Doctor failed to call for Edward and since Edward is now 21, he was entitled to be set free. There was good reason why the Doctor failed to call for Edward. He made a cruise with his vessel in the Mediterranean and upon the return voyage in 1825 died of yellow fever at Key West, Florida.

State of Illinois, Sangamon County August 3, 1826. I Stephen Stillman do hereby certify that Edward Voluntine, a coulard boy was delivered to me by Doct. Joseph B. Stillman in Shawneetown, Galetin county, with orders to keep boy until he the said Joseph B. Stillman should call for him—Since that time which was (I believe) sometime in March 1820 and is now twenty one years of age and of course free according to the laws of the State. The said Joseph B. Stillman having never called for him—To the best of my knowledge the said boy was twenty one years of age on the sixteenth day of July one thousand Eight hundred and twenty six—

Given under my hand & seal this third day of August 1826
Stephen Stillman

**African American Sylvania White “Released” to Cyrus White, a Man Of Color**

On July 17, 1826, William Archer, a resident of Curran Township, Sangamon County, released a 20 year-old “Black girl” named Sylvania White to Scyrus (Cyrus) White, a man of color. Archer held Sylvania by virtue of a “claim of entry or Register under the laws of the late Territory of Illinois.” Archer apparently had held her since prior to the admission of Illinois as a state on December 8, 1818 and since his arrival in Sangamon County on April 30, 1820.

Know all men by these presents that I William Archer of Sangamon County do hereby assign and release to Scyrus White (alias Scy a man of colour) a Black girl named Sylvania now about twenty years of age which I hold by virtue of a claim of entry or Register under the laws of the late Territory of
Illinois and it is expressly understood that I do hereby relinquish all claim to the said girl Sylvania fully and absolutely in every respect whatsoever for value received as witness my hand and seal the seventeenth day of July 1826.

William Archer
his X mark

Crecie White (Negro)’s Account At Elijah Iles’ Store

In 1826 and 1827, African American Crecie White shopped at the store of Elijah Iles at the corner of Second and Jefferson Streets. Iles extended credit to Crecie and his store ledger contains a page titled “Crecie White (Negro) that contains a record of her purchases and payments. Crecie paid for here purchases in various ways. Sometimes she paid in cash or with butter. On other occasions, she made by payment by performing “labor,” “service” and “washing.”

Crecie White’s Account Ledger At The Iles Store 1826

Thomas Cox Sues Jehu (John) Durley With Regard to “Reuben” a Colored Boy

One of the most interesting Springfield examples of “indentured servitude” involved Thomas Cox, who arrived in Springfield in 1822 with his two female slaves, Nance and Dice. On October 8, 1826, Cox requested Charles R. Matheny, Clerk of the Circuit Court of Sangamon County, to issue a writ of replevin directed to Jehu (John) Durley. A writ of replevin is issued by a court when the moving party asserts that his property is being held by another person and that the other person refuses to return the property after being requested to do so. Cox’s writ asserted that 16 year-old “Ruben, a boy of Colour” was his property and had a value of $125. He asserted that on October 11, 1826, John “Jehu” Durley unjustly took 16 year-old Ruben from a dwelling house in Springfield and kept him until October 20, 18__. The documents from the Sangamon County Circuit Court may be found in Appendix B. Thomas Cox was in real trouble. He was the plaintiff in a replevin action to recover Reuben and at the same time he was fending off secured creditors who were filing suit to foreclose on his property.
Thomas Cox Delivers Nance and Dice to Nathan Cromwell

On November 21, 1826, Thomas Cox delivered Nance and Dice and other personal property to Nathan Cromwell.¹⁹²

Michael Dodd Obtains Judgment Against Frank Shelby, George White and Charles P. Cabiness

On November 26, 1826, the Circuit Court of Sangamon County entered a judgment in favor of Michael Dodd and against George White, Frank Shelby and Charles P. Cabiness in the sum of $13.25 for debt.

Cyrus White Drives Execution Wagon in Van Noy Hanging

On November 26, 1826, Cyrus White drove the wagon at the public execution of Nathaniel Van Noy. On December 6, 1826, the County Commissioners allowed Cyrus $2.50 for his services.¹⁹³ The Van Noy execution was a point of reference in defining early Springfield events. Obviously Cyrus White would have been quite visible at this public hanging, for as the driver of the wagon, he acted as the "hangman."

On August 27, 1826, a blacksmith named Nathaniel Van Noy killed his wife in a drunken fit. He was arrested at once. The next day the circuit court met in special session and his trial commenced. On the 29th a verdict of guilty was returned, and the murderer was sentenced to be hanged on November 26. A large crowd assembled for the event, men coming twenty-five and thirty miles and bringing their families. At the jail a long procession formed--wagons filled with men, women and children, men and boys on horseback and on foot. Passing west on Jefferson Street, the crowd turned south on First to a gallows in the hollow north of the present State House. The wagon containing Van Noy was driven beneath the posts, the noose was slipped around his neck, and then the horses were started. And for many years thereafter events were dated by the "the fall Van Noy was hung."¹⁹⁴

There were in 1846 in Springfield old settlers who remembered the Van Noy hanging twenty years previous in a hollow just south of where the new Statehouse was built. Van Noy stood in a wagon under the gallows, while the noose was put around his neck, the wagon drove off from under him and left his feet walking on air.¹⁹⁵

Michael Dodd Executes on Judgment Against Frank Shelby, George White and Charles P. Cabiness

On December 11, 1826, Michael Dodd executed against George White, Frank Shelby and Charles P. Cabiness in order to satisfy his judgment of $13.25 and $6.76 for costs.¹⁹⁶

Arrival of Hooper Warren, New Englander and Abolitionist

In the winter of 1826-1827, thirty-six year-old Hooper Warren, moved from Edwardsville, Illinois to Springfield. Warren was born in Walpole, New Hampshire, in 1790 and learned the printer’s trade on the Rutland, Vermont, Herald. He was a New Englander. Before moving to Edwardsville, Warren had lived in both Kentucky and Missouri. In Edwardsville, he established the Spectator in March, 1819. In Springfield, he settled on the north side of Jefferson, then Main Street, between Second and Third Streets, and began publication of Sangamon County’s first newspaper, “The Sangamo Spectator.”¹⁹⁷ Warren was a leader in the fight against slavery in Illinois in the 1824 call for a constitutional convention to permit slavery. He moved from Springfield to Galena in 1829. Warren died in 1864 at the age of 74.¹⁹⁸

...a young newspaper depends on the tender mercies of its readers. In the past five years, three other papers had sought the support of Springfield’s citizens. The Sangamo Spectator survived from 1826 to 1828, its life prolonged by the support of Ninian Edwards, a former governor.¹⁹⁹

Jonathan Jarret and African Americans at Sugar Creek

He [Jonathan Jarret] owned slaves in Virginia, and brought two of them with him to Sangamon county. Others followed, and they were all content to work as they had done in slavery--some of them even better. One of them was a tanner, and by his aid Mr. Jarrett carried on tanning for many years.

Several emigrant families brought black servants—individuals and sometimes couples— with them to Sugar Creek, and although the Census marshals listed them as “free colored” on the federal Census, these black men and women labored under “contracts of indenture” created to discourage free black emigration to Illinois and to manage those who came as slaves in all but name. William Caldwell emigrated from Kentucky in 1836, repelled by the slave system after two black fugitives had attacked
and killed his daughter-in-law. Captain Caldwell brought along his personal servant, Josh, a young black man of about twenty. When the Caldwell clan moved to a nearby township, Moses Wadsworth of Sugar Creek later remembered, “Josh, of course, went too,” and when Caldwell died, “his son John succeeded to the charge.” Jonathan Jarret owned slaves in Virginia and brought two servants with the family when they emigrated in 1826; the wife of one of the men followed the next year, and all, according to family tradition, were “content to work as they had done in slavery-some of them even better.” One of the men was a tanner, and Jarrett employed his talents to run a tanyard on his farm through the 1830’s. No one in Sugar Creek seemed to object to the presence of these few blacks as household servants.

1827

**Thomas Cox Fired as Register of Land Office**

Thomas Cox’s service as the first Register of the United States Land Office at Springfield ended on January 5, 1827. William Stephen Hamilton, son of Alexander Hamilton and aide-de-camp to Governor Edward Coles, was sent by Governor Coles to investigate complaints against Cox for irregularities in the Springfield Land Office. Cox was fired for “official misconduct,” and President John Quincy Adams appointed Dr. John Todd, a 40 year-old Kentucky native, to succeed Cox. The investigation had been completed the previous July [1826], but had to be referred to Washington for Congressional action. In the meantime, Pascal P. Enos, also in the Land Office sent a letter of explanation addressed to the President of the United States through the Surveyor General to the Secretary of the Treasury. The Vandalia Intelligencer made the following report in the Saturday, January 20, 1827 issue of the newspaper:

> We learn by a private letter received from Washington, that Dr. John Todd of Edwardsville has been appointed Register of the Land Office, at Springfield, in this state, vice Col. Thomas Cox, whose term of service had expired.

**Arrival of Dr. John Todd and His Slave, Phoebe Todd, and Elizabeth, Her Daughter**

Shortly after his appointment as the new Land Office Register, Dr. John Todd and his family and slaves moved from Edwardsville, Illinois to Springfield. Dr. Todd was a physician, educated at Transylvania University in Lexington, Kentucky and the Medical University of Philadelphia. He served as a surgeon in the War of 1812. The Madison County schedule of the 1818 Illinois Census lists John Todd, and shows there seven white inhabitants and one “servant or slaves.” Dr. Todd was Mary Todd Lincoln’s uncle, a brother to her father Robert S. Todd, of Lexington, Kentucky. Dr. Todd terminated his indenture of an African American woman when he moved to Springfield according to Andy Van Meter’s 1981 history of the State Journal-Register.

> The plight of a slave woman belonging to Mary Todd Lincoln’s uncle was typical. Dr. Todd brought the woman to Edwardsville from Kentucky and kept her as an indentured servant until he determined to move to Springfield, at which time he terminated the indenture.

Three years after Todd’s arrival, the 1830 United States Census shows him as the owner of five slaves: 1 male under 10; 1 male: 10-24; 1 female: under 10; and 2 females 10-24. One of the two female slaves in the later category would have been 31 year-old Phoebe. The female under 10 would have been Elizabeth, who was born on October 25, 1827, and would later be indentured to Dr. Todd. The Todd family occupied one of Springfield’s few two-story frame houses, located at 116 East Washington Street, the site occupying the entire block bound by First, Second, Washington and Adams Streets, which was then called Todd Square.

**Nathan Cromwell Forecloses on Thomas Cox**

On January 22, 1827, Nathan Cromwell won a judgment against Cox, and foreclosed and seized Cox’s house in Springfield. “…This sale created a great amount of talk and sympathy … for Mrs. Cox and her … children… They were turned out of house and home, stripped of nearly everything and compelled to take shelter in a little deserted log cabin a mile and half from town.”
Illinois Legislature Passes Law Prohibiting African Americans From Testifying Against a White Person

On February 2, 1827, the Illinois legislature passed a law that stated that, “A Negro, mulatto, or Indian shall not be a witness in any court, or in any case, against a white person.”

Sheriff’s Sale of Frank Shelby Lot to Satisfy Judgment of Michael Dodd

On March 3, 1827, Sangamon County Sheriff John Taylor levied on and sold Frank Shelby’s lot at __________ to satisfy Michael Dodd’s judgment obtained on November 26, 1826. Charles R. Matheny purchased the lot for $7, and was entitled to a deed if Frank did not redeem the lot within fifteen months.

Sangamon County Tax on Slaves and Indentured Servants

On March 25, 1827, the Sangamon County Commissioners’ Court levied a tax “on slaves and indentured or registered negro or mulatto servants.” I have found no tax assessment book.

Marriage of Parker Moore and Lucretia White

On April 14, 1827, Parker Moore married Lucretia White in Fayette County, Illinois.

Cyrus White Gives His Note to Carter (Carlton) R. Gatton

On June 7, 1827, Cyrus White, an African American man, gave his promissory note in the sum of $22.18 with interest at the rate of 20% per annum to Carter R. Gatton, a white Springfield merchant. Cyrus would secure the note on April 15, 1828 by pledging his house as collateral.

New Madrid Earthquake

Around 6:00 a.m. on the morning of July 5, 1827, an earthquake, named the New Madrid earthquake, was felt up and down the Mississippi and Illinois river valleys.

Lucretia Moore, “Aunt Creecy,” Acquires Lot From Elijah Iles

On July 9, 1827, Elijah Iles sold the northeast corner of Fourth and Washington Streets, the present site of an office building and the mid-nineteenth century site of the Chenery House, to Lucretia Moore, who was described in the deed as a “woman of color,” for $25. On October 28, 1828, John T. Stuart observed that “…on the corner where now stands the Chenery House, there stood the cabin of a colored woman, called familiarly Aunt Creecy…”

Thomas Cox’s Slaves, Nance and Dice, Sold at Public Auction

The extensive land speculations in which Colonel Cox had engaged for several years, together with unwise endorsements for friends into which his generous nature had led him, culminated in financial embarrassments from which he was unable to free himself. Most of his property passed out of his hands by legal proceedings and otherwise—Governor Ninian Edwards being a creditor who pressed his claims in the courts. [evidence?] In the career of Colonel Cox this was a period of great gloom and despondency, which sapped his energy and almost destroyed his ambition.

On July 12, 1827, Thomas Cox’s slaves, Nance and Dice, were sold at public auction to John Taylor to satisfy Cox’s debts [which?]. The coroner delivered Nance to secured creditor Nathan Cromwell as a part of the judgment execution process. Carl Sandburg described the event:

...Colonel Cox, who had come twenty-three years before, as Register of the Land Office, appointed by President Monroe, had bought out the Kellys, put up a mill and distillery, and a hewn-log house with a
hall and a brick chimney. Then debt and drink broke him, and the law turned him out of house and home and he and his wife and two children took shelter in a deserted log cabin a mile and half from town. First they had sold Nance and Dice, and the circuit-court clerk entered on the records that, on July 12, 1827, John Taylor bought at public auction the person, Nance, for $151.00, and the person, Dice, for $150.00, and the court commission was $15.40.

Zimri Enos also described the event:

But the great misfortune that happened him at this time and, that finally ruined him, was that he became too great a patron of his own distillery. He acquired so great a passion for, and indulged to such an extent in liquor, that he became totally incapacitated and indifferent to his business and suffered all his property to be covered with mortgages, judgments, liens, and executions, and it was to satisfy two of these judgments and executions that these girls were finally put up at public auction and sold. (July 1827) Many persons would regard this as but the dream of a six year-old boy, and would not believe it, but the facts were so indelibly impressed upon my mind, that I went to the Circuit Clerk’s office, and giving him the names and dates, the old records were soon found. Circuit Clerk Jones kindly furnished me with the copies, that are hereby attached. Colonel Cox shortly after moved to the lead mines, and then across into Iowa, where he reformed and became a leading citizen, and was elected presiding officer of one of its legislative bodies.

The name of one these judgment creditors mentioned in the records, Nathan Cromwell, a merchant who came here about the year 1825, and had a store in a little frame building on the north side of Jefferson st., and on the west side of Lot 8, Block 6...

The Winnebago War

On July 15, 1827, Erastus Wright wrote: “Wars and rumours of War…of 150 voters in this village there is now about 30 the rest…to fight Indians…” Governor Edwards ordered Thomas M. Neale to muster 600 volunteers and proceed to Galena, the scene of disturbances between the Indians and the miners. The conflict became known as the Winnebago War.

Late in July the first volunteers from Sangamon County gathered in Springfield, and formed in a ragged line at the northwest edge of town. They were not a martial-looking group, but Colonel Neale’s splendor made up for their deficiencies. Dressed in Braided blue, with “epaulets, cock hat and plume, sword belt and spurs,” he galloped up and down before his men–and so dazzled the boys of the town that they played soldier until winter set in.

A few days later The Sangamo Spectator recorded the departure of the troops. “On Friday last Col. Neale, with about 230 mounted volunteers, left this place for Peoria.” Hooper Warren, the editor, wrote. “Other troops, which were not in readiness to go with the Colonel, will depart to-morrow, to join him at that place. Among these is a new company of riflemen, organized for the occasion, and commanded by Captain Edward Mitchell, Jr.”

After various difficulties—with provisions, not Indians—the regiment reached Gratiot’s Grove near Galena, but being unable to find either Indians or the federal troops who were known to be in the neighborhood, Neale disbanded his command and the men straggled home.

Jane Cox vs. Thomas Cox

On Wednesday, October 3, 1827, Supreme Court Justice Lockwood presided at the fall term of the Sangamon Circuit Court. He entered a judgment for Jane Cox against her son, Thomas, allowing her to take control of Thomas’ Springfield hotel/boarding house. Hooper Warren’s newspaper, The Sangamo Spectator, reported that:

Mrs. Jane Cox

Has taken the house lately occupied by her son Col. Thomas Cox, which she has opened as a BOARDING HOUSE for resident Citizens and Travelers. She will endeavor to give satisfaction to all who patronize her establishment.


Nance vs. Nathan Cromwell

In October of 1827, three months after Nance was sold to John Taylor and delivered to Nathan Cromwell, Nance filed a habeas corpus complaint against Nathan Cromwell. She didn’t like living with
Cromwell, the man with the good looking wife.\textsuperscript{231} I have been unable to find records of what took place in the Circuit Court, but this matter was appealed to the Illinois Supreme Court in Vandalia and was heard at the December 1828 term, in the case of \textit{Nance, a girl of color, Plaintiff in Error, v. John Howard, Defendant in Error.}

\textbf{Michael Dodd Executes on Judgment Against George White, Frank Shelby and Charles P. Cabiness}

On November 17, 1827, Michael Dodd sought to satisfy the $13.25 judgment and $8.31 in costs he had obtained against George White, Frank Shelby and Charles P. Cabiness by asking the sheriff to proceed against their property.\textsuperscript{232}

\textbf{Arrival of Mary Shelby, “Aunt Polly”}

In 1827, Mary Shelby, a mulatto\textsuperscript{233} woman popularly known as “Aunt Polly,” arrived in Springfield and married Mack Shelby.\textsuperscript{234} As best I can determine, Polly and her family lived in a log cabin at the southwest corner of Third and Washington Streets, across from the lot purchased by Mack and Frank Shelby in 1826 and now a parking lot.\textsuperscript{235} In 1841, fourteen years after her arrival, Abraham Lincoln represented Mary in a suit for divorce from Mack. In 1881 John Todd Stuart reminisced about the town he encountered upon his arrival in 1828. His only reference to an African American was to “Polly,” a colored woman and her family. This is most probably Mary Shelby–“Aunt Polly.”

Going still east on Washington near the corner of Washington and Third and near the present site of the flouring mill, stood a log cabin, the residence of Polly, a colored woman, and her family.\textsuperscript{236}

The \textit{1881 History} makes the following comment about “Aunt Polly”:

There was a time in the history of Springfield, when the face of a colored man or woman was a rare sight. Before the deep snow [Winter 1830-1831], old Aunt Polly, a colored woman, reigned supreme in Springfield. It was not until and after the war that the race made their advent here in large numbers.\textsuperscript{237}

From Stuart’s remembrance and the 1857 \textit{Shelby vs. Freeman} pleadings [See page 156.], we can conclude that Polly Shelby, also known as “Aunt Polly” and legally known as Mary Shelby, probably arrived in Springfield in 1827.
THE SECOND DECADE
1828-1837

1828

Macklin Shelby Issued Mining Permit in Galena

In April of 1828, Springfield African American, Macklin Shelby, was in Galena, Illinois, where he was issued a mining permit.238

…Jo Daviess County in northern Illinois contained a significant free Negro community in 1840. Attracted by the thriving lead mines near Galena, both black and white settlers flocked to that remote outpost of American civilization in the northwestern corner of the state.239

Cyrus White Mortgages Residence at Fifth and Madison Streets to Carter Gatton

On April 15, 1828, Cyrus White mortgaged his residence at the southeast corner of Fifth and Madison Streets240 to Carter R. Gatton as collateral for the June 1827 promissory note of $22.81 drawing interest at the rate of 20% per annum.241 This site is now occupied by Union Station. Cyrus had purchased this lot on April 1, 1826.

This Indenture made and agreed to this fifteenth day of April 1828 between Cyrus White of the town of Springfield Illinois of the first part & C. R. Gatton, of same town & State aforesaid of the Second part

WITNESSETH: That Whereas on the seventh day of June 1827 the said Cyrus White did execute and deliver to the said C. R. Gatton, his note for the sum of Twenty two 81/100 Dollars payable one day after date with interest thereon at the rate of Twenty per cent per annum until paid Now for the purpose of securing the said C. R. Gatton against any loss and desirous of securing the payment of the debt due to the said C. R. Gatton as aforesaid the said Cyrus White do hereby grant bargain Sell and Convey to the said C. R. Gatton his heirs Executors Administrators a certain Lot of Land lying and being in the aforesaid town of Springfield and State of Illinois and known on the plat of the aforesaid town by its number four, in Block number two and being the same that the said White now resides on (southeast corner of 5th and Madison) together with all the appurtenances thereunto belonging to have and to hold the same free from all claims of myself my heirs and the claims of all and every person or persons claiming in any manner Whatsoever. Yet upon the Express Condition, that if the said Cyrus White shall pay or cause to be paid the amount of the aforesaid note and interest thereon within one year from the date then this obligation to be void, otherwise to remain in full force and effect. But if the aforesaid Note is not paid within the one year after this Conveyance to remain in full force and effect as a Mortgagee upon the aforesaid Lot of Land In Testimony Whereof I have set my hand & Seal this day and year first being Written

his
Cyrus X White
mark

Witness
Edmund Mitchell

State of Illinois
Sangamon County

Be it Remembered that on this 16th day of April 1828, personally came before me Edmund Mitchell an acting Justice of the Peace in and for said County Cyrus White to me personally known and acknowledged his signature to the above Mortgage Deed, to be his voluntary act and deed for the purposes therein expressed. Witness my hand and Seal this day and date above Written

Edmund Mitchell Jus. Peace SEAL

Recorded April 16, 1828 E. Mitchell R.S.C.242
On October 28, 1828, John Todd Stuart, a 21 year-old Kentucky lawyer, rode horseback into Springfield. Stuart was a grandson of Levi Todd, a nephew of Dr. John Todd, and a cousin of Mary Todd Lincoln.243 In an 1881 written account, he described the town he first encountered in 1818. His only reference to an African American is to “Polly,” a colored woman, and her family. This was probably Mary Shelby who was commonly known as “Aunt Polly.”

Going still east on Washington near the corner of Washington and Third and near the present site of the flouring mill, stood a log cabin, the residence of Polly, a colored woman, and her family. 244

Peter Cartwright Elected to State Legislature

Peter Cartwright, was elected to the Illinois House of Representatives in 1828, having entered politics, he claimed later, in order to oppose the forces in Illinois that wanted to permit slavery in Illinois.

Nance, a girl of color, Plaintiff in Error, v. John Howard, Defendant in Error

At its December 1828 term sitting at Vandalia, the Illinois Supreme Court rendered an opinion in the case of Nance, a girl of color, Plaintiff in Error, v. John Howard, Defendant in Error. Justice Samuel D. Lockwood wrote the Court’s opinion holding that registered servants were goods and chattels and could be sold on execution.246

Prior to this (decision) Lockwood’s activities and legal decisions had been anti-slavery in effect. As this was a property case and Nance was a child, Lockwood had to be realistic. He knew from other current events at the time that if he had emancipated Nance without a husband or home of her own, she undoubtedly would have been kidnapped by slave bounty hunters and sold probably into a life much worse than she would have in Springfield, Illinois. Cox was a 40 year-old alcohol addict, prone to rages, and bankrupt; while Cromwell was age 55 and wealthy. All things considered, the Justice decided the best long term solution for Nance’s future was to be awarded to the custody of Cromwell and his stable home of six, which included two younger women between age 20 and 30 (young third wife and daughter of previous marriage).247

1829

Illinois Law Permitting Arrest and Hire Out of African Americans Without Freedom Papers

An 1829 Illinois law provided that an African American without freedom papers or a “certificate of freedom” could be arrested and hired out by the sheriff on a monthly basis.

Arrival of Feba (Phoebe), Isaac, Daniel and Judah Rountree

In 1829, Feba, sometimes spelled “Phoebe,” Rountree, an 18 year-old mulatto, Isaac Rountree, a 7 year-old mulatto born in 1822, Daniel Rountree, an 11 year-old mulatto born in 1818, and Judah Rountree, an 8 year-old mulatto born in 1821, all former Kentucky slaves, arrived in Springfield. Phoebe was born on February 4, 1811, near Glasgow, Barren County, Kentucky.248 All were the children of Lucy Rountree, who was the slave of Henry Rountree from about 1806 to August 13, 1826, when Henry freed Lucy and her eight children, as evidenced by the following:

Barren County Kentucky this day I have sold Lucy to herself for twenty years work done by her to be free and Eight of her children Free them and all their future increase from this day until the end of the World to wit Feba, Betsey Isaac Nancy Daniel Judah, Thomas and Sophia I do relinquish all my right and title to the above nine as witness my hand and seal this 13th day of August 1826.
Henry Rountree
Witness to my hand

Bird Strange
Jesse Handy
___ Forbes

Henry Rountree came to Illinois in 1829 and rented a farm from Edmond Taylor on the south side of Spring Creek, four and a half miles west of Springfield.

State of Illinois
Sangamon County

This affiant Edmund Taylor, first being duly sworn deposes and saith that he is acquainted with Feba Fleurville formerly Feba Rountree, Isaac, Daniel & Judah Rountree, that he is informed and believes that the witnesses to instrument of writing herewith attached and of which the above is a true copy, reside without the jurisdiction of the Court in the State of Kentucky. That he is acquainted with Henry Rountree who executed said instrument hereunto attached and believes the writing and signature to be his handwriting from having seen him write, that he came to this State in or about the year 1829. When he rented a farm from said deponent. That he then brought with him said Feba, Isaac, Daniel & Judah, ever since which year 1829 said Feba, Isaac, Daniel & Judah have resided in this State, and have been regarded and recognized by said Henry Rountree who executed above described instrument as absolutely free, and said deponent further saith that said Feba, now the wife of William Fleurville & residing in Springfield Illinois is of a copper color about thirty two years of age, hair straight about five feet one inch and a half high, with a mole on the right side of her nose just under the eye, and said deponent further saith that said Judah Rountree also residing in Springfield, Ills is also of a copper color, about twenty two years of age, straight hair, about five feet one inch high And said deponent further saith that said Daniel Rountree residing also at Springfield, Ills is also of a copper color, about twenty-five years of age, though apparently rather younger, hair somewhat inclined to curl, well proportioned & likely, and about five feet eight inches high.

And said deponent further saith that said Isaac Rountree residing also at Springfield, Ills is also of a copper color about twenty nine years of age, straight hair, rather heavy set about five feet ten inches high & high check bones, and somewhat stooped when walking.

Edmund Taylor

Subscribed before me this 30th day of March 1843
J. Calhoun, Clerk of Sangamon Circuit Court, Ill.
J. Calhoun Clerk.

Lucy Rountree of Glasgow, Kentucky:
By Mary Beth Roderick

In order to obtain information on Lucy Rountree, one must truly “read between the lines,” from the several legal documents that exist about her. The first known document about her is a bill of sale, dated Feb. 9, 1813. In that document, Mary Rountree, mother of Henry, sold Lucy, approximately 22 years of age, to a neighbor, John Howe. Most likely, this Lucy was the mother of Phoebe Rountree Florville, since she is the only slave listed by that first name in the various lists of slaves owned by members of the Rountree family in Barren County, KY.

Of the information that I could find, only one other “Lucy” shows up as a slave in the Rountree family. That Lucy was willed to Turner Rountree by his father, William Rountree, in 1766 in Goochland County, VA. William was the patriarch of the Rountree family and the great-grandfather of Henry Rountree. The many branches of the Rountree family, in Virginia and Kentucky, did own, buy and sell slaves. However, a slave by the name of “Lucy” only appears three times, once in relation to Turner Rountree and another in relation to a sale by Mary Rountree and, finally, in the certificate of freedom granted Lucy by Henry in 1826. Could Turner’s Lucy, with her “increase” (children) have included a son or daughter who later named a child after the Lucy of Goochland Co, VA.? The Rountree family did sell slaves to one another, as is indicated by various bills of sales.

As previously stated, Mary Rountree sold 22-year-old Lucy to John Howe in Feb, 1813. No document exists in Barren County of a resale by John Howe of a slave named Lucy. However, there is a strong possibility that Lucy was resold; back to Mary or Henry, at a later date. Perhaps Lucy was resold to Henry from a neighboring county, rather than Barren County where the Rountrees resided. If that is the same Lucy, she had already belonged to Henry since 1806, according to her later certificate of freedom, dated 1826.
So, why was Lucy sold, after spending at least seven years in servitude to the Rountree family? The year 1813 was a significant date in the life of Henry. By Feb., 1813 he was expecting his first child by his third wife, Wealthy. Perhaps Wealthy knew of Lucy and the existence of a child named, “Phoebe,” born in 1811, and she was unhappy about an interracial relationship that Henry had involved himself in since his second marriage. He had lived as a single man for six or seven years at the time of his 1812 marriage to Wealthy. Unfortunately, Henry was soon single again. Wealthy died in October, 1813, shortly after giving birth to Adam. Almost certainly, Lucy returned from exile to Henry’s household, living with him and having children with him until 1829.

It is a fact, provided by a legal document, that Henry sold Lucy to herself in August, 1826, “for twenty years work done by her.” During his entire adult life, Henry owned slaves, as did his grandparents, parents and siblings. However, Lucy and her offspring appear to be the only ones that he ever freed. Also freed with Lucy were eight of her children, Feba (Phoebe) Betsy, Isaac, Nancy, Daniel, Judah, Thomas and Sophia.

Lucy’s life and those of her children changed again, several years later, due to an event in Henry’s life. On March 4, 1829 Henry again married, after 16 years as a widower. The 50-year-old Henry married Lucy Watkins, just 17 years old. Sometime later in 1829, perhaps pressured by the women in his life, his mother, Mary, his freed mistress, Lucy, and his teen-aged bride, Henry began a long trip to Illinois with the freed slave, Lucy, and her eight children. At some point after his arrival in Sangamon County, he rented a farm for Lucy and her children. Lucy eventually did own some property herself. In 1834, in the circuit court of Sangamon County, she sued a certain Joshua Bassford for breach of contract on a sale to him of two steers and a wagon.

When Phoebe Rountree married William de Fleurville in August, 1832, she brought a child to the marriage, a baby boy by the name of “Samuel Henry.” In his own will, years later, William Fleurville referred to Samuel Henry as his “adopted son.” Samuel Henry Fleurville (Florville) was named after Phoebe’s father and grandfather. Could 40-year-old Lucy have given birth to yet another son of Henry’s, following a visit by him from Kentucky? In naming this child, she would have finally been free to acknowledge the child’s paternity, without fear of reprisal by the Kentucky Rountrees. And, perhaps with other children still at home to raise, she gave her youngest child to her daughter and prospering new son-in-law. Of course, the easier explanation is that Phoebe herself had a child out-of-wedlock and that William Fleurville accepted Samuel Henry when he married Phoebe. Unfortunately, the truth of Samuel Henry’s paternity is probably lost for all times.

The Fleurville family has an oral tradition that Henry fathered Lucy’s children. The dates of his marriages, the time lapses between his marriages, the first sale of Lucy and the final and unique sale of Lucy and her children to herself strongly suggest a long and intimate bond between the white man and the black woman. Other actions in Henry’s life indicated that he approved of the system of slavery. Indeed, he came from generations of Rountrees who bought, sold and used slaves on their large land holdings. The Fleurville family has another oral tradition concerning Lucy. At some point in her life, she organized a group of women known as the “Patty-Rollers.” (a name also used for a person who patrolled roads in search of slaves traveling illegally) Lucy’s “patty-rollers” had a different calling. These women used their collective power to seek out and punish men in the neighborhood who had abused women. Lucy, known as “Aunt Lucy” in later years, was undoubtedly a strong woman whose determination and resolve brought her and her children to freedom. Finally, as a free woman, she moved to a free state, enabling her children and grandchildren to put slavery behind them some thirty-five years before most of her fellow African Americans. Lucy died in Sangamon County sometime between 1835 and 1842.\(^{253}\)

**Mack Shelby Rents Property**

On April 28, 1829, Mack Shelby rented a house and lot to William Adams.

On or before the ___ day of October next I promise to pay Mack Shelby Five dollars for the rent of a ___ & lot, in the Town of Springfield in Block No. 18 on lot No. ___ to commence on ___ August & end ___ October next. 28 April 1829

William Adam

**Arrival of Joseph Poley and a Negro Girl named Polly**

An African American girl named Polly lived with the Joseph Poley family in Auburn Township.
Arrival of George Forquer and His Boy, Smith

In 1829, George Forquer, age 35, arrived in Springfield with his “colored boy,” Smith Forquer. He settled in a grove subsequently known as Forquer Grove, at the southeast corner of Second and Capital Streets, the present site of the Illinois Supreme Court Building.

Mr. Forquer was a man of recognized ability and influence, an eloquent orator and capable writer but, in common with some of the ablest lawyers of that time, seems to have been embarrassed by the smallness of his income, in spite of his ability and the fact that he was continually in office.

Hooper Warren Moves to Galena

Hooper Warren the New England abolitionist and editor of The Sangamo Spectator, moved from Springfield to Galena, Illinois in 1829

1830
Lucretia Moore Litigation Concerning Her Real Estate
Involves the Estate of James D. Henry

Soon after July 17, 1827, when Lucretia Moore purchased a lot at the northeast corner of Fourth and Washington Streets from Elijah Iles, she took possession and continued to occupy her cabin there until at least March of 1835. Lucretia’s husband, Parker Moore, became drunken, worthless and in debt. On January 4, 1830, Lucretia conveyed the lot to James D. Henry, with Parker joining in the conveyance, in order to shield the lot from creditors. Lucretia later filed suit in Chancery alleging that the deed was a deed of trust for her benefit although it appears upon its face to be an absolute deed, and was so understood between Henry and Lucretia. James D. Henry’s estate consented to convey the lot to her or any person she might name whenever Lucretia wished it to be done.

Pascal Enos Requested to Inquire About Purchase of William Kirkpatrick’s colored boy

In the spring of 1830, William Taylor of Lewistown wrote two letters to Pascal Enos asking him to look into the possible purchase of a colored boy from William Kirkpatrick. Their correspondence follows:

Lewistown April 26, 1830
Enos Esq.

Dear Sir
Will you please have the goodness to ascertain if Mr. Wm. Kirkpatrick has a coloured boy for sale & what he would take for him, what is his character, if sober, honest & a good hand with horses etc. If not too much trouble, you will confer a favor on

Your------
Thomas Wm. Taylor

Mr. K. Lives about 8 or 9 miles from Springfield, when he comes into Springfield will answer in place of going out to him--

Lewistown May 15, 1830
Enos Esq.

Dear Sir
I wrote you a few lines some time ago by Wm. Morgan, requesting the favor of you to ascertain if Mr. Wm. Kirkpatrick who lives ab’t 9 miles from you, would sell a coloured Black boy & his terms, will you please have the goodness to inquire for me -- and advise me. On the 29th day of this month is the last day for the ------ of the ----- for June Term, Should you feel dis----- on the property in which I live I think you will be able to succeed as he told me again when last in St. Louis, that this is his property--Some of the Lawyers from your place will be here, Wm. Pugh for one, but would not give to him as Phelps & he are pretty great. & I will do all I can for your interest in place present my --- by our family also Mr. Wm. Ferguson Your attention for the colour boy will confer a favor on you

Wm. Taylor
Would this have been Titus, referred to in Enos’ account as having come with one of the Kirkpatricks? The following Spring, Lincoln would be at Kirkpatrick’s mill (on Prairie Creek one and half miles southwest of Sangamo Town) building a flat boat.260

First Appearance of African American Syble Gaines

On March 10, 1830, Syble Gaines, a “negress,” purchased a lot at the southwest corner of Eighth and Madison Streets.261

The 1830 United States Census

The 1830 United States Census categorized African Americans as either “Free Colored” or “Slave.” In Illinois, there were 1,637 Free Colored and 747 Slaves.262 The 19 African Americans listed in the Springfield portion of the census are listed below, either by their name, if categorized as “Free Colored,” or under the name of the white head of household who held them as “Slaves.” Nine were categorized as “Slaves,” and 10 as “Free Colored.”263

The “Free Colored” listed are as follows:

Parker Moore Household

Parker and Lucretia “Aunt Cressy” Moore and their three daughters.

1 male 24-36. Parker.
1 female 36-45. Lucretia. (Aunt Cressy??)
1 female under 10.
2 females 10-24.

Thomas Cox Household

Even though Cox had been foreclosed on in 1827 and his slaves sold, he still had a “Free Colored” male age 10-24, living with him at the time of the 1830 United States Census.

The Slaves listed under the names of their masters are as follows:

John Taylor Household264

In the John Taylor household, there were 3 slaves, Nance and Dice and one male, age 10 to 24 years old.

Slaves:
1 male 10-24
1 female under 10 Nance
1 female 10-24 Dice

Dr. John Todd Household265

Andy Van Meter concluded that Dr. Todd freed his slaves when he moved to Springfield, but the 1830 United States Census still showed him as owning 5 slaves.

Slaves:
1 male under 10
1 male 10-24
1 female under 10 Elizabeth
2 females 10-24 Phoebe

Temperance Watson Household

In the household of Temperance, the widow of Arthur Watson, there was one male slave age 10 to 24. Franklin?
Macklin and Frank Shelby Given Certificates of Freedom
By Circuit Court in Galena, Illinois

Macklin (Mack) and Frank Shelby were given judgments of freedom at the November 1830 term of the Circuit Court in Galena, Illinois. James F. Reed was in Galena from 1820 to 1831, the time period during which these certificates were issued. Is it pure coincidence that both Reed and Frank later were in Springfield, that there were numerous transactions between them and that Reed was the administrator of Frank’s estate in 1837?

First Presbyterian Church Building Completed

In November of 1830, the First Presbyterian Church finished construction of its first church building located just south of the southeast corner of Third and Washington Streets. The building was brick, 45 feet long and 30 feet wide with its front door to the west.

The Deep Snow: Winter of 1830-1831

The outstanding event of pioneer days, however, was the deep snow of 1830-31. Before it, in the memory of early settlers, all else shrank to insignificance. Births, deaths and weddings were dated by it, while stories of its vagaries passed into the folklore of the prairies.

After weeks of mild weather, snow commenced to fall on Christmas Eve, 1830. On Christmas Day it was a foot deep, and everyone was jubilant. Then the weather turned bitter cold, and the snow continued. Day after day it fell, until even on the level surfaces it was four and five feet deep.

Snow Birds

Those who were residents of Springfield at the time of the Deep Snow were thereafter known as Snow Birds. Zimri Enos prepared a list of those so qualifying, and that list included at least two African Americans, Cyrus White and ______. In addition to those listed by Enos, I would add the following:

1 and 2. Nance and Dice Cox,
5. Major Cutright of Daniel Cutright (arrived in 182_).
6 and 7. Phoebe Todd, the colored woman of Dr. John Todd (arrived from Kentucky in 1827) and her daughter, Elizabeth
8. and 9. two male slaves, age 10-24.
10. Smith Forquer the boy of George Forquer (arrived in 1829).
12. Lucretia Moore. “Aunt Cressy”
13 and 14 Two daughters.
15. Sylvia White.
16. Polly Shelby, known as “Aunt Polly”, and her family.
18. Titus Kirkpatrick, the colored boy of one of the Kirkpatricks (arrived in 182_) brought with him.

1831

Abraham Lincoln’s First Visit to Springfield

In March of 1831, 22 year-old Abraham Lincoln visited Springfield for the first time. Six years later he would lead the move in the Illinois legislature to move the state capitol to Springfield and succeeding, he made Springfield his home.
In the spring, when the streams were swollen with the melted snow, three young men of Macon County floated down the Sangamon to Springfield landing, and came into town to meet the man [Denton Offutt] who had hired them to take a flat-boat to New Orleans. Twenty-nine years later one of them, Abraham Lincoln by name, wrote that this was “the time and the manner” of his first entrance into Sangamon County.269

Lincoln found Denton Offutt at the Andrew Elliott’s Buckhorn Tavern at the southwest corner of Jefferson and Second Streets.270

In February 1831, there came to the neighborhood of John Hanks, when Abe Lincoln was lingering there, a man named Denton Offutt, a hard drinker, a hustler, and a talker shrewd with his tongue, easy with promises, a believer in pots of gold at the rainbow end. He would have a flatboat and cargo to go to New Orleans, all ready for Abe Lincoln, John Hanks, and John Johnston, “as soon as the snow should go off,” if they would meet him on a Sangamo River branch near the village of Springfield. They were there at the time set but Denton Offutt wasn’t; they walked to Springfield, asked for Offutt, found him drunk at the Buckhorn Tavern, and helped sober him.271

Denton Offutt’s crew, Abe Lincoln, John Hanks, and John Johnston, had to build the flatboat that they would take to New Orleans. They first cut timber and had it “saw milled” at William Kirkpatrick’s mill on Prairie Creek, one and one-half miles southwest of Sangamo Town. Kirkpatrick had a “colored boy” in 1830. Perhaps Lincoln met Titus while working in this neighborhood.

Nelson, a Negro Man, Freed Upon Henry Yates Posting Bond

In May of 1831, Henry and Mary A. Shuff Yates272 moved to Springfield. Sometime thereafter, Henry gave his bond in order to set free a 55 year-old “Negro man named Nelson.”

In 1831, the commissioners court freed a slave after a white man posted a bond on his behalf. “Henry Yates came into court and gave bond as this law requires, in setting free a negro man named Nelson aged fifty five years.273

New Sangamon County Court House Completed

Only a few years elapsed until the frame Sangamon County Court House at Sixth and Adams Streets was thought to be inadequate to the growing wants of the people. In 1830, Sangamon County began construction of its third Court House.

…located in the center of the present square. Brick, two stories in height, with a hip roof surmounted by a cupola, it was the most pretentious building in town. Soon after it was finished a brick market house was built on the northwest corner of the square….A plank fence, with stiles, was built around the court house, a public well was sunk and a pump erected, and the entire square sown with grass.274

In early 1831, construction was completed of a new Sangamon County court house, brick and in the center of the public square bounded by Washington and Adams, Fifth and Sixth Streets. It was a square building, two stories high, hip roof, with a cupola rising in the center. Thereafter, business shifted from around the old court house site at Second and Jefferson to the new Court House Square.275 It was 61 feet long and 45 feet wide. There were five windows across the front of the second story and a center door with two windows on either side of the front first floor. It cost $6,841. Its design was of the so-called “coffee-mill” or foursquare federal style of court houses built in at least eight other Illinois counties during the 1830’s. The building was completed early in 1831 and was used until the spring of 1837 when the site was given to the State of Illinois for a new State House.

The public square, a green pleasant lawn inclosed by a railing, contains the court-house and a market, both fine structures of brick; and the sides surrounding the square are lined with handsome edifices. Many of the buildings, however, are small; and the humble log cabin, the abiding place of some of the first settlers, not unfrequently meets the eye.276

The Black Hawk War

In the Spring of 1831 following the Winter of the Deep Snow, Black Hawk, one of two principal chiefs of the Sac and Fox Indian nations, crossed the Mississippi River into Illinois. Illinois Governor John Reynolds immediately called for volunteers to expel the Indians, and the ensuing conflict is now known as the Black Hawk War.
Dianah, a Colored Woman,
Admitted to Membership in First Presbyterian Church

In September of 1831, Dianah was received on a certificate into membership in the First Presbyterian Church at Springfield. She was described in the church registry as “colored.”

Thomas Cox Sues Reuben Lobb

In September of 1831, Thomas Cox filed suit attaching the real estate of Ruben Lobb located on the south side of Madison, between Seventh and Eighth Streets. Thomas M. Neale acted as Cox’s attorney.

A notice published in the Journal stated that the return of the sheriff indicated that Lobb was not a resident of the state.

Arrival of William De Fleurville

William de Fleurville was born about 1806 in Cape Haitien, Haiti, West Indies. When the Haitian revolution commenced in 1821-1822, his god-mother took him to Baltimore, Maryland, and kept him in St. Mary’s Convent until her death. William was then bound to John Noel by the orphans court to learn the barber trade.

John Louis Florville
Indenture to
John Noel

There presents witness to the Justice of the Peace, 27th of July 1824, placed with John Noel (barber) of the city of Baltimore, Jean Louis Florville Levonie, a lad born 11 September, 1807, as an apprentice to the trade of a barber and to serve the same John Noel faithfully and obediently four years from this date. The said John Noel in the meanwhile to board, wash for and cause to be taught his trade. The same apprentice it being understood “that he shall” find his own clothes and be at the expense of his tuition.

Witness our Hands and Seals the day and date first above written.
Signed: E. H. Cummms
Lewis Baltzell
John Noel

Office of the Records in the Office of the Register of Wills, Baltimore County, 26th day of August, 1824. Received to be recorded the 26th day of August, 1824, same day recorded and examined. William Buchanan Reg. 3

In testimony that the aforegoing is a true copy taken from Indentures.

Maryland -I, James Harwood, presiding Justice of the Orphans Court for Baltimore County, State of Maryland. The aforesaid do certify that the aforegoing attestation by David M. Perine, Register of Wills, foresaid county, is in due form. Given from under my band of seal at the city of Baltimore, this thirteenth day of March in the year of our Lord, 1834, and the Independence of the United States the fifty-seventh.
Signed:  James Harwood

Written on the outside of the document:
John Louis Florville – Indenture

I hereby certify that John Louis Florville Levonie, now mainly called William Flondlle, now residing of Springfield of the State of Illinois, who was heretofore duly bound to me as an apprentice to the barber trade, according to the within instrument of writing, was born in the Island of St. Domingues of free parents. The certificate of his birth and baptism duly executed at Cape Hayten is now in my possession.

Baltimore, March 14,1834
John Noel (barber)
pd. $.56

William then went to New Orleans and then to St. Louis. From St. Louis he went on a hunting excursion up the Mississippi, Illinois and Sangamon Rivers to New Salem, which was then in Sangamon County. Flourville arrived in New Salem in the fall of 1831. It was late in the evening, and as he approached the village he met Abraham Lincoln, wearing a red flannel shirt and carrying an ax on his shoulder, just returning from his day’s labor in the woods. They fell into an easy conversation and walked to a little grocery store together. Lincoln soon learned that the stranger was a barber, nearly out of money.
and aiming to reach Springfield. Lincoln took him to his boarding house, told the people his business and situation. That opened the way for an evening’s work among the boarders, and the next morning Fleurville started on his way rejoicing, and reached Springfield on the second day.

The first person William met in Springfield was Dr. Elias H. Merriman whom he had known and worked for as a boy in Baltimore. Dr. Merriman immediately assisted him. He soon secured employment in the home of General James D. Henry, a noted fighter in the Black Hawk War.

Of all Lincoln friendships, that with William Fleurville is perhaps the most interesting from many angles. First, it was the oldest in Springfield, and second, it was the oddest, being with a colored man. Frank Shelby, a Free Man of Colour, Purchases Lot on Washington Between Sixth and Seventh Streets

On Tuesday, December 6, 1831, Frank Shelby, “a man of colour” was one of the original purchasers of the lots laid out around the new Court House Square, now the square around the Old State Capitol. He paid $10 to the County Commissioners for a lot located on the north side of Washington Street between Sixth and Seventh Streets. The survey of the Town of Springfield made by Thomas M. Neale in 1825, contains the names of the original purchasers of lots, and Frank Shelby is listed on Lot 6, Block 12 of the survey as “Blk. Frank.” Frank had been given a certificate of freedom at Galena in November of 1830.

1832

Springfield Incorporated as a Town

On April 2, 1832, Springfield was incorporated as a town.

North Sangamon Presbyterian Church Organized at Irish Grove

In May of 1832, thirty-two persons who lived on Indian Creek and at Irish Grove settlement were dismissed from the First Presbyterian Church and organized into the North Sangamon Presbyterian Church.

Marriage of William Fleurville and Phoebe Rountree

On July 28, 1832, William Fleurville, age 25, married Phoebe (Feba) Rountree, age 21. They had six children: Samuel Henry Fleurville, born on May 10, 1832, Alseen, born in December of 1833, Sineet, born in September of 1837, Varville, born in 1839, and William LaRue, born on March 10, 1840. Phoebe was a member of the First Methodist Church.

William Fleurville Opens Barber Shop

In 1832, William Fleurville opened Springfield’s first barber shop. At some time, the barber shop was at 602 East Adams Street, the east side of Adams, between Sixth and Seventh Streets.

Birth of Samuel Henry Fleurville

On May 10, 1832, William and Phoebe Fleurville had their first child, Samuel H., who was born in Springfield. Samuel attended school and worked in his father’s barber shop until 17 years of age, when he struck out for himself.

When Phoebe Rountree married William de Fleurville in August, 1832, she brought a child to the marriage, a baby boy by the name of “Samuel Henry.” In his own will, years later, William Fleurville referred to Samuel Henry as his “adopted son.” Samuel Henry Fleurville (Florville) was named after Phoebe’s father and grandfather. Could 40-year-old Lucy have given birth to yet another son of Henry’s, following a visit by him from Kentucky? In naming this child, she would have finally been free to acknowledge the child’s paternity, without fear of reprisal by the Kentucky Rountrees. And, perhaps with other children still at home to raise, she gave her youngest child to her daughter and prosperous new son-in-law. Of course, the easier explanation is that Phoebe herself had a child out-of-wedlock and that William Fleurville accepted Samuel Henry when he married Phoebe. Unfortunately, the truth of Samuel Henry’s paternity is probably lost for all times.

Marriage of Abram Mann and Elizabeth Collins

On June 1, 1832, Abram Mann married Elizabeth Collins.
Indentured Servants in Springfield

Even though outright slavery was prohibited in Illinois, a system of indentured servants continued, and with many of the worst attributes of slavery. In 1926, Springfield African American historian W. T. Casey wrote the *History of the Colored People of Sangamon County*, which was printed as an inclusion in the 1926 “Directory of Sangamon County’s Colored Citizens,” concluding that the practice did not occur in Sangamon County.

...the slavery in a modified or indenture form existed in this state under legal sanction, there is no record of its having stained the fair name of Sangamon.292

“Fair Sangamon,” contrary to Casey’s conclusion, did not escape the stain. There are a number of examples of indentures of apprenticeship whereby African American boys and girls were indentured to white male Springfield citizens.

**Shelby, a Boy of Colour, Indenture to Thomas Houghan**

This is the earliest evidence of indentured servitude of Springfield African Americans, the legal evidence of Springfield’s participation in the system of “voluntary servitude.” On July 5, 1832, Thomas Houghan entered into an indenture with a 10 year-old African American boy, Shelby, who was born on July 1, 1822 and had no parent or guardian within the State of Illinois. Shelby was to be taught the art and mystery of domestic employment and to read, but not to write. He was to serve until July 1, 1843, his 21st birthday. At the expiration of his term he was to be given a new bible and two new suits of clothes suitable and proper for summer and winter wear. Houghan was a Springfield physician and in 1833 built what is now “Edwards Place,” the present home of the Springfield Art Association at the northeast corner of Fourth and Union Streets.293

The full text is quoted here as an example of the terms and conditions of Springfield indentures, as it is representative. Subsequent indentures will be mentioned, but the full text of each will be found in Appendix G.

Thomas Houghan
with
Shelby a boy of colour
Indenture of Apprenticeship
This Indenture of apprenticeship made this 5th day of July 1832
Witnesseth that Shelby a boy of colour supposed to be of the age of ten years on or about the 1st day of July A.D. 1832 having no parent or guardian within this state by and with his own free will consent and agreement and by and with the approbation of the Judge of Probate for the county of Sangamon in the State of Illinois hath put placed and bound himself an apprentice unto Thomas Houghan of the county and state aforesaid to learn the art and mystery of domestic employment and with him the said Thomas Houghan to dwell continue and serve from the date hereof until the said Shelby shall attain the full age of twenty one years during all which time the said apprentice his said master well and faithfully shall serve, His lawful secrets and commands shall keep and obey Hurt to his said master or his he shall not do nor suffer it to be done by others if in his power to prevent The goods of his said master he shall not embezzle waste nor lend except by consent, from the service of his said master he shall not absent himself without leave, Taverns alehouses tippling shops gaming houses or rooms or houses of ill fame he shall not frequent Matrimony he shall not contract But in all things shall well and faithfully demean himself towards his said master and all his as becomes a good and faithful servant during all his term of service aforesaid.

And the said Thomas Houghan on his part agrees that he will during all the term of service of his said apprentice find and allow unto him good hosome and sufficient meat drink washing lodging and apparel suitable and proper for such an apprentice and needful medical attention in case of sickness and will cause him to be taught to read and write (stricken through) and at the expiration of his term of service will give unto him a new bible and two new suits of clothes suitable and proper for summer and winter wear

Witness our hands and seals the day and year first above written
Tho Houghan
Shelby X
by J. Adams Judge of Probate
Witness
Adams J. Probate

State of Illinois   )
) s.s.
Sangamon county   )

Be it known that I James Adams Judge of Probate for the county of Sangamon having examined the above named Shelby a boy of colour touching the foregoing indenture of apprenticeship and of his agreement and consent thereto and am satisfied that it is his free and voluntary act and also that the said Thomas Houghan is a man of good moral character I do therefore approve of the said indenture and that the said Shelby be thereby bound to serve an apprentice according to the tenor thereof.

Witness my hand and private seal (no public seal having yet been provided) this 5th day of July 1832.
Adams, Judge of Probate

Col. Thomas Cox Moves to Missouri

In August of 1832, Col. Thomas Cox moved from Springfield to Ste. Genevieve, Missouri.

1833
Springfield Colonization Society Organized

Unlike the Abolitionists, the American Colonization Society favored a gradual approach to eliminating slavery. Organized with the intention of sending the slaves back to Africa as free men and women, it was composed partially of people who felt slavery wrong, but who did not feel so moved that they wanted to free all slaves in the United States immediately. Others in the group were not particularly hostile to slavery but feared the presence of African Americans in their midst, particularly free African Americans. In a sense, the Colonization Society was a compromise between the supporters of slavery and the Abolitionists, and individual citizens and religious groups contributed millions of dollars for the cause.294

In August of 1833, the Springfield, Sangamon County Colonization Society was organized in a meeting held at the First Methodist Church, located at the southeast corner of Fifth and Monroe Streets. The purpose of the Society was to purchase the freedom of African American slaves and transport them to Africa where they would settle and establish new homes. Dr. John G. Bergen, minister of the First Presbyterian Church, was the principal organizer. Bergen had been an advocate of colonization from the time of his school days at Baskinridge Academy in New Jersey where he had studied under Dr. Finley, the father of the movement. Dr. Finley’s teaching made such an impression upon Bergen that he became a lifelong supporter of the movement.295

Charles R. Matheny, was elected president of the Society and Rev. John G. Bergen and Edmund B. Roberts297 were elected Vice Presidents. John Todd Stuart was elected Secretary and William M. Cowgill298 Treasurer.299

Opposition to slavery in Illinois before 1835 was expressed in a colonization movement, but sentiment for Negro colonization, as is well known, is not always to be equated with sentiment against slavery itself. Prejudice against free Negroes was high in Illinois and was a powerful motive working in favor of colonization. One of the reasons William Bradsby had given in the Illinois territorial legislature in 1817 for advocating the repeal of the indenture laws was that he wished to prevent the accumulation of free Negroes in Illinois which he believed must result from that “cob web of legislation.” The
suggestion that free Negroes be sent out of the United States also attracted the interest of many of the men who had been devoted opponents of the convention (of 1824)

Charles R. Matheny, the President of the Springfield Society, was such a man. He had been active sixteen years earlier in December 10, 1817 when as a representative in the Territorial legislature he introduced a Bill to Repeal Indenture Law of 1814 and ten years earlier when he opposed the legalization of slavery in Illinois in the 1824 proposal to call a constitutional convention. He was an active Methodist and a former circuit rider.

**COLONIZATION SOCIETY**

On Monday evening the 2_th, inst., a meeting was held by the citizens of the town of Springfield, at the Methodist Church, for the purpose of organizing a society to be called The Springfield, Sangamon County Colonization Society, and ___ to the State Colonization Society at Vandalia–Charles R. Matheny was ___ chairman of the meeting, and John T. Stuart, secretary.

The meeting being organized, a constitution for the Government of the society was proposed and read by Col. ____—Which being adopted, was signed by the members present.

The constitution being adopted, to meet its provisions the following Gentlemen were chosen as officers of the society during the ensuing year:

Charles R. Matheny, Prest.
Edmund B. Roberts
John T. Stuart, Secry.
Wm. Cowgill, Treasurer.

It was Resolved. That the society would hold its second meeting at the Court House in the town of Springfield on Monday evening the 9th of Sept. At _____ which occasion Mr. E. J. Philips, was present to deliver an address explanatory of the object and ___ of the society.

It was further resolved, That the secretary be requested to furnish a copy of the proceedings, of this meeting to the Editors of the Journal and Herald, and request them to give the same ________.

The meeting then adjourned

CHARLES R. MATHENY, Ch’m.
John T. Stuart, Secr’y.

**Frank Shelby Sells Lot on Washington Between Sixth and Seventh Streets**

Thirteen months after purchasing the lot on the north side of Washington between Sixth and Seventh Streets, Frank Shelby sold the east forty feet of the lot to 33 year-old James Frazier Reed for $30, a $20 profit or an annual return on his investment of almost 300%. Frank retained ownership of the west forty feet of the lot. Four years later in 1837, Frank died and Reed administered his estate. The west forty feet was inventoried as an asset of Frank’s at the time of his death.

**William Fleurville Newspaper Advertisement**

The March 23, 1833 *Journal* published William Fleurville’s advertisement announcing the installation of a “new barber pole” at his barber shop.

William Fleurville, the barber king of the village, announced that he had erected a new barber pole, against which the storms of factions, the hurricanes of the prairies, a common size earthquake or a runaway team will dash in vain.

The July 20, 1833 *Journal* carried William Fleurville’s announcement that he had moved the location of his barber shop:

William Fleurville announced that he had removed his barber shop west of the Court on the Public square.
Arrival of New Englanders and Abolitionists at Farmingdale (Farmington) and Sugar Creek

On October 26, 1833, a colony of fifty-two New Englanders arrived in the now defunct village of Sangamo, eight miles northwest of Springfield on the Sangamon River. These New Englanders represented a significant contribution to the second strain of early settlers to the Springfield vicinity, bringing with them the culture and customs of their native New England. Among the arrivals were four men who would be early active abolitionists and agents on the underground railroad:

While the racial prejudice played an important role during the long controversy over the admission of slavery into early Illinois, it was not until the 1830’s, when waves of Yankee settlers flooded Illinois, that the free Negro question became critical. Although New Englanders and Easterners were not without prejudice against blacks, their comparatively liberal attitudes toward the free Negro were enough to cause panic in southern Illinois. Who could be certain that the “abolitionist” counties of northern Illinois would not use their political power to wrest control of the state government from the older but less populated counties of southern Illinois? Once that was achieved, little would stand in the way of the alleged “abolitionist’s” goals of uplift and racial equality. During the 1830’s, consequently, the free Negro question became an issue of crisis proportions—a crisis, moreover, that would last until the Civil War.

For a number of years I have been curious about the possible presence of the underground railroad in Lincoln’s Springfield. As a child on Sunday afternoon drives west of Springfield, my parents pointed out the small village of Farmingdale and told me that there had once been an underground railroad station there. I later learned that in the 19th century, Farmingdale was known as Farmington and that indeed its reputation as an active station on the underground railroad could be documented.

The story of the underground railroad at Farmington began on October 25, 1833, when a colony of fifty-two New Englanders, many of them abolitionists, arrived at Springfield after a ten-week journey from St. Lawrence County in upstate New York. The Sangamo Journal reported on their arrival.

Emigrants are coming by thousands into Illinois and from all quarters of the Union. On Friday last fifteen large wagons from St. Lawrence County, N. York, loaded with emigrants, arrived in our village, and drove up in front of the market house, in grand style. These emigrants had been about ten weeks on the journey, and enjoyed good health during the time. They design to settle in Sangamo County--to which we bid them welcome.

The day following their Springfield arrival, the colony moved eight miles west to the Sangamon River village of Sangamo Town. They spent the winter there and in the spring moved a few miles west to an open prairie where they settled, purchased farm land and established the community of Farmington.

The colony was representative of the New England strain of early Illinois settlers who in the 1830’s and 40’s settled in a random pattern of dots across the central and northern Illinois prairies. Their customs
and culture contrasted sharply with that of the earlier settlers in Central Illinois who had come from the upland South. In addition to being farmers, some of them were teachers, ministers, abolitionists and conductors on the underground railroad. In September 1837, seventeen men of the colony, expressed their strong opposition to slavery by signing Elijah P. Lovejoy’s call for Illinois’ first anti-slavery convention to be held at Upper Alton on October 26th. Four of the Farmington signers, attended the convention. At least four of the colony, Dr. John Lyman, Stephen Child, Luther Ransom and the Rev. Billious Pond, and several of their neighbors, Jay Slater and the Rev. Thomas Galt, became active conductors on the underground railroad at the Farmington station.

In 1841, Samuel Willard, a 20 year-old Jacksonville, Illinois abolitionist, had his first experience in assisting a runaway slave move north on the underground railroad. Willard’s written account of that adventure, entitled My First Adventure With A Fugitive Slave: The story of it and how it failed, acknowledged that he was not familiar with the Farmington station on the underground railroad at that time. “It seemed to my father [Julius] that the easiest thing for us would be to take her [the fugitive slave] to some one on the line of what was known as the Under-Ground Rail-Road. But we knew nothing about it. In later adventures of this sort we went direct to what was then called Farmington, now Farmingdale, near Springfield. … My father, as well as myself, helped many fugitives afterwards.”

Two years later, Willard, who was now a student at Illinois College, successfully assisted a fugitive slave move along the underground railroad from Jacksonville to Farmington. His written account entitled My Second Adventure with A Fugitive Slave: and how it was won, told of secreting runaway slave Jack out of Jacksonville and on to the Farmington underground railroad station.

A few days later the conductors of the Under-Ground R.R. were ready. Lewis knew the way to Laurie’s so I went with him one night to take the negro over the next stage. We had to come back to the Movastar bridge, and then to take an oblique course across fields thru groves and thickets to a certain school-house a mile or more east of the town, on the old railroad track and near the high road to Springfield. On the way Jack sighed and said, “it’s a long way to Canada!” We assented. Once a little noise in the bush near us startled him: out came his pistol and I heard the click of the cocking. When we struck the railroad, we were near the rendezvous: there were my father [Julius A. Willard] and [William] Chauncey Carter on horses, leading a third horse for the negro: he was soon mounted and the trio were on the way to Farmington; while two over-tired men trudged back to College, but I had to meet my classes next day as usual.

As a result of this activity, Samuel was arrested and charged with assisting in the escape of a runaway slave. His case went to the Supreme Court and he eventually plead guilty and was fined $1.00.

In a later written reminiscence, Samuel Willard identified the Rev. Bilious Pond, Dr. John Lyman and Luther Ransom as among his active allies on the Sangamon County underground railroad. Helen Blankmeyer’s 1935 history, The Sangamon Country, contains a brief account of the underground railroad and also identifies the conductors at the Farmington station.

In Sangamon county there were at least two of these [underground railroad] stations near Farmingdale. Dr. John Lyman and a few of his neighbors (including Jay Slater, Stephen Child, Luther Ransom, Rev. Billious Pond, Rev. Gault, and probably others), agreed to help each other hide any slaves brought to them, and to take them further on their way to freedom.

So who were these men that Willard and Blankmeyer deemed conductors on the underground railroad at Farmington?

Dr. John R. Lyman, a New England doctor, was born on April 2, 1780, at Lebanon, New Hampshire. He married there to Martha Storrs and attended medical lectures at Dartmouth College. He practiced medicine in New Haven Township, Vermont, and during the War of 1812, was an Army surgeon. In 1824, John moved with his family to Potsdam, New York, and in 1833, came to Farmington with the colony of fifty-two. John signed the call for and attended Elijah Lovejoy’s 1837 anti-slavery convention at Upper Alton. On February 26, 1839, The Genius of Universal Emancipation, an abolitionist newspaper published at Hennepin, Illinois, reported that John Lyman was one of five Sangamon County delegates to the Illinois Anti-Slavery Society annual meeting.

A neighbor described “Dr. Lyman’s Underground Depot” at Farmington.
Down the hill near the road and near the branch, he [Dr. John Lyman] had a little shanty, and a family of darkies living in it. It had the name of Dr. Lyman’s Under-ground Depot. He was accused of secreting run-away slaves, on their way to Canada. It was said that the southern slave holders offered a thousand dollars for the Dr.’s scalp. 320

Jay Slater, a farmer, was born on February 25, 1795, in Massachusetts. He was married on March 12, 1826, in Sangamon County, to Lucretia Carman, who was born in 1806, in New York. Jay Slater was a conductor on the underground railroad and his home, a small neat brick house that still stands just a short distance from Farmington, 321 was most likely an active station on the underground railroad.

RESIDENCE OF JAY SLATER ON NORTH LINCOLN TRAIL, GARDNER TOWNSHIP, SANGAMON COUNTY, ILLINOIS

Stephen Child, a farmer and teacher, was a New Englander, born on June 12, 1802, in Waitsfield, Vermont. In 1820, Stephen moved to Potsdam, New York, where he taught school. He married Dr. John Lyman’s daughter, Hannah, and they had two children while living in Potsdam. Stephen and his family came to Sangamon County in 1833 as a part of the colony of fifty-two and settled near Farmington. John was a conductor on the underground railroad who helped hundreds of runaway slaves move north from the Farmington station. John Carroll Powers’ 1876 Early Settlers of Sangamon County, described Stephen Child:

Mr. [Stephen] Child was a farmer and teacher all his life. He was an original abolitionist, and as an agent of the underground railroad, he assisted hundreds of colored people in their flight from bondage. He conducted a company of twenty-one at one time. It was his custom to go as far as he could travel in one night and return, but on some occasions he has gone as far sixty miles, and then left them in the hands of friends who would conduct them onward. The last time the writer of this, conversed with Mr. Child, he expressed special satisfaction that he had assisted so many human beings on their way to freedom, and gratitude that he had lived to see the day that there was not a slave in the United States of America. 322

The Rev. Billious Pond, who acted as the pastor for the colony of fifty-two during their ten week journey from upstate New York, was a New Englander, born on June 26, 1781, in Plymouth, Connecticut. From 1842 to January 1844, Billious was pastor of the Farmington Presbyterian Church. 323 Billious and his son, Marvin, were conductors on the underground railroad. On June 11, 1845, Abraham Lincoln appeared in the Menard County Circuit Court as an attorney for Marvin, who had been indicted for harboring a slave. 324 The jury found Marvin not guilty. 325

Billious Pond was born June 26, 1781, in Northbury, now Plymouth, Litchfield County, Conn. Rhoda Orton was born in the same county, April 17, 1786. They were married Oct. 11, 1801, in Niagara county, N.Y., and had nine children there. A colony left Potsdam, St. Lawrence county, N.Y., and by previous arrangement, through the agency of Mr. Timothy Turner, Mr. Pond joined the colony at Oswego, and acted as its pastor or minister. They arrived November 26, 1832, at old Sangamo Town, in Sangamon county, Illinois, and the next spring all moved to the vicinity of the present Farmingdale station. Mr. Pond preached during the winter of 1833 and ’4, near Carrollton, Greene county, and in the spring of 1834 returned to his family at Camden, N. Y. He moved his family, bringing all his living children, and arrived July 27, 1837, at what is now Farmington, Sangamon county. Mrs. Rhoda Pond
Billious’ son, Samuel, lived in Greenview, Illinois. He was called “Abolitionist Pond.” He used to pick up slaves from homes in Farmingdale by wagon and take them to his home. Pond hid the slaves in a barn until he considered it safe to take them by wagon to Forrest City in what is now Mason County, according to Rodney Dimmick, Menard County Historical Society president. Asa Cleaveland, who, like his neighbor Pond, was white, reportedly kept runaway slaves either in his cellar or a barn until they could be taken by wagon to the next station to the north, Dimmick said.

Thomas Galt, a Presbyterian minister, was born on September 12, 1805, in Lancaster County, Pennsylvania. He was educated at Jefferson College in Canonsburg, Pennsylvania, and at the Presbyterian Theological Seminary in Allegheny City, Pennsylvania. In 1834, he was licensed to preach by the Presbytery of Ohio, and shortly thereafter married Sarah Happer. In the spring of 1835, Thomas and Sarah moved west to Peoria, Illinois where Thomas preached for a few months, and in the autumn of that year moved to Springfield. On April 10, 1836, Thomas became the first pastor of the Farmingdale Presbyterian Church. He and Sarah lived one mile east of Farmington where they set apart three acres of ground for a church and a cemetery, now the Farmington Cemetery. Thomas signed the call for and attended Elijah Lovejoy’s 1837 anti-slavery convention at Upper Alton. He was also one of five Sangamon County delegates to the 1839 Illinois Anti-Slavery Society annual meeting.

Thomas remained pastor at Farmington until April, 1842, when the Farmington Presbyterian Church split over the issue of slavery. The “Old School” advocates, who wanted a slow resolution of the slavery issue, retained control of the Farmington church. Thomas, a “New School” advocate who wanted the immediate abolition of slavery, resigned his pastorate, and in July 1842 became pastor of the Center Presbyterian Church, a “New School” Presbyterian church. Sangamon County’s first anti-slavery convention was held at Center Church.

Coming back to Springfield from those Sunday afternoon drives, I imagined runaway slaves being taken in and hidden at Farmington and then transported in the dead of night to the next stop on the underground railroad. How noble these people were to risk their all for the freedom of another soul and how brave the runaway slaves were to risk their lives to escape slavery. I wondered if there was anyone in Springfield, just eight miles east, who shared this nobility. Was there an underground railroad station in Springfield? If so, who were the conductors and where were the stations located? Was Lincoln aware of its presence?

Perfect answers to these questions will probably never be given. Success of the underground railroad rested upon a strict code of secrecy and it is difficult to find primary source materials on the underground railroad. The name of one underground conductor was often not known to the next conductor along the line. Because of the secrecy, the underground railroad’s presence in Lincoln’s Springfield has been shrouded in mystery.

Over the years, I have collected information that refers to Springfield’s underground railroad. It is often a serendipitous experience as I will find something while researching an unrelated topic. When these random findings are pasted together, a picture emerges that leads one to the conclusion that there was an active underground railroad system in Springfield from at least 1841 until after Lincoln’s departure in 1861. The Springfield stations had a close connection with those at Farmington. One station existed near the Globe Tavern at the time that newly married Abraham and Mary Lincoln lived there in 1841. In the 1850s, at least two stations were close to the Lincoln home at Eighth and Jackson. These two stations and two others not as close to the Lincoln home were operated by African Americans who knew and had close contacts with Abraham Lincoln. Lincoln must have known of the underground railroad activities of these African American friends. Yes, there were a few noble souls in Lincoln’s Springfield who conducted an active underground railroad system.

**Luther N. Ransom**

Luther N. Ransom was born about 1800 in Clinton County, New York. He and his wife, Zerviah, and two children came to Farmington in 1833 with the colony of fifty-two. Luther was Clerk of Session of
the Farmington Presbyterian Church from 1834 to 1835.331 In 1835, Luther sold his property at Farmington and moved eight miles south of Springfield to what is now Chatham. Here he purchased 2,100 acres, laid out the town of Chatham, built a house, organized Chatham Presbyterian Church and hired an abolitionist preacher. Luther appears to have envisioned a New England town on the prairie.

Luther was an early abolitionist. He signed Elijah Lovejoy’s 1837 call for an anti-slavery convention at Upper Alton, Illinois, and attended that convention in October, 1837. He was also one of five Sangamon County delegates to the 1839 Illinois Anti-Slavery Society annual meeting.332 John Carroll Powers’ 1876 Early Settlers of Sangamon County, described Luther thus:

He was an original abolitionist, an uncompromising temperance man, scrupulously honest in his dealings, and it was believed by those who knew him well, that he was honest and conscientious in all he did. His erratic course was regarded more as the manifestations of an unsettled mind than of a depraved disposition.335

Birth of Alseen Fleurville

In December, 1833, William and Phoebe Fleurville had their second child, Alseen, who was born in Springfield. In 1851, Alseen married Mahlon Chaverous.

1834

Farmington Presbyterian Church Organized

On January 12, 1834, the Farmington Presbyterian Church was organized at “Old Sangamon.” The organizers were those who had come to the area as a group in 1833 from upstate New York, near Potsdam. The first meeting of settlers from Potsdam, New York was at Sangamo Town with the Reverend Bergen from the First Church in Springfield. They met again on Sunday, January 12, 1834 to organize the Farmington Presbyterian Church. The theme of the message was “Thy Kingdom Come.” In the spring, the colony moved west to an open area around Prairie Creek. A building was erected near the northwest corner of Farmington cemetery.

The Farmington Presbyterian Church was organized at Old Sangamon, on the second Sabbath of January, 1834, with the following persons as constituent members: Azel Lyman, and Mary P., his wife; Aziel S. Lyman, Roxana Lyman; Alvin Lyman and Lucy, his wife; Ezra Lyman and Mercy, his wife; Ezra C. Lyman; Mary L. Lyman; Azabel Stone and Laura, his wife; William Robb and Mary, his wife; Phebe Robb, Elizabeth W. Robb, Jay Slater, Stephen Childs and Hannah, his wife; Luther N. Ransom and Zerviah, his wife; Heraldus Esterbrook and Abigail, his wife; Abel Esterbrook, Amanda Ransom, Oliver Bates and Charity, his wife; Chancy D. Colton, Francis L. Stone and Laura A. Stone. Almost all of these persons were members of a colony that came a short time pervious, from Northern New York. Henry P. Lyman and Mercy, his wife, united soon afterwards, members also of the colony. The first officers in the church were, Azel Lyman, Heraldus Esterbrook and Luther N. Ransom.334

Marriage of Frank Shelby and Amanda Edmunson

Frank Shelby and Amanda Edmunson were married on February 8, 1834.335

The Yale Band Visits Springfield

Beginning of Second Presbyterian Church

In the spring of 1834, Reverends Albert Hale and Theron Baldwin, Home Missionaries from New England, came through Sangamon County preaching at various places in the widely scattered settlements. They were both members of the “Illinois Association” or the Yale Band, which sometime before had been organized at Yale College. They called on Rev. Bergen at Springfield to ask if they were needed to preach in this vicinity. “Yes,” said Bergen, “we need you right here.” Bergen went about the town giving notice that a religious meeting would be held that evening. This was the beginning of a series of revival meetings that continued for two weeks. As a result, about thirty persons united and this was the beginning of the Second Presbyterian Church.336 Albert Hale was an outspoken opponent and enemy of slavery and a follower of the “New School” in theology.337

The Yale Band Founds Illinois College

While Easterners migrated West for a multiplicity of reasons, New England clergymen tended to conceive of themselves as missionaries whose duty it was to christianize and civilize the West. As early as 1798, for example, the Constitution of the Missionary Society of Connecticut declared that the
propagation of the “gracious and holy doctrines” of Christianity was necessary to the “order and stability of civil government” on the frontier. On February 21, 1829, seven young graduates of Yale formed the “Illinois Association.” The seven men, calling themselves the “Yale Band,” declared that they were “deeply impressed...with the destitute condition of the Western section of our country.” Fearful of an approaching “crisis,” which could only be averted by “speedy and energetic measures,” they resolved to travel West for the purpose of establishing an institution of higher education. By 1830, the Yale Band had formed Illinois College at Jacksonville. 338

Macklin and Frank Shelby’s Certificates of Freedom
On March 4, 1834, Macklin (Mack) and Frank Shelby filed judgments of freedom with the Recorder of Deeds of Sangamon County. Both judgments had been rendered at the November 1830 term of the Circuit Court in Galena, Illinois. 339

Mack Shelby Fined $4.00 For Assault and Battery
On September 11, 1834, Mack Shelby was fined $4.00 for assault and battery.

Marriage of H. H. Hedrick and Catherine Mann
On June 10, 1834, H. H. Hedrick married Catherine Mann. 341

Marriage of Susannah Mann and William Stallings
On July 16, 1834, Susannah Mann married William Stallings. 342

Marriage of John Maxwell and Elizabeth Scott
On July 17, 1834, John Maxwell married Elizabeth Scott. 343

England Abolishes Slavery in the Caribbean
England abolished slavery in the Caribbean area effective August 1, 1834. This energized the American anti-slavery movement. In August of years thereafter, African Americans in Kentucky and Illinois celebrated “Emancipation Day.”

Fall Meeting of Presbytery of Sangamon Receives Dewey Whitney
On October 14, 1834, the fall meeting of the Presbytery of Sangamon was held at Springfield and Dewey Whitney was received from the Presbytery of West Lexington, Kentucky. 344

Lucy Rountree Sues Joshua S. Bassford
In November of 1834, Lucy Rountree, an African American, sued Joshua S. Bassford for breach of contract on a sale to him of two steers and a wagon.
1835

Luther N. Ransom Purchases 2,000 Acres and Plats Chatham

Cornelius Lyman came to Sugar Creek in the winter of 1833 with a colony of fifty Vermont and New York Presbyterians. Most of them settled on Prairie Creek, in the northwest corner of the county, where they founded the village of Farmington; but about a third of them, including the families of the Ransom brothers and several households of Lyman kin, settled on grassland two miles north of Drennan’s Prairie, where they formed the first concentration of Yankees along the creek. There, in 1835, Luther Ransom purchased two thousand acres of prairie, built a New England frame house, platted the paper “village” of Chatham around it, and helped organize a regular Presbyterian church, whose first pastor, the Reverend Josiah Porter, began his ministry in 1836.346

Second Presbyterian Church Meeting

On February 14, 1835, Erastus Wright provoked some by his words as Secretary of a meeting of the Second Presbyterian Church.

Reverend Bergen Elected Pastor of Sangamon Presbyterian Church

On February 16, 1835, the Sangamon Presbyterian Church, now the First Presbyterian Church, ceased to be a mission church and the members selected Rev. John G. Bergen as their permanent pastor. Bergen, a graduate of Princeton Seminary, the home of the Old School, was favored by the congregation’s Scotch-Irish, who were conservative, senior and undemonstrative.

On February 16, 1835, a vote was taken for the election of Reverend Bergen as pastor of Sangamon Presbyterian Church, since before this time he had been serving as stated supply minister for the church. The vote was 52 Aye and 30 Nay. A paper with 30 signatures was appended to the record of the vote, – “We the undersigned being members of the Presbyterian Church in Springfield do hereby declare that it is not from personal enmity against Rev. J. G. Bergen that we are opposed to calling him as our minister, but that we do sincerely believe some other person might be more useful in this place...”347

Estate Notice: Joe Gaines, a Man of Color

NOTICE—I have taken out letters of administration on the estate of Joe Gaines, deceased, a man of color, late of Springfield, Sangamon county, and shall attend before the court of probate, in and for said county, to be held at the office of the Judge thereof, in Springfield, on the first Monday in April 1835, at which time and place all persons having claims against the said estate, are notified and requested to exhibit them for adjustment,

Joel Hughes, administrator

Feb. 17, 1835348
Lincoln Surveys Land Near Athens for Archibald and John Kinkaid, Freer Slaves, Fanny and Harriet Kincaid

In March of 1835, Lincoln surveyed land about three miles northwest of Athens, Illinois for brothers Archibald and John K. Kincaid. When the predominant local sentiment was pro-slavery the Session admitted two freed slaves, Fanny and Harriet, into the membership of the church in March of 1838. They had come north with the Kincaid family from Kentucky. Session minutes reveal that the church contributed support for the Freedmen Society and also continued after the Civil War to help finance schools which had been established in the south for former slaves.

Lucretia Moore Litigation Concerning Her Real Estate Involves Estate of James D. Henry

On March 16, 1835, Lucretia Moore filed a Bill in Chancery To Hon. Judge—Your oratrix Lucretia Moore of Springfield, Ill. Shows that on July 17, 1827 Elijah Iles & wife conveyed to oratrix (a colored woman) by deed of that date in consideration of $25 Lot 5, Block 10 Town of Springfield (Deed in papers, recorded B 285). Oratrix says that soon after she took possession of sd. Lot and has ever since continued to occupy it, and is now in possession of it. Oratrix shows that her husband Parker Moore (now dead) became drunken, worthless, in debt ets, and to shield her said lot did on Jany. 4, 1830 convey by deed to James D. Henry said Lot, said Parker uniting with oratrix in said conveyance (Deed in papers, recorded D 65). This deed oratrix declares was a deed of trust for her benefit although it appears upon its face an absolute deed, and was so understood between Henry & your oratrix etc. Oratrix says she has paid said Henry all claims against her etc. Oratrix says said Henry consented to convey said Lot to her or any person she might name whenever oratrix wished same to be done. That legal title to said lot remained in said Henry up to time of his decease which occurred in March 1834, not leaving any heirs known to oratrix. That Benjamin Talbot & David Dickison whom your orator prays may be made defendants hereto, have taken out letters of administration upon Est. of said Henry, and are now his legal representative. Oratrix prays that said Talbot & Dickinson be required to make full answer etc. and that they be decreed to make to oratrix a deed to sd. Lot.

Summons issued Mch 16, 1835 to Benj. Talbott & David Dickison, ___returnable to Cir. Ct. Sang. Co. now sitting

March Term 1835 March 1th
Lucretia Moore vs. Chancery

On this day came Benj, Talbot & David Dickinson defts. In open Court and filed answer, and by consent of Complt. and defts. It is agreed cause shall be heard and determined at present term. And Complt. having submitted to Court her testimony proofs exhibits etc.—and answer—and the Court being satisfied of truth of matters etc. in Bill establishing her right and title to Lot 5 Block 10 Town of Springfield—Ordered & declared by Court that said Benjamin Talbot & David Dickinson Admins of Est. Jas. D. Henry did make execute & deliver to said Complt. a deed conveying to her all the right title and interest of said Js. D. Henry in and to Lot 5 Block 10 Town of Springfield, before 1st day next term.

Presbytery of Sangamon Sustains Objection to Procedure in Electing Rev. Bergen as Minister

On April 6, 1835, the Presbytery of Sangamon:

…Resolved that the complaint of certain members of the Presbyterian Church of Springfield respecting irregularity of the proceedings in electing a minister be sustained…

Marriage of John Bundy and Cretia Moore

John Bundy married Cretia Moore on April 30, 1835 in Sangamon County, Illinois.
Organization of Second Presbyterian Church
( Westminster Presbyterian Church)

On May 26, 1835, Sangamon Presbyterian Church, including its newly elected minister, Rev. John G. Bergen, helped thirty of its members to withdraw and form the Second Presbyterian Church (now Westminster). Ebeneser S. Phelps and Samuel H. Reed, were selected as elders. The other twenty-eight withdrawing were: John F. Rague, Thomas Moffett, William C. Stevenson, Hugh M. Armstrong, Charles C. Phelps, John B. Watson, Erastus Wright, Eliphalet B. Hawley, E. S. Phelps, Jr., William M. Cowgill, Isaac A. Hawley, James R. Phelps, Eliza A. Moffett, Lucy Cabaniss, Ann Phelps, Eliza M. Rague, Ann Iles, Lavinia M. Armstrong, Anna Poe, Clemantine Sayre Cowgill, Mary D. Sayre, Isabella G. Hawley, Mary Watson, Mary M. Plane(c)k, Jane Wright, Mary Shril, Nancy R. Humphrey and Jane Reed.

There were three principal points of disagreement between the two groups: background, attitude toward slavery and theology. Members of the Second Church were New Englanders and the Second Church was a center of anti-slavery activity. It was “New School” in theology.

Early Springfield was settled by two main streams of population. One stream of settlers was from New York and New England. The other stream came from the South—Kentucky, Tennessee, West Virginia, the Carolinas. In superficial manners and customs, Puritan and Southerner didn’t always see eye to eye. This was responsible for the first of these differences.

Attitude toward human freedom was the second difference. Even long before the Civil War, the question of slavery was an active issue. In Springfield, it was not uncommon to see recaptured runaway slaves herded back to their owners. Certain church members of Southern background were accustomed to slavery: those of Yankee Puritan background were generally abolitionists. More than one Second Presbyterian home was a station on the “Underground Railway,” the organization which helped runaway slaves escape to Canada. ...In 1843, a member was excommunicated by Second Presbyterian session for “purchasing or dealing in human beings.”

The third difference underlying the separation was a matter of doctrine. In general, the Southern settlers belonged to the “Old School” in theology. They were extremely conservative in doctrine. The New Englanders were “New School”—more progressive in theology.

Thirty people of Sangamon Presbyterian Church felt so strongly about these differences that they felt they could no longer worship together. Of course, it was not a clean-cut cleavage. Of those who remained, by no means all were of one mind regarding these divisive factors, but they were able to compromise their differing opinions to remain with the parent church.

So thirty people left, apparently with no bitterness or rancor on either part. Indeed, the first minister of Second Presbyterian Church, Reverend Dewey Whitney, conducted the installation service when those who had remained in the original church installed Reverend John Bergen as their pastor.

Presbytery of Sangamon Meets at Springfield

On June 18, 1835, the Presbytery of Sangamon held a special meeting at Springfield to consider recognition of the newly organized Second Presbyterian Church. The Presbytery declared that the organization of a church without an order of Presbytery was irregular and unconstitutional, though frequently done.

William Fleurville Plays Clarinet in Springfield Artillery Band

On August 22, 1835, the Journal of reported that William Fleurville played the clarinet in the first appearance of the Springfield Artillery band.

The Springfield Artillery made their first appearance in full uniform yesterday...

Attached to the company is a military band, who have new instruments, and promise to make adepts in their profession.

“Jack” Hough was leader of the band, and John Ives, Amos Camp, and “Billy” Fleurville were among the musicians, the latter playing the clarinet. The company was uniformed in blue with red cuffs, and wide red collar extending down the front of the coat, and tall red plumes waving from their helmets.
Arrival of Nicholas H. Ridgely and His Family and Slave “Becky” Rebecca Wood

In 1835, 35 year-old Nicholas H. Ridgely moved to Springfield with his family, including Rebecca “Becky” Wood, a 23 year-old African American servant who had been born in Maryland. The Ridgely’s first resided at the southwest corner of Fourth and Monroe Streets, the present site of a parking garage, and later in the Aristocracy Hill section of Springfield on the east side of 6th, between Cass and Douglas Streets. The 1860 United States Census shows Becky still residing with the Ridgely family.

The Ridgely family had an old servant who was a well known character in Springfield, this was old Becky, whom Mr. Ridgely had bought on the slave block before coming to Illinois. She lived with the family until the day of her death and was a much respected person. When she died she was laid in the family lot where her grave can still be seen, the stone marked “Becky, a faithful servant for many years.” Becky was always kept neatly and appropriately dressed. On Sundays she would often go to call on the white friends of the family. Evidently Anna was interested in Becky making a good impression. She writes:

“Saturday I was at home all day. I lined and boned Becky’s bonnet, mended the stockings, and Julia (Mrs. John Rea, her older sister) read aloud in Cooper’s Pioneers. So ended this week, as dull a week as I ever spent.”

Marriage of Ephraim Insloe and Harriett Thomas

On October 22, 1835, Ephraim Insloe married Harriett Thomas.

Arrival of Alexander Cassity and A Negro Girl named Julia

The Alexander Cassity family arrived in Chatham Township on October 26, 1835 from Bath County, Kentucky. An African American girl named Julia lived with the family.

Hepsey, a Mulatto Girl, Indenture to Ninian W. Edwards

On October 29, 1835, Ninian Wirt Edwards, age 26 and a new resident of Springfield, entered into an indenture with Hepsey, an 11 year-old mulatto girl without parents. The terms of the indenture provided that Hepsey was “...to learn the art and mystery of domestic housewifery” and serve Ninian W. Edwards until the age of 18. In turn Ninian was to provide her with sufficient meat, drink, washing, lodging, apparel suitable and proper for such an apprentice and needful medical attention. He was to “cause her to read” and at the end of her term to give her a new bible and two new suits of clothes suitable and proper for summer and winter wear.

On the evening of November 4, 1842, the Lincoln’s were married in the Ninian Edwards house at the southwest corner of Charles and Second Streets. Hepsey’s indenture would still have been in force, and, therefore, she probably was present in the household at the time of the marriage.
Journal Advertisements for Fugitive Slaves

Slavemasters often hired slavecatchers or tried to recapture slaves themselves. Advertisements were placed in newspapers such as the Sangamo Journal in search of runaways. The October 31, 1835 Journal contained two advertisements for fugitive slaves, offering a reward for their capture and return.

SEVEN HUNDRED DOLLS. REWARD

Absconded from the subscriber, on the 2nd October, about 10 o’clock, a negro Woman, named Melinda, about 24 years of age, about 5 feet 7 or 8 inches high, large and well made, took several articles of bedding and clothing—said slave was very hoarse from a bad cold. Also, Three men, two women and a girl, belonging to Maj. John Dougherty, who is now absent at his agency.

Joe is about 35 or 37 years of age, supposed to 5 feet 6 or eight inches high, stout built, and has a large scar on one cheek, believed to be the right.

Joseph is about 24 or 25 years of age, 5 feet on 10 inches high, well made.

Dan is about 22 or 23, rather yellow for a negro, has a slow walk, is about the height of Joseph.

Jinney is about 34 years of age, rather corpulent and it is believed has lost several of her teeth. Hannah is about 25 or 26, slender made and rather forward in her manners—has had several children, and has with her a child nine months old. Sarah, a girl, about 12 years of age, slender and active, has a scar under the chin.

Said slaves took with them considerable clothing and a number of blankets. The description of the last six negroes may not be strictly accurate in every particular, as it is made from a casual observation of a neighbor.

The above reward will be paid for the apprehension of said negroes, if taken out of the state, or 100 dollars for either of them; or 50 dollars for either if found within this state and after this date. It is believed they have been enticed away by a base white man, supposed to be 24 or 25 years of age, 5 feet 10 or 11 inches high, black beard and hair, and will most probably make their way to Canada. A liberal reward will also be given for the apprehension and conviction of any white man who may be in the exercise of pretended ownership over said slaves.

LEWIS BISSELL
St. Louis, Oct. 14, 1835.

ONE HUNDRED DOLLARS REWARD

Ran Away from the subscriber living in Boone County, Mo. On the 10th instant, three negro MEN, viz: BIRD, aged about 28 years, about 5 feet 8 or 10 inches high, of dark complexion: had on when he left a drab colored box coat, and a dark colored seal skin cap, and white pantaloons, all the clothing pretty much worn. RICHMOND, aged about 24 years, near six feet high, of dark complexion, quite likely: had on when he left a blue cloth coat, mixed jean pantaloons, a pair of square toed Monroe Shoes, and a bell crown fur hat. And CLAIBORNE, aged about 19 years, dark complexion, 5 feet 8 inches high, dressed in white jeans round about and white pantaloons, and dark colored seal skin cap. It is believed they had no other clothing. They will make their way to Illinois or to Canada. I will give a reward of one hundred dollars, for the delivery of said negroes to me if taken out of the State, or half the amount if taken in the State, or will pay in that proportion for either of said Negroes.

JOHN H. BRYAN
October 1, 1835.

Fugitive Slave William Hall in Springfield

William Hall was a slave in Tennessee. He told his story to Benjamin Drew in Canada.

“The overseer tied me to a tree and flogged me with the whip. Afterward he said he would stake me down [tie his hands and feet to posts on the ground] and give me a farewell whipping that I would always remember. While he was eating supper I got off my shoe and slipped off a chain and ran. I ran….I heard a shouting, hallooing, for dogs to hunt me up….I went through the woods to a road…traveling all night: lay by all day, traveled at night…”

William Hall crossed the river into Illinois. He walked to Bloomington and was “too tired to go another step.” Abolitionists helped him reach Chicago.
“From the middle of August to the middle of November I dwelt in no house except in Springfield, [Illinois] sick. Had no bed till I got to Bloomington. In February I cut wood in Indiana – I went to Wisconsin and staid till harvest was over. Then came to a particular friend who... gave me a Testament.

‘Now,’ said he, ‘Square up your business and go to the lake, for there are men here now, even here where you are living, who would betray you for half a dollar if they knew where you master is. Cross the lake: get into Canada.’ I... came to Canada.”

Journal Opines Illinois Threatened To Be Overrun With Free Negroes

..we find in the Springfield paper a leading article beginning with the startling announcement, “Our State is threatened to be overrun with free negroes.”

William Fleurville Advertises for Apprentice

The Journal contained William Fleurville’s advertisement dated November 21, 1835, for a young “coloured” apprentice in his barber business:

A coloured lad would find a good place to learn the Barber’s business, by applying to the subscriber. Her must be from 14 to 16 years of age, and of good habits. Should any of the subscriber’s friends, either in town or country, know of such a coloured boy, who would be likely to answer the purpose, they would confer a favor by informing

Wm. FLEURVILLE
Nov. 21, 1835.

William Fleurville Advertises Business Building for Sale

The December 12, 1835 Journal published William Fleurville’s advertisement for the sale of the building occupied by him as a barber shop:

BUILDING FOR SALE

The subscriber will sell the building he now occupies as a Barber’s shop, on fair terms. It will make a good mechanic’s shop or store.

Wm. FLEURVILLE
Nov. 21, 1835.

Frank Shelby’s Account Ledger With Elijah Iles

Frank Shelby’s Account Ledger With Elijah Iles

Springfield’s Population

The December 12, 1835 Journal reported that the population of Springfield was 1,419.

Francis A. McNeill, Opponent of Slavery, Moves to Springfield

Francis A. McNeill, born January 1, 1809, in Allegheny county, Md. He was baptized in infancy by Rev. Francis Asbury, the first Bishop of the M. E. Church in America. He was converted in early life, and at twenty years of age was in the ministry and stationed at Frederick City, Md. His health failing, he commenced the study of medicine, and in 1824 graduated at the University of Maryland, in Baltimore, and located at Shepherdstown, Va. He was married Feb. 1, 1830 in Frederick City, Md., to Mary E. Cronise, who was born there, March 4, 1812. Dr. McNeill and wife moved from Shepherdstown, Va., to Springfield, Ill., in the spring of 1835. He practiced medicine in Springfield twelve years, and at the same time retained his ministerial connection. In 1847 Dr. McNeill moved to Peoria, and became pastor of the Methodist church at that place. From there he was appointed to Racine, Wisconsin, and from there to Mr. Morris, Ogle county, Ill., October 1852. His labors in the ministry had again impaired his health, and at Mr. Morris he resumed the practice of Medicine. Dr. McNeill had ten children, five of
whom died young... Rev. Francis A. McNeill, M.D., died Feb. 3, 1872, at Mr. Morris, Ogle county, Ill. In addition to the labors of two professions, he found time to devote to political matters. Having from childhood witnessed the pernicious influence of slavery, he very early in life became an opponent of its extension. It was partly to avoid its influence that he moved West. While practicing medicine in Springfield, he took an active part in the politics of the day. As a public speaker, he advocated the election of Harrison for President in 1840, and in 1844 was a delegate to the convention that nominated Clay for President. He was one of the delegates from Ogle county to the convention that assembled in Bloomington in 1856, which gave birth to the Republican party. Being a warm friend of Mr. Lincoln, while living in Springfield, when the latter became a candidate for President, he had not a more ardent supporter than Dr. McNeill. Before the convention assembled that nominated Mr. Lincoln, Dr. McNeill was editing a paper at Mount Morris, and was among the first to hoist the name of Abraham Lincoln for President. In 1860 he was elected Representative from Ogle county, for two years, in the State Legislature; and was, consequently, in that body when the rebellion broke out. He was appointed Oct. 12, 1861, by Governor Yates, army surgeon, and was with the 34th Ill. Inf. About six months, when he resigned on account of impaired health. He was commissioned July 18, 1862, hospital chaplain, and assigned to the post at Paducah, Ky., where he remained until 1864, when he was transferred to Louisville, as chaplain of the post there. He resigned August, 1865, returned home, and resumed the practice of medicine.379

1836

Call From the Congregation of Farmington Presbyterian Church to Thomas Galt

On March 13, 1836, the Farmington Presbyterian Church (now the Farmingdale Church) called Thomas Galt to be their minister. Thomas Galt was licensed to preach the gospel in 1835. He preached for a few months in Peoria before he accepted the call to the Farmington Church, to which he had been introduced by Rev. Bergen.

The congregation of Farmington being on sufficient grounds well satisfied of the ministerial qualifications of you ___ Thomas Galt and having good hopes, from our past experience of your labors, that your ministrations in the Gospel will be profitable to our spiritual interests, do earnestly call and desire you to undertake the pastoral office in said congregation; promising you, in the discharge of your duty all proper support, encouragement and obedience in the Lord. And that you may be free from worldly cares and avocations, we hereby promise and oblige ourselves to pay to you the sum of Two Hundred Dollars annually from the first of August 1836 and in addition annually such a sum as the ability of the congregation will afford ____ amount to the full sum of Five Hundred Dollars, which shall be considered the full pecuniary support included in this call. And the same to be promptly paid as long as you continue the regular pastor of this church. In testimony whereof we have respectively subscribed our names, this thirteenth day of March 1836 A. D.

Azel Lyman
Thadeous Estabrook Elders

On behalf of the Congregation I certify that the above call was signed by the Elders in pursuance of public vote of the Congregation. Asahel Stone Moderator.380

In the spring of 1836, the Rev. Thomas Galt was ordained and installed as the first pastor. This pastorship continued for several years, however a controversy between the new school and the old school became so great that some church members pulled away and formed Center Presbyterian Church. This church was erected south of Farmingdale. The first anti-slavery meeting in Sangamon County was at Center Church.381

Elizabeth, a Girl of Colour, Indenture to Dr. John Todd

On April 18, 1836, Dr. John Todd, a 49 year-old physician and a resident of Springfield since 1827, entered into an indenture with Elizabeth, an 8 year-old African American girl, with the consent of her mother, Phoebe. Elizabeth was to be taught the “art and mystery of domestic housewifery,” and was to serve until she reached the age of 18.382
Elizabeth's mother, Phoebe, was Dr. Todd’s "slave" and came with the Todd family from Edwardsville, Illinois in 1827. Elizabeth, was born on October 25, 1827, the same year as their arrival and probably in Springfield. Prior to her 8th birthday on October 25, 1835, she probably lived with the Todd’s at their residence between First and Second and Adams and Washington Streets, kown as Todd Square, as her mother was living there.

Presbytery of Sangamon Meets and Ordains
Thomas Galt Pastor of Farmington Church and
Installs Dewey Whitney As Pastor of Second Presbyterian Church

On April 20, 1836, Dewey Whitney was installed as pastor of Second Presbyterian Church of Springfield, Illinois.

The spring meeting of Sangamon Presbytery was held at Irish Grove, April 1, 1836, by adjournment at Farmington, April 19, and at Springfield on the 20th. Thomas Galt, a licentiate of the Presbytery of Ohio, was received, examined and ordained pastor of Farmington Church. Dewey Whitney was installed pastor of the Second Presbyterian Church of Springfield, April 20.

Josiah Francis: Underground Railroad

The original settlers in this region were largely from Kentucky, Tennessee and Virginia and were pro-slavery in their feelings. More than one captured run-away slave from Missouri or Kentucky was carried back through the streets of this town of Springfield in chains to be returned to bondage without effective protest and with the approval of the mass of the people. After a while a stream of immigrants came from New York and New England. They were anti-slavery in feeling and practice. Springfield became one of the stations of the underground route as it was called, between bondage and freedom; between Kentucky and Missouri, the dwelling of the slave, and Canada, the haven of rest. A Saturday’s holiday of one family of boys (James S. Francis) was once spoiled because during the preceding night the old family horse was used to take a runaway slave to the station further north on this underground route and was not returned in time for the boys to use him.

James S. Francis was born January 15, 1831, the son of Josiah and Fidelia Clark Francis. Josiah was born on September 24, 1801 in Pittsfield, Massachusetts and Fidelia was born January 11, 1803 in Westhampton, Massachusetts. The family moved to Springfield on June 30, 1836. Josiah was a cabinet manufacturer with his brother, Charles. The family moved to a farm four miles northeast of Springfield in 1852.

Reverend Josiah Porter Becomes Minister of Chatham Presbyterian Church

In 1835, Luther Ransom, a New England abolitionist, purchased two thousand acres of prairie, built a New England frame house, platted the paper “village” of Chatham around it, and helped organize a regular Presbyterian church, whose first pastor, the Reverend Josiah Porter, began his ministry in 1836.
Josiah Porter was born April 10, 1802, in Chester District, South Carolina. He attended Bourbon Academy and Center College, Kentucky, and completed his literary course by graduating at Indiana State University, at Bloomington, in September 1832. He received his theological education at Lane Seminary, Cincinnati, and was licensed to preach by Shiloh Presbytery, at Murfreesboro, Tennessee, on October 3, 1835. After a few months’ missionary labor in Tennessee, he came to Chatham, Illinois, arriving on October 1, 1836. After spending one year with the Chatham and Sugar Creek churches, he went to the Crawfordsville Presbytery, and was ordained by that Presbytery at Waveland, in April, 1838.

Illinois Synod of the Presbyterian Church Position on Slavery and Abolitionists

At a meeting of the Illinois Synod of the Presbyterian Church held on October 24, 1836, the following “overtures” and the votes on those overtures expressed the official position of the Illinois Presbyterian Church on slavery.

The committee on bill and overtures reported overture No. 5 which was adopted and is as follows:

Whereas, we consider the “System of American Slavery” a violation of God’s law; in opposition to the spirit and object of the gospel; and, to no common degree in the way of its progress and success in this country: therefore

Resolved, that efforts ought to be immediately made to convince the members of our church that to hold our fellows, or human beings as property, is a heinous sin against God, and as loudly calls for repentance and reformation as Sabbath breaking or any other sin.

2. Resolved, that ministers, as watchmen in the walls of Zion are in duty bound to “cry aloud” and “show the people their transgressions and their sin” in this matter.

3. Resolved, that ministers who engage in the practice of buying and selling slaves, or approve of it in others, ought not be permitted to preach to our congregations, or sit at our communion table.

Also, Overture No. 6. Viz:

Resolved, that abolitionism as it is sometimes described, to wit: that all slavery is sin—be, and the same is hereby disapproved.

The yeas and nays being called for, were:

Yeas—___Si___, Bergen, Whitney and Barnes.

Nays—___ Galt, Watson, R. Stewart and Walt. _____.

Excused_____ Spilman, W. __ Stewart, Mathews, Brooks, Dr. Blackburn, Briack, Hale, Graves, Baldwin, Ewing, Gascom, Farman, Kimball, Cotton, P. White, Harkey, __ Moore, Bennet and

So the resolution did not pass.

Resolved 2. That abolitionism as it is sometimes described, viz: That immediate emancipation is the duty of the master and the right of the slave ___ of all consequences be, and the same is hereby disapproved.

Thereon, Baldwin was appointed to preach the sermon on the subject of education at the next meeting of Synod: and John F. Brooks his alternate.

___ Barcom on missions; Elisha Jenny his alternate.

Jeremiah Porter on slavery; Albert Hale his alternate.

Springfield’s Population

The December 17, 1836 Journal reported that the population of Springfield was 1,879, an increase of 450 in the last year.

The Sudden Change: December 20, 1836

Mr. Crowder remembers that on the morning of December 20, 1836, he started from a point on Sugar creek about eight miles south of Springfield, to the latter place, for the purpose of obtaining a license for the marriage of himself and Miss Isabel Laughlin. There were several inches of snow on the ground, but rain was then falling slowly, and had been, long enough to turn the snow to slush. Every time the horse put his foot down it went through the slush, splashing it out on all sides. Mr. Crowder was carrying an umbrella to protect himself from the rain, and wore an overcoat reaching nearly to his feet. When he had traveled something like half the distance, and had reached a point about four miles south of Springfield, he had a fair view of the landscape, ten or twelve miles west and north. He saw a very dark
cloud, a little north of west, and it appeared to be approaching him very rapidly, accompanied by a
terrific, deep, bellowing sound. He thought it prudent to close his umbrella, lest the wind should snatch
it from his hands, and dropped the bridle reins on the neck of his horse for that purpose. Having closed
the umbrella and put it under his arm, he was in the act of taking hold of the bridle rein, when the cold
wave struck him. At that instant water was dripping from every thing about him, but when he drew the
reins taut, ice rattled from them. The water and slush was almost instantly turned to ice, and running
water on sloping ground was congealed as suddenly as molten lead would harden and form in ridges if
poured on the ground. Mr. Crowder expressed himself quite sure that within fifteen minutes from the
time the cold blast reached him his horse walked on top of the snow and water, so suddenly did it freeze.
Other evidences of the suddenness and intensity of the cold are numerous. Rev. Josiah Porter, of
Chatham remembers that the cold wave reached Chatham about half past twelve o’clock, noon...correct.
A great many instances have been related to me, in all parts of the county, of the suffering by men and
animals. It has been told me time and again that chickens and geese, also hogs and cows, were frozen in
the slush as they stood, and unless they were extricated by cutting the ice from about their feet, remained
there to perish.  

1837
Springfield Named the Capital

The year 1837 is the most significant in Springfield’s history. On February 28, 1837, the State
legislature chose Springfield as the capital of Illinois, although the actual move did not occur until July of
1839. Abraham Lincoln also chose Springfield as his new home. The town then had a population of
approximately 1,900.  

Titus Kirkpatrick Opens Barber Shop

On February 11, 1837, Titus Kirkpatrick advertised in the Journal that he had opened a barber shop.
Titus had come to Springfield as William Kirkpatrick’s slave and had probably been at Kirkpatrick’s mill
on the Sangamon river when Abraham Lincoln was there in 1831.  

Barber-ous.

T. Kirkpatrick respectfully informs the gentlemen of Springfield that he has commenced the ________
business in this town, one door north of Johnson’s tavern. He will give his personal attention to shaving,
cutting hair, csor__ clothes, black__ &c on reasonable terms.

Now, gentlemen if you don’t want the __.
Come here and let your beard be
No boys permitted to enter the palace except on business.

February 8, 1837  

Abraham Lincoln and the Pro Slavery Resolutions

On March 3, 1837, 28 year-old Abraham Lincoln made his first attack on slavery, and along with
Dan Stone entered into the House Journal his protest against an anti-abolitionist resolution passed by
the Illinois House of Representative on January 20. Although they opposed slavery, they cautioned that
the “promulgation of abolition doctrines tends rather to increase than abate” the evils of slavery.  

So given the racial attitudes and antiabolitionist sentiments that prevailed in Illinois, most state
politicians gladly endorsed the proslavery resolutions ratified by the legislature that January of 1837. In
the house the official tally was seventy-seven in favor of the resolutions and six opposed.

Lincoln was among those who voted no, and his vote is significant because it was the first time he’d
publicly recorded his stance on slavery. Later he claimed that he’d always hated the peculiar institution
as much, he thought, as any abolitionist. As a boy, he’d heard his father and several antislavery
preachers denounce human bondage, and he’d grown up and entered politics thinking it wrong. Yet
because of all the racial prejudice that existed in Illinois, he’d been extremely careful in what he said
about slavery abolitionists, and the position of the free Negro in American white society, in fact, in the
legislative session of 1835-36, he’d voted in favor of restricting the suffrage to whites only. Public
opinion was almost universally against political rights for black people, and young Lincoln, who had
elected to work within the system, was not about to ruin his career by supporting Negro suffrage. Nor
was he going to get himself branded an abolitionist, because in Sangamon County that would be certain
political suicide.
...After the legislature had enacted the public works program and removed the capital to Springfield, Lincoln and Dan Stone—a Sangamon Whig who shared many of his views—composed an official protest against slavery and had it recorded in the House Journal on March 3, 1837. In the protest, they decried human bondage as a bad and unjust policy—and yet condemned the abolitionists for only compounding the evil. They agreed that Congress had no constitutional authority to interfere with the institution in the Southern states, but insisted that if the voters in the national capital approved, then slavery could be legally extinguished there.

So at the age of twenty-eight, Lincoln made his first official statement about slavery, the most inflamable issue of his generation. In his 1860 autobiography, he asserted that “A’s” protest “briefly defined his position on the slavery question; and so far as it goes, it was then the same that it is now.”

The slavery issue was becoming dominant. Lincoln was not at the outset an abolitionist, and was unwilling to be placed in a position where he would be compelled to imperil his political chances by taking too definite a stand on this divisive measure; but on March 3, 1837, he introduced into the Legislature a vigorous protest which probably failed to affect his political future because it contained only one signature beside his own. Only a few months later occurred the martyrdom of Owen [Elijah] Lovejoy at Alton, and the slavery issue was no longer one to be kept in the background. It is good to be able to remember that Lincoln’s first protest against it was recorded before it had become so burning an issue. He himself dated his hostility to slavery too what he saw of a slave market in New Orleans when he visited that city as a boat hand. But he was unable to remember a time when he had not believed that slavery was wrong.

Death of Frank Shelby: Administration of Estate

Frank Shelby, who had arrived in Springfield circa 1826, died on or about March 8, 1837, at the age of 40. His associate of some years, James F. Reed, administered his estate, and in his affidavits he stated that Frank Shelby died without a will and without a widow. On March 14, the Court appointed Reed the administrator of Frank’s estate to secure and collect his property and debts, and Reed filed his oath that he would perform the duties of that office. On the same day, the Court appointed Charles R. Matheny, John S. Roberts and Erskine Douglas “to appraise the goods, chattels and personal estate of Frank Shelby a man of color.” Four days later, the appointees filed their oath that they would perform those duties.

The inventory of Frank’s personal property was taken on May 18, 1837, and was filed in the estate proceedings. The document reads like the findings from an archeological dig. It is probably a representative list of the personal property used in the everyday life of an 1830’s Springfield resident. It is also unique in that it is a list of the property of a single African American man who appears to have played the violin and hunted deer.

Inventory Personal Property

Inventory of the property of Frank Shelby a Man of Color deceased, taken this 18th day of May 1837 in Dollars & cents by Chs. R. Matheny, John S. Roberts & Erskine Douglas.

1 Cupboard & Cupboardware $3.00
1 & Table $4.00  7.00
1 Stand $3.00
1 Bowl of 38c
& 7 pieces Casting $2.0-0  5.38
1 Gridiron .50
7 Chairs $1.00
5 Crocks & 1 Jug $1.25  2.75
1 Bucket & Fir ware 50
2 axes spade
dressing knife 2.00  2.50
1 Well Bucket S___ & Shovel 1.00
1 Coffee Mill
Pin cushion bond stack snuffers & 3 hats .75
4 Deer Skins 1.50  1.50
1 S_____y Glass Screen .52
1auger T__ pipe .50
Presbytery of Sangamon Meets at Springfield and Votes on Issue of Slavery

Beginning on April 7, 1837, the Presbytery of Sangamon met at Springfield, and on April 10, a resolution was proposed condemning abolitionism. Six voted against the Resolution (in favor of abolitionism), namely, Thomas Galt, Foster, Luther N. Ransom, Lyman, Washburn, and Thayer. Three voted in favor of the Resolution (against abolitionism), namely, Rev. John G. Bergen, Dewey Whitney and Alexander Ewing. The losers (those against abolitionism) indicated that they would appeal the decision to the next Presbyterian General Assembly.

The following resolution was introduced, towit, "believing that the system of slavery as it exists in the United States is a system that combines the violation of the moral laws of God, and therefore all who hold slaves or in any way aid or abet that system, live in the habitual violation of those laws, we do therefore recommend to our church sessions not to admit slave holders into their communion." The vote was taken by yeas and nays and was as follows, towit, yeas, Foster, Galt, Lyman, Ransom and Washburn. Nays, Bergen, Whitney, Ewing, Thayer and Cantrell. The moderator voting, it was a tie, and the moderator deciding that he had a right to vote in the case, an appeal was taken from the chair to the house, which being a tie, the moderator (Alexander Ewing) by the casting vote, decided in favor of his previous decision.

The following preamble and resolutions were then introduced, towit,

Whereas, there are members of this Presbytery who avow it to be their duty, to judge and proclaim that every christian who is a slaveholder, if he do not repent of holding slaves and immediately emancipate them irrespective of all civil consequences, ought to be disciplined, so prescribing in effect new terms of christian communion, which are not prescribed or recognized in the old or New Testament; Whereas slavery is recognized in both the Old and New Testament as an existing situation, under the government of God, in the family compact, which situation is not condemned as an immorality, but on the contrary is allowed and regulated; Whereas the whole community has of late been agitated and continues to be by the propagation of contrary sentiments, commonly called abolitionism; Whereas the relation of slavery is intimately connected with the laws of many of this Union, in which it exists under the sanction of said laws and of the constitution of the General government, with which christians as such have no right to interfere; Whereas this condition did exist in the families of many ministers of the gospel and of private christians, in many churches and Presbyteries at the time when by mutual convention the General Assembly of the Presbyterian church was formed as a bond of Union among the churches and acknowledged as our common and highest ecclesiastic al judicator; Whereas ecclesiastical judicatories have no right to pretend in virtue of their own authority to make laws to ___ the conscience; And whereas all men are bound to live peaceably with all men and to follow after the things whereby one may ____ another in love and good works. Therefore, Resolved—

1st That this Presbytery disapproves of the principles of abolitionism as they are held, set forth and generally understood, towit, that all slave holding is sin and that immediate emancipation is the duty of the master and the right of the slave; because of the tendency of those is to insubordination to the powers that be, to wit, misrule in every form, to violent eruption of the bonds of civil society and domestic life, to make the slave who is a christian or is not, dissatisfied and restless in his condition, and instead of hastening his emancipation or ameliorating his lot, to expose him to severe pains and penalties, and therefore instead of proceeding from wise benevolence and christian philanthropy or tending to the well
being of man, they do proceed in our opinion from a misguided zeal and tend to deeds of darkness and dismay.

2nd That the relative duties of masters and servants are as plainly pointed out in the holy scriptures, that every conscientious christian desirous of doing his duty in this relation, need not err therein, and that all cruel, unreasonable treatment of slaves by christian masters, by threatening or correction, by exacting unreasonable labor or hardship, by forcibly separating husbands and wives, or parents and children from each other, into involuntary servitude to distant or cruel hands, and the like, are contrary to the plain letter of duty expressed in the sacred scriptures in the case, contrary to the obvious meaning of the injunction on masters to render to their servants that which is just and equal and plainly contrary to the great law of love to do to others as we would they should do to us in like circumstances and of course plainly call for church discipline.

3rd That while we believe and declare our opinion that the tendency of the principles and grace of the gospel is to put an end to all the representations of slavery, we at the same time believe that all hasty or harsh measures for this purpose by the church, or by christians as such which are contrary to the laws of the land, will only bring down the odium of the public on the perpetrators, give occasion to the allegations that ecclesiastical bodies are interfering with civil laws and institutions, and are not expressive of benevolence to the master or slave as in any way productive of the public good.

4th We believe and declare, that all Christians in their capacity as citizens, may use all lawful means, in a peaceable and orderly way to have such changes made, in the laws of the land relative to this subject, as in their opinion shall be most for the glory of God and the best good of all concerned."

On Motion to adopt the above preamble and resolutions, the vote was taken by yeas and nays, and was as follows, to wit, Yeah Bergen, Whitney and Ewing; Nays, Galt, Foster, Ransom, Lyman, Washburn, and Thayer; Mr. Cantril declined voting.

Mr. Bergen and others gave notice, that they should appeal from the above decision to the next General Assembly, and presented the following to wit, We whose names are hereunto attached, do appeal from the decision of the Presbytery, by which the above preamble and resolutions were rejected and in as much as there was a tie in the vote on the resolution which precede these, we most respectfully desire the Assembly to express their views on the same, especially with regard to it as prescribing a new term of communion. signed by John G. Bergen, Dewey Whitney and Alexander Ewing.

Adjourned. Concluded with prayer.

Alexander Ewing Moderator
John G. Bergen Clerk
John G. Bergen Stated Clerk

Thus far examined and approved in Synod at Springfield Oct. 23, 1837. George Blackburn, Moderator

This is the end of the pre-Lincoln era in Springfield.
Lincoln Moves to Springfield

On Saturday, April 15, 1837, Abraham Lincoln moved from New Salem to Springfield. On May 2, 1837, Henry B. Truett entered into an indenture with James M. Shelby, the 10 year-old African American son of Mary and Mack Shelby. Mack consented to the indenture. James was to be taught the “art and mystery of common domestic labor,” and was to serve until January 14, 1846.

Ellis & Blankenship vs. Negroses

In the case of Ellis & Blankenship v. Negroses, several African Americans obtained a judgment, and the court was prepared to sell some property to satisfy the judgment. Ellis and Blankenship claimed that they owned the property and sued the African Americans in the Sangamon justice of the peace court to determine ownership. The outcome of the case is unknown. Stuart and Lincoln probably represented Ellis and Blankenship. Stuart did not record the names of the African American defendants in the office fee book, writing only ‘Negroses.’ Stuart and Lincoln received $5 for their legal services.

Jailor William Herndon’s Bill to Sangamon County Commissioners for Holding Negro Girl Mary.

On May 11, 1837, a “Negro Girl Mary” was imprisoned in the Sangmon County Jail. She remained there until July 7, 1837, when the Sangmon County Court ordered her discharged. For the 57 days she was jailed, William Herndon, the jailer, charged $21.37.
Marriage of Hannah Mann and Adam Huston

On May 25, 1837, Hannah Mann married Adam Huston.

Frank Shelby Estate Auction Notice

On June 3, 1837, the personal property of the estate of Frank Shelby was sold at public auction. The report of the sale listed each item sold, the sale price and the name of the person purchasing the item.

**Report of Sale of Personal Property of Frank Shelby Estate**

List of Personal Property late of Frank Shelby Decd, a colored man sold at auction June 3rd 1837.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item Description</th>
<th>Bidder</th>
<th>Purchase Price</th>
<th>Bidder Name</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1 Bedstead</td>
<td>3.00</td>
<td>Titus</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bed &amp; Bedding</td>
<td>10.00</td>
<td>Mack</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 Cupboard</td>
<td>.50</td>
<td>Mack</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 lot Cupboard ware</td>
<td>1.25</td>
<td>Mack</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 Table</td>
<td>5.25</td>
<td>Titus</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 Stand</td>
<td>2.18 1/4</td>
<td>Titus</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 Wooden Bowel etc.</td>
<td>.18 /_</td>
<td>Mack</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7 pr Castings</td>
<td>62 1/2</td>
<td>Reed</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 Gridiron</td>
<td>.25</td>
<td>Reed</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7 Chairs</td>
<td>1.00</td>
<td>Mack</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5 Crock &amp; Jug</td>
<td>.37 ¼</td>
<td>Lee</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 Bucket</td>
<td>.45</td>
<td>Lee</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 Axes, Spades</td>
<td>1.00</td>
<td>Reed</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 Well Bucket</td>
<td>.50</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Coffee Mill, Hats &amp; etc.</td>
<td>.06 1/2</td>
<td>Reed</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4 Deer skins Glass &amp; saipers</td>
<td>.56 1/4</td>
<td>Reed</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 Auger &amp; tin pipe</td>
<td>.06 1/4</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 Trunk &amp; Contents</td>
<td>1.50</td>
<td>Mack</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 Stand Curtains</td>
<td>1.00</td>
<td>Mack</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 Quilt</td>
<td>.50</td>
<td>Mack</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 Chest</td>
<td>.25</td>
<td>Mack</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lot Bonnets &amp; Comb</td>
<td>12 ½</td>
<td>Mack</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lot Women’s Clothes</td>
<td>2.00</td>
<td>Mack</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>1.37 ½</td>
<td>Nathan Wall</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4 Bars Lead</td>
<td>.20</td>
<td>Reed</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 Box &amp; Contents</td>
<td>18 ¼</td>
<td>Titus</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 Box &amp; 2 Kegs</td>
<td>6 1/₅</td>
<td>Reed</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 Lot Brick &amp; Lumber</td>
<td>.50</td>
<td>Reed</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 Box &amp; Contents</td>
<td>1.50</td>
<td>Mack</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4 Blankets</td>
<td>1.75</td>
<td>Lee</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 Lot of Iron</td>
<td>.25</td>
<td>Clements</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 Saw &amp; Knife</td>
<td>.10</td>
<td>Mack</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

39.20 1/4

We the undersigned certify that the above is a correct list of article sold at auction this day as the personal property of Frank Shelby, a man of color, deceased

B. L. Cler_____ Auc.
J. S. Roberts, Clerk
Springfield, June 3, 1837
Francis F. Reed administrator

1837 July 5th
By amt. of bill of Sales Filed 5th July 1837 35.00 1/4
Deficit of assets for payment of debts 267.19 ¾
302.20

Dr. The Estate of Frank Shelby in exhibit by

1827 July 5
To amount of Established Claims 252.20
Estimated Costs 50
302.20
These are to certify whom it may concern that the administrator has filed his Inventory appraisement and Bill of sales as required by law.

J. Adams Judge of Probate

Inventory of Real Estate: Frank Shelby Estate

List of lands of which Frank Shelby died seized West 1/2 Lot 6, Block 12 Town of Springfield Sangamon Cty, North part of Lot 1 Block 16 in Springfield aforesaid being a towit undivided interest in the said north part.

The above list is from Inventory filed in Sangamon Probate Court.

J. Adams Judge of Probate

John Capps Sues Mack Shelby And Takes His Lot

On June 19, 1837, John Capps sued Mack Shelby for $38.62. Summons was issued on the same date, was served on June 20 and on June 24, Mack failing to appear, judgment was rendered against him in favor of John Capps for the $38.62. The judge was James M. Shackelford, J.P. On June 26, 1837, execution was issued ordering the sheriff to collect the $38.62 plus $4.17 in costs from land etc. of Mack. The execution was endorsed as follows:

Came to hand June 27, 1837. Levied July 31, 1837 on part Lot 1, Block 16 Town of Springfield, being at NE cor. Sd. Lot, then W 90ft. then S 20ft. then E 90ft. then N to beginning, property of Mack Shelby. I did on this July 26, 1837 offer at public sale above property levied on (20 days previous notice having been given) and John Capps bid sum of $47.96, who being highest bid he became purchaser at that price. G. Elkin S.S.C.

Petition to Sell Real Estate in the Frank Shelby Estate

On July 12, 1837, James F. Reed published a notice in the Illinois Republican of his intent to petition the Sangamon County Circuit Court for authority to sell the real estate in Frank Shelby’s estate. The sale of Frank’s personal property had not produced sufficient money to pay Frank’s debts and, therefore, it was necessary to sell his real estate.

One parcel to be sold – lot 6 – was the west half of a lot located on the north side of Washington between Sixth and Seventh Streets. It is now a parking lot. This is the west half of the lot Frank purchased on December 6, 1831 wherein he is listed on Thomas Neale’s survey map as being “Blk. Frank.” The east half of the lot had been sold to James Reed on February 26, 1833. This lot was also the subject of litigation in 1857 when Polly Shelby filed suit against the then “owners.”

The second parcel of real estate to be sold – lot 1 – was a partial interest and was located on the north part of the lot at the southwest corner of Third and Washington Streets. This would have been the lot purchased by Frank and Mack Shelby in March of 1826.

Mary Todd Visits Springfield

In the summer of 1837, 18 year-old Mary Todd arrived in Springfield from Lexington, Kentucky to visit her sister, Elizabeth, the wife of Ninian W. Edwards. She stayed until the fall when she returned to Lexington. Hepsey, the mulatto indentured servant of Ninian Edwards, would probably have been a part of the Edwards’ household during Mary’s visit.
Marriage of Titus Kirkpatrick and Betsy Roundtree

Titus Kirkpatrick and Betsy Roundtree were married on August 28, 1837.  

Elijah Lovejoy and the Abolitionist Movement

...Elijah Lovejoy, editor of the St. Louis Observer, a religious weekly, was driven from that city by a mob for expressing anti-slavery sentiments in his paper.  Unwisely, as many thought, he established his paper at Alton, Illinois, only twenty miles distant by steamer (from St. Louis), with the result that a mob attacked his press and he was shot while defending it.  Not satisfied with this brutal crime, the mob threatened to attack Illinois College at Jacksonville, because its president, Edward Beecher, had stood guard with Lovejoy the night before the tragedy.  Excitement was at a fever heat, and indignation meetings were held throughout the State.  At a gathering of students, notable for its intensity of feeling, William Herndon, in a speech long remembered by his fellow students, denounced not only the enslavement of men, but the attempt to gag the press by mob rule.

William H. Herndon Become “Enthusiastic and Radical Abolitionist”

The elder [Archer] Herndon, who was intensely pro-slavery in his views, fearing that his son had become infected with the poison of abolitionism, withdrew the lad from college, remarking that he would have no part in the education of “a d_____ Abolitionist pup.”  It was as he had suspected.  The lad came home an enthusiastic and radical Abolitionist, bold and outspoken, as was his way always, and the passion for liberty and justice exploded in him what faith he had in the religion of the church—as it exploded the faith of so many men of his ardent and vivid type in those days.  At any rate, he was thereafter a rationalist, or perhaps one should say naturalist.  There was a break between father and son, and the boy left home, though he remained religiously loyal to his mother, visiting her almost every day.  He was again employed by Joshua Speed as a clerk in his store, probably at the suggestion of Lincoln, to whom he confided his new religious and political faith.

Elijah P. Lovejoy Organizes Madison County Anti-Slavery Society

“Late in July 1837, Elijah P. Lovejoy sided completely with the abolitionists.  He had moved slowly to this position.  At first he saw no great evil in slavery and then he favored returning some African Americans to Africa and freeing others gradually and finally he believed in immediate freedom for all slaves.”

Elijah Parish Lovejoy was born in Albion, Maine, on November 9, 1802.  He graduated from Waterville College (now Colby College) in 1826 and came to St. Louis as a school teacher.  In 1831 he joined the First Presbyterian Church, decided to become a minister, and returned to the East to study at Princeton Theological Seminary.  He was licensed to preach in April, 1833, by the Second Presbytery of Philadelphia.  He was ordained by the Presbytery of St. Louis in 1834 and was elected its Moderator in 1835.  In St. Louis he was pastor of the Des Peres Presbyterian Church (the “Old Meeting House”).  He published a religious newspaper, The St. Louis Observer, and began to advocate the abolition of slavery.  Despite the bitter feeling against him, Lovejoy persisted in arguing the fights of freedom of the press, freedom of speech, and freedom from slavery.  After seeing a slave, Francis J. McIntosh, burned at the stake, his editorials became so strident against slavery that he became an object of hatred by both Southerners and slave-holders.  His press was wrecked by a mob in July, 1836, and he moved to Alton in the free State of Illinois.  In Alton, Lovejoy became the Stated Clerk of the Presbytery in 1837 and the first pastor of the present College Avenue Presbyterian Church.  He actively supported the organization of the Ant-slavery Society of Illinois which enraged the Alton citizens.  He continued writing and publishing the Alton Observer even after three presses had been destroyed and thrown into the Mississippi River.

In early August, 1837, the Madison County Antislavery Society organized in Alton.  Lovejoy served as organization chairman and bore the responsibility for getting it started.  Antislavery societies were not exactly sweeping the state, even in the regions more remote from the slave state of Missouri.  The August 17, 1837 issue of the Emancipator reported a grand total of three societies in the entire sate of Illinois, the largest with forty-two members.  Lovejoy knew that he would not receive a warm welcome in Alton for this leadership.

Birth of Sinette Fleurville

In September, 1837, William and Phoebe Rountree Fleurville’s third child, Sinette, was born in Springfield.
Elijah P. Lovejoy Writes Erastus Wright Asking Assistance in Re-establishing Alton Observer

Alton, Sept. 8, 1837

Dear Brother Wright:

The friends and brethern here hav thought it best that some such paper as the one opposite should be signed and published to the world before the Observer starts again. It was drawn up by Mr. W. S. Gilman. A copy will be signed at Quincy, at Jacksonville, at Springfield and at Alton. Will you circulate it in Springfield and out at Chatham, and after getting what names you can forward it to me, as soon as possible. Do take some pains to get signed as extensively as possible and as speedily too, and forward to me her.

Yours in the casuse of truth,
Elijah P. Lovejoy.

N. B.—It is intendeed that the names with the paper shall be published.

Elijah P. Lovejoy Initiates Call for Illinois Anti-Slavery Society Convention at Upper Alton

On September 28, 1837, Elijah P. Lovejoy called for an Anti-Slavery Convention to discuss slavery and freedom of the press. The convention was to be held at Upper Alton, Illinois on October 26. Lovejoy composed a written notice of the meeting that stated the purpose and contained the names of 245 men from seventeen communities in ten counties of Illinois who supported the call. The signers included 56 men of Quincy, 42 of Galesburg, 32 of Jacksonville, 23 of the Alton, 21 of Springfield, 17 of Farmington, and 5 of Chatham and 72 in other places. Significantly, no one south of Alton signed the convention call. This is most likely the earliest list of Illinois abolitionists.

If one considers the names of the signers by county, Sangamon County had 43 of the 255 Illinois signers. Twenty-two year-old Abel W. Estabrook is listed as one of the 32 Jacksonville signers although he was a student at Illinois College and considered his residence as Farmington and so declared in 1839 while a student at Illinois College.
Transcription of the Lovejoy Call for Illinois Anti-Slavery Society Convention

The Lovejoy call is transcribed below and speaks for itself.

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.

Quincy
John Burns
Richard Eells
Levi Stillman
Rufus Brown
Ezra Fisher
Peter R. Borien
Charles Burnham
Evan Williams
John R. George
Henry Thompson
Myron Gaylord
Jery Platt
Edward Platt
Lucius Kingman
Chars Howland
J. B. Brown
J. T. Holmes
J. R. Beston
Edward L. Turner
Ross Hood
Joseph Craig, jr.
Andrew Segur
Alvin T. Smith
David Nelson
Levi B. Allen
John E. Morey
Peter M’Worthy
Bernard McKenzie
Porter Smith
A. C. Root
Artemas Ward
Charles Brown
Julius Brown
Elijah Ballard
Ebenezer White

Galesburgh
Nehemiah H. Long
Thomas Simmons
Luther Gay
Erastus Swift
H. H. May
Hugh Conger
John Kendall
Patrick Dunn
John McMullin
Wm. Holoyke
Levi Sanderson
Eli Farnham
Leonard Chappell
C. W. Gilbert
W. P. Hamlin
Nehemiah West
Abraham Tyler
Geo. Avery
John West
Samuel Tompkins
Sylvanus Ferris
James Bunce
Elisha H. King
Abel Goodell
Warren Goodell

Waverly, Morgan co.
Dr. Isaac H. Brown

Jacksonville
Wm. Carter
E. Wolcott
Timothy Chamberlain
Thos. W. Melendy
Jeremiah Braves
Maro. M. L. Reed
C. B. Barton
J. G. Edwards
Martin Hart
C. B. Blood
F. W. Patterson
D. D. Nelson
W. Jones
M. Hicks
W. T. Mills
A. B. Hitchcock
S. Wells
J. S. Graves
R. S. Kendall
E. Scofield
Lyman Harkness
R. M. Pearson
George Pyle
Thomas Lawrie
A. W. Estabrook
Ralph Perry
L. Dunham
Thos. C. Kenworthy
Wm. S. Burnett
S. Chandler
Ebenezer Carter
E. Beecher
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 fulfillment [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

Presbytery of Sangamon Meets at Farmington

On October 16, 1837, the fall meeting of the Presbytery of Sangamon was held at Farmington, Illinois. Josiah Porter was received as a licentiate from the Presbytery of Shiloh, Murfreesboro, Tennessee, and his request to be ordained, sine titulo, was not granted. A long paper approving the course of the majority in the last Assembly was adopted by seven ayes to four nays, thus placing this Presbytery on the Old School side in the great division then spreading through the church.

Springfield Public Meetings Concerning Slavery

In the fall of 1837, there were a number of public meetings in Springfield concerning the issue of slavery.

Annual Meeting of Illinois Synod of Presbyterian Church at Springfield

Resolution on Sin of Slavery:
Elijah Lovejoy Present

In mid October of 1837, the Illinois Synod of the Presbyterian Church held its annual meeting in the First Presbyterian Church of Springfield, on the southeast corner of Washington and Third Streets. The Synod adopted a resolution “that it is the duty of Christians in all places and at all times to hear testimony both public and private against the sin of slavery.”

Saturday, October 21, 1837

October 21, 1837 The committee on religious exercises reported the following arrangements…A sermon on slavery, on Monday morning 9 o clock.

Monday, October 23, 1837

Springfield Anti-Abolitionists Meet at Court House to Protest Jeremiah Porter’s Speech at First Presbyterian Church

So far as the people of Springfield were concerned, colonization was the respectable way of dealing with the slavery question. The local society had been functioning for several years, and numbered many of the town’s leading citizens among its members. But let the opponents of the “peculiar institution” go further, let them even mention with approval the dread word “abolition” —and sharp rebuke was quick to follow.

When it was announced that Reverend Jeremiah Porter would preach on the subject of slavery before a meeting of the Illinois Synod of the Presbyterian Church, Springfield was in a ferment. On Monday, October 23, 1837, the anti-abolitionists of Springfield quickly called a meeting to condemn the leaders of the abolition movement.

In mid-October, 1837, when the Rev. Jeremiah Porter announced his intention of speaking on slavery in the First Presbyterian Church, a crowd collected and swore that it would mob him. E. D. Baker finally persuaded them to allow the speaker to talk, and after the address Edward Beecher, President of Illinois College at Jacksonville, induced the angry citizens to permit Porter to leave town unharmed.

Even the capital city of Springfield was not immune from violent attempts to silence the discussion of slavery. At a meeting of the synod of the Presbyterian Church in 1837, the Reverend Jeremiah Porter chose to condemn slavery during an appointed sermon. Before the hour of the sermon had arrived, a crowd gathered in the court-house square and several men proposed the use of force to prevent the synod. Although the idea of mob action was abandoned, the men who had favored violence attended Potter’s sermon. While the Reverend was denouncing slavery, members of the audience abruptly interrupted him, contesting his antislavery views. Potter was able to finish his sermon only after Edward Beecher arose to castigate slavery and those who would defend it.
Journal Reports Anti-Abolitionists Meeting at Court House to Protest Jeremiah Porter’s Speech at First Presbyterian Church

“At a meeting of citizens of Springfield, convened at the court room, on Monday, October 23, 1837, Judge Thomas C. Brown was called to the chair, and I. S. Briton appointed Secretary. The following resolutions were adopted:

Resolved, That the efforts of abolitionists in this community, are neither necessary or useful.

Resolved, That as citizens of a free State and a peaceable community, we deprecate any attempt to sow discord among us, or to create an excitement as to abolition which can be productive of no good result.

Resolved, That in the opinion of this meeting the doctrine of immediate emancipation of slaves in this country, (although promulgated by those who profess to be christians), is at variance with christianity, and its tendency is to breed contention, broils and mobs, and the leaders of those calling themselves abolitionists, are designing, ambitious men, and dangerous members of society, and should be shunned by all good citizens.

The following description of the event by Dr. Logan was published in his history of the First Presbyterian Church.

A party of men collected in the court house square (Location: present square occupied by Old State Capitol.) at the ringing of a bell and it was proposed to deal violently with the preacher. At this moment a young man stepped out before the crowd and began to speak. He appealed to their manhood and called on them to hear what the preacher had to say before they assailed him. This young man was Edward D. Baker, who at Balls Bluff 25 years later gave his life so gallantly for his country.

Reverend Jeremiah Porter’s Anti-Slavery Sermon Before Illinois Synod of Presbyterian Church

Dr. Logan continued his description.

The leaders came to the church to hear the sermon which dealt fearlessly with the great evil. A member of the Synod attempted to modify some of its view and expressions. Then Edward W. Beecher, a member of the body, arose and in scathing words denounced both slavery and those who defended. Pointing to the men in the back seats he said, “And those men have dared to come into the House of God to intimidate a Christian minister speaking the truth.” The men in the back seats slunk out. The Reverend Elijah P. Lovejoy was a member of this Synod. Three weeks afterwards he fell a martyr to an infuriated mob at Alton.

Minutes of Illinois Synod of Presbyterian Church

In pursuance of the arrangement on religious exercises. The synod attended to a discourse on Education on yesterday at three o clock P. M. on Missions at half past six o clock in the evening; and on slavery this morning at nine o clock.

The committee to whom was referred overture No. 2. Viz. A memorial from the Presbytery of Alton on the subject of slavery reported and the report was adopted, as follows, viz:

The committee to whom was referred the memorial from the Alton presbytery beg leave to report the following minutes and resolutions for the adoption of Synod.

Synod would fully respond to the sentiments of the memorial as it regards the sin and the evils of American Slavery. They are also deeply convinced that no one cause is now contributing so much to uphold this iniquitous and bloodstained system as the fact that it finds refuge in the bosom of the Christian church, and its ablest and most successful defenders among her ministers. In view therefore, of this state of things, resolved, That it is the duty of all Christians in this country, in all places, and at all proper times, to bear testimony, both public and private, against the sin of slavery.

That this Synod do now bear its solemn testimony against the system of American Slavery, and declare it to be, in their opinion, a hineous sin in the sight of God; and a cruel outrage upon those of our fellow men who are reduced to involuntary servitude.

In regard to the particular point presented in the memorial from the Presbytery of Alton, Synod do not feel prepared to recommend any specific rule to be of universal application in this case. They would however express their decided opinion that some action is necessary by our churches in regard to such church members as are referred to in the memorial. Therefore

Resolved that it is be enjoined upon the Presbyteries within our bounds to instruct the several church sessions under their care to inquire into the circumstances attending the dismissal of church members coming from churches where slavery exists; it being understood as the opinion of this Synod that the buying or selling of human beings as property ought to be considered a disciplinable offense.
Resolved that the next meeting of Synod be held at Peoria; to convene in the Main Street Church, on the 26\textsuperscript{th} of September 1838, at 7 o’clock P. M.

The following synodical sermons were appointed to be preached at the next meeting of Synod, viz:

Missionary sermon by Benjamin F. Spellman, and in case of his failure Elihu Jenny.

Education sermon by _____ Baldwin, with J. Stafford his alternate.

Slavery sermon by Thomas Galt, with John N. Blatchford his alternate.

Tho. Sippinette stated clerk\textsuperscript{439}

**Illinois Anti-Slavery Society Organizational Convention at Upper Alton**

On October 26, 1837, Elijah P. Lovejoy’s call for an Illinois Anti-Slavery Society Convention at Upper Alton was answered by 245 persons from 10 Illinois counties.\textsuperscript{440} The minutes of the three day convention are in the manuscript division of the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library, Springfield, Illinois.

**Minutes**

Proceedings of a Convention of Delegates favorable to the immediate abolition of Slavery in the United States assembled from various parts of the State of Illinois, at Upper Alton in the County of Madison, on Thursday the 26\textsuperscript{th} day of Oct 1837.

**Thursday, October 26, 1837**

At 2 o’clock P. M. the Convention was called to order by Rev. E. P. Lovejoy, and on his motion Rev. Dr. Blackburn\textsuperscript{441} of Carlinville was chosen chairman pro tem, and Rev. F. W. Graves of Alton was chosen Secretary pro tem.

In consequence of the intrusion of a number of disorderly persons the Convention did not duly organize during the afternoon.

Adjourned to Friday morning at 9 o’clock.

**Friday, October 27, 1837**

Friday morning 9 o’clock
Convention assembled. On motion Rev. Dr. Blackburn was called to the chair.

Meeting opened with prayer by the Chairman.

The following original call of the convention was then said and declared to be the principle on which this Convention will now organize

The Chair then stated that all gentlemen present who hold the doctrines and are friendly to the objects specified in the above call, are properly members of this Convention. And he invited all such as could in good faith subscribe to those doctrine to enroll their names, and take their seats accordingly.

Whereupon the following names were reported and enrolled.

List of names

**Peoria Co.**
J. [Jeremiah] Porter

**Sangamon Co.**
C. Lyman [Cornelius Lyman]
John Lyman
L. N. Ransom [Luther N. Ransom]
Thos. Galt [Thomas Galt]

**Bond Co.**
Hale\textsuperscript{442} [Rev. Albert Hale]

On Motion Resolved that we now proceed to elect officers for the Convention

Whereupon Rev. Gideon Blackburn D. D. and Dr. T. M. Hope were put in nomination for the Presidency.

Rev. Dr. Blackburn received 73 and Dr. Hope 52. Dr. Blackburn was accordingly declared duly elected President.

On Motion F. W. Graves and W. [William] Carr\textsuperscript{443} were elected Secretary

A communication was then read by the President as follows:
To the Chairman of the Convention

When application was made to us as Trustees of the Presbyterian Church for permission to hold the convention in the house, our understanding was that the deliberations of that body, as well as the discussions of the same were to be free to all orderly well disposed persons who were opposed to Slavery, and who were willing to be governed by proper rules and regulations in debate. If therefore the discussions of your body should be otherwise we protest against the house being used for a one sided discussion.

Signed Joseph Gordon
Benjamin Walker Trustees
L. P. Strattore*

On Motion of Co. Botkin

Resolved that this Convention adopt the principle of the above communication as their own, and that the paper be recorded and published with the proceedings of this Convention.

On Motion of U. F. Linder [Usher Linder] Resolved that this convention shall be governed in its proceedings by the rules & principles contained in Jefferson’s Manual.

On Motion Resolved that a committee of three be appointed by the Chair to report ____ for the use of this Convention

Whereupon Mrs. E. Beecher, U. F. Linder and A. Turner were appointed that Committee

On motion adjourned till 2 o’clock P.M.

*Note. This communication brought forth the loud shoutings and stamping of the mob, who then professed great zeal for free discussion—But who that very day foreclosed all discussion so soon as they had it in their power, by adjourning the Convention Sine die.

Saturday, October 28, 1837

“The abolitionists, though discouraged, were determined to form a state antislavery society. They decided to meet privately on Saturday morning at the spacious stone house of Thaddeus Hurlbut. When Linder learned of the meeting, he organized a mob which marched to the Hurlbut home. As the crowd surged around the house and beat on the doors, the Attorney-General threatened to break into the meeting and personally attack Hurlbut. Only after the mayor of Upper Alton had sworn in forty special constables to clear the streets could the meeting proceed.”

Upper Alton Oct. 28, 1837

In consequence of the breaking up of the Convention by the disorderly proceedings detailed above the following individuals from various parts of the State, who in answer to the call, assembled for the purpose of discussing the subject of Slavery, met at the house of Rev. T. B. Hurlbert [Thaddeus Hurlbut], in Upper Alton, and proceeded to organize by calling Rev. Asa Turner to the chair, and appointing Rev. Lucian Farman and Dr. R. E. W. Adams Secretaries. The following are the names of the members of this Convention.

Peoria Co.
J. Porter

Sangamon Co.
C. [Cornelius] Lyman
John Lyman
L. N. Ransom [Luther N. Ransom]
Thos. Galt [Thomas Galt]

Messrs. F. W. Graves and Wm. Kirby were appointed a committee to prepare and report ____ for the actions of this Convention.

In accordance with the above appointment, the committee reported upon ____ constitution of a State Anti-Slavery Society.

On motion, voted to accept the report of the committee.
A motion was made to adopt the preamble which was partially discussed.
Voted to adjourn till 2 o’clock P. M.

Saturday 2 o’clock P. M. The convention reassembled

The consideration of the preamble was resumed. Mr. Kirby, the mover, asked leave to withdraw for the of having another motion introduced which was _____. Pres. Beecher then introduced a declaration of sentiment to be prefixed to the preamble and constitution, which was read and on motion, was committed to a Select
Committee for revision, The Committee Consisted of Messrs. Kirby, E. P. Lovejoy and E. Beecher, to report as soon as practicable

On Motion Resolved, that the preamble of the constitution, be adopted

Messrs. Porter, Graves, Lovejoy, Russell & G. Grovesner were appointed a committee to nominate officers for the organizing of the Society, in accordance with the Constitution

On Motion, Resolved, That the cause of Human rights, the liberty of speech & of the _____ demands that the press of the Alton Observer be reestablished & located at Alton, with its present editors. And that with the assistance of our friends at Alton and elsewhere, and by the help of Almighty God we will take such measures as shall secure its reestablishment and Safety.

Resolved, That we express our fraternal feelings towards the American Anti-slavery Society, and all others who are arising to promote the sacred cause of civil & religious liberty throughout the world, & engage to cooperate with them in all appropriate ways for the attainment of these great ends.

The committee of nomination reported the following list of officers, which was adopted and the officers were declared duly elected.

Officers
Elijah P. Lovejoy Rec. Sec.
Board of Managers

Death of Elijah P. Lovejoy: November 7, 1837

On the historic night of November 7, 1837, a group of 20 Lovejoy supporters joined him at the Godfrey & Gilman warehouse to guard a new press until it could be installed at the Observer. As the crowd grew outside, excitement and tension mounted. Soon the pro-slavery mob began hurling rocks at the warehouse windows. The defenders retaliated by bombarding the crowd with a supply of earthenware pots found in the warehouse. Then came an exchange of gunfire. Alton’s mayor tried in vain to persuade the defenders inside to abandon the press. They stood fast. One of the mob climbed a ladder to try to set fire to the roof of the building. Lovejoy and one of his supporters darted into the darkness to over-turn the ladder, for they knew they would be doomed if a fire was set. But again a volunteer mounted the ladder to try to ignite the roof with a smoking pot of pitch. As Lovejoy assisted Royal Weller in putting out the fire on the roof of the building, Lovejoy received a blast from a double-barreled shotgun. Five of the bullets fatally struck Lovejoy. He died in the arms of his friend Thaddeus Hurlbut. The mob cheered and said all in the building should die. Amos Roff tried to calm the mob and was shot in the ankle. Defenders of the press then laid down their weapons and were allowed to leave. The mob rushed the building, found the press, and threw it out a window to the riverbank, broke it into pieces and dumped the broken parts into the river. The body of Lovejoy was left undisturbed, remaining there until morning, guarded by friends who finally carried him home. He was buried on his 35th birthday, November 9, 1837, in an unmarked grave in the Alton City Cemetery, the location known by a black man, William “Scotch” Johnston, who assisted in the burial. 447

Proposed Resolution to Bar Slaveholding Presbyterians From Communion
Defeated by Presbytery of Sangamon

On November 7, 1837, the month after the death of Elijah P. Lovejoy, a resolution making slaveholding a bar to communion was presented to the Presbytery of Sangamon. Both the Rev. John G. Bergen and the Reverend Dewey Whitney, 448 then the pastor of the Second Presbyterian Church, opposed the resolution but agreed to support a milder resolution looking to the ultimate extinction of slavery.

Presbyterian Schism—Old vs. New School

In 1837, a schism divided the Presbyterian denomination into the so-called Old School, somewhat of a euphemism for “anti-abolitionist” vis a vis New School being “abolitionist.” New School churches generally became enthusiastic supporters of the abolition movement. The Old School churches denounced slavery as an institution but their position on abolition was watered down and in general they worked for an ultimate extinction of slavery rather than the immediate action demanded by the abolitionists. 449

And it was in 1837 that there was again a split in the Presbyterian Church in America—into the Old School and the New School. There were some differences of a theological nature, but basically the split was between Conservative and Liberal—a repeat of the Scotch-Irish and the New England antipathies of 1758, then identified as the Old Side and New Side.
The Old School (Scotch-Irish) who came to Illinois by the Southern Route, considered their theology a finished structure to be protected against innovation. They had built their well-organized church on the basis of their doctrinal, racial, and social homogeneity. Princeton Seminary became their focal point. Later, with the approach of the Civil War, a pro-slavery sentiment appeared. First Church was Old School.

The New School (New Englanders) who came to Illinois by the Northern Route, were liberal, restless, innovative and inquiring. They were in close understanding with the attitudes of the Congregational Church regarding home and foreign missions, in anti-slavery, temperance and other work. Union Theological Seminary of New York became their focal point. Second Church was New School.

**Estate of Frank Shelby: Petition to Sell Real Estate**

On October 4, 1837, James F. Reed, administrator of the estate of Frank Shelby, filed a petition to sell Frank’s real estate as the proceeds from the sale of his personal property left $267.20 owing to creditors.

**Estate of Frank Shelby: Notice of Sale of Real Estate**

On December 6, 1837, James F. Reed published a notice in the Illinois Republican that he intended to sell the Frank Shelby’s Springfield lots at public auction on January 19, 1838.
The Third Decade
1838-1847

1838

Rev. Albert Hale’s Letter to Asa Turner Concerning an Anti-Slavery Agent for Illinois

On January 26, 1838, the Reverend Albert Hale, the minister of the Second Presbyterian Church in Springfield from 1840 to 1866, wrote to Asa Turner of Jacksonville, Illinois, concerning the selection of an anti-slavery agent for Illinois. In 1834, an Association of Congregational Churches was formed in Quincy in the home of the Rev. Asa Turner in support of the abolitionist movement. Turner Hall was named for two brothers: Asa Turner, a member of the College’s founding “Yale Band”, and Jonathan Baldwin Turner, an early faculty member and “the father of the Land Grant College Act of 1862.”

Illinois College had close antislavery ties with the abolitionist and Underground Railroad movements from its inception. The College was founded in 1829 by local trustees and seven Yale graduates—all opposed to slavery. Its first president, Edward Beecher, and two College trustees helped organize the Illinois State Antislavery Society in 1837. Many of the early settlers in the region, however, had come from Border States and were pro-slavery. Despite this hostile environment, the College Staff and the majority of the students they influenced upheld strong antislavery principles. A few even acted to assist freedom seekers through the Underground Railroad. Some were arrested and all suffered threats and harassment. Professor Jonathan Baldwin Turner, a member of the Underground Railroad, helped guide three fleeing Negro women to safe haven from which they eventually reached freedom in Canada. Samuel Willard, an Illinois College student, was prosecuted and fined for attempting to free an escaping slave. Other students were the target of organized protests by pro-slavery advocates who were outraged by their participation in Underground Railroad activities. Early Illinois College, consisting of Beecher Hall and the former College Building, was clearly an academic center that motivated strong antislavery actions as well as beliefs.

Jacksonville Ill. Jan. 26, 1838
Dear Brother Turner:

On the subject of the AntiSlavery appointment—I intend to speak very freely to you—for I know that you desire it. But lest you should misconstrue my meaning, I say to begin with, I do sincerely desire that an agent occupy the field and do it with as little delay as possible. The field is evidently ripe for the harvest. Some person or persons should (illegible) in the sickle & reap.

You will then not suppose for a moment that I am opposed to the particular measure of having an agent in Ill. when I say I do believe it not best that you leave your present work to become an anti-slavery agent.

You will recollect that the inquiry was once before agitated between us, not whether any body should do it—my opinion about the importance of an agency in the state since that time has materially changed from being opposed to it as a means of promoting the cause of freedom. I have become decidedly in favor of it. But the man best qualified for the work I then named as Dr. Nelson—I know of no man who possesses the qualifications for such a work in the degree that he does & if he can be engaged I would be willing to beg for his support in the state, and if he can not be obtained let us look some where else & get the best man we can. But who ever enters on this work in Ill. needs to be no common man. We had a letter the other day from Bro. Leavitt of the “Emancipator”—In speaking of Illinois he says—“it is the sea of war,” and that they in N. York, and the eastern & middle states are mere powder monkeys. The truth is that Ill. from its location and the circumstances under which a large portion of its population were raised and the relations they still sustain must become the great battle field on which the anti-slavery question is to be settled.

How many of our population were once slaveholders & are living on the price of blood? Every prospect of the final triumph of anti-slavery principles makes them feel as did the chief priests under the first proclamation of the gospel, when they cried out—“you intend to bring that man’s blood upon us.”

Thousands more who never owned slaves are desperately opposed to anti-slavery movements—because their relatives hold slaves or have held them—Then we are bordering on the slave states to such an extent as to make the danger of collusion (sic) no small matter to men whose minds know nothing of the principles of the gospel and whose temporal interests tend strongly to make them cry peace. Under all these circumstances it becomes a matter of immense importance who shall lead the armies of the free in this great moral contest in this state. The cause must not be committed to weak hands & I have almost said whose hand will not be weak before the victory is won.

In view of the facts which I have stated and many others of a similar kind which I have not room to state do you think you possess the qualifications for the work?

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I think I am not disposed to undervalue my dear Br. Turner. I am not disposed to question the correctness of your views on the great subject whose success you would labor to promote—nor your zeal—nor your willingness to suffer—to lay down your life for the oppressed—No, I am not disposed to think you would flinch.

The Grace of God would be mighty in you for these sacrifices—But I am persuaded that neither you nor I would be found on trial, to possess the requisite qualifications for that thorough manly & deep discussions of the principles of freedom, the rights to conscience, the freedom of speech & the press and the freedom of the slave which would be indispensable in one who is to undertake the work in this state.

You know how we have from time to time felt almost mortified to think that so few of the ministers of high standing in the East, men of best minds & high attainments in knowledge and experience in the work of preaching the gospel & (illegible) men of great reputation—did not come into this field.

We wondered that it ever should be that that (sic) a man of small ability as a gospel minister should be sent here & on this subject we no doubt have reasoned well.

But what are the difficulties in the way of a preacher of the gospel, compared with those which an anti-slavery agent must contend?

The truth is we need a man of peculiar qualifications.

I should regard it as a special favor in the providence of God if Dr. Nelson could be obtained or some one whose qualifications for the work would equal his.

If no such man can be obtained then perhaps the question would more fairly come before you, but it is a work of such importance and attended with so many embarrassing & difficult circumstances & one in which the failure of an unsuccessful agency would be so disastrous that it seems to me a delay & honest endeavor to find the right man is at least justifiable. Besides you have tried another work—the ordinary work of a gospel minister and have succeeded.

The post you now occupy (or if it should please God to remove you to some other field) is a post of great importance.

Whether the cause of God would not lose more by your changing the particular work in which you are engaged is at least (worth) careful & prayerful inquiry.

But if you finally decide to engage in the work, don’t think that I am about to lay hinderances in your way—any farther than the frank expressions of my opinion. If you engage in the work my best wishes and prayers go with you. If I tho’t myself fit I would go by your side & labor shoulder to shoulder in enlightening public mind & instrumentality—preparing the way—for breaking every yoke & letting the oppressed go free.

May the Lord guide you in deciding this important question of duty. My regards to Sister Turner & all the friends.

Yours truly A. Hale

Abraham Lincoln Speaks Before the Young Men’s Lyceum

On January 27, 1838, Abraham Lincoln spoke before the Young Men’s Lyceum on the topic of “The Perpetuation of Our Political Institutions.” His theme, the danger of mobs and the value and necessity of law and order, was probably prompted by the Alton riot which caused the death of Elijah P. Lovejoy in November of the preceding year, though he makes only slight reference to it.

Abraham Lincoln Files Complaint in Cromwell vs. Taylor

On Monday, January 29, 1838, Abraham Lincoln filed a complaint in the Circuit Court of Sangamon County titled Cromwell v. Taylor.

William Herndon Works at Store of Joshua F. Speed and Recalls Young Men Who Gathered at Store

On my return to Springfield from college, I hired to Joshua F. Speed as clerk in his store. My salary, seven hundred dollars per annum, was considered good pay. Speed, Lincoln, Charles R. Hurst, and I slept in the room upstairs over the store. I had worked for Speed before going to college, and after hiring to him this time again, continued in his employ for several years. The young men who congregated about the store formed a society for the encouragement of debate and other literary efforts. Sometimes we would meet in a lawyer’s office and often in Speed’s room. Besides the debates, poems and other original productions were read. Unfortunately we ruled out the ladies. ... I have forgotten the name of the society—if it had any—and can only recall a few of its leading spirits. Lincoln, James Matheny, Noah Rickard, Evan Butler, Milton Hay,
and Newton Francis were members. I joined also. Matheny was secretary. We were favored with all sorts of literary productions.

**Estate of Frank Shelby: Report of Sale of Real Estate**

On January 30, 1838, James F. Reed, administrator of the estate of Frank Shelby, reported to the court that on January 19, 1838, he sold the west half of Frank’s lot on East Washington Street to James Keyes, the highest bidder at $552. The property must have been improved with a residence as the sale price of $552 was much more than the price of a forty-foot lot. Keys gave two promissory notes for $275 each, the one payable in 6 and the other in 12 months together with a mortgage on the lot to secure the payment of the notes.

**Mack Shelby’s Lots Sold for Taxes**

On March 3, 1838, the *Journal* reported that lots of Mack Shelby were sold for taxes.

**Titus Kirkpatrick’s Lots Sold for Taxes**

On March 3, 1838, the *Journal* reported that Titus Kirkpatrick’s lots, located on the west side of Eleventh Street between Market [Capitol] and Jackson Streets, were sold for taxes.

**Luke Mayberry’s Lot Sold for Taxes**

On March 3, 1838, the *Journal* reported that Luke Mayberry’s lot, located on the north side of Jefferson Street between Eighth and Ninth Streets, was sold for taxes.

**Robert J. Robinson Advertises Scouring and Boot Blacking**

*Journal Advertisement of Robert J. Robinson Scouring and Boot Blacking*

**Titus Kirkpatrick Poetry Advertising Barbershop**

*Titus Kirkpatrick Poetry Advertising Barbershop*
**Elijah Iles and Isaac, a Black Man**

On January 1, 1838, Thomas Iles of Bath County, Kentucky, the father of Elijah Iles, gave liberty to Isaac, his 46-year-old slave, and Isaac was permitted to travel to Springfield to live with Elijah and his brother Washington. To secure safe passage, Thomas Isles wrote the a “pass” for Isaac to travel to Springfield where his two sons lived. 

Please to let my Black Man Isaac pass on to Springfield, Sangamon County in the State of Illinois (in which place I have two sons living (to wit) Elijah and Washington Iles.

Given under my hand this 1st day of January 1838.

Thomas Iles living in Bath County and State of Kentucky.

Mon. Mar. 5, 1838. The following papers were presented by Elijah Iles and ordered to be spread upon the record.

The following day, January 2, Thomas wrote to his friend, Mathew Markland, in Bath County, Kentucky, requesting that Mathew assist Isaac in boarding a boat at Maysville on the Ohio River. Isaac was to travel by boat to St. Louis and then by stage to Springfield.

Mathew Markland

Bath County, Ky.

Jan. 2, 1838

Dear Sir:

My black man Isaac is just about starting to Illinois. I have gave him his liberty, he will pass through Maysville and as he tells me he is acquainted with you I wish you to see the Capt. of the Boat he goes on and let him know he is a free man and is going on to Springfield to my sons (to wit) Elijah and Washington Iles, if the boat should not be going on immediately from Maysville to St. Louis do speak to the Capt. To put him on some boat that will be going to St. Louis where he must land and take stage for Springfield. Isaac is very orderly honest fellow and has been as faithful a servant as ever lived for which reason I give him his liberty.

Dear Sir, your compliance to this will ever oblige your friend,

Thos. Iles.

MB Perhaps it would be well for you to give back to him this letter, it would strengthen his pass.

Isaac arrived in Maysville on January 4, and Markland wrote an endorsement of Thomas’s letter authenticating his signature and Thomas’ intent to emancipate Isaac.

Maysville, Jan., 4 1838

This note from my friend Thos. Iles by his boy Isaac came to hand this day. It may be of service to boy Isaac to which allusion is made. I have known Maj. Thos. Iles for upwards of twenty years. I have seen him write and the within signature I believe to be his and the intentions of emancipating as expressed are his. I have known the bearer Isaac as long as I have known his master and also the sons of Major Iles (to wit) Elijah and Washington and know that they reside in or near Springfield, Illinois

Mathew Markland.

State of Kentucky  ) Mayors office City of Maysville, to wit:
County of Mason  )

I Chas. B. Williams, mayor of the city of Maysville do certify that the foregoing certificate of Mathew Markland is genuine and so acknowledged by him before me and I further certify that full faith and credit is due any statement that he has made relative to his knowledge of Thomas Iles. Given my hand and seal of office this 4th Jany. 1838,

Chas. B. Williams

Upon Isaac’s arrival in Springfield sometime in February of 1838, Elijah Iles filed the above documents with the County Commissioners Court and posted a bond to secure his promise to the State of Illinois that Isaac would not “become a charge to this or any other county in this state.”

Know all men by these presents that I Elijah Iles am held and firmly bound unto the People of the State of Illinois in the penal sum of one thousand dollars lawful money of the United States for the payment of which will and truly to be made I bind myself, my heirs, executors firmly by these presents. Witness my hand and seal this 20th day of February, 1838.
Now the condition of the above obligation is this that whereas I the said Elijah Iles have brought to the State of Illinois, Sangamon County, a black man by the name of Isaac about the age of 46 years who is now by the operation of the laws of this state emancipated now I do in pursuance of the 3rd Section of the Act of March 30, 1819 (GET THIS), bind myself that the said black man Isaac shall never become a charge to this or any other county in this state.

In testimony whereof I have hereunto set my hand and seal this day and year above written.

Elijah Iles.

Former Slaves, Fanny and Harriet Kincaid, Admitted Into Membership in The Indian Point United Presbyterian Church, Athens, Illinois

When the predominant local sentiment was pro-slavery the Session admitted two freed slaves, Fanny and Harriet, into the membership of the church in March of 1838. They had come north with the Kincaid family from Kentucky. Session minutes reveal that the church contributed support for the Freedmen Society and also continued after the Civil War to help finance schools which had been established in the south for former slaves.

In March of 1835, Lincoln surveyed land about three miles northwest of Athens, Illinois for brothers Archibald and John K. Kincaid.

Organization of Springfield’s First African American Church African (Colored) Baptist Church

Springfield’s first African American church, the African or Colored Baptist Church, was organized on April 8, 1838, by the Rev. John Livingston and 18 charter members. Among the eighteen organizers were George W. Brent(s), Sr., Thornton Coleman, Maria Vance, Anna Butler, Frances Ellis, Saddie Demery, Winefred Huston, Joseph Huston and Nancy Jackson.

The church was founded by former slave Thomas Houston, who fled to Springfield from Missouri. He used his home in Springfield as a station and organized secret raids back into Missouri to free his brother and his brother’s family. The Houstons operated their underground station for years and went on to become one of the most prominent African-American families in the country. Houston also fought for the Union Army during the Civil War.

Escaped slaves often returned to free relatives and friends. Thomas Jefferson Houston escaped from a plantation in Missouri to Illinois, but later returned to lead his relatives to freedom. The Houstons later moved to Springfield, where Thomas Jefferson Houston’s brother helped organize Zion Baptist Missionary Church in Springfield, and Houston was one of its pastors.

John Livingston was an African American missionary who at the time was also organizing African American settlers into other area churches, including the Mount Emory Baptist Church in Jacksonville. Rev. Luther Arnold was considered the pastor of the small congregation.

The organizational meeting and subsequent worship took place in the home of Anderson Carter, located on West Washington Street between Pasfield and College, just east of present Springfield High School in a neighborhood then known as “Old Town” and often called “Vinegar Hill.”

Other early African American Springfield pastors were: John Jackson; Henry Brown, famous for years as the Methodist preacher of the old school; Andrew Jackson, noted for his benefactions to humanity; William Parker; Mr. Trevan of the old 4th Street church, and George Brentz (Brents), who was the minister of the African Baptist Church later known as the Zion Baptist Church in the late 50’s and for many years thereafter.

George W. Brents, Sr. (Brentz) Organizer of African (Colored) Baptist Church

George W. Brents, Sr. was born on July 2, 1821, near Greenburg, Green County, Kentucky. His parents were both slaves, the property of Louis Patterson. George’s father secured his own freedom and later with the help of Rev. Henry Brown raised enough money to buy George’s release. George by working in a blacksmith shop, paid the money back. He became pastor of the Zion Baptist Church in May 1865.
Advertisement for Three Fugitive Slaves

On April 14, 1838, the Journal printed an advertisement by Singleton Vaughan of Saline County, Missouri promising a $250 reward for the return of three runaway “Negroes.”

Arrival of Reverend Charles Dresser

In April of 1838, 38 year-old Reverend Charles Dresser came to Springfield to act as Rector of the Protestant Episcopal Church. Charles, his wife, Louisa Walker Withers, and their two sons, David Walker and Thomas Withers, came from Halifax Court House, Virginia to Illinois because Charles hated slavery. Reverend Dresser was born in Pomfret, Connecticut on February 24, 1800, graduated from Brown University in 1823 and was ordained in 1829 after studying theology in Virginia with Bishop William Meade. Louisa Walker Withers Dresser, however, was a Southerner, born in Dinwiddie County, Virginia, and perhaps influenced the attitudes of the children more than the father. On the evening of November 4, 1842, Reverend Dresser performed the marriage of Mary Todd and Abraham Lincoln in Ninian Edward’s house at Second and Charles Streets.

Rhoda Jane, a Girl of Colour, Indenture to Charles Dresser

On May 26, 1838, a month after Charles Dresser’s arrival in Springfield, this son of New England and graduate of Brown University entered into an indenture for the domestic labor of a 15 year-old African American girl, Rhoda Jane. Rhoda had no parent or guardian in Illinois and was to be taught the “art and mystery of domestic labour” and to read. She was to be released from her indenture on her 18th birthday, August 25, 1840, at which time she was to be given a new bible and two new suits of clothes suitable and proper for summer and winter wear.

Marriage of Nancy Rountree and Henry Mann

Nancy Rountree and Henry Mann were married on May 31, 1838.

Springfield’s Population

The July 14, 1838 Journal reported that the population of Springfield was 2,500.

Julia Ann and Major Indentured to Daniel Cutright

There are two interesting indentures in the Sangamon County Commissioners Records pertaining to Daniel Cutright and two of the slaves he brought with him to Springfield in 182__. The slaves were to remain indentured to Cutright for two more years, during which time Cutright was allowed to hire them out and was entitled to the payments for any such hire. At the end of the indenture term, they were to be free.

Resolution of Presbytery of Sangamon Concerning Slavery

On September 23, 1838, the Presbytery of Sangamon met at the Presbyterian Church at Irish Grove, now in Menard County, south of Athens. Presbyterian minister Thomas Galt proposed a resolution concerning the issue of slavery.
September 23, 1838

Mr. Galt offered the following resolutions which were adopted. 1st That the system of Slavery as it exists in the United States, is a sin against God and therefore ought to be immediately abolished. 2nd That it be recommended to all churches under the care of this Presbytery to do all that is in their power by wise and prudent means to accomplish this object.

Galt sent a copy of the resolution to the editor of the Journal and it was published in the September 29, 1838 edition:

Presbytery of Sangamon, at its late session, held in Irish Grove, passed the following resolutions--

1. That slavery, as it exists in the United States, is a sin against God, and therefore ought to be immediately abandoned.
2. As amended by brother Whitney that the Presbytery recommend to all the Churches under their care, to do all in their power for the accomplishment of this object.

Mr. Editor--The above resolutions refer to a subject of deep interest to our churches you will therefore by publishing them in your paper, confer a favor upon them, and your's truly

T. GALT.

Benjamin Lundy Establishes Newspaper The Genius of Universal Emancipation

In the fall of 1838, Benjamin Lundy, a Quaker abolitionist newspaper publisher in Philadelphia, moved to Hennepin, Illinois and continued publication of The Genius of Universal Emancipation funded by Northern Illinois abolitionists.

“A meeting of abolitionists held in Princeton on April 2, 1838, resolved that the Observer [Lovejoy’s paper] ought to be re-established in Alton—if the city government would give assurances that it would be protected—or in either Quincy, Canton, or Princeton. Due to a lack of finances, however, no action was taken. Illinois abolitionists received a fortunate boost when Benjamin Lundy, the inveterate Quaker abolitionist who had for years edited the Genius of Emancipation, decided to move West. Attracted by the opportunity to re-establish his newspaper in Illinois, the veteran abolitionist arrived in the tiny community of Hennepin, Lowell County, in the summer of 1838. Northern Illinois abolitionists agreed to support Lundy and to encourage the paper’s circulation. By the fall of 1838, the first Illinois edition of the Genius had rolled off the press.”

Carl Sandburg described Lundy as “The meek, mild, soft-spoken little Quaker. Benjamin Lundy, editing a paper with the meek, mild, soft-spoken title, The Genius of Universal Emancipation.”

Proposal for Resuming the Weekly Publication of The Genius of Universal Emancipation

Subscription Agreement Circa Summer of 1838

In Springfield, Erastus Wright, an abolitionist and school teacher, used a printed prospectus to solicit subscriptions to The Genius of Universal Emancipation. Below the printed description of the proposed newspaper, Wright’s prospectus contained the signatures of those subscribing.

The subscribers were as follows:


One can only speculate as to the reason or reasons one would subscribe to this paper. One would assume that a subscriber would be sympathetic to the paper’s abolitionist creed. But there may have been other reasons. For example, friendship with Erastus Wright, the solicitor of subscriptions, or just intellectual curiosity. Also, one might be on the other side of the issue and just be curious as to how the opposition presented its case in its official voice. Piecing together what is known of each of the subscribers helps to reach a conclusion as to what motivated the subscription and gives greater insight into the position of each subscriber on the question of slavery and abolition.
The editor and proprietor of this work has concluded to resume its weekly publication, in the State of Illinois. The particular place of location is not yet determined on, but will be made known when the first Number of the Sixteenth Volume shall appear. If practicable, that Number will be issued in the early part of July, next, (1838.)

As the character of the “Genius of Universal Emancipation” is well know, throughout the United State, it is, perhaps, unnecessary to say much in explanation thereof. The work has been published, at different places, and in various forms, nearly seventeen years. It was commenced in 1821; issued a few months in Ohio; nearly three years in Tennessee; eight years in Maryland and the District of Columbia; and the residue of the period, stated, it has been published, irregularly, in the city of Philadelphia. During the whole of this period, the principles maintained, the measures proposed, and the prime objects of the publication, have been the same. There has been no change of opinion on the part of the editor—no alteration in the general course pursued by him—and none is contemplated.

It may be proper, however, to state more explicitly, for the information of those who have not made themselves acquainted with the work, that its principal design has ever been, and will continue to be, the advocacy of Free Discussion; the TOTAL ABOLITION OF SLAVERY; and the firm establishment of the constitution, inalienable, and ‘universal’ RIGHTS OF MAN. These objects are sought to be accomplished by the promulgation of facts and arguments—by moral suasion—by appeals to the reason, justice, and reflection, of the people and their sects, and political parties, under their present organizations:—yet the acts of both individuals and associations, of whatever name or standing, are considered fit subjects of scrutiny and criticism, so far as they may have a bearing upon the question of slavery.

This paper will contain a full report of all the official proceedings of the Illinois State Anti-Slavery Society, with notices, &c. of local societies, and such other original and selected matter, connected with the all absorbing question of Emancipation in America, as may be deemed instructive and entertaining to its readers. A small department will be appropriated to the Muses, and to literary notices, $c. The most important domestic and foreign news, of a general nature, and a few advertisements, will also be inserted.

Terms

The price of single subscriptions will be one dollar & fifty cents per annum. Eight copies for ten dollars. Twenty copies for one year for 20 dollars. All payments in advance. Subscribers wishing to discontinue will previously notify or the paper will continue.
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<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Age In 1838</th>
<th>Birthplace</th>
<th>Occupation</th>
<th>Religious Affiliation</th>
<th>Miscellaneous</th>
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<td>P. Abel</td>
<td>23</td>
<td>Washington County, New York</td>
<td></td>
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<td>Power, p. 76</td>
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<td>F. Amos</td>
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<td>Sanpoint</td>
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<td>Boston, Massachusetts</td>
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<td>D. Cannon</td>
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<td>L. Lamb</td>
<td>38</td>
<td>Connellsville, Fayette County, Pennsylvania</td>
<td>pork packer</td>
<td>First Presbyterian Church</td>
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<tr>
<td>H. Moffett</td>
<td>41</td>
<td>Bath County, Kentucky</td>
<td>school teacher lawyer county judge</td>
<td>Second Presbyterian Church</td>
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<td>Teddy Roll</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>Green Village, New Jersey</td>
<td>plasterer and brick mason real estate; home building boot and shoe trade</td>
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<td>Torrey</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>Connecticut</td>
<td>boots &amp; shoes, hotel keeping pork packer with James L. Lamb</td>
<td>First Presbyterian Church</td>
<td>Subscriber: Springfield Anti-Slavery Society</td>
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<tr>
<td>J. Watson</td>
<td>38</td>
<td>York District, South Carolina</td>
<td>teacher, county surveyor, engineer, Great Western R.R.</td>
<td>Second Presbyterian Church</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>B. Wright</td>
<td>59</td>
<td>Bernardstown, Massachusetts</td>
<td>teacher, county school commissioner abolitionist</td>
<td>Second Presbyterian Church</td>
<td>Subscriber: Springfield Anti-Slavery Society</td>
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Lincoln's Springfield

The Early African American Population of Springfield, Illinois (1818-1861)

Titus Kirkpatrick and William Butler Form Barber Partnership

On October 13, 1838, African American barbers Titus Kirkpatrick and William Butler advertised in the Journal that they had formed a partnership “for the purpose of carrying on the barbering business wholesale and retail."

Barberous Notice

W. Butler & T. Kirkpatrick.

Have formed a partnership for the purpose of carrying on the barbering business wholesale and retail. Mr. Butler is from Washington city, and is a practiced barber. The skill of Mr. B united with mine, will enable us to do justice to our customers. Our shop is opposite the Clerk’s Office and next door to R. H. Beale’s clothing store.

September 19, 1838

William Fleurville Advertises Barbership

On November 24, 1838, African American barber William Fleurville advertised in the Journal that he had taken the room recently occupied by Doctor Gray, “a short distance south of Mr. Watson’s Confectionary Shop, where he intends to carry on his old profession of shaving, hair dressing, etc.”

Arrival of Edmund Fry in Springfield

Edmund Fry arrived in Sangamon County from Kentucky in 1838 and located near Hickox’s Mill. Edmund Fry died on August 24, 1868, at age 73, and was buried in the “Colored Section” of Oak Ridge Cemetery.
1839

Dr. Francis A. McNeill Requests County to Assist Bob, a Sick “colored man of good character”

DR. A. M. MCNEILL’S LETTER TO COUNTY COMMISSIONERS REQUESTING ASSISTANCE FOR
BOB, A SICK COLORED MAN, JANUARY 14, 1839

Marriage of Uriah Maxwell and Lucy Jones

On January 25, 1839, Uriah Maxwell married Lucy Jones.

Construction of Second Presbyterian Church Begins

In 1839, the Second Presbyterian Church began construction of a brick building at the northwest corner of 4th and Monroe Streets, a little north of the intersection. The building was finished in 1840.

William Trisbie Borwin Indenture to Lawrason Levering

On February 20, 1839, Lawrason Levering entered into an indenture for the domestic labor of William Trisbie Borwin, an 11 year-old African American boy. William’s father, Solomon Borwin, consented to the indenture. William was to learn the “art, trade and mystery and after the manner of an apprentice.” He was to be released from his indenture on her 18th birthday, August 25, 1840.
Sangamon County Delegates to Annual Meeting of Illinois Anti-Slavery Society

On February 26, 1839, *The Genius of Universal Emancipation*, an abolitionist newspaper published by Benjamin Lundy at Hennepin, Illinois, reported that the Sangamon County delegates to the Illinois Anti-Slavery Society annual meeting were:

- Thomas Galt
- L. N. Ransom [Luther N. Ransom]
- E. Wright [Erastus Wright]
- J. W. Little
- John Lyman

Reorganization of Sangamon County Colonization Society

On April 8, 1839, Jared Irwin made the following entry in his diary describing his attendance at a reorganizational meeting of the Sangamon County Colonization Society.

April 8. This evening heard with pleasure Porter Clay Esq. (Bro. of the Hon. H. Clay) deliver his first lecture in behalf of the “Colonization Society,” he was recently been appointed agt. of the “great valley” & has this evening commenced upon the duties of his mission, intending to lecture & form Societies throughout the length & breadth of the Valley. He is quite eloquent.—May success attend him.

Preamble and Constitution of Springfield Anti-Slavery Society

There are three “drafts” or versions of the Constitution of the Springfield Anti-Slavery Society. One is an unsigned partial draft and two versions are signed, the first being signed by 29 subscribers and the second by 10. The Springfield Society was to meet quarterly and was a subsidiary of the Sangamon County Anti-slavery Society

Unsigned Partial Draft

A partial draft, going only through Article 3rd and containing no signatures, is as follows:

Preamble

Whereas the Most High God hath made of our Blood all nations of Men to dwell on the face of the Earth and hath commanded them to love their neighbors as themselves, “And whereas our National existence is based on this Principle as recognized in the declaration of Independence that “all men are created equal and that they are endowed by their Creator with certain inalienable rights, among which are life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness, And whereas about one sixth part of this Nation are held in bondage by their fellow men, And whereas we believe slavery to be inconsistent with the principals of natural justice and the Christian Religion and to be destructive to the liberty, Peace and prosperity of the Country where it exists. And whereas we believe we owe it to the oppressor as well as to the oppressed. To Posterity; to our Country & our God to do all in our Power to bring about the extinction of Slavery we do hereby agree (with prayerful reliance on the Divine aid) to form ourselves in a Society to be governed by the following:

Constitution

Article 1st This Society shall be called the Sangamon County Anti-Slavery Auxiliary to the State/Society.

Article 2nd The objects of this Society shall be to ______ and rectify Public Sentiment on the subject Slavery and by the use of all judicious & appropriate to secure its entire abandonment in the United States. And as we believe that all Sin and transgressions should be immediately abandoned, So we conceive it is the duty of all to act with Christian ____ in a constitutional way for the removal of this far ___ evil of Slavery. By encouraging the intellectual & religious improvement of the People of color and ___ to remove that ___ prejudice which has so long ___ against them. (The bold has been stricken.)

Article 3rd Any person may become a member of this Society subscribing ______ who consents to the principles of this Constitution ____________

First Signed Version

The first signed version contained 10 signatures:

Preamble

Whereas the Most High God hath made of our Blood all nations of Men to dwell on the face of the Earth and hath commanded them to love their neighbors as themselves, “And whereas our National existence is based on this Principle as recognized in the declaration of Independence that “all men are created equal and that
they are endowed by their Creator with certain inalienable rights, among which are life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness. And whereas about one sixth part of this Nation are held in bondage by their fellow men. And whereas we believe slavery to be inconsistent with the principals of national justice and the Christian Religion and to be destructive to the liberty, Peace and prosperity of the Country where it exists. And whereas we believe we owe it to the oppressor as well as to the oppressed. To Posterity; to our Country & our God to do all in our Power to bring about the extinction of Slavery we do hereby agree (with praerful reliance on the Devine aid) to form ourselves in a Society to be governed by the following:

Constitution

Article 1st. This Society shall be called the Sangamon County Anti-Slavery Auxiliary to the State/Society.

Article 2nd. The object of this Society is to enlighten to rectify public sentiment on the subject Slavery & to convince our fellow citizens by arguments addressed to their understandings & conscience that the system of Slavery is a great sin in the sight of God, & that the duty, safety & best interests of all concerned requires its immediate abandonment. The Society will also endeavor, in a constitutional way, to influence Congress to put an end to the domestic slave trade, & to abolish slavery in the District of Columbia.

Article 3rd. This Society shall aim to elevate the character & condition of the people of color, by encouraging their intellectual & religious improvement & by remaining prejudice, that according to intellectual & moral _____, they may share an equality with the whites of civil & religious privileges; but this society will not countenance the oppressed in vindicating their rights by physical force.

Art 4th The officers of this Society shall be a President, Vice President, Secretary and Treasurer & Board of Managers to consist of the aforesaid officers and other members of whom shall constitute a quorum to do business.

Article 5th The Board of Managers shall have Power to call Meetings fill any vacancies in the Board appoint Delegates and in general to have the Supervision and management of the Society

*Art 6th The President shall preside at all Meetings and in his absence one of the Vice Pres. or a member _____ time. The Secretaries & Treasurer shall perform the appropriate duties of their office and make a report annually to the Society.

Article 7th This Constitution may be amended at any regular Meeting by a vote of two thirds Members present Provided the said proposed amendment has been made known at a preceding meeting.

Article 6 We officers of this Society shall perform the duties usually belonging to their respective offices.

W. T. Allan
E. Wright
Edmund R. Wiley
James L. Lamb
Joseph Torrey
Roswell Abel
C. C. Phelps
Hector M. Sheldon
John G. Paine
Thomas Galt

Second Signed Version

The second signed version contained 29 signatures:

Preamble

Whereas the Most High God hath made of our Blood all nations of Man to dwell on the face of the Earth and hath commanded them to love their neighbor as themselves and whereas our National existence is based on this principle as recognized in the Declaration of Independence That all men are created equal and that they are endowed by their Creator with certain inalienable rights, among which are life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness, and whereas nearly one sixth part of our nation are held in bondage by their fellow men contrary to the principals of national justice of our republican government and the Christian Religion and whereas we owe it to God to our Country our neighbor and ourselves to do all in our power to relieve the oppressive and to maintain those principles of liberty and equality which we have avowed as the basis of our civil institutions before God and the world.

Therefore we do hereby agree to form ourselves into a Society to be governed by the following constitution

Article 1 This Society shall be called the Springfield Anti-slavery Society subsidiary to the Sangamon County Antislavery Society.
Article 2nd The object of this Society Shall be to disseminate light on the subject of Slavery compare it with the word of God & endeavor to pursuade our fellow man to use all appropriate means to secure the entire abandonment in the world.

Article 3rd Any person who consents to the principles of this Society may become a member by subscribing this constitution.

Article 4th The officers of this Society shall be a President, Vice President, Secretary and Treasurer who with two others shall constitute a Board of Managers to be chosen annually.

Article 5th The Board of Managers shall make arrangements for all Meetings of the Society see that suitable addresses are delivered, adopt the most energetic measures to advance the objects of the Society and make an annual written report of their doings of their income & expenditures of the Society.

Article 6th The President shall preside at all Meetings of the Society or in case of his absence the Vice Pres’ or some other person for the time being. The Secretary shall keep a full record of all the proceedings as the Society shall direct. The Treasurer shall keep all monies of the Society collect and pay out as directed by the Society and make an annual report of his doings.

Article 7th The Society shall meet quarterly at such time and place as the Board of Managers shall direct and one of these Meetings shall be called the annual meeting at which time the officers shall be chosen.

Article 8th This constitution may be altered at any meeting of the Society by a vote of two thirds of the Members present. Provided always that the proposed amendment be mentioned at the preceding meeting.

Erastus Wright          Betsy Abel
Roswell Abel            Chloe E. Abel
Oswald Hempstede       Sophia L. Phelps
John G. Paine           Mary A. Phelps
G. L. Strickland        Susan P. Zimmerman
Joseph Torrey           Abagail S. Torrey
Rich d Morgan           Catharine Wiley
C. B. Spear (?)         Louisa Arnold
Robert D. Cannon        Win Rogers
Edmund R. Wiley         Elizabeth Gillis
Henry S. Freewin         George Strickland
Hector M. Sheldon       James L. Lamb
_____ Abel

Wood River Colored Baptist Association Formed

On April 29, 1839, representatives of Illinois African American Baptist churches met in the home of Samuel Vincent of Alton to form the Wood River Colored Baptist Association.

Mary Todd Takes Up Residence in Springfield

In early June of 1839, Mary Todd, age 20, arrived in Springfield from Lexington, Kentucky, and took up residence with her sister, Elizabeth, age 23, and brother-in-law, Ninian Wirt Edwards, age 30. Springfield would be Mary’s home for the next 22 years. Hepsey, the mulatto servant who was indentured to Edwards in 1835, would have been a part of the Ninian Edwards household at this time. The 1840 United States Census taken the following year, lists one male “Slave,” age 10 to 24, and one “Free Colored” female, age 10 to 24, as residing with the Edwards. The latter was probably Hepsey.

Meeting of Sangamon County Colonization Society Committee to Plan July 4th Events

On June 14, 1839, a committee of the Sangamon County Colonization Society met and made plans for a July 4th celebration. 511

FOURTH OF JULY CELEBRATION

On Friday, the 14th inst., a meeting was convened at the Court Room, to consider and adopt measures for the celebration of the coming Anniversary of American Independence. Present-----

From the Colonization Society--M. [Meredith] Helm, 512 F. A. McNeill, 513 J. C. Doremus, 514 C. [Caleb] Birchall, B. S. Clement. 515

...M. [Meredith] Helm, Chairman
Abraham Lincoln Elected Trustee of Town of Springfield

On June 24, 1839, Lincoln was elected a trustee of the town. He served until April 1840, when Springfield began to operate under a new city charter, which he helped to obtain from the Legislature.  

State Offices Moved to Springfield

Although Springfield was designated the state capital on February 28, 1837, the state offices were not moved from Vandalia to Springfield until July of 1839.

Advertisement for Fugitive Slave

On August 10, 1839, the Register printed an advertisement by Walteer Barron of Union County, Kentucky promising a fifty dollar reward for the return of a 31 year-old runaway “Negro Man” named Jim.

Death of Benjamin Lundy


DIED—In Hennepin, in this State, a few days since, Mr. BENJAMIN LUNDY, the well known editor of a late publication called “The Genius of Universal Emancipation.”

“Lundy’s sudden death in September, 1839, caused only a short delay in the publication of the antislavery paper. From December, 1840, to April, 1842, the paper was edited by Hooper Warren, hero of the anti-convention forces of 1823-1824, and Zebina Eastman, a young antislavery man from Massachusetts. Although the paper received financial aid from the La Salle County Anti-Slavery Society, rural northern Illinois proved to be a poor location for the Genius. Warren’s and Eastman’s efforts on behalf of the antislavery cause continued to be hamstrung by financial difficulties. When the newly formed Liberty Party
offered to raise funds for an antislavery newspaper in Chicago, the *Genius* was moved to the booming city on the shores of Lake Michigan and renamed the *Western Citizen*.⁵²¹

**First Annual Meeting of the Sangamon County Colonization Society**

On October 10, 1839, the first annual meeting of the Sangamon County Colonization Society was held at the Methodist Chapel at the southeast corner of Fifth and Monroe Streets.⁵²²

![October 5, 1839 Register Notice of Annual Meeting of Sangamon County Colonization Society](image)

A report of the annual meeting of the Sangamon County Colonization Society follows:

**COLONIZATION MEETING**

Proceedings of the first annual meeting of the Sangamon County Colonization Society

The Society convened according to notice at the Methodist Chapel, and in the absence of the President, one of the Vice Presidents, Rev. John G. Bergen, took the chair, by whom the meeting was opened with a deeply impressive prayer.

John C. Doremus, from the committee previously appointed to prepare the Society’s annual report, then presented the same, which on motion of Maj. J. T. Stuart, was accepted, and the papers of the town requested to publish.

The meeting then had the pleasure of listening to as able and eloquent address from the appointed Speaker, Rev. J. T. Mitchell, who presented the following resolution--

“That the benefits which it confers upon the colored race, without injuring the white man, and the blessings which it proposes to dispense to the two Continents in its humane and missionary operations—the cause of African Colonization is worthy of the entire confidence, and the active, unwearied support of the American Patriot, the Philanthropist, and the Christian.”

The expressions of the meeting being taken upon this resolution, it was unanimously adopted, and a vote of thanks presented to the speaker for his instructive and animating discourse.

Dr. F. A. McNiel presented to the Society the sum of fifty-two dollars as the donation of the ladies of the Methodist Episcopal Church of this town to _____ their pastor, Rev. J. T. Mitchell and Mrs. Mitchell, member of the Society for life. Mr. Mitchell expressed his thankful acknowledgment of this personal compliment, and the Society by unanimous resolutions, “That gratitude for the donation with the hope that the example might be followed by other Churches in the county and elsewhere.”

Several annual subscriptions were then paid __, and a number of names added to the list of the annual subscription of ten dollars for ten years.

The following gentlemen were elected officers for the ensuing year:

Rev. CHARLES DRESSER, President,
Rev. J. [John] T. MITCHELL, Vice President,
Rev. JOHN G. BERGEN,
Dr. JOHN TODD,
Hon. JOHN T. STUART,
EDMUND ROBERTS, Esq.,
JOHN WILLIAMS, Treasurer,
JOHN C. [Caldwell] DOREMUS, Secretary,
Dr. F. [Francis] A. McNeill,
Dr. J. [James] R. Gray.⁵²⁵
On motion of Judge Treat, it was ordered that the papers be respectfully requested to publish the minutes of this meeting.

The Society then adjourned to meet upon the 22nd of February next.

Jno. C. DOREMUS, Sec’ry.

The Society now numbers about 150 members—twenty of whom pay an annual donation of ten dollars each—so that the annual sum of 350 dollars is contributed by the Society; a sum that will annually transport and settle in Africa twelve emancipated slaves. A practical result of benevolence and redemption, which the many hundred abolition societies throughout the land, have never yet, and never will be able to accomplish.

It is respectfully requested of those who have not yet paid their subscriptions, to hand them over to Mr. John Williams, the Treasurer—as opportunity of sending funds to the parent Association at Washington city, will soon offer.

Donations and subscriptions will also be received by any officers of the society.

By order,
JNO. C. DOREMUS, Sec’y.

Arrival of Albert Hale, Minister of Second (Westminster) Presbyterian Church

In the summer of 1839, Rev. Albert Hale was invited to become pastor of the Second Presbyterian Church in Springfield.

In the summer of 1839, the congregation invited Rev. Albert Hale to become its pastor. He accepted the invitation, and preached his first regular sermon here on the 15th of November following. He was installed on the first day of July, 1840, and remained as pastor until January, 1867, a period of twenty-seven years.257

Having accepted a call from the Second Church of Springfield he entered upon his work there in November 1839. At the time Mr. Hale was in full vigor of young manhood. He was strong in body, vigorous in mind and possessed of wonderful energy. It is said in the days of his prime and power, the men impressed by his appearance often stopped to look at him and ask who he was.258

Albert Hale was born in Connecticut in November 1799. He graduated from Yale College in 1827 and then served as a missionary on horseback in South Carolina and Georgia “preaching Christ by the wayside to fellow travelers and in the homes where he was entertained, and where he found he could make an opportunity.” He then returned to Connecticut and attended Yale Theological Seminary in New haven where he completed his studies in 1831. “While in Seminary he was one of the band of students who formed what is historically known as the Illinois Movement, and who devoted themselves to christian labor in that State. In November 1831 he landed at Shawneetown where he preached.”259 He was the Presbyterian minister of the Bethel Church in Bond County, Illinois from 1832 to 1836.260

In the spring of 1834, Reverends Albert Hale and Theron Baldwin, Home Missionaries from New England, came through Sangamon County preaching at various places in the widely scattered settlements. They were both members of the “Illinois Association” or the Yale Band, which sometime before had been organized at Yale College. They called on Rev. Bergen at Springfield to ask if they were needed to preach in this vicinity. “Yes,” said Bergen, “we need you right here.” Bergen went about the town giving notice that a religious meeting would be held that evening. This was the beginning of a series of revival meetings that continued for two weeks. As a result, about thirty persons united and this was the beginning of the Second Presbyterian Church.31 Albert Hale was an outspoken opponent and enemy of slavery and a follower of the “New School” in theology.32

Did Rhoda Live in the Lincoln Home?

On April 23, 1839, Dresser purchased a lot at Eighth and Jackson Streets from Dr. Gershom Jayne and his wife, Sybil. In May of 1839, Dresser began construction of a house on that lot. If it was completed prior to August 25 of the following year, Rhoda, the Dressers’ African American indentured servant, would have
lived in this house. On January 16, 1844, Abraham Lincoln purchased this house and the Lincoln family took possession of the home in April of that year.\textsuperscript{533} I find no entry for the Dresser family in the 1840 Census of Springfield.

\textit{Estate of Nathan Cromwell vs. David Bailey,}
\textit{Lawsuit Involving Nance, A Colored Woman}

In 1839 the administrators of the Estate of Nathan Cromwell brought suit in the Circuit Court of Tazwell County against David Bailey on his $376.48 promissory note made in 1836 to Nathan Cromwell for the purchase of Nance, an African American girl.\textsuperscript{534} “Nance” had been sold in 1827 as a part of the liquidation of Thomas Cox’s assets to pay his debts. Judge Stephen T. Logan represented Cromwell’s Estate. The parties agreed that Cromwell would provide the papers and indenture proving that the woman was a slave and bound to servitude under the laws of Illinois. The papers were not provided. Cromwell later died, and William Cromwell and McNaghton, the administrators of Nathan Cromwell’s estate, sued for payment of the note. Bailey retained Stuart and Lincoln and argued that he did not pay because Nathan Cromwell voided the contract by failing to provide the consideration—proof of the woman’s status as servant. The trial judge entered judgment against Bailey for $431.97 in favor of Cromwell’s Estate.\textsuperscript{535}

Bailey appealed the case to the Illinois Supreme Court. It was contended that the note was without consideration and void, as it was given as the purchase price of a human being who, the evidence showed, was free and therefore not the subject of sale. Supreme Court Judge Breese wrote the Court’s opinion reversing the trial court and holding. He ruled that the note and the agreement made at the same time were one contract. Since Cromwell did not furnish the evidence of indenture as promised, the contract was void because it lacked consideration. Contrary to the established rule in many of the southern states, the Court that the presumption in Illinois was that a African American was free and not the subject of sale.\textsuperscript{536} Under the old rule, the burden was upon the African American to establish that he or she was free, and the African American who asserted he was not a slave was required to bring forward his proof, which he often could not do.\textsuperscript{537}

\textbf{Birth of Varveel Fleurville}

In 1839, William and Phoebe Rountree Fleurville had their fourth child, Varveel, who was born in Springfield.

\textbf{Runaway Slave, James Foster, Living in Springfield}

In 1841, an Arkansas man claimed James Foster, who had lived in Springfield for two years, as a runaway slave. Judge Samuel Treat, who kept an African American servant in his own home, demanded proof of ownership and then surrendered Foster to his master and his fate in Arkansas.\textsuperscript{538}

\textbf{1840}

\textbf{The 1840 United States Census}

By 1840, there were 3,598 free African Americans and 331 “slaves” in Illinois. The 1840 population of Springfield was 2,579.\textsuperscript{539} About 4.4% of the total population (115) were African Americans, and consisted of 6 “Slaves” (4 males and 2 females) and 109 “Free Colored” (58 males and 51 females). The 1840 United States Census was the last census identifying some African Americans as “Slaves.”\textsuperscript{540}

\textbf{1840 United States Census: Springfield Slave Owners}

Four Springfield residents were listed as having “Slaves.”

\begin{itemize}
  \item James Bell: 1 female age 10-24.
  \item J. T. Betts: 2 males age 10 to 24.
  \item Ninian Wirt Edwards: 1 male age 10-24.
  \item William Lewis May: 1 female age 10-24 [Bernice].
\end{itemize}

Three were known by and had contacts with Lincoln during the 1840’s.

\textbf{James Bell}

In James Bell’s household there were three white males: two age 5 to 10 and one age 30 to 40 (James). There was one white female, age 20 to 30. There was also one female “Slave,” age 10 to 24.
Bell arrived in Springfield prior to the winter of 1831-32. He was a member of the trading firm of James Bell and Joshua Speed, doing business as James Bell & Co., and later with the firm of Bell & Tinsley, who had a store on the north side of Jefferson, between Second and Third Streets. Lincoln represented Bell in at least three cases, one each in 1838, 1839 and 1842.

**J. T. Betts**

In J. T. Betts’ household there were two African American male slaves age 10 to 24.

**Ninian Wirt Edwards**

In the household of 31 year-old lawyer and Kentuckian, Ninian Wirt Edwards, there were two white males: one age 5 to 10 and one age 40 to 50 (Ninian). There were also two white females: one under age 5 and one age 20 to 30 (Elizabeth, age 24). There was one male “Slave”, age 10 to 24. There was one Free Colored female, age 10 to 24. This was probably Hepsey, who was indentured to Edwards in 1835.

**William Lewis May**

In the household of William Lewis May, there were three white males: one age 10 to 15 (John), one age 15 to 20 (George) and one age 50 to 60 (William). There were five white females: two age 5 to 10; one age 10 to 15; one age 15 to 20; and one age 20 to 30, his wife, Ann E. Abrams. May’s daughters were Harriet and Mary. There was also one female “Slave,” age 10 to 24 (Bernice).

William L. May was born in Kentucky about 1793 and attended the common schools there. He moved to Edwardsville, Madison County, Illinois, and then to Jacksonville, Illinois. He was appointed justice of the peace in Madison County on December 10, 1817. He was a captain of militia in 1822, and he was elected justice of the peace in Morgan County on August 6, 1827, and resigned on August 29, 1829. In 1828, he was a member of the Illinois House of Representatives. May moved to Springfield circa 1829 when fellow Kentuckian and Democrat, President Andrew Jackson, appointed him as the third Register of the Land Office in Springfield. He studied law and was admitted to bar. He was a partner of Stephen T. Logan. He was also a surveyor and minister and he at one time operated a ferry across the Illinois River at Peoria and organized the Peoria Bridge Co.

From December 1, 1834, to March 3, 1839, May was a Congressman. In 1834, he was elected as a Jacksonian to the Twenty-third Congress. On October 27, 1834, Abraham Lincoln voted for him. He was reelected to the Twenty-fourth Congress in 1836, defeating fellow Kentuckian, John T. Stuart. He was reelected as a Democrat to the Twenty-fifth Congress and served as chairman, Committee on Private Land Claims. In 1839, Lincoln voted for the Whigs, including Congressional candidate John T. Stuart, who was defeated by May. He moved to Peoria, Ill., and continued the practice of law. In May of 1841, May was elected mayor of Springfield.

1841 Kane v. May & Eastham- May and Eastham gave Kane a promissory note but failed to pay. Kane sued May and Eastham in an action of assumpsit’s to recover the debt. William Lewis May and Eastham retained Logan and Lincoln and pleaded not guilty. May and Eastham later withdrew their pleas, and the court ruled for Kane and awarded $112.50 in damages. The parties agreed that in lieu of paying in cash May would deliver the African-American girl Bernice and her child to Kane to satisfy the judgment.

May went to California during the gold rush and died in Sacramento, California on September 29, 1849.

**Free Colored Residing with White Families**

**Edward D. Baker**

In the household of 29 year-old Edward D. Baker, there was one Free Colored female, age 10 to 24. Baker was a prominent Whig politician and lawyer. He served in the Illinois House from 1836 to 1840, and in the Senate from 1840 to 1844. He was elected to Congress in 1844.

**Dr. Richard F. Barrett**

In the household of Dr. Richard F. Barrett, there was one Free Colored male age 10 to 24 and one Free Colored female age 10 to 24.

**William M. Butler**

In the household of 43 year-old William Butler and his wife, Elizabeth Rickard Butler, there was one Free Colored male under the age of 10. The Butler’s lived at the southwest corner of Third and Madison, with
the house facing Third Street. Lincoln boarded here when he first came to Springfield in April 1837 and later he and Joshua Speed came here to live. This was Lincoln’s home until he married in 1842.

**John Calhoun**

In the household of John Calhoun, a 32 year-old lawyer, school teacher, surveyor and Boston, Massachusetts native, there were three white males: one age 5 to 10; one age 10 to 15; and one age 40 to 50 (John). There were four white females: one under age 5; one age 10 to 15 and two age 20 to 30, his 28 year-old wife, Sarah Cutter, a native of Cincinnati, Ohio, who he married in 1831. Residing with the Calhoun’s was a Free Colored female, age 10 to 24.

Calhoun arrived in Springfield in 1830 as a 22 year-old bachelor. He attended Canajoharie Academy in his native Massachusetts and studied law in Fort Plain and Springfield. While studying the law, he taught school in Springfield. Calhoun was the surveyor of Sangamon County and induced and trained Lincoln as a surveyor. He was a Democrat. He served in the Black Hawk War in 1831-32. In 1854 Calhoun was appointed surveyor general of Kansas and Nebraska and moved there.

**J. A. Cornean (u)**

In the household of J. A. Cornean, there was one Free Colored male, age 10 to 24.

**Levi Davis**

Levi Davis’ household consisted of two white males: one age 5 to 10 and one age 40 to 50 (Levi). There was one white female age 20 to 30. Residing in the Davis household was one Free Colored male under the age of 10.

On November 16, 1835, Davis, then a Vandalia lawyer, was appointed Illinois Auditor of Public Accounts. Entries found in Day by Day, evidence Abraham Lincoln’s long and extensive relationships with Davis.

**Benjamin S. Edwards**

In the household of 30 year-old Illinois native, Benjamin S. Edwards, there were two white males, one age 30 to 40 and one age 40 to 50. Living with the Edwards’ was one Free Colored female, under age 10.

Mrs. B. S. Edwards, who came to Springfield in the winter of 1839-40 as a bride... As the stage on which she and her husband had traveled from St. Louis lumbered slowly through the mud of the unlighted streets, she could think only of the forbidding aspect of her new home, and her heart was heavy at the prospect. At the American House a number of passengers were discharged. Then the driver headed for the home of her husband’s brother Ninian, where the young couple were to stay. Within all was bright, cheerful and hospitable. In less than a week Mrs. Edwards was in the swing of a “legislative winter,” and her forebodings were forgotten.

**Benjamin Ferguson**

In the household of Benjamin Ferguson, there was one Free Colored female, age 10 to 24.

**Dorothea Grant**

In the household of Dorothea Grant, there were one white male, age 10 to 15, one white female, age 5 to 10, and one white female, age 30 to 40, Dorothea. Dorothea appears to have been a 30 something, single mother or widow, with two children, one a teenager and the other a younger girl. There was also one Free Colored female, age 10-24 living with the family.
William P. Grimsley

In the household of 27 year-old Virginia native, William P. Grimsley, there were two white males: one age 30 to 40 and one age 40 to 50. There were also two white females, both age 20 to 30. In 1860, Grimsley lived at Second and Washington Streets. There were also two Free Colored, one age 10 to 24 and the other age 36 to 56.

Virgil Hickox

In the household of 33 year-old native New Yorker, Virgil Hickox, there was one white male age 40-50 (Virgil), and two white females, age 15 to 20 and 20 to 30, his 20 year-old wife, Catherine, a Kentucky native. Eliza Catherine Cabaniss (1810-1875) married Virgil in 1839. Eliza’s parents, John M. and Lucy W. Parks Cabaniss, were charter members of the Second Presbyterian Church.

Residing with the Hickox family was a Free Colored male, under 10 years of age. This would have been 9 year-old John Shelby, who was born on February 9, 1831. On May 20, 1840, Virgil Hickox entered into an indenture of apprenticeship with John Shelby, a boy of colour. Shelby was to learn the art and mystery of common domestic labor and serve until his 21st birthday, on February 9, 1852. The indenture was given with the “approbation” of his father, Mack Shelby. This is the same Mack that we have followed since 1810. He was married to Mary or Aunt Polly Shelby, who one year later engaged Lincoln as her attorney and filed for divorce from Mack.

E. M. Hinkle

In the household of E. M. Hinkle, there was one Free Colored male, age 10 to 24.

Thomas Houghan

In the household of Thomas Houghan, there was one Free Colored male, age 10 to 24.

Lawrason Levering

In the household of Lawrason Levering, there were two white males: one age 5 to 10 and one age 30 to 40 (Lawrason). There were three white females: one age 15 to 20 and two age 20 to 30. There was also one Free Colored male, age 10 to 24. This was the household of Mary Todd’s best friend--Mercy--who lived next door to the Ninian Wirt Edwards family.

In the autumn of 1839 Mary Todd arrived in Springfield to make her home with her sister, Mrs. Ninian W. Edwards. At about the same time Mercy Levering came on from Baltimore for an extended visit with her brother Lawrason and his family. The Leverings and the Edwards’s lived adjacent to each other, and the two girls soon became firm friends.

William Lowry

In the household of William Lowry, there were two Free Colored females, one under age 10 and the other age 24 to 36.

William Prentice

In the household of William Prentice, there were three Free Colored males age 10 to 24.

James Frazier Reed

In the household of James Frazier Reed, an Irishman, there were four white males: one age 5 to 10 and three age 40 to 50 (James F.). There were 5 white females: one under 5; one age 5 to 10; and two age 20 to 30; and one age 60 to 70. Living with the Reeds were two Free Colored females under age 10.

Nicholas H. Ridgely

In the household of Nicholas H. Ridgely there was one Free Colored female age 24 to 36. This would have been Becky Wood.

Edmund B. Roberts

In the household of Edmund B. Roberts, there was one Free Colored male under age 10.

S. M. Sill

In the household of S. M. Sill, there was one Free Colored female age 10 to 24.
**David Spear**

In the household of 30 year-old Irishman, David Spear, there were two white males, one age 10 to 15 and one age 30 to 40, David. There were also two white females: one age 5 to 10 and one age 20 to 30. Living with the Spears was a Free Colored male under age 10. Lincoln represented Spear in at least 10 matters between 1838 and 1851.\(^{563}\)

David Spear, was born in Ireland; emigrated to the United States, and after living some years in Kentucky, settled in Springfield prior to 1840, and was engaged in the dry goods business in the city about a quarter of a century. He had a son, Joseph Spear, who was born in Springfield in April of 1853.\(^{564}\)

**Judge Samuel H. Treat**

In the household of Judge Samuel H. Treat, there was one Free Colored male, age 10 to 24.

**Stacy B. Updike**

In the household of 45 year-old Stacy B. Updike (Opdycke) there were two white males: 1 age 5-10 (Thomas G.) and 1 age 50-60 (Stacy). There were two white females: 1 under age 5 (Charlotte) and 1 5-10, _______. There was also one Free Colored male, age 10-24.

Stacy B. Opdycke, born on January 1, 1795, at New Castle, New Jersey, learned the carpenter trade there, and went to Kaskaskia, Illinois in 1816, walking nearly the whole distance. On April 25, 1833, he was married in Kaskaskia to Hannah G. Griffith, who was born on February 11, 1804, in Pennsylvania. She was a daughter of Dr. Thomas Griffith, of Tazewell County, Illinois, and a sister of Mrs. Charlotte Pricket, of Springfield. Mr. and Mrs. Opdycke moved from Kaskaskia to Chester, in the same county, where they had one child, and from there to Springfield in 1835, where three children were born, two of whom died young. Of their two children, Charlotte, born on March 19, 1835, was married in Springfield to John D. Keedy. Thomas G., born on April 9, 1847, died in November, 1864, in Springfield. Stacy B. Opdycke was engaged in pork packing with James L. Lamb for several years, and was afterwards merchandizing with Tinsley & Fonday. Hannah G. Opdycke died on October 9, 1847, and Stacy B. Opdycke died on June 26, 1858, both in Springfield.\(^{565}\) Stacy served as an alderman from the Fourth Ward in 1841 and 1842.

**Free African Americans with Independent Residence**

**Thomas Cox**

In the household of Thomas Cox, an African American man, there were four Free Colored males: two under 10 years of age (2 year-old Thomas, born in Missouri and ___ month old Columbus, born in Kentucky); one age 10 to 24 and one age 24 to 36. There were four Free Colored females: one age 10 to 24 (Charlotte), one age 24 to 36 (Almira) and one age 36 to 55.

**Edmund Fry**

By 1840 Edmund Fry, then age 45, was living in Sangamon County, Illinois, where the 1840 Census lists him and those living with him under the category “Free Colored.” He is the head of family consisting of himself and two unnamed females, Nancy and ____.\(^{566}\) He had moved to Springfield in 1838.\(^{567}\)

**Ephraim Henson**

In the household of Ephraim Henson, an African American man, there were four Free Colored males: two under 10 years of age (____) (____), one age 10 to 24 (____) and one age 24 to 36 (Ephraim). There were three Free Colored females: one under 10 years of age (____), one 10 to 24 (____) and one age 24 to 36 (____).

**John Jackson**

In the household of John Jackson, an African American man, there were six Free Colored males: two age 10 to 24 (John Edward)(Edward) and four age 24 to 36 (____) (____) (____) (____). There were two Free Colored females: one age 10 to 24 (Henrietta)(Georgeana) and one age 56 to 100 (Diana Tyler).

**Titus Kirkpatrick**

In the household of Titus Kirkpatrick, an African American man, there were three Free Colored males: one under 10 years of age (____), one age 24 to 36 (35 year-old John born in Virginia) and one age 36 to 55 (Titus). There were two Free Colored females: one under 10 years of age (____) and one age 24 to 36 (20 year-old Matilda, born in Kentucky).
Henry Mann
In the household of Henry Mann, an African American man, there were five Free Colored males: three under 10 years of age (___) (___) (_____), one age 10 to 24 (_____), and one age 55 to 100 (Henry). There was one Free Colored female age 10 to 24 (Katherine).

Uriah Maxwell
In the household of Uriah Maxwell, an African American man, there was one Free Colored male age 10 to 24. This would have been Uriah, a 23-year-old mulatto who had been born in Illinois. There were three Free Colored females: one age under 10 (____), one age 10 to 24 (_____), and one age 55 to 100 (Katherine), of whom would have been Lucy, then age 22 and listed in the 1850 Census as a mulatto who had been born in Kentucky.

Luke Mayberry
In the household of Luke Mayberry, an African American man, there was one Free Colored male age 55 to 100 (Luke). There were three Free Colored females: one age 10 to 24 (_____), and two age 55 to 100 (____).

Jesse Price
In the household of Jesse Price, an African American man, there were three Free Colored males: one age under 10, Charles; one age 10 to 24 (_____); and one age 56 to 100, Jessy. There were two Free Colored females: one age 10 to 24 (_____), and one age 36 to 56 (______).

Mary Shelby
In the household of Mary Shelby, an African American woman, there were six Free Colored males: two under 10 years of age (___) (_____), two age 10 to 24 (____) (_____), one age 36 to 55 (_____), and one age 36 to 55 (_____). There were three Free Colored females: two age 10 to 24 (____) (_____), and one age 24 to 36 (______).

Allen Stewart
In the household of Allen Stewart, an African American man, there were two Free Colored males: one under 10 years of age (______) and one age 36 to 55 (Allen). There was one Free Colored female age 24 to 36 (Polly Ann).

Meshac Stewart
In the household of Meshac Stewart, an African American man, there was one Free Colored male age 24 to 36 (Meshac). There were three Free Colored females: one under 10 years of age (_______) and two age 10 to 24 (_____)(____) and one age 10-24 (______).

Daniel West
In the household of Daniel West, an African American man, there was one Free Colored male age 36 to 55 (Daniel). There were two Free Colored females: one under 10 years of age (______) and one age 36 to 55 (______).

Birth of William LaRue Fleurville
On March 20, 1840, William and Phoebe Rountree Fleurville had their fifth child, LaRue, who was born in Springfield.

Semi-Annual Meeting of Sangamon County Colonization Society
On July 15, 1840, the semi-annual meeting of the Sangamon County Colonization Society was held at the Methodist Chapel at Fifth and Monroe Streets. The Sangamo Journal published an announcement of the meeting:
AFRICAN COLONIZATION

The Sangamon Colonization Society will hold its semiannual celebration in the Methodist Chapel on Monday next (15 inst.) The annual address will be delivered by J. C. Doremus, Esq.

The members of the society and the public generally, are invited to attend. The exercises will commence at 8 P.M. precisely.

July 10. 568

HICKOX HOUSE ON THE WEST SIDE OF FOURTH STREET, AT THE INTERSECTION OF EDWARDS STREET,
PERHAPS FORMERLY THE METHODIST CHAPEL AT FIFTH AND MONROE STREETS

Annual Meeting of Sangamon County Colonization Society

On October 22, 1840, the annual meeting of the Sangamon County Colonization Society was held at the Second Presbyterian Church at the northwest corner of Fourth and Monroe Streets. The Sangamo Journal published an announcement of the meeting:

NOTICE--The Sangamon County Colonization Society, will hold their Anniversary Meeting on Thursday evening next, the 22nd inst., in the 2nd Presbyterian Church. Judge Robbins, late of Kentucky, will deliver the address. The public are invited to attend—The exercises will commence at early candle light.

Thos. Moffitt Comm. .
Clegent )
Of James C. Doremus ) Arr’t
Oct. 16, 1840569

SECOND PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

James M. Shelby Runs Away from Indenture to Henry B. Truett

Sometime in November of 1840, James M. Shelby, the indentured servant of Henry B. Truett, must have run away from Truett.570 Truett complained to the Circuit Court and Judge J. Adams issued a warrant for James’ arrest.

H. B. Truett maketh oath on complaint sayeth that James M. Shelby a bound apprentice to me the said H. B. Truett has left ___ run away from his the said H. B. Truett service and is now absent from the service of H. B. Truett without his leave.

H. B. Truett
Sworn this 28th Nov. 1840
J. Adams J. P. S. C. 571
Order to Bring James M. Shelby Before Court
to Answer Complaint of Henry B. Truett

On November 28, 1840, Judge Adams ordered the sheriff to “take the body” of James M. Shelby and bring him before the Judge to answer the complaint of Henry B. Truett that James, his indentured servant, had run away and to be dealt with according to law.

State of Illinois
Sangamon County

People of the State of Illinois to the Sheriff or any Constable of said County greeting:
Whereas H. B. Truett made complaint on his oath as follows: Towit James M. Shelby a bound apprentice to him the said H. B. Truett has left or run away from his the said H. B. Truett service and is now absent from the said H. B. Truett service without his the said H. B. Truett leave

These are therefor to command you to take the body of the said James M. Shelby and bring him forthwith before me at my office in the City of Springfield to answer the said Complaint and be dealt with according to law

Nov. 28, 1840
Springfield
J. Adams P.J.PS Co.

Estate of Frank Shelby: Appointment of Appraisers

On December 21, 1840, the Circuit Court appointed B. Thornburg, James Hannan and D. E. Walker to appraise the personal property of Frank Shelby’s Estate.

Emily Logan vs. Marcus A. Chinn

In the case of Emily Logan vs. Marcus A. Chinn, venued from Morgan to Sangamon County in 1840, the woman sued out a writ of homine replegiando, seeking to recover her freedom from Chinn who claimed her as a runaway slave from Kentucky. The case was closely contested, but the jury decided in the slave’s favor, thus relieving her from further surveillance. Stephen T. Logan represented the defendant, Chinn, and Baker & Edwards the woman.

Hooper Warren Editor of The Genius of Universal Emancipation

From December, 1840, to April, 1842, the paper [The Genius of Universal Emancipation] was edited by Hooper Warren, [put also at ___] hero of the anti-convention forces of 1823-1824, and Zebina Eastman, a young antislavery man from Massachusetts. Although the paper received financial aid from the La Salle County Anti-Slavery Society, rural northern Illinois proved to be a poor location for the Genius. Warren’s and Eastman’s efforts on behalf of the antislavery cause continued to be hamstrung by financial difficulties. When the newly formed Liberty Party offered to raise funds for an antislavery newspaper in Chicago, the Genius was moved to the booming city on the shores of Lake Michigan and renamed the Western Citizen.

Luther Ransom Moves to Springfield and Opens Boarding House

In 1840, Luther moved to Springfield and by October 18, 1841, he operated an underground railroad station there at his boarding house near the Globe Tavern.

William Caldwell and Family and African American Man, Josh,
Arrive in Auburn Township, Sangamon County, Illinois

Capt. William Caldwell had a man called Josh, and when the family, in 1840, moved to the farm in Curran township, Josh, of course, went too, and at the Captain’s death, his son, John, who had come from Greene County, succeeded to the charge of Josh, and after his death his son, B. F., became the man’s benefactor. Josh died some years ago at an advanced age.
Joshua Fry Speed Moves Back to Kentucky

Early in 1841, Joshua Fry Speed, Lincoln’s closest friend, sold his store and moved back to the Speed family home at Farmington, near Louisville, Kentucky. Speed had lived in Springfield since 1835.578

Edward D. Baker Votes Against Resolution to Condemn 1840 World Anti-Slavery Convention

Even after the death of Lovejoy members of the General Assembly continued to berate the abolitionists in uncompromising terms, contributing immeasurable to the climate of violence in Illinois. On January 21, 1841, William A. Richardson, a state senator from Schuyler and Brown Counties, resolved that every attempt made by the abolitionists to excite the slave against his master was a hostile act against both the federal Constitution and “free institutions.” Richardson considered the 1840 World Anti-Slavery Convention held in London “an attempt upon the part of British subjects” to interfere with “the domestic relations” of the American people. Only three state senators voted against the Richardson resolutions:… Edward D. Baker of Sangamon County…[was one of them]579

Sidney McIntry, “A Mulatto Girl,” Indenture To Nathaniel A. Rankin

On March 3, 1841, Nathaniel A. Rankin entered into an indenture with 9 year-old Sidney McIntry, a mulatto girl.580 She was to be taught “the art and mystery of housekeeping” and was to serve until she reached the age of eighteen on June 15, 1859.581 At the expiration of the term of service, Rankin was to give her a new Bible and two new suits of clothes “suitable to her condition.” The indenture was signed by justices of the peace Thomas Moffett and William Lavely.582

Abraham Lincoln Represents Mary Shelby in Divorce From Mack Shelby

On March 8, 1841, Mary Shelby, Mack’s wife, filed for divorce in the Circuit Court of Sangamon County. Abraham Lincoln was Mary’s attorney. The petition stated that until two years ago (1839), Mary lived with Mack, “though not in the highest state of connubial felicity.” Mary asserted that they had since gone their separate ways and charged that Mack was a habitual drunkard and had contributed nothing to her support.583 Mary later dismissed the case.

William Lewis May Pays Debt By Delivering African American Bernice and Her Child

In May of 1841, William Lewis May was elected mayor of Springfield.

Kane v. May & Eastham- May and Eastham gave Kane a promissory note but failed to pay. Kane sued May and Eastham in an action of assumpsit’s to recover the debt. William Lewis May and Eastham retained Logan and Lincoln and pleaded not guilty. May and Eastham later withdrew their pleas, and the court ruled for Kane and awarded $112.50 in damages. The parties agreed that in lieu of paying in cash May would deliver the African-American girl Bernice and her child to Kane to satisfy the judgment.584

Thomas Cox Advertises for Apprentice Barber

On July 2, 1841, Thomas Cox, the African American, advertised in the Sangamo Journal for a journeyman barber and an apprentice.

WANTED–A good Journeyman Barber, to whom good wages will be given, — also, an Apprentice to the above business. 
Apply to THOS. COX, 
July 2 Springfield, Ill. 585

African American Thomas Cox’s Account With Robert Irwin

20 yard of calico 50---June 8th 1846
Domestic Flannel
Shoes and socks Pleasant
Pair man ___ Pleasant trimmings
Amt. ___ William Cox 2 hose 1 pair slippers May 25 3 yards ribbon
Carpet chair ___ 261/2 by D. Logan
2 hose 1 pair slippers 24 by cash
17 yards ______ 1 ____ wash 50
Coat Trimmins 1.00 By balance to Folio 54
David Bailey vs. William Cromwell:
The Subject of Appeal to Illinois Supreme Court

David Bailey vs. William Cromwell was tried in the Tazewell Circuit Court in the September term, 1839, before Judge William Thomas. A promissory note was given by Bailey for the purchase of a negro girl, sold by Cromwell to Bailey, and represented, at the time of purchase, to be a slave and servant. Cromwell was to produce the necessary papers and indenture proving the girl a slave, bound to servitude under the laws of Illinois, but the papers were never produced. The girl asserted her freedom and remained with Bailey only some six months. Suit was brought on the promissory note. The lower court decided against Bailey and the case was carried to the Supreme Court. Lincoln representing Bailey, and Logan the administrators of Cromwell’s estate. It was argued in the July term, 1841.

Judge Breese wrote the opinion of the Court which stated that the ‘girl being free, and asserting her freedom in the only modes she could . . . could not be the subject of a sale, and no right to her services would pass by such sale.’ The note, therefore, was illegal and no recovery could be had upon it.587

It was contended that the note was without consideration and void, as it was given as the purchase price of a human being who, the evidence showed, was free and therefore not the subject of sale. Supreme Court Judge Breese wrote the Court’s opinion reversing the trial court and holding. He ruled that the note and the agreement made at the same time were one contract. Since Cromwell did not furnish the evidence of indenture as promised, the contract was void because it lacked consideration. Contrary to the established rule in many of the southern states, the Court that the presumption in Illinois was that a African American was free and not the subject of sale.588 Under the old rule, the burden was upon the African American to establish that he or she was free, and the African American who asserted he was not a slave was required to bring forward his proof, which he often could not do.589

Abraham Lincoln Visits Joshua F. Speed in Kentucky

From August 18 through September 7, 1841, Abraham Lincoln visited his friend Joshua Fry Speed at Farmington, Kentucky, the Speed family plantation near Louisville.590 Speed had moved back to Kentucky earlier in the year.

Here he could see slavery in operation; it is possible that a slave was assigned to him for his personal needs. However, in his thank you letter to Mary Speed...he did not mention slavery at Farmington.591

Farmington is a 14-room Federal-style home that was the center of the 19th-century hemp plantation of John and Lucy Speed. Designed from a plan by Thomas Jefferson and completed in 1816 using slave labor. No house in Kentucky more gracefully embodies Federal architecture than Farmington. Jeffersonian features of its perfectly proportioned 14 rooms include two octagonal rooms, the steep and narrow “hidden” stairway, and the fanlights between the front and rear halls. Exquisite reeded doorways, carved mantels, and marbleized baseboards add special elegance to the interior.

Farmington was typical of its time in farm management and slave life. Every part of the enterprise was made profitable by the labor of slaves who were also frequently hired out to neighboring plantations. Births and deaths, purchases, slaves and occasional runaways contributed to the ebb and flow of the slave population. The house and land bustled with the activity of slaves and their children, the Speed family, and their frequent business and social visitors.
One slave, named Morocco, was so trusted by John Speed that he traveled as a business courier for his master. He also delivered money and supplies to the Speed sons, James and Joshua, at school in Bardstown. Morocco often went to the market with Rose, another slave, on a wagon loaded with Farmington apples, raspberries and currants.

At John Speed’s death in 1840, fifty-seven slaves were listed in the property inventory. Earlier, however, daughter Susan, who later established The Home for Friendless Women, received five slaves. They may have been a gift to Susan upon her marriage to Benjamin O. Davis. Although this was common practice, it contributed to the break-up of slave families.

Another daughter, Peachy, who took over the management of the plantation in 1845, also received slaves upon her marriage to Austin L. Peay in 1832.

Before the war and during it, some Speed family members freed their slaves. According to court documents, on the same day in 1845, Lucy G. Speed, John’s widow, and their daughter Lucy F. Breckinridge emancipated three slaves - Rose, Sally and her son Harrod. Other family members, such as sons J. Smith, Joshua, Phillip and daughters Mary and Eliza freed their slaves between 1863 and 1865. Peachy Speed Peay, whose husband Austin had died during the 1849 cholera epidemic, sold Farmington in 1865. Years earlier, the other children of John and Lucy Speed had moved from Farmington to places of their own.

**Josephine, “A Girl Of Color,” Indenture to James F. Owings**

On August 5, 1841, James F. Owings, Clerk of the United States District Court at Springfield, entered into an indenture with 8 year-old Josephine, a girl of color. She was to be taught “the household duties of a female, such as “cooking washing & etc.” and was to serve until she reached the age of eighteen on August 1, 1851. At the expiration of the term of service Owings was to give Josephine a new Bible and two new suits of clothes “suitable to her condition.” The indenture was witnessed by Jacob Bunn.

**Springfield’s Underground Railroad at Luther Ransom’s Boarding House:**

Advertisement for Runaway Slaves

Underground Railroad operations in central Illinois, like their counterparts throughout the nation, used a variety of ruses to help slaves reach freedom. White abolitionists often drove runaway slaves from Springfield by dressing them up in fancy clothes and veils so no one could tell whether they were white. By 1841, there was an active underground railroad stop in Springfield. It is probable that one of the agents for the Springfield stop was abolitionist Luther N. Ransom.

In 1840, Luther moved to Springfield and by October 18, 1841, he operated an underground railroad station there at his boarding house near the Globe Tavern. Luther’s participation in Springfield’s underground railroad is evidenced by a St. Louis slave owner’s October 18, 1841, handbill offering a $200 reward for the return of an African American woman, Rittea or Henrietta Jones, and her children, Martha, age 6, Sarah, age 4, and James, age 2, and her husband, Nicholas, a “free dark mulatto.” A “P.S.” at the end of the handbill stated that Rittea and her family were “seen at L. N. Ransom’s boarding house, at Springfield Ill., on yesterday morning.” The following is a transcription of the handbill.” According to the handbill, she and her family were seen on the morning of October 17, 1841, at the boarding house of Luther N. Ransom.
Ran off from the subscriber on Thursday morning, 14th inst, one Negro Woman, named Rittea or Henrietta Jones, with her three children, Martha, Sarah and James. The woman is large and fleshy, of a dark complexion and very sullen countenance; the oldest daughter, Martha is six years old, the second Sarah is 4, and the son James is 2. The children are of a lighter color than their mother.

The husband of Rittea, Nicholas Jones, is a free dark mulatto about thirty-five years old, slightly spotted with the small-pox, about 5 feet 8 or 9 inches high, and quite impertinent when spoken to. Said Nicholas had a white man at Alton, to carry his family to Carlinville Ill. in a two horse box wagon, covered with white linen or cotton.

I will give One hundred dollars for the delivery of Nicholas in St. Louis, if taken out of the State, or fifty dollars if apprehended in it, or the latter sum if confined in any Jail in the United States, so that I can get him. I will also give One hundred dollars for the delivery of Rittea and her children in St. Louis, if taken out of this State, or fifty dollars if apprehended in it, or the latter sum if confined in any Jail in the United States so that I can get them. In addition to the above reward all reasonable expenses will be paid by me.

St. Louis, Mo.

JOHN FINNLY.

P. S. Since the above was written I have been informed that Nicholas, his wife and three children were seen at L. N. Ransom’s boarding house, at Springfield Ill., on yesterday morning.

Springfield, October 18th, 1841.

The following is from Kristin E. S. Zapalac, Ph.D., Missouri Department of Natural Resources, State Historic Preservation Office, St. Louis, Missouri.

Richard

Despite my best efforts, I have not yet completed the NPS Network to Freedom nomination for the Missouri sites associated with the 1841 event that resulted in the civil court case file recently discovered here and the poster you discovered in the Lincoln Presidential Library (and -- thankfully -- published in For the People in 2006) naming Luther N. Ransom’s Springfield boarding house as a place where a family of freedom seekers had been spotted.

I have a call in to Ted Hild, assistant division chief of the IHPA and Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer for Illinois, & someone familiar with the Mary Meachum Freedom Crossing, the site I discovered & nominated back in 2001, to let him know that we’re exploring more connections that span the Mississippi.

So that you’ll have the information about the Illinois side of things that exists in the civil court case file here, I’ve attached a couple of pdfs -- of John Lee’s deposition, the one that provides the most detail re: incidents in IL, and of a couple of receipts for payments for runaway ads posted etc.

The deposition is detailed because it is the justification for the expenses claimed for the capture of the Ritter, Martha, Sarah & James Jones. Deponent John Lee is the brother-in-law of their “owner” who was sent off two days after they’d left St. Louis.

According to Charles Chapman, who had entered into a contract with Nicholas Jones for his nephew William Wallace to transport the Jones family in his red box-bottom wagon, they were simply relocating from Illinois’ American Bottom to Carlinville. According to Wallace, he did not know the area beyond his native Alton well & was therefore tricked by Nicholas Jones into taking them to what turned out to be Springfield. Also according to Wallace, when Ritter, Martha, Sarah and James Jones were not waiting on the Illinois side as he (and allegedly Nicholas Jones) had expected, Jones said they must have given up waiting and gone over to visit Ritter’s mother in St. Louis. Since it doesn’t appear that Wallace was the brightest bulb in Illinois’ chandelier -- and since he was never charged with or even suspected of a crime -- it appears that we are dealing with a clever family of freedom seekers (John Hope Franklin’s Runaway Slaves) rather than underground railroad “conductors” ... until, that is, they arrive on your turf in Springfield!

The fact that Chapman told the owner his nephew had been hired to take the Jones to Carlinville even as his nephew was being tricked into bypassing Carlinville (do you know how the roads/traces ran then?) for Springfield -- and the fact that Lee was pursuing them via mail stage rather than horseback -- presumably accounts for Lee’s difficulty in tracking them initially.... and that’s where the attached deposition begins.

By the way, the local material appears to refer to Mrs. Jones as “Ritter” -- that’s not just a typo in the following transcription.

Here’s my transcription of the most relevant material:
Deponent further states that he is the brother in law of the plaintiff in this case, and has lived in the family with said Finny for about twelve years, and had thus frequent opportunities of seeing and knowing said slaves. And deponent is perfectly satisfied that the children of the slave first above mentioned were born while in the possession of an owned by said plaintiff in this case. Deponent also states that the slave, the woman first above mentioned, together with her children named above, were in possession of the said Finny, the plaintiff in this case, at the time they ran away from him; and that this Deponent started after the said slaves on or about the sixteenth of October in the year 1841, at the request of said Finny, the plaintiff aforesaid, having understood that they had run away on the fourteenth of October in the year 1841. Deponent understood that the said slaves had started about day break on said day.

Deponent started after said slaves in the mail stage at first, and pursued them afterwards on horseback, and travelling night and day, and frequently heard that they were conveyed in wagons, covered, from stage to stage by abolitionists; and this Deponent was some times within an hour of overtaking them; and then could not hear of them in three or four days. After having reached Chicago, and waiting about a week, expecting the arrival of the said slaves there, this Deponent, with others whom he had engaged to assist him, caught them on the Steam Boat Chicago; at the time this Deponent found the slaves concealed in the hold under the machinery; and the boat was about to start on her voyage from Chicago, with steam up. With some difficulty this Deponent got the slaves off the boat; the woman then and there refusing to go with him. This Deponent there proceeded to bring the said slaves back to St Louis, in Missouri; which he did. In order to reclaim and recover the said slaves, this Deponent was obliged to procure, to aid him, some three or four men, to whom he was obliged to pay extravagantly, for their services, there being at Chicago but few in whom he could repose confidence; the persons so engaged were obliged to watch night and day to discover the runaway slaves in their concealment. One of the above mentioned persons, this affiant employed to aid him a part of the way onward from Chicago towards St Louis, to whom he was obliged to pay seventy five dollars, this person having first demanded one hundred dollars; this charge was made partly for the reason that he would suffer carnage by the disapproval of the citizens of Chicago for having been so employed.

This Deponent further states, that at about nine o’clock he took the slaves aforesaid from the Boat at Chicago, and put them there in jail; and for fear that these slaves might be rescued from custody, he was obliged to get an extra stage to convey said slaves from Chicago, for which Deponent was obliged to pay an extra price; and Deponent thinks that the jailor charged an extra price for taking the slaves into custody and for keeping them, on account of the danger to which his property might be subjected by the threatened violence of the abolitionists of the place.

Deponent further states that the next night after he left Chicago, on reaching Ottoway, he was there assailed, and an attempt was made to rescue the aforesaid slaves from him, while they were in the stage; and he was afterwards pursued to Peru, a distance of 14 miles by a sheriff* from Ottoway, and carried back to Ottoway, which subjected this deponent to additional expense, by hindrance and delay. Deponent being charged at Ottoway, when thus brought back, with having kidnapped the Negroes aforesaid he was obliged to employ counsel. He was afterwards released, the complainant having abandoned the prosecution. Afterwards this Deponent returned to Peru, and there embarked for Peoria, where he was compelled to remain two days on expense with the negroes, until he could get passage in a boat for St Louis.

Deponent further states, that on reaching St Louis he cause the negro woman aforesaid to be put into the common Jail of St Louis County, in St Louis. Deponent cannot say how long he was absent in pursuit of the slaves aforesaid, until his return to St Louis, but thinks it was about four weeks. Deponent received for his services as above detailed, a negro girl, which he sold for two hundred dollars; this was the eldest child of the slave aforesaid.

This Deponent further states that the whole cost paid by him in the pursuit, and the bringing back the slaves aforesaid, was four hundred and thirty four dollars and seventy five cents; which said sum thus expended was at the cost, and disbursement of the plaintiff in this case. This Deponent knows that there were other expenditures in the recovery or in the pursuit of the said slaves, over and above the sum mentioned last above in this deposition, which are charged in the Books of Finny Lee and company against the said John Finny, the plaintiff in this case....

Deponent further states [on cross examination] that the person employed to assist him onward from Chicago towards St Louis, with the slaves aforesaid, was in his employment twelve or fourteen days, or thereabouts.

*According to Elmer Baldwin, History of LaSalle County, Illinois (1877), and History of La Salle County, Illinois (Chicago: Inter-State, 1886), 1:276-77 et al., William Reddick was sheriff at that time, but given that the deposition says “a sheriff” and given his later politics (i.e. a Democrat who publically supported Stephen A. Douglas), the reference may well be to someone else... do the La Salle County court records survive?

In addition to Lee’s deposition, there are a couple of receipts... one to the printers of the Missouri Republican for their costs in printing runaway posters and in having the runaway ad placed in a number of other newspapers, one directly to the Peoria Register and one for three dollars to Jesse M Shepherd, who was
presumably editing a newspaper in Illinois at the time... by 1843 he was editing/publishing one in Keosauqua, IA; still later he was editing one in Oregon.

Kristin E. S. Zapalac, Ph.D.
Missouri Department of Natural Resources
State Historic Preservation Office

Underground Railroad Routes Through Illinois

The “railroad” network began sometime in the late 1700s, and continued until the late 1800s. The goal for many slaves was Canada, but some settled in U.S. cities along the way, particularly Chicago and Philadelphia. Other slaves found refuge on Indian reservations in the Carolinas and elsewhere around the country.

Slaves aren’t given enough credit for making it to freedom by their own wits. “Most of all, they (runaway slaves) did it on their own,” says Charles Blockson, curator of the Afro-American Collection at Temple University in Philadelphia. Blockson tracked his ancestors’ paths to freedom and wrote the book, “The Underground Railroad.” Runaways using the underground railroad network often received only directions from their hosts and had to make their way north alone as best they could on foot. Sometimes it took slaves a year to reach a place they felt safe enough to call home. They traveled mostly at night, and ate roots and wild berries. Slaves from the South braved sub-zero temperatures and snow, often for the first time. In the woods, where they often traveled to avoid detection, they had to reckon with wolves and other perils. Many slaves made careful plans for their escapes. In some instances, slaves from several plantations would work out plans together while visiting or attending religious gatherings. Sometimes they used certain code letters, and code words to spread the plan. If caught hiding or assisting runaway slaves, the penalties were stiff: fines of up to $1000 and six months in jail.

The underground railroad “was the first civil rights, human rights and freedom movement for African-Americans in the country”, says Vivian Abdur-Rahim, founder of the Harriet Tubman Historical Society in Wilmington, Del. (Tubman was a legendary “conductor” on the underground railroad.) As many as 100,000 runaway slaves may have used the underground railroad to reach freedom. Traveling mostly at night, hundreds of slaves moved secretly through Sangamon, Adams, Menard, and Morgan counties and other parts of Illinois, historians say. The term “underground railroad” is a bit of a misnomer. It originated in 1840, when a Kentucky farmer lost track of one of his fleeing slaves. He reportedly said the man must have gone “off an underground road.” The name changed to underground railroad because slaves escapes increased when railroads were built, and some underground railroad routes paralleled actual railroad lines. Illinois was a major link in the underground railroad because of its location, and since by law it was a free state (although many slaves were held throughout Illinois and blacks could be kidnapped and enslaved at anytime). Illinois was easy for slaves to reach because it was bordered by the slave states of Missouri, Kentucky and Tennessee. The state’s boundaries are increased by the windings of the Mississippi and Ohio Rivers.

The geography of Illinois made it a valuable territory for the Underground Railroad. The state is situated between the slave states of Missouri, Kentucky, and the southern tip is only about eight miles from Arkansas and Tennessee. Illinois also has the Ohio and Mississippi Rivers that as boundaries. Alton was one of the major underground route towns. It was the home of the Illinois Anti-Slavery Society, which was founded in 1837, and Elijah Lovejoy, who was the publisher of an abolitionist newspaper. Two major underground routes began at Quincy, across the Mississippi River from Hannibal, then went northeast toward Chicago. One route included stops in Galesburg, Toulon, Princeton, Aurora, Elgin, and Byron. The second major stop started at Quincy, then to Dillion and Delavan.

Another route included safehouses in Ottawa, Peru and Magnolia. One of the major routes even picked up at Jacksonville and Griggsville and then connected to a line that began at Dillion and Springfield. Another line ran through Hancock, McDonough, and Fulton Counties and included stations in Mendon, Round Prairie, Plymouth, Roseville, canton, and Farmington. A line through Ogle County included safe houses at Sugar Grove and Buffalo Grove. Another started in Sparta and ran north through Springfield, Delavan, Dillion,
Elm Grove, Tremont, Deacon Street, Groveland, Morton, Washington, Metromora, Crow Creek, Work Ford, and Greenville and connected to the Quincy/Dillion line.

Three to five underground railroad routes are believed to have existed in Illinois, stretching from Alton, Chester, Cairo and Quincy in zigzag lines to the Chicago area. Many of the routes can be tracked by pinpointing the locations of African Methodist Episcopal and Congregational churches.

The Springfield and Jacksonville areas were heavily used by slaves traveling on the underground railroad, says Delores Saunders, author of “Illinois Liberty Lines (The History of the Underground Railroad).” She says one route passing through Springfield began in Alton and linked up with Jerseyville, Waverly, Jacksonville, Springfield, Delavan, Varna and the Chicago suburbs. Other authors say a route passing through Springfield began in Chester, included Sparta, Silver Creek, and Reno, branching off from Springfield to cities like Galesburg and Ottawa. It is said that there were underground railroad stations in Chatham, Rochester, Beardstown, Carlinville, Berlin and Waverly. Historians identify Luther Ransom, a white underground railroad agent, as being from Springfield. He is believed to have been the same man who platted Chatham. Local Folklore has it that former houses in the vicinity of Rutledge and Carpenter streets were among many in Springfield where runaway slaves sometimes hid.38

There are a number of good accounts of the underground railroad in Illinois. At the endnote that follows, there is a list of such books from the Chicago History Museum website.599

**African American James Foster Returned to Master in Arkansas**

In 1841, an Arkansas man claimed James Foster, who had lived in Springfield for two years, as a runaway slave. Judge Samuel Treat, who kept an African American servant in his own home, demanded proof of ownership and then surrendered Foster to his master and his fate in Arkansas.600

1842

**Marriage of Maria Bartlett and Henry Vance**

On January 20, 1842, Maria Bartlett, age 23, and Henry Vance, a 25-year-old African American laborer who had been born in Ohio, were married by the Reverend John Bergen.601 Maria’s reminiscence states:

Henry and his folks had been slaves. He never knew his real Pappy. He done got the name of Vance from a slaveholder who owned his Mammy when he was born. His Pappy had been sold off to another slaveholder.
But my man and his Mammy got up North through the underground.602

Their first child, William, was born in 1842. A year later, a daughter, Ellen, was born, and the following year a second daughter, Catherine, was born.

**Polly “Mary” Shelby’s Account With Robert Irwin**

In 1842, Polly Shelby purchased a cap for her son Albert and starch from the Robert Irwin store. The $1.37 charge was on an account in the name of “Polly Shelby Colored Woman” Polly paid for the purchases by “washing.”

![Image of Polly Shelby’s Account](image_url)

**Bankruptcy of Thomas Cox, the African American**

On February 17, 1842, Thomas Cox, an African American, filed a bankruptcy petition in the United States District Court.

District Court of the United States  }
within and for the District of Illinois  }

In the matter of the Petition of THOMAS COX, of the City of Springfield Illinois, to be declared a Bankrupt and to be discharged from his debts.
NOTICE is hereby given, that Thomas Cox, of the city of Springfield, Illinois, has filed his petition in this court to be declared a bankrupt, and to be discharged from his debts under the Act of Congress, in such case made and provided: and that an order has been duly entered in this court appointing the 11th day of March next, at the District court room in the city of Springfield in this District, as the time and place for hearing the said petition; all persons interested may then and there appear and show cause, if any they have, why the prayer of the petition should not be granted.

Dated this 17th day of February, A. D. 1842.

Strong & Doremus, solicitors for petitioner.

Thomas Galt Resigns as Pastor of Farmington Presbyterian Church
Becomes Pastor of North Sangamon (Irish Grove) Church

Thomas Galt moved to the Farmington area, purchased a farm there at $2.00 per acre and shortly set apart three acres of ground for a church and cemetery. A church building, largely of oak and walnut lumber was soon erected for the Farmington Presbyterian Church [now the Farmingdale Church] and Galt mixed and carried the mortar for laying the brick.

He remained pastor of this church for five years when, owing to the division of the Presbyterian church into what was known as the “old School” and “New School.” Some church members pulled away and formed Center Presbyterian Church. Thomas Galt resigned as pastor of Farmingdale Church, and in July 1842 became pastor of the North Sangamon Church in connection with the Irish Grove Church. This church was erected south of Farmingdale. The first anti-slavery meeting in Sangamon County was at Center Church.

Marriage of Robert Hill and Isabella Doughtery

On September 20, 1842, Robert Hill married Isabella Doughtery.

Marriage of Abraham Lincoln and Mary Todd

Abraham Lincoln, age 32, and Mary Todd, age 23, were married on the evening of November 4, 1842 at the home of Mary’s 33 year-old brother in law, Ninian W. Edwards. The Reverend Charles Dresser, an Episcopal minister, performed the ceremony. Edwards’ indentured servant, Hepsey, would have been living with the Edwards family at this time.

Eliza Early Claims to Have Been Mary Todd’s Maid at Her Wedding to Abraham Lincoln

In the November 18, 1842, Register, Isaac Rountree, barber and hair dresser, advertised that he had “taken the shop recently kept by Titus, one door south of Mr. Bunn’s store.” This would have been on the east
side of Fifth Street, just south of the intersection with Adams Street. In addition to barbering, he scoured garments and blacked boots and shoes and kept in hand and made for order “Ladies’ curls.”

William Fleurville and J. C. Pendigrass Advertise Barber Shop

In the December 9, 1842, Register, William Fleurville and J. C. Pendigrass, barbers, advertised that they had associated themselves for carrying on “the art of shaving with ease and trimming hair after the most improved fashion.” Their shop was in the small brick building on the south side of the Public Square, near the American House.

Thomas Cox Advertises Barber Shop

In the December 9, 1842, Register, Thomas Cox, fashionable hair dresser and barber, advertised that he had fitted up his room on the south side of the Public Square, next door to Mr. Cook’s Hatter Shop, and the “sign of the pole tipped with the Elk horn.”

Phoebe Rountree Fleurville: Certificate of Freedom

On March 30, 1843, Phoebe Rountree Fleurville filed her Certificate of Freedom with the Sangamon County Circuit Clerk.511

1843
Abraham Lincoln Writes to Joshua F. Speed Concerning Luther N. Ransom

On May 18, 1843, Abraham Lincoln wrote a letter to Joshua F. Speed, part of which addressed business matters. In explaining his attempts to collect on a debt owed Speed, Lincoln reported that the debt was to be paid from all rent due a Mr. Jewett after the previous January 12th. Lincoln wrote, “The rent is for the house Ransom did live in just above the Globe [the Globe Tavern where the Lincoln’s then lived]...”  

The reference to “Ransom” is most likely Luther N. Ransom, the abolitionist and conductor on the underground railroad. The reference to “Jewett” was probably Benjamin F. Jewett. Where the house was located is only speculation. A review of the records of the Sangamon County Recorder of Deeds records reveals that on March 3, 1838, Benjamin F. Jewett purchased property at the northwest corner of First and Washington Streets, just three blocks northwest from the Globe Tavern. Would that be “just above the Globe”? Was this Ransom’s boarding house referred to in the 1841 handbill for the runaway slaves? Was this a site of the Underground Railroad in Springfield?

Samuel Willard remembered that in 1843 Luther, “noted as a very strenuous abolitionist,” advised his father, Julius A. Willard, in selecting an attorney to represent them in a case charging them with assisting in the escape of a fugitive slave at Jacksonville.

In preparation for the trial of our case it was necessary to get lawyers to defend us...friends that it best to have counsel of eminence from outside, my father went to Springfield, taking me with him. We were the guests of Luther Ransom, noted as a very strenuous abolitionist. ...Lincoln was mentioned by L. Ransom, who dismiss him with the remark that he did not [have] any reputation, and we wanted a man of note. L. Ransom added that Lincoln was not afraid of a negro case.

In August 1844, Luther's wife, Zerviah, died, and Luther and his two sons moved to Utopia, Ohio on the Ohio River. There he joined a group of 250 Frenchmen who were members of a communal society known as the Fourierite Association. He married there and he and his new wife had one child, Albert. In December 1847, the Ohio River flooded and a very large brick building, owned and occupied by the Fourierites, was flooded and collapsed killing 100 persons, including Luther’s wife and two eldest children. Albert survived.

In 1848, Ransom and his baby son left the Fourierites and joined the Shakers at Lebanon, Ohio. He remained with the Shakers until August, 1859, when he and his son, Albert, moved west to Lawrence, Kansas, where Luther lived until his death in July, 1872.

African (Colored) Methodist Episcopal Church Organized

In 1843 the Colored Methodist Episcopal Church (African American Methodist Episcopal) was organized by Rev. Spencer D. Donnegan at the home of John Wesley McDaniel on Sangamon Avenue on what is now the site of the State Fair grounds. After a year, the place of worship was moved to Klein and Carpenter Streets and then to a log cabin at Fourth and Reynolds Streets (Fourth and Mason Streets). The Rev. Spencer D. Donnegan was a barber and shaved Lincoln many times.

First Presbyterian Church Cites Dorothea Grant for Unchristian Conduct

In Treatment of Indentured Colored Girl

The First Presbyterian Church’s Session record of May, 1843, reported on the case of member Mrs. Dorothea Grant. She was cited for “UnChristian conduct in the treatment of a colored girl bound to her.” The Session committee reported that “she had whipped the girl with cowhide, and acknowledged that the whipping was too severe and not accompanied with that mercy which the Christian should exercise, and she was sincerely sorry for the reproach she had brought in the church, and asked forgiveness of her fellow members as she also does of her God.” The committee’s report with Mrs. Grant’s penitent statement was ordered to be published to the church.

The 1840 United States Census scheduled “Dorothea Grant” and showed one white male, age 15 to 20, one white female, age 5 to 10, and one white female, age 30 to 40, Dorothea. The census shows “0” for colored or slaves. Dorothea appears to have been a 30-something, single mother or widow, with two children, one a teenager and the other a younger girl.

May 30, 1843

The session met according to due notice.
The pastor being in attendance at the General Assembly, the Rev. Thomas _____ being present was moderator.


Opened with prayer.

Mr. Lamb and Mr. Wiley had been some time previous to this meeting appointed a committee to wait on Mrs. Dorothea Grant, a member of this church, being charged with unchristian conduct, by treating a colored girl bound to her, with undue severity.

The committee reported that they had carefully inquired into the whole case and after a free & full conference with Mrs. Grant reported the following minute which was adopted and directed to be published to the church; towit, That Mrs. Grant’s general treatment of the girl was good and kind; she had uniformly clothed her well, nursed her in sickness and endeavored to give her that intellectual and religious training which duty required of her.

The charge of general ill treatment therefore, the committee believed to be entirely unfounded.

With regard to whipping the girl with a cow-hide, Mrs. Grant stated that she had been in the habit of correcting the girl when she thought her conduct required it, and did not think she was correcting her any more severely than she had done at other times; she was not aware at he time that any marks were caused on her body by this whipping & can account for it only from its being done with a different instrument from what she had formerly used, the severe affect of which she was unconscious.

Mrs. Grant acknowledges that the whipping was too severe and not accompanied with that mercy which the Christian ______ always exercise for the approach which has then been brought on the church through her _____, she is sincerely sorry, and asks the forgiveness of her fellow members as she does also of her God.

Adjourned.

Concluded with prayer.616

On January 24, 1844, Lincoln drew up an affidavit of Henry Dresser, contractor. Dresser swore that he had done $60 worth of carpenter work for Dorothea Grant and that she had left state.617

John Bundy, a Colored Man, Former Slave of William David Jarrett618

Springfield, Ills 2 Aug 1843

John Bundy of _____ Lick Cr. Coloured Man states in (pension(?)--of I. B. Loose) while plowing corn & stopt to rest one very hot day in Bundy’s field his former Master who had moved from Virginia living in the same neighborhood and having hired to said Bundy to plow corn h____ down his head said Jack how times have changed round once you belonged to me now I belong to you---said D. Jarett Jack had bought himself and given $600--previously to his Master Wm. David Jarret.619

William David Jarrett was born on March 11, 1814 in Kanawha County, Virginia, and came to Sangamon County in 1828. In 1838, he married Jane Huggins, a native of Gallia County, Ohio, who came with her family to Sangamon County in 1825. Jarrett lived five miles west of Loami in Sangamon County, Illinois.620

First Presbyterian Church Builds New Building

In 1843, the First Presbyterian Church built a new building at the southeast corner of Third and Washington Streets, just to the north of the old structure.
Second Presbyterian Church Excommunicates Member for Dealing in Human Beings

On August 9, 1843, the Second Presbyterian Church Session excommunicated member, George Day, for “purchasing or dealing in human beings.”

Ordered, that the following citation be served on George Day:

Mr. George Day:

You are hereby notified to appear before the Session of the Second Presbyterian Church of Springfield at the Session room (in the Church) on Saturday, the 19th day of the present month at 9 o’clock, A.M. and answer to the following charges, viz: First, Your violation of your covenant vows with said Church. 2. your purchasing, or dealing in human beings.

By Order of Session
John B. Watson, Stated Clerk of Session, 2nd Prs. Church, Springfield, Illinois

The citation was served in due time by Brother Moffett.

August 19th, 1843, 9 o’clock A.M. All the members present except Brother Watson. George Day failed to appear. Before another citation was served he left Springfield. Session having learned that he had declared his determination not to appear before them, and it being very uncertain when he would return, and the scandal on the Church being great, they on the 30th day of August, 1843 (all the members of Session being present) did Resolve, That George Day be excommunicated from the Church.

First Appearance of Nancy Collier, a Mulatto Woman: Files a Deed of Emancipation and Purchases 180 Acres in Ball and Cotton Hill Townships, Sangamon County, Illinois

On August 14, 1843, Nancy Collier, a mulatto woman, filed a Deed of Emancipation with the Sangamon County Recorder of Deeds and at the same time recorded a deed for 180 acres of farm land which she had purchased in Ball and Cotton Hill Townships, Sangamon County, Illinois. She purchased the crop of corn and oats, hogs, cattle, sheep and farming tools, a mule and a one-horse wagon for $200. She assumed a mortgage of $1,100 to Mathew P. Crowder.

Crowder v. Collier & Collier

Lewis Collier of Concordia Parish, Louisiana, purchased 180 acres of land from Mathew P. Crowder for $1,100. Collier gave Crowder four promissory notes as payment and secured the notes with a mortgage on the property. Collier conveyed the land to Nancy Collier, ‘a free woman of color.’ After Lewis Collier failed to pay one of the notes for $266.67, Crowder sued Lewis Collier and Nancy Collier to foreclose the mortgage. Lewis and Nancy Collier retained Lincoln and Herndon. The parties reached a settlement, and Crowder dismissed the case.

James “A Boy Of Color,” Indenture To William Hickman

On November 13, 1843, 53 year-old William Hickman entered into an indenture with James, a 16 year-old African American boy. James was to be taught the art of farming until he reached the age of 21 on February 26, 1848. At the expiration of his term, he was to be given a new Bible and two new suits of clothes suitable to his condition.
The 1860 United States Census lists William Hickman and gives his age as 70 and his origin as Virginia. Hickman was a Justice of the Peace and in 1860 lived at the northwest corner of Eighth and Cook Streets, two blocks south of Abraham Lincoln’s residence. He is 105th in wealth in 1860 Springfield, his wealth being listed as $21,000 in real estate and nothing in personal property. He was married to Elizabeth, a 42 year-old native of Ohio. In 1860, James Miller, the State Treasurer, was boarding with the Hickman’s.

*Western Citizen* Describes Route of Runaway Slave From Virginia to Springfield

An article in the *Western Citizen* of Chicago on November 16, 1843, says a runaway slave from the state of Virginia followed the Ohio River to its mouth. He then went up the Mississippi River until reaching Alton, where he received “provisions” and was taken to Springfield.629

1844

Samuel Willard Helps Runaway St. Louis Slave From Jacksonville to Farmington

One night in February 1844, Julius Willard of Jacksonville served as a decoy so his son, an Illinois College student, could hide a vigorously pursued runaway St. Louis slave. As his son, Samuel Willard, wrote a friend later “…father sat in front of the house playing the violin so that the (slave) hunters might see that ‘Old Willard’ wasn’t in mischief. Why didn’t they look after me?”630

William Fleurville Advertises Location of New Barber Shop

In the May 3, 1844, Register, William Fleurville, barber, advertised that he had removed his shop to the room adjoining the Mayor’s office, two doors east of Johnson’s Hotel.

**MAY 3, 1844 REGISTER ANNOUNCEMENT OF LOCATION OF WILLIAM FLEURVILLE’S NEW BARBER SHOP**

Notice of Runaway Slave, James Nicholas, Being Held in the Macoupin County Jail

On November 23, 1844, the sheriff of Macoupin County, Illinois published a notice in the Register that he was holding James Nichols, a 19 or 20 year-old runaway negro man who claims he belongs to Williamson Mosby of Osage County, Missouri. The owner is requested to come forward to claim James, “otherwise he will be dealt with as the law directs.”

**NOVEMBER 29, 1844 REGISTER ADVERTISEMENT FOR RUNAWAY, JAMES NICHOLS**

African American Ben Henderson Takes Runaway Slave From Jacksonville to Springfield
At dawn one morning in the mid-1840s, Ben Henderson of Jacksonville began preparing to deliver some cradles to Springfield. Henderson, a black man, was a former slave who paid his master $250 for his freedom before settling in Jacksonville. But before Henderson had loaded his wagon, two runaway slaves—a man and a woman—came to his home and asked for help on their journey to freedom. A bounty of $1000 had been offered for the man. Henderson put some hay in the bottom of his wagon and had the couple lie on it. He spread a wagon cover over them, then put more hay and his cradles on top. During the day, Henderson drove around the Springfield city square, stopping and talking to people, before apparently taking the slaves to the home of a Springfield area man who could help them continue their daring journey to freedom. No one ever suspected Henderson was risking his own freedom by breaking federal and state laws against harboring or assisting runaway slaves. His role was documented by Jacksonville author Julia Wolcott Carter in “The Underground Railroad”, a story of abolitionist activity in the area. Henderson was just one of the hundreds of free blacks, Indians and whites who were allies in what came to be known as the “underground railroad”—an informal system that helped slaves flee to freedom.

1845

The Illinois State Colonization Society Organized

By 1845, the colonization movement was strong enough to support a statewide organization, the Illinois State Colonization Society, organized in Springfield. Its purpose was to establish a colony of free African Americans on the west coast of Africa, as envisioned by the national society. The group intended to meet annually, with members paying annual dues of one dollar to support the venture. Colonization was a bipartisan effort but generally attracted more Whigs than Democrats.

On January 3, 1845, a meeting was held in the Hall of the House of Representatives at the State Capitol to form a State of Illinois Colonization Society. A proposed constitution was presented and a speech was given by Rev. Finley, agent for the Missouri Colonization Society, on the commercial advantages from establishing a “Christian Republic in Africa.” It was reported that there were 65 members.

The meeting was called to order by Judge Brown of Jacksonville, and

On his motion, Hon. John Dougherty was called to the chair, and Newton Cloud, appointed Secretary.

The meeting was opened with prayer by Rev. Mr. Richmond.

Archibald Williams, Esq. Of Quincy, presented for the consideration of the meeting a Constitution, which was read, and laid on the table, for the purpose of inviting the Rev. Mr. Finley, agent of the Missouri Colonization Society, to address the meeting. Mr. Finley then addressed the meeting a some length, in a very interesting speech, on the commercial advantages to be derived from the establishment of a Christian Republic in Africa—when papers were circulated for the names of those who were willing to become members of the Society, 65 names were returned.

On Motion, the chairman appointed a committee of five to report the names of suitable persons for officers of the State Colonization Society.


The Constitution proposed by Mr. Williams was then taken up and Referred to the foregoing Committee to report at the next meeting.

The unanimous thanks of the meeting were then voted to the Rev. Mr. Finley for his able and interesting address. The meeting then adjourned until Tuesday evening next to meet at the same place.

JOHN DOUGHERTY, Chairman,
NEWTON CLOUD, Secretary.

On January 7, 1845, the Society met again and adopted the proposed constitution. Robert Allen of Springfield was chosen as the first President of the Society. Dr. James R. Gray was appointed manager of the Illinois State Colonization Society.
January 7, 1845

At the adjourned meeting of the State Colonization Society.—his Excellency Gov. Ford was called to the chair, and the meeting was opened with prayer by Rev. Mr. Springer. Upon motion of Hon. John Dougherty, the Rev. Mr. Finley proceeded to deliver a highly interesting lecture, upon the political relations of the Colonization Society with the United States of America.

At the conclusion of the lecture the committee to whom was referred the formation of a Constitution proposed the following which was unanimously adopted.

**CONSTITUTION**

Art. 1 This Society shall be called “The Illinois State Colonization Society.”

Art. 2. Its object shall be the diffusion of information and the collection of funds to aid in the benevolent enterprise undertaken by the American Colonization Society, (to which this society shall be an auxiliary) to-wit, of establishing, upon the Western Coast of Africa, a Colony peopled by volunteer emigrants from the free-colored population of the United States.

Art. 3. All persons contributing $1.00 annually shall be members of this Society.

Art. 4. Its officers shall be a President, Vice President, a Corresponding and Recording Secretary, a Treasurer, and twelve Managers—who with the President, Secretary and Treasurer shall constitute a Board, (any five of whom shall be a quorum) to transact business, to carry into effect the objects of this Society. Said officers shall remain in office until their successors are duly appointed.

Art. 5. There shall be an annual meeting of the Society in the city of Springfield, on the evening of the 2nd Monday of December, or such other time and place as the Society may order and appoint, for the election of officers, and for the transaction of such business as may come before it, and for the reception of the annual report of the Board of Managers, and also the report of the Treasurer.

After the adoption of the above Constitution the following officers were appointed by the Secretary.

For President    Co. Robert Allen
For Vice President  Hon. Thomas Ford
Hon. John Moore  Hon. John Dougherty
O. H. Browning  Thos. Carin
Wm. Brown    Newton Cloud
Rev. Jas. C. Finley  Rev. J. Stimmer
Hon. S. M. Hitt  Rev. J. Keilar
Wm. H. Brown, Esq.
For Secretary  Jas. C. Conklin
For Treasurer  Ed. B. Pease.
For Managers  Joseph Thayer
Jas. E. Canfield
Hon. John T. Stuart
Rev. Mr. Bergen
Hon. S. W. Robbins
Rev. Chs. Dresser  Rev. J. P. Richmond
Rev. F. Springer
Dr. F. [Francis]  A. McNeil
Dr. Jas. R. Gray  Thomas Lewis
John Williams  Richard H. Beach

A Number of Ladies and gentlemen enrolled their names as members of the Society, and paid the amount of their annual subscription,

Thos. Ford, Chairman
Newton Cloud, Secretary

**Samuel S. Ball Residing in Springfield**

By 1845, Samuel S. Ball was residing in Springfield. Ball was born in Virginia in 1810. Ball was on the Wood River Baptist Association committee to look into the conduct of T. J. Shores.637

**Elizabeth Jones, “A Girl Of Colour,” Indenture To Robert Irwin**

On February 17, 1845, Robert Irwin638 entered into an indenture with Elizabeth Jones, a 17 year-old girl of colour.639 Elizabeth was to be taught the art and mystery of domestic housewifery. She was to serve until
the age of 18, or August 25, 1846. At the expiration of her term she is to be given a new bible and two new suits of clothes suited to her condition. Elizabeth signed the indenture with an “X.” In 1841, Robert Irwin purchased a residence at the southeast corner of Sixth and Cook Streets now known as the Iles House. The Irwin family continued ownership of the House until 1891.

Robert Irwin Residence

Certificate of Freedom: Thomas Rountree

On March 20, 1845, Thomas Rountree, a 21 year-old African American of “copper color,” filed a certificate of freedom with the Sangamon County Circuit Clerk. Thomas was the son of Lucy Rountree and a brother of Feba (Phoebe), who married William Fleurville.

In the Matter of the application of Thomas Rountree, a mulatto
Application for Freedom,

And now at this day came Thomas Rountree, and application having been made to the Court. It is ordered, that the original certificate of freedom of said Thomas be entered upon the records of this Court by the Clerk thereof and that he endorse a certificate on said original certificate stating the time the same was entered and the name and description of the person producing the same and that the following evidence of their freedom be entered upon the records of this Court and a copy thereof be granted to him when applied for. To wit:

Barren County Kentucky This day I have sold Lucy to herself for twenty years work done by her to be free and eight of her children Free them and all their future increase from this day until the end of the world to wit Feba, Betsy, Isaac, Nancy, Daniel, Judah, Thomas and Sophia I do relinquish all my right and title to the above nine slaves to themselves from me my heirs and all other persons forever as witness my hand and seal this 13 day of August 1826

Henry Rountree
Witness to my hand
Bird Strange
Handy
___ Forbes

(Original Certificate of Freedom)

State of Illinois
Sangamon County

I John Calhoun Clerk of Sangamon Circuit Court State of Illinois do hereby certify that Thomas Rountree is a resident of said County that he is actually and absolutely free at this present time & has been for a number of years past.

Given under my hand and seal of said Court this twentieth day of March A.D. 1845

J. Calhoun Clerk

Endorsed as follows, to wit:
Rhoda Clark Received Into Membership of Second Presbyterian Church

On July 6, 1845, African American Rhoda Clark was received into membership of the Second Presbyterian Church from the Colored (African) Baptist Church of Springfield.642

Abraham Lincoln Represents Marvin B. Pond Indicted for Harboring Slave

On June 11, 1845, Lincoln and Harris appeared in the Menard County Circuit Court as attorneys for Marvin B. Pond in the criminal case of People v. Pond. Pond was indicted for harboring John Hauley, a fugitive slave from Kentucky, and posted a $300 bond to guarantee his appearance at the next term of Court.643 William Hauley of Kentucky claimed ownership of John Hauley. The court quashed the first count of the indictment, and Pond pleaded not guilty to the second count. The jury found Pond not guilty. Lincoln and Herndon received $5 for their legal services. Marvin was the 38 year-old son of Billious Pond, the Farmington abolitionist.

“This was the only time such a charge was made in Menard (County),” wrote Laura Isabelle Osburn Nance in her book “A Piece of Time (In Lincoln County).” The Pond Family believed the indictment resulted from information given by Mentor Graham, Abraham Lincoln’s teacher in new Salem, she says. Although no proof exists, Nance suggests that Lincoln himself, one of only two defense attorneys in Menard County at the time, may have moved to quash the case. The only documented filed was a motion to dismiss the indictment signed by either Lincoln or the other defense attorney, and it is missing. In November 1845, Pond was acquitted for lack of evidence. “Undoubtedly Mr. Lincoln could have heard the Pond case, because it drew so much attention,” Nance wrote. “Perhaps he received impressions from there concerning the question of abolition which helped him decide (his stance on the slavery) question in later years.”645

Birth of John Edward Jackson and First Appearance of John and Matilda Foster Jackson Family

On August 11, 1845, John Jackson, a 35 year-old African American man who was born in Culpepper County, Virginia on July 16, 1804, and his 25 year-old wife, Matilda Foster, born in Kentucky in 1820, had a son, John Edward.646

John was a member of the African Baptist Church, and Matilda was a member of the African Methodist Episcopal Church. The 1860 United States Census states that John is a whitewasher. The family lived on at what was then addressed as 85 S. 9th Street, between Edwards and Cook Streets. The Jackson’s were neighbors of Lincoln. The family consisted of John Edward, Henrietta, age 18, Edward, age 15, Georgeana, age 14, Josephine, age 10, and Diana Tyler, age 80 and a native of Virginia. The children listed were all born in Illinois. John died on November 20, 1876, and Matilda died on August 26, 1880.
Abraham Lincoln Writes to Williamson Durley, Abolitionist

On October 3, 1845, Abraham Lincoln wrote to abolitionist and Lincoln supporter Williamson Durley, a resident of Hennepin in Putnam County, and said that nothing could be done to prevent slavery from dying a natural death, but he did not condemn the practice. 647

Abraham Lincoln Successful in Defense of Marvin B. Pond Tried for Harboring Slave

On November 3, 1845, Abraham Lincoln’s defense of Marvin B. Pond in People v. Pond resulted in the jury finding Pond not guilty of harboring a slave. 648

Marriage of John C. W. Stewart and Melvina A. Shelby

On November 25, 1845, John C. W. Stewart married Melvina A. Shelby. 649

Springfield’s Population

The November 27, 1845 Journal reported that the population of Springfield was 4,009. 650

Meeting of The Sangamon County Colonization Society

Journal 1845, 12/31, p. 3, cl. 5. (Hadn’t met since 10/1840?)

1846

Marriage of William H. Butler and Diana Devillah (DuVall/Deville)

On January 18, 1846, William H. Butler married Diana Devillah (DuVall/Deville). 651

Reorganizational Meeting of The Sangamon County Colonization Society

In March of 1846, the Sangamon County Colonization Society held a reorganizational meeting. 652

Polly Ann Stewart Petions for Divorce From Allen Stewart

On March 18, 1846, Polly Ann Stewart filed for a divorce from her husband, Allen. She alleged that for at least two years past he had been cruel to her and gone to another state where he lived with another woman.

Circuit Court, Sangamon County

Polly Ann Stewart
Vs.
Allen Stewart
Petition for Divorce

To the Honorable the Judge of the Eighth Judicial Circuit—State of Illinois.

Humbly complaining herewith unto your Honor, your oratrix, Polly Ann Stewart, on or about the year eighteen hundred and thirty seven was married lawfully in the State of Illinois to one Allen Stewart. That they have continued to reside within the State since that time until about three months since when said Allen without any just or reasonable cause willfully deserted your oratrix and to the best of her information and belief went into another state and lived with another woman. That during the time they resided together as man and wife your oratrix was kind and attentive to said Allen and will and truly performed all the duties of a faithful and devoted wife but notwithstanding her care and attention Said Allen commenced shortly after their marriage to exercise towards her extreme and repeated cruelty and continued the same for a long space of time to wit two years and upwards while they so resided within this State. Your oratrix further states that she was a resident of the County of Sangamon and has resided within the said County for five years past. Your oratrix prays that Said Allen Stewart may be made defendant to this Bill that the People Writ of Subpoena may issue directed etc. commanding etc. that he may make full and perfect answer to the charges in this Bill contained and …relief may be furnished as equity and good conscience may require and your oratrix as in duty bound will so pray etc. Jas. C. Conkling, Solicitor for Complainant.

John Stewart
Cook
Jesse Price Witnesses
John Leviston
Major Clark

Interview of Witness. Master of Chancery Report:
The undersigned Master of Chancery to whom was referred the above entitled Cause reports to the Court that he has examined Jesse Price, a witness produced & sworn on behalf of Complainant stated That Complainant & Defendant lived together as man & wife of several years last past—That Couple has lived in this Co. for seven years last past—That Deft. Has threatened to strike Compl. With as Stick & that the Complt. Was obliged to leave her home several times on account of the ill treatment of the Defendant.

The Complainant having been sworn stated that the Defendant had been in the practice of ill treating & abusing her for more than 2 years last past—so that she could not safely live with him.

The undersigned further reports that the testimony by him heard for & on behalf of Complainant authorizes the Court to decree a separation of the parties from the bonds of matrimony.

Respectfully Submitted, A. Campbell, M.C.

Marriage of Samuel S. Ball and Amanda Fry

On April 2, 1846, the Journal reported that the Reverend Albert Hale, minister of the Second Presbyterian Church, had married 36 year-old Samuel S. Ball and 20 year-old Amanda Fry. They were licensed to marry on March 21, 1846.

Marriage of Henry W. Baylor and Elizabeth Bartlet


Advertisement for Teacher in Colored School

The Journal of May 28, 1846, carried the following advertisement for a teacher at the colored school.

A SCHOOL MASTER WANTED,

To teach a School of colored children in Springfield. He must be qualified to teach Spelling, Reading and Writing, Arithmetic, Geography and Grammar. The compensation will be reasonable and every effort made to render the situation of the teacher comfortable. Enquire of

THOMAS COX, or
WILLIAM FLEURVILLE
JOHN MASON
Springfield, May 21, 1846

Nancy Hargrove, a Colored Woman,
Received as a Member of First Presbyterian Church

On June 4, 1846, Nancy Hargrove, a “colored” woman from the Presbyterian Church at Hopkinsville, Kentucky, was received by certificate as a member of the First Presbyterian Church of Springfield.

Major Clark Given License to Marry Emily Washington

On August 24, 1846, Major Clark was given a license to marry Emily Washington.

Arrival of Thomas Killion

Thomas Killion, a 16 year-old mulatto arrived in Springfield in 1846. Thomas was born on January 27, 1845, at Carlyle, Clinton County, Illinois and was a barber. He married Margaret Fry on August 18, 1858. In 1860 he had a barber shop at 112 South Sixth Street, on the east side of Sixth, between Washington and Adams Streets—across from the State Capitol. He lived on the north side of Washington, between Klein and Rutledge Streets. The 1860 United States Census states that he owned no real estate and had $200 in personal property.

Thomas Killion was born at Charleston, Coles County, Illinois, June 17, 1830. When two years of age his parents took him to Carlyle, Clinton county, Illinois. When fourteen years of age he went to St. Louis, Missouri, and learned the barber trade, remained there two years, when he opened a shop of his own at 112 South Sixth street, Springfield, Illinois.

Has been a barber in this city for the past thirty-six years. He is now located at 614 East Washington Street, where he has a first-class shop.

His father, Thomas Killion, was born in Lexington, Kentucky. He was a doctor. He went from California to Europe, with other physicians, on a medical tour, and was lost at sea.
His wife, Amelia Curtis, was born in Virginia. She was a member of the African Methodist Episcopal Church, and the mother of fourteen children, twelve living, viz.: Obedia, Harvey and Henry Killion, Mary A. Beard, Mrs. Francis Scott, Elizabeth Williams, Emery Clems, Oliver, Andrew, John and Thomas, the subject of this sketch, who was married to Miss Margaret Fry, August 18, 1858. She was daughter of Richard and Mary Fry, who were born in Kentucky. Mrs. Killion [Mary Fry Killion] died in the fall of 1863. She was the mother of three children, two living, Frank Stephens and Laura Kilion. Mr. Killion was married to Jane Smith, who was a daughter of Jacob Smith. The fruits of this marriage is five children, all living, viz.; Allie, Georgia, John, Joseph and Bessie. Mrs. Killion had two children by her husband Smith, viz.: James and Fred Smith. Mr. Killion owns a nice residence at 1818 East Adams Street. He cast his first vote for U.S. Grant for President. Mr. Killion saw the first man hung in Sangamon county. It was brute named Wilson, who was hung on Vinegar Hill, near where the new State House now stands. He was hung for kicking his wife to death. He also shaved the last two men hung in Sangamon county, the morning they were hung.\(^a\)

**Birth of Edward F. Ball**

In 1846, Edward F. Ball was born to Samuel S. and Amanda Ball.

**Arrival of Aaron Dyer**

African American Aaron Dyer was born a slave in Richmond, Virginia, on November 15, 1818. In 1840 at age 21, Aaron was given his freedom. He came to Springfield, Illinois in 1846.\(^{a}\)

Aaron “was employed by the underground railway. He drove his horse and wagon at night, taking runaway slaves to the next underground station. When they reached Springfield, where the feeling against slavery was strong, they were fairly safe, although there were times when their masters traced them there and then they would be kept in hiding for as long as three weeks, or until the chase was given up and their masters returned without them. Springfield was a center for the underground railway.”\(^{a}\)

In Springfield, Aaron worked as a blacksmith and drayman. His family consisted of his wife, Harriet Welden Dyer, who was born a slave in North Carolina about 1827, and three children all born in Illinois: John, Elizabeth and Aaron.\(^{a}\) They lived in a small African American residential cluster on the north side of the 300 block of West Washington Street, “between Rutledge and Klein” and “west of Gas Works.”\(^{a}\) Maria Vance, the Lincoln maid, was their neighbor.\(^{a}\)

In 1877, Aaron and Harriet Dyer moved to Lincoln, Illinois, to be near their daughter and have her family’s assistance as they grew older. Their grandson, William, was a neighbor and childhood friend of William Maxwell, who became the noted editor of the New Yorker magazine. In a poignant reminiscence of his boyhood days in Lincoln, Maxwell described his friend “Billie Dyer,” and in doing so Billie’s grandfather, Aaron.\(^{a}\)

Billie Dyer’s grandfather, Aaron Dyer, was born a slave in Richmond, Virginia, and given his freedom when he turned twenty-one. He made his way north to Springfield, Illinois, because it was a station of the Underground Railroad…. In Springfield, the feeling against slavery was strong; a runaway slave would be hidden sometimes for weeks until the owner who had traced him that far gave up and went home. Then Aaron Dyer would hitch up the horse and wagon he had been provided with, and at night the fugitive, covered with gunnysacks or an old horse blanket, would be driven along some winding wagon trail that led through the prairie. Clop, clop, clop, clop, clop. Past farm buildings that were all dark and ominous. Fording shallow streams and crossing bridges with loose wooden floorboards that rumbled. Arousing the comment of owls. Sometime Aaron Dyer sang softly to himself. Uppermost in his mind, who can doubt, was the thought of a hand pulling back those gunnysacks to see what was under them.\(^{a}\)
Fire Destroys William Fleurville and Spencer Donnegan’s Barber Shop

The January 29, 1847, Register, reported that fire had destroyed the City Hotel and one or two tenements adjoining. This was the site of William Fleurville’s barber shop which was consumed by the fire.

William Fleurville and Spencer Donnegan’s Barber Shop Removal and Loss of William Fleurville’s Violin

In the February 5, 1847, Register, William Fleurville and Spencer “Donnagan,” advertised that having their shop burnt at the recent fire, they had removed to a room two doors south of Mr. Bunn’s store. The ad also reported that William Fleurville had lost a violin in the fire and would be glad to have it returned.

Samuel S. Ball and the Wood River Baptist Association

In 1847, Samuel S. Ball was selected by the Wood River Colored Baptist Association to appoint a committee on education. He also gave a report on the printing of the Church Discipline.

Arrival of Rev. Henry Brown

As early as 1847, Rev. Henry Brown, a native of Raleigh, Halifax County, North Carolina, came to Springfield and, except for four years residence at Galena and Quincy, made Springfield his home. Brown was a great admirer of Abraham Lincoln and served him in various capacities until he went to Washington as President. Mr. Lincoln’s remains were brought back to Springfield in 1865, and Rev. Brown came from Quincy to lead Mr. Lincoln’s old family horse “Bob” in the funeral procession. Mr. Brown was an African Methodist Episcopal Church pastor.

African American Henry Brown was born in Raleigh, North Carolina on April 17, 1823. In 1835, he moved to Ohio, and one year later to Rush County, Indiana, where from 1837 to 1843 he was a farm laborer for a Quaker family. Henry was of immense physical stature, standing six feet three inches and weighing 250 pounds. Brown studied to become an African Methodist Episcopal Church preacher and was licensed to preach about 1846.
He then began an itinerant ministry, walking from town to town. He was often refused meals and lodging because of his race. In 1847, he met and married in Illinois and shortly thereafter moved to Springfield. Except for four years residence at Galena and Quincy, he lived in Springfield. In 1860, he lived at the northeast corner of 10th and Madison Streets and later at 1530 East Mason Street.

In both Quincy and Springfield, Brown helped runaway slaves move north on the underground railroad. On one occasion, he reportedly gave his own coat and vest to a poor black man.

Many a poor slave escaping by means of the underground railway during the civil war, was upheld on his way by Mr. Brown, who acted as a "conductor" at Quincy and Springfield stations. His idea of the golden rule was illustrated by one instance when he gave his own coat and vest to a poor fellow who was without one.

Brown was a great admirer of Abraham Lincoln and served him in various capacities until he went to Washington as President. When Lincoln’s body was brought back to Springfield in May 1865, Rev. Henry Brown was sent a telegram requesting that he come from Quincy to Springfield for the Lincoln funeral. He and another local minister, Rev. W. C. Trevan, led Lincoln’s old family horse “Bob” in the funeral procession.


Illinois Constitutional Convention Proposal Excluding Immigration of Free African Americans to Illinois

In 1847, the Illinois constitutional convention adopted a proposal to be submitted separately to the voters on March 6, 1848, which excluded immigration of free Negroes to Illinois. Voters approved both the constitution and this provision.

Robert Smith, “Negro Bob,” Represented by Abraham Lincoln

In 1847, the law firm of Lincoln and Herndon represented Robert Smith, known as “Negro Bob,” and charged $5 for defending him against a suit brought by another Negro. Lincoln and Herndon’s Fee Book of 1847 listed the case as “Negro vs. Robert Smith (Negro Bob).”

Nancy Collier Takes Promissory Note of Lewis A. Collier

On August 21, 1847, Nancy Collier took the promissory note of Lewis A. Collier in the amount of $200 and secured the note with a mortgage.

Liberia Declares Independence From the Unites States of America

On July 26, [1847] The Liberian Declaration of Independence was adopted and signed. In it, Liberians charged their mother country, the United States, with injustices that made it necessary for them to leave and make new lives for themselves in Africa. They called upon the international community to recognize the
independence and sovereignty of Liberia. Britain was one of the first nations to recognize the new country. The United States did not recognize Liberia until the American Civil War.

Liberia’s independence from the United States replaced the suspect American Colonization Society as chief authority in the Anglo-African settlement. While Liberia thereafter was to be considered worthy of the respect of the African Americans, its independence was not solely responsible for the new ideas concerning emigration. The birth of the republic was merely one part of a series of events that encouraged a trend that was already well under way.  

Colored Baptist Association of Illinois
Commissions Samuel S. Ball to Visit the Republic of Liberia

On August 19, 20 and 21, 1847, the annual meeting of the Colored Baptist Association met at Wood River in Madison County, Illinois. The Association adopted a resolution that commissioned Samuel S. Ball of Springfield to visit Liberia and report back to the Association.

Whereas, we have continual reports of the condition of the Republic of Liberia favorable to us in America:  

1st, Resolved, That we send Elder S. S. Ball to Liberia, as an Agent to inquire into the condition of the aforesaid country, and to report to this Association on his return, provided means can be raised and procured to defray his expenses.  

After decades of proselytization, it appeared to colonizationists that some blacks were finally becoming aware of the “merits” of an exodus to Liberia. In May, 1848, the African Repository reported optimistically that the black Baptist Association of Illinois had delegated the Reverend Ball of Springfield to visit Liberia.

“African Americans overwhelmingly rejected colonization as both racist and impractical, holding anticolonization meetings in Chicago and Springfield. Still, a minority devised a plan to emigrate voluntarily to Liberia. In 1847, the Colored Baptist Association of Madison County asked Samuel S. Ball, a black Springfielder and Baptist elder, to travel to Liberia to investigate the “condition of the Republic of Liberia favorable to us in America.”

Abraham Lincoln’s Three Week Visit to His In-Laws in Lexington, Kentucky

From November 3 to November 25, 1847, newly elected Congressman Abraham Lincoln and his family visited Mary’s family at Lexington, Kentucky on their journey to Washington, D. C. This is cited by historian Benjamin Quarles as a significant Lincoln contact with the style and custom of Southern slavery.

Early in November 1847 the four Lincolns—parents and baby boys—arrived at the Todd home in Lexington. For three weeks Lincoln had a second opportunity to observe slavery in Kentucky. He would come to know the Todd household slaves, particularly Mammy Sally, the best loved and most influential of “our colored contingent,” as they were called by one of the Tords. The vacationing Lincoln, strolling around, could not have missed the slave pens, less than three blocks away, which almost surrounded the home of Mary’s aged grandmother. Quite possibly he saw slaves put on the block; he liked to visit the courthouse, and the enclosure in front of that building was a favored spot for slave auctions.

Samuel S. Ball’s Letter of Integrity and Veracity From Governor French

In preparation for his visit to Liberia, Samuel S. Ball obtained a letter of introduction from Illinois governor, August C. French, a supporter of the colonization movement.

Springfield, Illinois, December, 1847

Elder S. S. Ball, of this city, having been selected by the Colored Baptist Association of this State, to visit the Republic of Liberia, and report to them the propriety of their removal to that colony— at the request of said Ball, I hereby state to all persons who may feel interested, that I have known Mr. Ball for some time personally and by reputation, and regard him as a man of the strictest integrity and veracity, and worthy of the encouragement and confidence of all friends of colonization

AUG. C. FRENCH, Governor of the State of Ill.
THE FOURTH DECADE
1848-1857

1848

Springfield’s Population
Springfield’s population in 1848 has been estimated at 3,912.685

Samuel S. Ball Departs Springfield for Liberia
“Ball left Springfield for New Orleans in February, only to be stopped by ice on the Mississippi River. He made a second “successful” attempt to reach Liberia via Baltimore in May.”686

The 1848 Constitution and the Prohibition of Free Negro Immigration to Illinois
In 1847, the Illinois constitutional convention adopted a proposal to be submitted separately to the voters which excluded immigration of free Negroes to Illinois. On March 6, 1848, voters approved both the constitution and this provision, Article XIV. The final vote on the Constitution itself was 49,060 to 20,083 while the tally on Article XIV was 50,261 to 21,297.687 The Sangamon County vote was 1,817 for the new constitution and 200 against.688 “Sangamon County…returned a total of 1,483 votes in favor of excluding blacks and only 148 opposing their exclusion.”689 The 1848 Constitution specifically denied the rights of suffrage and militia service to free Negroes. The 1848 Constitution formally banned slavery in the state, but the state did not repeal the Black Laws until 1865.

The Journal of May 25, 1848 reported on Samuel Ball’s departure from Baltimore for Liberia:

S. S. Ball, a very respectable colored man, late of this city, left Baltimore in a schr. On the 11th April for Liberia, for the purposes of examining that country as an asylum for free blacks. He may return in the same vessel.690

Samuel S. Ball Arrives in Liberia
Samuel S. Ball arrived at Cape Messurado, Liberia on the African Coast.

Samuel S. Ball Returns From Liberia and Reports to Annual Meeting of Wood River Colored Baptist Association
On August 25, 1848, Samuel S. Ball returned from Liberia and attended the annual meeting of Wood River Colored Baptist Association at Wood River, Madison County, Illinois, where he reported on his visit.691

The Tenth Annual Meeting of the Wood River Baptist Association was held at Wood River, August 24th, 1848. Friday morning August 25, intelligence being brought to the Association of the arrival on the grounds of the Association of Elder Samuel S. Ball, our missionary to Africa, whereupon the Association immediately adjourned to receive him, first appointing Elds. J. Anderson and R. J. Robinson as committee to proceed in advance of the procession and wait upon Elder Ball, and conduct him to the back ground of the preaching stand. Elder Robinson being appointed to address him in behalf of the Association, which being done in a brief manner, Elder Ball responded with much feeling, after which in the shaking of hands, many tears were shed for joy, and praises were offered to God for his kind providence. Saturday at 3 p.m. was appointed for Eld. Ball to make his report to the association. The report was listened to with much interest, and after hearing it it was ordered printed, and it came out in pamphlet form and was sold to defray expenses and to remunerate Elder Ball for his services in the trip. Elder Ball exhibited numerous African curiosities. Money received for his voyage to Africa and back, 8358.23; amount expended, 8356.33; balance in hand $1.90.692

When Ball had finished exploring the “advantages” of Liberia as a homeland for the free blacks of America, he was to return to Illinois and report his observations. The Reverend’s report,
however, did not meet the expectations of white colonizations. Objecting to the exploitation of indigenous Africans by American colonials, he regretfully stated that local natives might even be reduced to servitude by their new rulers.  

**Birth of Mary L. Ball**

Mary L. Ball was born in Illinois in 1848, the daughter of Samuel S. and Amanda Ball.

**Elizabeth Jenkins and Jameson Jenkins**

Received Into Membership of Second Presbyterian Church

On September 2, 1848, Elizabeth Jenkins transferred her church membership from the Colored Methodist Church of Springfield to the Second Presbyterian Church, now Westminster Presbyterian. On November 5, 1848, Jameson Jenkins was also received into the same church on profession of faith. This is the first appearance of Elizabeth and Jameson Jenkins. “...black women Jane Jenkins colored woman did not live there (at Lincoln’s home)—in next block...”

**Samuel S. Ball and the Wood River Baptist Association**

In 1848, Samuel S. Ball received a box of books from the New York Bible Society for free distribution. He participated in the resolution of the Wood River Baptist Association for the 5th Sunday in October “to meet and make prayers and supplication to Almighty God for the overthrow of slavery and oppression.”

**Marriage of Henrietta Maxwell and Larkin Jones**

On November 3, 1848, Henrietta Maxwell married Larkin Jones.

**Ruth Stanton Maid for Lincoln Family**

“Aunt” Ruth Stanton, a black woman who worked at times for Mary Lincoln, related that Lincoln’s wife acted as hostess every Thursday for the Episcopal Church ladies who gathered to sew for the poor and that Robert Todd Lincoln, born on August 1, 1843, attended Sunday School at the Episcopal Church for a time.

**Illinois Supreme Court Invalidates Law Providing For Return of Fugitive Slaves**

In 1849, the Illinois Supreme Court invalidated the state law providing for the return of fugitive slaves. The ruling by Justice Samuel Hubbel Treat was a victory for an African American from Missouri who claimed that his arrest in Sangamon County was unconstitutional. The law had held that an African American coming into Illinois without a certificate of freedom could be jailed on the presumption that he was a runaway. Treat said that the state could not legislate on a matter within the exclusive jurisdiction of Congress.
Marriage of John Brown and Violet Musick
John Brown and Violet Musick were married on January 26, 1849.\footnote{701}

Samuel S. Ball Opens Barber Shop

On March 28, 1849, Samuel S. Ball advertised in the Journal newspaper that he was opening a barbering and hair dressing business on the South Side of the Public Square:

Barbering and Hair Dressing.
The undersigned begs leave to inform the citizens of Springfield, and the public generally, that he will commence the above business a few days after the first of April next, at the stand of King & Baylor, south side of the public square, where he hopes by strict attention to business to merit a share of the public patronage.

My shop will be open at all times from Monday morning until Saturday nights.
He will keep constantly on hand a supply of Ball’s celebrated Restorative, so famous for the restoration of hair, and preventative of baldness.
He is also prepared to scour clothes and extract grease spots at the shortest notice and in the neatest manner.
He keeps also on hand a supply of Jones’ Extract which is not to be surpassed for the removing of grease, paints and tar from sloth.

Springfield, March 3, 1849.
S. S. Ball.\footnote{702}

David King Opens Bath House

On July 24, 1849, David King advertised in the Register newspaper that he was opening a bath house at the rear of S. S. Ball’s barber shop on the South Side of the Public Square. The baths were open from 6:00 o’clock a. m. to 9 o’clock p. m.

Samuel S. Ball Advertises Barber Shop

On August 22, 1849, Samuel S. Ball advertised his barber shop in the Journal:

S. S. Ball south side the square. Does not shave on Sundays. Mr. Ball has traveled some – been to Liberia – seen the fashions – and does his business well.\footnote{704}
Augusta Family Performs on State House Grounds

The Augusta Family, negro singers, performed in a pavilion on the State House grounds in the summer of 1849, with city officers on hand to prevent an outbreak of race violence.705

1850

Jamieson Jenkins Conductor on Underground Railroad

Jamieson Jenkins, a mulatto, was born in North Carolina about 1810. In the summer of 1835, he was living in Wake County, North Carolina as a freeman, and he was given a permit to visit Guilford County, North Carolina, a Quaker community that was the Grand Central Station of the underground railroad in the South.

State of North Carolina
Wake County this 12th April 1838

Dear Sir certify that the son of the above Nancy Jenkins was known by me to be a freeman of colour and further certify that I gave him a permit to leave this Country for Gilford County some time in the summer of 1835.

Ezra Gill706

The Quakers there most likely assisted Jamieson to begin his journey north from Guilford on the underground railroad, across the Ohio River and into Indiana. In Indiana, he married Elizabeth Pelham, a Virginia-born mulatto, and in 1844, they had a daughter, Nancy. Sometime between Nancy’s birth in 1844 and 1846, Jamieson and his family moved to Springfield, and in the fall of 1848, Jamieson and Elizabeth joined the Second Presbyterian Church, Springfield’s abolitionist church.

The Jenkins family consisted of Jameson “Jimison Jarkins,” a drayman, his wife, Elizabeth, and their daughter Nancy H., a washerwoman.707 The family resided in Springfield on the east side of Eighth Street, between Jackson and Edwards Streets, a block south of the Lincoln home.708

On the evening of January 16, 1850, Jamieson Jenkins assisted seven runaway slaves move 60 miles north along the underground railroad from Springfield to Bloomington. During the week that followed, Springfield’s Journal and Register newspapers printed five confusing and sometimes contradictory reports on the presence of the runaway slaves and called the events that transpired a “slave stampede.” It was initially and incorrectly rumored around Springfield that Jamieson Jenkins had betrayed the slaves, resulting in their capture.

On January 17, 1850, the Register reported that on the previous day Springfield citizens had captured eleven runaway slaves belonging to citizens of St. Louis. On the same day, the Journal reported that fourteen runaway slaves from St. Louis and Kentucky were discovered in Springfield on their way north. Three men attempted to arrest them, but a fight ensued. Only one slave, a lame negro, was arrested and placed in the city jail.

On January 18, 1850, the Register corrected its January 17 report that eleven runaway slaves had been captured. It reported that only eight were caught, and that after publication of the January 17 paper, seven escaped. The remaining slave, the lame negro, was “now in jail.” Three days later, the Register reported that the captured lame slave had been brought before the Supreme Court upon a writ of habeas corpus and released.
On January 22, 1850, the *Journal* published a letter signed “Justice” concerning what he called the “slave stampede in our neighborhood.”

We have received a communication in relation to the late “slave stampede” in our neighborhood, of this tenor:

Rumor may have it, that it was a colored person [Jameson Jenkins] who betrayed the runaways last week. But unfortunately the one they accuse of having done so, started north with a part of the same gang the night before the capture. And this rumor was only to prevent, and may be save the ‘under-ground car’ from being upset or overtaken.

“Justice,” 711

On January 23, 1850, the *Journal* printed a letter of response from “A Friend to Justice” which stated that the rumor that the runaway slaves had been betrayed by a local African American [Jameson Jenkins] was false and in fact, the rumor was a ruse “to prevent, and maybe, to save the underground car from being upset or overtaken.” Jenkins had in fact gone north by stage to Bloomington with some of the runaway slaves. The affidavit of J. C. Goodhue, stage coach agent, stated, “This is to certify that Mr. Jenkins left for Bloomington on the 16th day of January, 1850 in the stage.” The letter reads as follows:

Messrs, Editors:—In your paper of the 22d inst., there is a communication signed “Justice” which refers to the slave stampede in this neighborhood on the 16th, saying “that it was rumored that a colored person had betrayed the slaves, but, unfortunately, the one they accuse of having done so, started north with a part of the same gang the night before the capture; and this rumor was only to prevent, and maybe, to save the underground car from being upset or overtaken.”

Now, in order to correct public sentiment in regard to that man’s conduct in this matter, I would refer them to the following certificate of the agent of the northern line of stages:

Springfield, January 22, 1850

This is to certify that Mr. Jenkins left for Bloomington on the 16th day of January, 1850 in the stage.

J. C. Goodhue, agent.

A Friend to “Justice” 712

Hempstead Thornton and Four Other African Americans Detained

Another action which was tried early in 1850 grew out of the detention, in the Springfield jail, of five negroes, three men and two women, believed to be runaway slaves. One of the men, called Hempstead
Thornton, was described as a “negro supposed to be forty or fifty years old, with one leg off,” and another one, “twenty-five or thirty years old, with one short leg supposed to be occasioned by the white swelling.” The women were described as copper-colored. By the order of J. W. Keyes, justice of the peace, the negroes, “being runaway slaves and believed to be without free papers,” were turned over to a constable to be placed in jail. The latter official Strother G. Jones, made this return on his writ:

Executed by taking into possession the within named persons supposed to be runaway slaves, four of whom escaped from my custody on taking them before the court on the 16th inst., and the other, the oldest, a one-legged negro, was taken from my possession by the Sheriff of Sangamon County by virtue of process from the Supreme Court.

The proceeding occasioned deep interest among the people of Springfield and a decided conflict of opinion developed, but Thornton, in response to his appeal for a writ of habeas corpus, was taken before the Supreme Court, and, the facts being inquired into, he was awarded his liberty and discharged.717

**Death of Edward Lincoln**

On February 1, 1850, Edward Lincoln, not quite four years old, died of diphtheria after a 52 day illness.718 Eddie was buried in Hutchinson Cemetery at the west end of Washington Street, just a block or two west of Maria Vance’s home. Robert Lincoln was then 7 years old.

**Marriage of Albert William Collier and Clarisa Walden**

On March 13, 1850, Albert William Collier married Clarisa Walden in Sangamon County, Illinois.719

**The 1850 United States Census: Springfield’s Population**

By 1850, Springfield’s population had grown to 5,106.720 The African American population was approximately 245, about 5% of the total population. A full listing of the 1850 United States Census information on Springfield African Americans may be found in Appendix D.

By 1850, the black population in Sangamon County had stabilized at 245--mostly former slaves and indentures with a few free blacks like Lincoln’s barber, Billy Fleurville.721

**African American Living at the Planter’s Hotel**

By 1850, Phoebe Todd, Dr. John Todd’s former slave, was living at the Planter’s Hotel at the northeast corner of Seventh and Adams Streets. Also living at the Planter’s Hotel were the following African Americans: Lewis Bullett, a 50 year-old cook who was born in Virginia, Susan Howard, an 18 year-old Kentuck native and Mary, her 8 month-old daughter born in Illinois, and Charles Lewis, a 6 year-old Illinois native.

**Birth of Elizabeth Ball**

In 1850, Elizabeth Ball was born in Illinois to Samuel S. and Amanda Fry Ball. The 1850 Census lists Samuel Ball, a 40 year-old barber, as the head of a household consisting of his 24 year-old wife, Amanda, and three children, 6 year-old, William H., 4 year-old Edward F., and 2 year-old Mary L. Also living with the Balls were two of Samuel’s brothers, 16 year-old Jonathon and 14 year-old Smith Ball, both born in Illinois.722

**Samuel S. Ball Takes Chattel Mortgage on Wagon and Buggy of Michael Millington**

On March 2, 1850, Samuel S. Ball took a chattel mortgage on a horse wagon, wagon harness, buggy and buggy harness from 35 year-old Michael Millington, a carpenter, as collateral for the payment of $19.00.723
Maria Vance: Servant at Abraham Lincoln’s Residence

After the death of Eddie Lincoln, Abraham Lincoln realized that Mary was not well enough to take care of their house and 7 year-old son, Robert. In early April of 1850 (probably April 1 or 2), Lincoln visited the Maria Vance home on the north side of west Washington Street, between College and Pasfield to ask if Maria would come to work for the family. She agreed to do so and from 1850 to 1860, Maria served as a cook, laundress and maid for the Lincolns. She did not live in the Lincoln house as did other maids. Maria served for a longer period of time than any other servant known to have been employed by the Lincolns. Maria was born circa 1819 in Illinois (Ohio?). During her Lincoln service she would have been 32 to 41 years of age, yet she was called “Aunt Maria.” Maria’s reminiscence described her hiring:

I was spec’lating on getting most something to do, after the rainbow promised no more floods, and was about to tell my Henry, when I hear Mistah Abe say after greetings, “I’ll come right to the point, Mrs. Vance. I believe you are the lady who did cleaning in my law office a while back. Anyone who could clean those windows so you could see through, really clean scrub that floor, and straighten up and make that office smell fresh, is the kind of woman we would like to do our washing and other household chores.

“I’s like most for you to come in the morning. I’m going out of town on the circuit for a spell. Mrs. Lincoln will be alone with our son, Robert.”

Shortly after hiring Maria, Lincoln left Springfield to attend the spring term of the Tazewell Circuit Court in Tremont that opened on April 3.

One day the girl threatened to leave unless she could get $1.50 per week. Mrs. L. could -- rather would -- not give the extra 25 cents; the girl said she would leave. Mrs. L. said leave. Mr. L. heard the conversation--didn’t want the girl to leave--told his wife so--asked--begged her to pay the $1.50. Mrs. L. remained incorrigible. Mr. L. slipped around to the back door and said, “Don’t leave. Tell Mrs. Lincoln you have concluded to stay at $1.25 and I’ll pay the odd 25 cents to you” Mrs. Lincoln overheard the conversation and said to the girl and Mr. L.: “What are you doing? I hear some conversation -- couldn’t understand it -- I’m not going to be deceived. Miss, you can leave, and as for you, Mr. L., I’d be ashamed of myself.”

And from Springfield’s black community she employed Mariah Vance twice a week for many years, but after two weeks of undercooked potatoes and watery gravy, she fired another [How many were there?] black woman in the shrew’s voice that resounded across Jackson and up Eighth Streets.

Samuel S. Ball and Henry W. Baylor Purchase Lots at the Northeast Corner of Miller and First Streets

On May 1, 1850, Samuel S. Ball and Henry W. Baylor purchased real estate from Andrew Fogg and his wife, for the sum of $250. The property was located at the northeast corner of First and Miller Streets.

John Jones Criticizes Samuel S. Ball for Colonization Plan

On May 28, 1850, John Jones wrote a letter to Samuel S. Ball criticizing him for his Liberian colonization plan. John Jones was born on July 5, 1817. He was an African-American apprentice tailor, writer, and politician. Born a free man in North Carolina he taught himself to read and write. Jones started his own business and after a long struggle, he became one of the richest Black men in America. Jones used some of his wealth in the campaign against slavery. He moved to Chicago and made his home into an Underground Railway Station.
Jones wrote many influential anti-slavery pamphlets and led the fight against the Illinois Black Laws under which Blacks could not vote or testify in court. As Cook County Commissioner, Jones was one of the first Black men to be elected to senior office in America. While holding this post, he helped secure the law that abolished (local) segregated schools. John Jones died in Chicago in 1879.\\n\\nChicago, May 28, 1850.

Elder S. S. Ball—Dear Sir:—I perceive that you are making faint endeavors to revive the spirit of hatred and colonization, which has been almost buried for the last fifteen years. You seem to be trying to raise the head of this hideous monster above the blasted tide of popular disgust and indignation. This miserable scheme of expatriation and cruel exile, conceived and brought forth in the hottest of Slavery—promulgated by slaveholders themselves, and that, too, by some of the most influential and leading slaveholders of the South. Administered to by Henry Clay, Pinney, and such like, with a tribe of others of the most poison and cruel souled drives of the south—backed up by a few in the North, and some of them colored men at that. Sir, I am sorry to be compelled to number you with that class of men in the North, and more especially knowing you as I do, to be a lover of mankind in general, and particularly our proscribed, disfranchised and down-trodden countrymen. I was much surprised the other day on learning through a Colonization Journal of St. Louis, that you had been throwing oil on the flames of hatred at the city of St. Louis. That Journal reports you to have said the following words, which are living commentaries of themselves.

“I am the warm friend and enthusiastic admirer of Liberia,” and that it is “the brightest spot on this earth to the colored man.” Now let us see how these words compare with your Report on the condition of Liberia. Speaking of seventeen persons all to the same effect, on page ____, you said “The old gentleman wanted the three Kentucky delegates and myself, to try to raise as much money as would bring him and his family back to the United States, but this we could not do. He then wished us to bring him and his little boy back. —This also was out of our power.” Poor old man, was he on “the brightest spot on this earth.” If he was, may heaven deliver us from it. But again you say: ‘there was another man there with a wife and nine children in the same situation, who offered to give our captain a bill of sale on himself if he would only bring him and his family back to the U. States.’ (6 of the above named persons are mentioned on the 13th page) But to your St. Louis speech. You said: “Liberia not only protects the colored man in the enjoyment of equal rights, but that its institution fostered merit, developed the moral and intellectual faculties of its citizens, and produced great men.” Now, sir, let us turn again to pages 8 and 9 of your report of Liberia, and see how the two extracts compare. After speaking of the style of living, you say “This style, of course, is attended with considerable expense which the poor cannot support, and, in addition to this, they have just as many servants as they wish, and there seems to be as much distinction made between the rich and the poor, as there is in this country among the whites. This causes many who go to that country to be greatly disappointed, as they are led to believe before leaving here that they would be received with open arms, and place upon an equality with the very best of families in Liberia, and that they would in a few years be promoted to office, etc.—irrespective of any qualification, to move in this style, or fill those offices. But this is not the case. In every such instance let the truth be told. Say to the poor and ignorant, for as such are the great majority of those who go there. You will there be allowed to exercise the selective franchise; but of this, all will depend upon your qualifications. In this respect Liberia is generally considered aristocratic, and if you will take the following instances as a specimen of their aristocracy, you will be able to judge for yourselves. I was informed of a circumstance in relation to a gentleman with whom I was acquainted in this country, he was very poor on his arrival there, and having a wife and several children to support, he was forced from his indigent circumstances, after being there a year or two, to apply for the office of doorkeeper to the Legislature. This he obtained, and next year he was proposed in his district for a Representative, and accordingly called on some of the leading men for their support, but they refused it because he had been door-keeper. This I heard, but not being satisfied of the truth of it, I inquired of one of their principal men in reference to this circumstance, and informed that it was true; and that they would not suffer the man who waited (page folded and illegible on microfilm)

Now, I most frankly confess that I am not able to harmonize these two extracts. You say, that you thought that if this were democracy “it was not such as we have in the United States.” In your St. Louis speech, you
say that “Liberia protects the colored man in the enjoyment of equal rights” and that it is “the brightest spot on earth to the colored man.”

My dear sir, it is a source of regret to me that you have so far forgotten the poor colored man’s interest in this country. Your speech at Springfield and St. Louis, sir, has done more to impede all our efforts to obtain our rights here than twenty times that number of white men, could have done. I am sorry to see the course you have taken in this colonization movement. There has not a convention of colored men met for sixteen or twenty years that has not condemned this black scheme.

I must say in conclusion to our colored fellow countrymen, in the language of Douglass, who has said “We must not delude ourselves into the belief that this smooth-faced, silvery voiced, and seemingly pious enemy of the colored man’s rights in this country has ceased to be. This enemy still lives, and although it has renounced some of its boldness, it retains all its former malignity and cunning in a highly concentrated degree. Its movements should not be allowed to escape our vigilance, and especially should we mark the conduct of colored men in regard to it, for, after all, colonization is but an empty name without the cooperation of colored men.”

My dear sir, I could say much more upon this subject, but I have already extended my letter beyond my first intention.

I remain yours, for truth and liberty,

JOHN JONES

Public Supper to Raise Funds For “Colored School”

On June 14, 1850, eight Springfield African American men, the Trustees of the “Colored School,” signed a Journal newspaper announcement of a public supper to raise money for the “Colored School was to be held at the Colored Baptist Church.”

COLORED SCHOOL.

Whereas the people of color in this place desirous of educating their children, and finding themselves too weak in point of numbers to sustain a school permanently amongst them, therefore we, the Trustees of this the Colored School, in view of our weakness, propose giving a PUBLIC SUPPER, in aid of this School, on Thursday, the 20th of this month, at the Colored Baptist Church, in this city. We have appointed a committee of females to solicit donations among our white friends towards making the Supper, and we hope that their claims will not be disregarded.

Thomas Cox,    James Blanks,
Jno. Jackson,    Wm. Baker,
Wm. H. Butler,  Aaron Dyer,
H. W. Baylor,   S. S. Ball.

Samuel S. Ball Purchases Lamp Chimney from John M. Burkhardt

On June 14, 1850, Samuel S. Ball purchased a lamp chimney from John M. Burkhardt for 50 cents. Burkhardt had a dry goods store at 3 East Side of the Public Square.

The Fugitive Slave Law

On September 18, 1850, President Millard Fillmore signed the Fugitive Slave Law. It turned out to be one of the most vulnerable measures ever passed by Congress; the storm of protest it aroused never subsided.

By denying the testimony of the alleged runaway and by assuming that he was guilty rather than innocent, the measure immediately became a powerful propaganda weapon for the reformers. The abolitionist press referred to it as “the Man-Stealing Law” and “the Bloodhound Bill.”

Marriage of Major Clark and Delsa Smith

On August 8, 1850, Major Clark married Delsa Smith.

Nancy Collier Forecloses on Estate of Lewis A. Collier, Deceased

On September 18, 1850, Nancy Collier filed a foreclosure suit against the estate of Lewis A. Collier, deceased.

Thomas Coleman and William H. Butler Work on State House Grounds

In 1850, the Auditor noted that Thomas Coleman drew $2 for cutting weeds in the State House Yard, while William H. Butler whitewashed the fence around the Square.
1851

Samuel S. Ball Supports Illinois Legislation to Fund Colonization

By 1851 Samuel S. Ball had become an ardent advocate of Liberia as a solution to the problems of racism and legal discrimination faced by Illinois African Americans. “I am the warm friend and enthusiastic admirer of Liberia,” he declared in speeches at Springfield and St. Louis. He described Liberia as “the brightest spot on this earth to the colored man” and declared: “Liberia not only protects the colored man in the enjoyment of equal rights, but...its institutions fostered merit, developed the moral and intellectual faculties of its citizens, and produced great men.” The combined effects of the 1848 constitutional provision mandating a state black exclusion law and the almost universal acquiescence of white Illinoisans in the Compromise of 1850 with its fugitive slave provision may have convinced Ball that there was little hope for free African Americans in Illinois. In 1851 Ball drew up a bill for the state legislature that would have provided state support for free Illinois African Americans wishing to migrate to Liberia. The following article appeared in the January 17, 1851 edition of the Journal:

Emigration to Liberia.

We understand that a bill is about to be introduced into the Legislature, making an appropriation to aid in the establishment of a colony in Liberia, under a plan which has been drawn up by Elder S. S. Ball, of this city. We view it as a laudable and philanthropic enterprise, and we hope the members of the Legislature will give it a favorable consideration. Mr. Ball has visited that country, and is acquainted with all the difficulties which emigrants have to encounter. He with the Rev. A. W. Jackson, of Jacksonville, are the agents chosen by the colored people to locate this colony. As to Mr. Ball, he is too well known to the people of this State to require any thing from us in commendation of his character, — and as for Mr. Jackson, we learn that he is a man of unexceptionable character, and a very intelligent Minister of the gospel.739

Samuel S. Ball Purchases Lot on the South Side of Miller between First and Second Streets

On February 26, 1851, Samuel S. Ball purchased a lot on the south side of Miller Street between First and Second Streets from Mason Brayman and his wife for the sum of $25.740

Samuel S. Ball and Henry W. Baylor Purchase Lots at the Northeast Corner of Miller and First Streets

On April 22, 1851, Samuel S. Ball and Henry W. Baylor purchased real estate at the northeast corner of First and Miller Streets from James Williams for the sum of $400.741

Young Boys Harass Violet Musick, a Colored Woman

Even when they were permitted to remain in Springfield, African Americans suffered harassment at the hands of local whites. In 1851, a gang of white boys mounted a campaign of intimidation against a black woman in the city. “The house occupied by ‘Violet,’ a colored woman, —who minds her own business and interferes with no one,—has been assailed night after night, by a parcel of half-grown boys, for the mere purpose of distressing her, until she is now nearly a maniac,” a witness reported. “On Friday night last some of these persons actually entered her house, while she, frantic stood by and did nothing. Rather than condemning the episode as an instance of racist violence, however, the local newspaper simply cautioned that Violet’s impending insanity would add another pauper to the city’s welfare rolls. “if the corporation do not want the support of another individual,” ran the warning, “they had better see to this thing in time.—if it is not now too late.”742

In the 1850 United States Census, Violet Musick is listed as a 65 year-old woman who was born in Virginia.

Samuel S. Ball Purchases Lots at the Northeast Corner of Miller and First Streets

On May 17, 1851, Samuel S. Ball purchased real estate at the northeast corner of First and Miller Streets from Henry W. Baylor and his wife Lucinda for the sum of $77.50.743

Samuel S. Ball Advertises Bathing Rooms

On June 7, 1851, Samuel S. Ball advertised in the Journal that bathing rooms at the rear of his barber shop were open for “the accommodation of his friends and the public.” Apparently D. King no longer operated the bath as he had advertised in the July 24, 1849 Register.
The Bathing Rooms now kept by Rev. S. S. Ball, in the rear of his Barber’s Shop, are in elegant trim for the accommodation of his friends and the public.  

**Samuel S. Ball Serves Churches in Springfield and Jacksonville**

During the summer of 1851, Samuel S. Ball was serving churches in Springfield and Jacksonville.

**Samuel S. Ball Purchases Lots on the North Side of Carpenter between First and Second Streets**

On July 8, 1851, Samuel S. Ball purchased real estate on the north side of Carpenter Street between First and Second Streets from John Reynolds and his wife for the sum of $55.78.

**Samuel S. Ball Purchases Furniture from J. A. Hough**

On July 25, 1851, Samuel S. Ball purchased a bureau for $13.00, a bookcase for $10.00, a lounge for $6.00 and a mattress for $2.50 from J. A. Hough, whose furniture and carpet store was located on Fifth Street, between Adams and Monroe Streets.

**Samuel S. Ball Purchases Furniture from J. A. Hough**

On October 6, 1851, Samuel S. Ball purchased six pine back chairs for $15.00, a bedstead for $4.00 and a towel roller for 30 cents from J. A. Hough.

**Marriage of Gilbert Johnson and Sinette Floureville**

On October 9, 1851 Gilbert Johnson and Sinette Floureville were married in St. Paul’s Episcopal Church in Springfield. They had the following children: Phoebe, born in 1855, Gilbert, born in February 1857, and Annie, born in 1859. This was Sinette’s first marriage, which would end at the death of Gilbert in 1859. She then married Henry Scott, who died in the Civil War.

**Samuel S. Ball Purchases Clothing from Thomas S. Little**

On October 12, 1851, Samuel S. Ball purchased a coat, vest and pants from Thomas S. Little for $9.25. He paid $5.00 cash and charged the balance. Little had a clothing store at 2 South Side of the Public Square.

On November 21, 1851, Samuel S. Ball purchased pants for his son, John, from Thomas S. Little for $2.50.

**Marriage of Gilbert Johnson and Sinette Fleurville**

On August 9, 1851, Gilbert Johnson married Sinette Fleurville in Sangamon County, Illinois.

**Jameson Jenkins Cut Off from Second Presbyterian Church**

On August 29, 1851, Jameson Jenkins’ membership in the Second Presbyterian Church was terminated due to his having failed to answer charges of not attending Church meetings and licentiousness.

Jamieson Jenkins a member of the Church was charged with breach of covenant in not attending the meetings of the Church, and also with licentiousness. A copy of the charges were made out, and E. B. Hawley and C.R. Welles, appointed a committee to notify him of this charge & the time for the trial, as the Book of discipline directs.

August 29. The serving of the notice for trial with the charges was duly attended to by the Committee appointed in the case of Jamieson Jenkins as above. The time of trial was set & he, not appearing was subsequently notified again. At the time appointed for the second meeting of the session to attend to his case, he did not appear. The session now being convened & discerning it needless to make further attempts to bring said Jenkins before them, it was voted that he be cut of from the Church for contumacy. Session adjourned. Closed with prayer.

Albert Hale stated clerk

William H. Herndon Writes to John A. McClernand

Friend McClernand –

Dear Sir:

Some few days before you left this City for Washington, I asked of you a small favor: it was this -- I want you to send me some good strong Democratic speeches this winter. I do not care how proslavery they are, so they have life and vitality in them. Do not forget this. Put my name down on your roll. My friends on the other side will send me enough of the Republican efforts; but I want to read & hear both sides, so that modifications in my own mind may take place, if proper.

I see you have got the nigger up in the House “a-ready.” Can you kick him out when you want him gone? Niggers are great institutions, are they not? My Colored brethren here say – “Why – Good Lord-a-massy Billey – de nigger am de great object of the American Goberment – dey am always de talk – Can’t legislate for mail bags: but that de nigger am in de threads – in de whole bag massa – What am you going – you white folks – to do with the darky?”; and Me I must Confess that I can’t answer the poor Sambo’s simple question – Can you Mc.? “The Niggers” (as they themselves say) are America’s great home-made institution."

Me, you must make one good speech for yourself this winter; and between you & I, I do not care how grand, poetical or philosophical – I am not an aspirant, thank God, & therefore have no envy to shrivel-up my soul.

Your Friend

W. H. Herndon.

John McClernand had a long career as a public servant, serving as a legislator, a general, and a judge. He was born on May 30, 1812 in Breckenridge County, Kentucky, and grew up in Shawneetown, Illinois. McClernand passed the bar in 1832, after which he worked as a trader for a couple of years and later established a newspaper, the Shawneetown Democrat. He was elected to the Illinois Legislature four times (1836, 1840, 1842, and 1843) and to Congress for the first time in 1843, serving four terms, leaving in 1851. He was again elected to Congress in 1861 but shortly resigned to take a commission as a Brigadier General in the Union Army, even though his only military experience was his service in the Black Hawk War.

McClernand was given a brigade in Missouri, serving under General Ulysses S. Grant, and performed well at the engagement at Belmont, Missouri, where the Union forces surprised the Confederates and pushed them from their positions. Believing the day was won the Union soldiers began celebrating and McClernand started a political speech. However, the Confederates ferried reinforcements across the Mississippi, rallied, and routed the attackers. McClernand cut short his harangue. In February 1862, Grant elevated McClernand to command of the 1st Division, Department of the Missouri, which he led in the advances on Forts Henry and Donelson. The U. S. Navy, under the command of Admiral Foote, took Fort Henry without any help from the Army. But at Fort Donelson, McClernand, on the right flank, was attacked by the Confederates and was being pushed back when Grant arrived just in time to take control and stop the Confederate advance.

In March 1862, McClernand was promoted to Major General and commanded the 1st Division, Army of the Tennessee. He led the division at Shiloh and Corinth and was soon back in Illinois to raise troops, a job at which he excelled. After his recruitment duties, Lincoln put him in charge of the Vicksburg operation, but Grant, who didn’t like McClernand (and vice versa), started the campaign—a campaign which began with Sherman’s defeat at Chickasaw Bayou—before McClernand arrived to take command. McClernand, however, with an independent command, did succeed in capturing Fort Hindman on the Red River, but the results were of little consequence in the over all campaign against Vicksburg. After McClernand’s Red River raid, he was put in command of the lead corps of Grant’s army marching down the west bank of the
Mississippi to cross the river and assault and besiege Vicksburg. However, on June 19, General Grant relieved McClernand of command after his poor performance in the assault on Vicksburg and his subsequent letter-writing campaign to newspapers disparaging other Union officers for not supporting him in his attacks on the city. He briefly commanded a corps in the Department of the Gulf in early 1864, but, due to illness, he resigned after a month.

After the war, McClernand practiced law in Illinois. In 1870, he was elected to the circuit court and served on the bench for 3 years. He stayed politically active, even presiding at the 1876 Democratic National Convention in St. Louis, Missouri, which nominated Samuel J. Tilden to run for president against Rutherford B. Hayes. McClernand died on September 20, 1900 in Springfield, Illinois, and is buried in the Oak Ridge Cemetery.

1852

Illinois Supreme Court Voids Contracts for Sale of African Americans

In 1852, the Illinois Supreme Court voided contracts for the sale of African Americans.

Lincoln and the Illinois Colonization Society

In 1852 Lincoln said that he imagined he might become “something of a leader against slavery encroachments.” In fact, he became a manager of the Illinois State Colonization Society, addressed their annual meetings in 1853 and 1855, contributed money to the society, and enjoyed speaking with its agents. During the Civil War, he continued to promote colonization (a pet scheme of his “beau ideal of a statesman” Henry Clay) despite criticism from some Radical Republicans.  

Birth of Julia C. Chaverous

On April 28, 1852, Alseen Floreville and Mahlon Chaverous had a daughter, Julia C.

Samuel S. Ball Purchases Boots and Cap from Hawley & Loose

On January 31, 1852, Samuel S. Ball purchased a pair of boots for $2.50 from Hawley & Loose, a dry goods store located on the Public Square. The purchase was for Ball’s son. On February 6, 1852, Samuel S. Ball purchased a boys cap for $1.00.

Samuel S. Ball Purchases Calf Boots and Socks from N. W. Edwards & Co.

On February 14, 1852, Samuel S. Ball purchased a pair of calf boots for $3.50 and a pair of socks for 15 cents from J. T. Smith at N. W. Edwards & Co., a dry goods store located at 14 West Side of the Public Square.

Samuel S. Ball Borrows Money from Dr. William Jayne

On March 16, 1852, Samuel S. Ball borrowed $25.00 from Dr. William Jayne.

Springfield March 16th, 1852

Due Wm. Jayne on demand twenty five dollars.

S. Ball

Samuel S. Ball Borrows $16.00 from S. B. Haggard & Co., Chicago, Illinois

On April 16, 1852, Samuel S. Ball signed a promissory note in the amount of $16.00 made payable to S. B. Haggard & Co. The note was due on October 15, 1852 and bore interest at an unstated amount.

Samuel S. Ball Purchases Glass Plate from J. A. Hough

On April 16, 1852, Samuel S. Ball purchased a glass plate from J. A. Hough for 80 cents.

Samuel S. Ball Has Chair Refinished and Painted By John. A. Mason

On April 28, 1852, Samuel S. Ball had a chair refinished and repainted by John A. Mason and was charged $1.75. Mason’s furniture shop was located on the corner of Jefferson and Sixth Streets.

Samuel S. Ball Purchases Rag Carpet from N. W. Edwards & Co.

On May 5, 1852, Samuel S. Ball purchased 25 yards of rag carpet from N. W. Edwards & Co. for $8.75.
Samuel S. Ball Purchases Trundle Bedstead from D. E. Ruckel

On May 15, 1852, Samuel S. Ball purchased a trundle bed from D. E. Ruckel for $____.  

Samuel S. Ball Purchases Flooring and ______ from George L. Huntington

On May 6, 1852, Samuel S. Ball purchased 30 feet of flooring and 8 _____ from George L. Huntington for $1.06.  

Samuel S. Ball Purchases Paint from E. G. Johns

On May 22, 1852, Samuel S. Ball purchased 7 ___ paints from E. G. Johns for $1.60.  E. G. Johns & Co. were painters located on Market, between Fourth and Fifth Streets.  

On June 7, 1852, Samuel S. Ball purchased 4 ___ paints from E. G. Johns for $.80.  

Samuel S. Ball Borrows Money from S. (Simeon) Francis

On May 26, 1852, Samuel S. Ball borrowed $6.67 from Simeon Francis.  

Samuel S. Ball Purchases Boots and Shoes

On June 30, 1852, Samuel S. Ball purchased a pair of boots for $5.00 and on July 16, 1852, he purchased a pair of shoes for $2.50.  

Samuel S. Ball Charges Thomas S. Little for Shaving

On August 10, 1852, Samuel S. Ball charged Thomas S. Little $5.62 ½ for “Shaving up to date.” Little had a clothing store at 2 South Side of the Public Square.  

Samuel S. Ball Charged for Family Medical Services by Dr. William Jayne

Dr. William Jayne rendered medical attention to Samuel Ball and his family from January 1852 to August 15, 1852, for which he charged $17.50.  

William H. Butler Cleans Privy Posts at State Capitol

By August 1852, William H. Butler was cleaning the privy pots at the State Capitol. “He got $32 for emptying them eight times. Butler, about 37, was a black laborer with a small family. He had been born in Kentucky and owned $200 worth of real estate.”  

Death of Samuel S. Ball

On September 16, 1852, Samuel S. Ball died at the age of 43 of typhoid fever. He left real estate valued at $1,018.59.  

Rev. Samuel S. Ball, (Colored Minister)

He died in Springfield, Illinois, September 16th, 1852, aged 42 years. He was born in Virginia, about the year 1810. Removed to Illinois about 1835; was converted and united with the Baptist Church, the year following. He was ordained in 1842. He was a man of good native talent, well cultivated for one in his circumstances. He was one of the most active, intelligent and useful colored Ministers in the State. He was extensively known by his visit to the Colony of Liberia, in 1848, as an exploring agent of the Colored Baptist Association of Illinois. He published an account of his travels, which was widely disseminated, and contains much useful information. He was affable in his deportment, respectable in scholarship, kind and affectionate in his social relations, esteemed by all. Beloved by the church, his loss is widely felt, deeply lamented, and, to human eye, irreparable. His sickness – typhoid fever – was short, and borne with submission. He died with unshaken confidence in that God, whose gospel he endeavored to preach. Peace and triumph characterized his last moments.  

‘Let me die the death of the righteous; let my last end be like his.’  

Amanda Ball Purchases Mourning Goods From Robert Irwin

On September 16, 1852, Amanda Ball purchased mourning goods from Robert Irwin and was charged $3.88.  

Petition for Administration of Estate of Samuel S. Ball

Samuel S. Ball died without a will, and on September 18, 1852, Edmund Fry filed a petition to administer the estate in the Sangamon County Court. The petition is in the handwriting of William H.
Herndon, leading one to conclude that the firm of Lincoln and Herndon represented the estate of Samuel S. Ball. 778

Administrators Appointed for Estate of Samuel S. Ball

On September 20, 1852, Robert J. Robinson, a “colored barber” according to the 1859 City Directory of Springfield, and Andrew W. Jackson 779 were appointed administrators of the Estate of Samuel S. Ball. Edmund Fry signed their bond as surety (guarantor).

Lincoln Clears Title to William Fleurville Lots in Bloomington

C. R. Welles, Esq. Bloomington
Sept. 27, 1852.

Dear Sir:

I am in a little trouble--I am trying to get a decree for our “Billy the Barber” for the conveyance of certain town lots sold to him by Allan, Gridly and Prickett--I made you a party, as administrator of Prickett, but the Clerk omitted to put your name in the writ, and so you are not served--Billy will blame me, if I do not get the thing fixed up this time--If, therefore, you will be so kind, as to sign the authority below and send it to me by return mail, I shall be greatly obliged; and will be careful that you shall not be involved, or your rights invaded by it.

Yours as ever
Lincoln 780

Florville v. Allin et al.- Allin, Gridley, and Prickett laid off an addition to Bloomington. Prickett agreed to give Florville, an African-American barber, four lots in exchange for shaving him during his lifetime. “Billy the barber” failed to record his deed and lost it. Florville retained Lincoln and sued Allin, Gridley, and Prickett’s estate for conveyance. Allin and others failed to appear, and the court ordered the defendants to convey the deed. Lincoln paid the costs in the suit, except the Sangamon County sheriff’s fees, for Florville.

Florville v. Stockdale et al.- Stockdale gave Florville a promissory note for $100 and secured the note with a mortgage on one lot in Springfield, Illinois. Stockdale later gave Ayres a promissory note for $700 and secured the note with a mortgage on the same lot. After Stockdale failed to pay, Florville retained Lincoln and Herndon and sued Stockdale, Stockdale’s wife, and Ayres to foreclose the mortgage. Stockdale and others failed to appear, and the court ruled for Florville and awarded $114.75 in damages. Florville assigned the judgment to Reeves and Ayres, but the court apparently did not sell the lot. Florville was an African-American barber, who was commonly known as “Billy the Barber.”

Thomas C. Prickett’s Recollection of William Fleurville

The Billy the barber--alluded to in this letter, was an old colored man who lived here, a barber by profession. He also played the flute at the Evening Entertainments. In those days our Music on such occasion was the flute Piano Violin or harp and Billy often played or Served on the Table at My Mothers home Entertainments. My Father in connection with Allen & Gridley laid off an addition to Bloomington. He gave Billy two lots, in Consideration that he shave him during his lifetime, which Billy did, and he also shaved him at the time of his death. Billy failed to have his deed recorded & lost it--a fact he did not discover until after the death of My Father. He then got Mr. Lincoln to get another--Wells was the Administrator of My Father’s Estate--The Widow of old Billy Sold the lots Some years after his death for $2500--Some of his children are Still living here.

Thomas C. Prickett 781

Marriage of William Donegan and Charlotte Cox

Williamm Donegan and Charlotte Cox were married on October 5, 1852. 782

African American Meeting Regarding Schools

On Monday, November 8, 1852, Springfield African Americans met and adopted a resolution saying “….we must speak in bold terms.” The resolution opposed the Wood River Colored Baptist Association’s proposal for separate, State-funded colored schools, and stated that they would not ask for state funded support for separate, colored schools. They asserted “That we, as a portion of the colored population, representing its claims, feel a deep, very deep interest, in our schools, and think it the only sure way to redeem ourselves from the bondage we are now in, sympathize with our race, and will do every thing that is in our power to educate our children by our exertions, and without the boldness to ask aid from the people of the State.” The resolution was signed by 20 Springfield African American men.
Springfield, Nov. 8, 1852.

At a meeting of the colored citizens of this city, on the 8th instant, after having deliberated over the matter concerning our interests, common schools, etc. had occasion to notice the following, which we must speak of in bold terms; and which, after a vote was taken, was unanimously adopted:

The undersigned having just noticed an article written for the paper entitled, the “Western Citizen,” by the “Wood River Colored Baptist Association,” and also the Minutes of the same, wish to make the following reply:

Whereas the “Wood River Colored Baptist Association,” having met at Jacksonville, Illinois, devised ways and means for the purpose of establishing a system of common school education, under the cloak of the colored people of the State of Illinois;

We, as a portion of the colored people of this State, in Springfield, do not desire any such system of common school education, under the name of one distinct sect or denomination; nor will we join in with it; nor give our support to it; but will do every thing that is in our power to indemnify ourselves against any of the above proceedings that may have been conjured up in this association;

That we deem it an injury to our present established schools, and that it will hinder the energy of those who are willing to aid, and have already aided in the support of our respective schools; and that we do not wish to give our aid in any measure that will hinder our progress that has already begun;

That we, as a portion of the colored population, representing its claims, feel a deep, very deep interest, in our schools, and think it the only sure way to redeem ourselves from the bondage we are now in, sympathize with our race, and will do every thing that is in our power to educate our children by our exertions, and without the boldness to ask aid from the people of the State;

And that in examining the Minutes of the Association, we notice an article proposing to establish a press, which will be attached to the Institution, and put into operation as soon as the amount of funds necessary for its support can be raised. In regard to this we can say, that it reminds us of the bill which was handed into the Legislature two years ago–coming, in part, from the same source; and consequently we do not feel willing to embark in any such enterprise; nor shall we.

After reading the above, what patriot, as he is called, can enlist in the resolutions which that Association have gotten up, without the consent of any persons but themselves?

James Reynolds, David Callyhan,
Gilbert Johnson, Isaiah Chambers,
Michael Millington, Wm. McCoslin,
John Handsom, J. W. Hill,
Aaron Dyre, [Dyer] A. J. Petete,
John Lee, Spencer Donnigan,
Andrew Broadwaters, James Hendrix,
William Lee, Wm. Donnigan,
Patterson Bannister, George Burras,783
Benjamin Williams, James Blanks.784

1853

Presley L. Donnegan Petitions Legislature Concerning School Tax for Colored Schools

The following January 11, 1853, Presley L. Donnegan and other Springfield African Americans petitioned the Illinois legislature asking that African Americans be exempted from the school tax and assuring the legislature that African Americans would “sustain their own schools.”

...divisions within the ranks of the blacks occurred on the issues of whether they should pay a school tax and, if so, whether the tax should be returned to them and for what purpose it should be used. Three schooling petitions from blacks or blacks and whites were presented in the General Assemblies of 1853 and 1855. The first, from Presley L. Donegan and other blacks of Springfield, presented on January 11, 1853, prayed that the blacks be exempted from the school tax and assured the legislators that the blacks would then “sustain” their own schools.785

The legislature took no action on the petition.

Black Codes Passed By Illinois Legislature

On January 29, 1853, John A. Logan of the House Judiciary Committee introduced an act to prevent he settlement of free Negroes in Illinois. When the bill was to be read for the third time prior to enactment, H.
W. Blodgett, a dissident member of the Judiciary Committee, expressed his contempt for racial discrimination by moving that the state’s entire black code ought to be repealed. Blodgett’s amendment, however, was decisively defeated a few minutes later by a vote of 58 to 7. Lacking sufficient strength to block the bill, the opponents of Negro exclusion were defeated 45 to 23. Within six days, the state Senate approved the Logan bill 13 to 9. The 1853 exclusion law clearly reflected the “spirit” of Article XIV. Any Negro or mulatto who entered the state with the intent of establishing residency, the act declared, was subject to a fine of fifty dollars.786

In 1853, the Illinois Legislature passed what were known as the Black Codes. The Codes made it a crime to bring a free African American into Illinois and imposed fines against illegal African American immigrants. The labor of those unable to pay the fine could be sold at public auction.787 The Black Codes were not invalidated until 1864, toward the end of the Civil War.

Lincoln’s Illinois was hardly committed to racial equality. An 1853 state law kept blacks out. Its legal code forbade interracial marriage, kept blacks off juries and out of the state militia, banned black testimony against whites, denied them the vote, and had no provision for black schools. Especially in its southern half, predominately settled from slaveholding states, racism was a powerful and practically unchallengeable notion.788

To prevent the further immigration of Negroes into the state, the legislature in 1853 established a policy prohibiting free blacks from settling in Illinois. To enforce the policy, the law authorized the sale of any black who entered the state after 1853 and failed to pay a stiff fine. The celebrated Compromise of 1850 had implicitly encouraged such racist legislation by strengthening the fugitive slave law, which held Northern states responsible for illegal Negro immigration.

The Register strongly supported the fugitive slave law. The paper admonished citizens to obey the law by apprehending and returning Negroes who had escaped Southern slavery. Central Illinois largely avoided the onus of enforcing the law. The area’s citizens seemed to have taken a narrowly legalistic point of view, disregarding the larger moral questions but insisting that a Negro be proven a slave before being returned to the South. ...The Journal kept unusually silent, unwilling to break the law or abrogate the fragile compromise that held the Union together.789

Any Negro or mulatto who entered the state with the intent of establishing residency, the act declared, was subject to a fine of fifty dollars. If the black person upon conviction was unable to pay the fine, the law instructed the Justice of the Peace to auction the unfortunate black to the bidder who would agree to pay the cost of the fine for the shortest period of labor. The act, then, established a system of black convict labor that strongly resembled involuntary servitude. The failure of the black person to leave the state within ten days after his “time of service” had expired, moreover, rendered him liable to a second prosecution. The penalty for the second offense, however, was to be raised from fifty to one hundred dollars, and for a third offense from one hundred to on hundred and fifty dollars. If the offender was unable to pay the increased fine, he was again to be sold into labor.790

**Dr. John G. Bergen Addresses Colonization Society**

On July 23, 1853, Dr. John G. Bergen addressed the Colonization Society in the First Presbyterian Church on the subject of colonization.791

**Abraham Lincoln’s Address Favoring Colonization**

On the evening of August 30, 1853, in the First Presbyterian Church, Abraham Lincoln addressed the Colonization Society favoring colonization. Both the *Illinois Register* and *Journal* contained announcements of the speech. The *Register* stated that the “…subject is of deep interest and growing magnitude, and well worthy of consideration on the part of all good patriots and well-wishers of humanity... The subject and the speaker are both attractive. Let them meet with an appreciative audience.”792

**Abraham Lincoln Represents William Fleurville**

On September 21, 1853, Abraham Lincoln acted as attorney for William Fleurville in a suit to clear title to lots in Bloomington, Illinois which Fleurville had purchased earlier. Eventually a deed was obtained, and Lincoln took on the job of paying the taxes from year to year.793 When on one occasion Lincoln forgot to pay, he asked Packard to pay Florville’s taxes, which Packard did.
Estate of Samuel S. Ball: Petition Regarding Real Estate

In September of 1853, a petition was filed in the Sangamon County Probate Court in which it was stated that Samuel S. Ball at his death had an interest in real estate valued at $1,018.59 and listed his children, Jonathon, Milner S., William H., Edmund F. (Edward) and Elizabeth. The petition was written by William H. Herndon. The real estate was located at: north side of Carpenter, between First and Second Streets; North side of Carpenter, between First and Second Streets; South side of Miller between First and Second Streets; north side of Miller, between First and Second Streets;

Estate of Samuel S. Ball: Inventory of Personal Property

On October 8, 1853, an inventory of the personal property of the Samuel S. Ball Estate was filed with the Sangamon County Clerk.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item Description</th>
<th>Value</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2 stands</td>
<td>2.50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 Stove pipe shovel &amp; Tongs</td>
<td>8.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 Cup Case</td>
<td>10.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 Wash Sink &amp; Tank</td>
<td>1.50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>½ Doz ___ Back Chairs</td>
<td>9.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 chain pump 28 feet</td>
<td>15.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17 Razors in Cases</td>
<td>8.50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11 Razors</td>
<td>1.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>21 Bath House Towels</td>
<td>2.10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>28 shop towels .05</td>
<td>1.40</td>
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<tr>
<td>24 new shop towels .20</td>
<td>4.80</td>
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<tr>
<td>2 Hair Towels</td>
<td>.50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 ___ &amp; ___</td>
<td>.50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 Lot Brushes &amp; Combs</td>
<td>1.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 saw &amp; piggs</td>
<td>6.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 lot of stone</td>
<td>15.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>1 cooking stove &amp; pipe</td>
<td>10.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 Lot Kitchen Furniture</td>
<td>10.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 Wheel Barrow</td>
<td>2.50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 Parlor Stove &amp; pipe</td>
<td>7.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 Lounge</td>
<td>5.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 tables</td>
<td>3.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>1 doz ___ chairs .50</td>
<td>3.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 child’s crib</td>
<td>3.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 china ___</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 brass clock</td>
<td>5.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 lot ___ furniture</td>
<td>6.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 feather beds &amp; bedding</td>
<td>12.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 High Post bedsteads</td>
<td>12.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 trundle bedsted bed &amp; bedding</td>
<td>2.00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
1 Bureau 6.00
1 ___ looking glass 1.00
1 ___ lamp .50
1 Bowel & Pitcher .50
1 Book Case 10.00
1 Lot of Books 15.00
½ doz. Cane seat chairs 8.00
1 rocking chair 1.25
1 child’s wagon 1.00
1 bedstead 1.50
1 cow 10.00
6 shoats 6.00

We the undersigned appraisers of the Personal Property of Samuel S. Ball Deceased do Hereby certify that the above to be a correct bill of Appraisal of all his personal property as found by us to the best of our skill & Judgment.

Given under our hands & seals this 8th day of October A.D. 1853.

___________________ Watson

___________________ S. Little

Agreement Between Joseph Kline and Presley Donnegan For Purchase of Real Estate

Circuit Court Record, Sangamon County

Joseph Kline to Agreement [with] Presley Donnegan

Article of agreement made and entered unto this 18th day of October 1853 between Joseph Klein of . . Springfield . .and Presley Donnegan of the Same place of the Second part . .Sum of Seven Hundred Dollars to be paid to the Sd party of the 1st part by the party of the Second part [installment arrangements] . .to give him a good and Sufficient warrantee Deed of Conveyance in Fee of and to the following described Tract or Lot of sd Land Situated in the City of Springfield . .Lot No. 2 in Block No. 4 in Edwards Addition.


1854

Henry Ellis’s Register Advertisement for His Eagle Shaving Saloon

On January 9, 1854, Henry Ellis advertised in the Register that he had opened the “Eagle Shaving Saloon,” on the South Side of the Public Square over Ives & Curran’s Jewelry store.

Henry Ellis’s Register Advertisement for the Eagle Shaving Saloon

Dated January 9, 1854

Illinois Colonization Society Annual Meeting

Held at First Presbyterian Church in Springfield

On January 12, 1854, the Illinois Colonization Society conducted its annual meeting at the First Presbyterian Church in Springfield. Since Governor Joel A. Matteson, President of the Society, was unable to attend the meeting, Vice-President John Moore acted as chairman. Abraham Lincoln and Orville H. Browning had been announced as speakers. “On account of illness in his family, Mr. Lincoln was not present.” Browning attended and delivered the keynote address, urging the assembly to promulgate the “responsibilities” of the free states with regard to African colonization. He noted his attendance in his diary.

Wednesday Jany 11 Snowing all day—Kept my room writing Colonization address.

Thursday Jany 12 At night delivered colonization address at Dr. Smith Church.
Jenny Jackson Received into Membership of First Presbyterian Church

On February 13, 1854, Jenny Jackson, a “coloured woman,” was received into membership of the First Presbyterian Church. She was dismissed as a member on August 13, 1859.

Dr. N. W. Miner Becomes Minister of the First Baptist Church

In 1854, Dr. N. W. Miner became the pastor of the First Baptist Church of Springfield. He served until 1869, fifteen years. Miner was born in Mystic, Connecticut, on March 10, 1818. He attended Trinity College, Hartford, Connecticut from 1842 to 1846, and Newton Theological Seminary from 1846 to 1848. In September of 1848, he married Maria H. Hubbard of Hartford, Connecticut. He served as a minister to the Long Meadow Church from 1848 to 1851, and to Lebanon, Connecticut from 1851 to 1854. He received a D. D. from the University of Chicago and was a Trustee of the Board.

Isabella Hill Charged With Disturbing Peace: Represented by Lincoln and Herndon

In early June of 1854, Isabella Hill was charged with disturbing the peace. She retained Lincoln and Herndon to represent her and on June 12, 1854, the court dismissed the case. Her husband, Robert, paid the costs.

Amanda Ball Sells Lots

On August 3, 1854, Amanda Ball sold 0.08th of an acre of land to James Vieira, for the sum of $53.

Henry Vance Charged With Obstructing Marshall

Police Court.—The following cases were tried before Justice Adams on Saturday morning:—William Locklan, charged with obstructing the Marshal in driving hogs to the pound. Fined $5. Henry Vance. same charge as above. Fined $5.

Confrontation Between “Negro girl” and Drunken Irishman

The following article appeared in the September 9, 1854, Weekly Capitol Enterprise.

Race.—Near the C. & M. R. R. depot, last evening, a drunken Irishman said something to a Negro girl, which seemed to displease her, and she answered him back rather saucily, and started off on a run. The Irishman then gave chase, and held his own for about a hundred yards, when his toe struck some object, and he was brought from the perpendicular to the horizontal in the twinkling of an eye, much to the discomfiture of his nose, which struck the ground first, leaving its mark in the dust.

Fugitive Slave Kidnappers Taken From Chicago to Springfield and Released by Judge Samuel Treat

Chicago Daily Tribune, Sept. 21, 1854.

Two colored men, on their way to Chicago, were seized and taken from the cars at LaSalle, Illinois, by three men, who said they were not officers. The colored men were known to be free; one was “a respectable resident of Chicago.” Some of the passengers interfered; but it being night, and very dark, and the cars starting on the colored men were left in the hands of their kidnappers.

Chicago, Illinois. Three men from Missouri, with a warrant from the Governor of that State, to take a certain fugitive slave, seized a man whom they met in the street, bound him with a handkerchief, and to quicken his steps beat him with the butt of a pistol. He succeeded in shaking off his captors and fled, a pistol-bullet being sent after him, which did not hit him. He made good his escape. The men were arrested and held to trial for assault with deadly weapons. By an extraordinary conspiracy on the part of District Attorney Hoyne, Sheriff Bradley, and others, these men were taken from jail to be carried to Springfield, Illinois, two hundred miles distant, to appear before Chief Justice Treat, that he might inquire “whether said alleged kidnappers were justly held to bail and imprisoned.” It was so suddenly done that the counsel for the kidnapped man and for the State of Illinois had not time to reach Springfield before the men were discharged and on their way to Missouri. The Grand Jury of the County (in which Chicago is) had found a true bill against them, of which the Sheriff professed to be ignorant, (which was deemed hardly possible,)—under which bill they would probably have been convicted and sentenced to the State Prison. Thus the omnipotent Slave Power reaches
forth its hand into our most Northern cities, and saves its minions from the punishment which their lawless acts have justly merited. — Chicago Daily Tribune, Sept. 21, 1854.

**The Abolitionists: Summer of 1854**

Illinois became a sort of battleground in the summer and fall of 1854, with vigorous campaigning by both sides. Springfield attracted half a dozen of the nation’s most prominent abolitionists that summer — Salmon P. Chase, Joshua R. Giddings, Cassius M. Clay, Ichabod Codding, and others — yet neither Herndon nor Lincoln spoke at any of these meetings.  

“Republican” Convention—Abolitionists Speak and Lincoln Leaves Town

On October 4 and 5, 1854, there was a “Republican” convention held at the State House in Springfield. Few took seriously the “Republican” convention which was held in the State House on the afternoon after Lincoln’s speech. Prominent among the participants were Ichabod Codding and Owen Lovejoy, well known abolitionist, William H. Herndon, and Erastus Wright, “who, of himself,” sneered the Register, “has enough of the elements of a disunionist to constitute one entire abolition convention...Ichabod raved,” the editor continued, “and Lovejoy swelled, and all indorsed the sentiments of that (Lincoln’s) speech.” Fearing just that, and more serious entanglements as well, Lincoln himself had climbed into his old buggy and started for court in Tazewell County. This was not the time, he well knew, for a rising politician to have his record indelibly stained with abolitionism.

At a convention in Springfield on October 4 and 5, 1854, Codding and his cohorts nominated Lincoln for the Republican State Central Committee. Lincoln was not present at the convention, and when asked to attend a committee meeting in November, he wrote Codding, saying that he was “perplexed some to understand why my name was placed on that committee.” Lincoln supposed his “opposition to the principle of slavery ...as strong as that of any member of the Republican party,” but he thought that the party found “the extent to which I feel authorized to carry that opposition, practically,...not at all satisfactory.” Almost two years passed before Lincoln called himself a Republican.

**William H. Herndon Asserts He Was Abolitionist**

William Herndon claimed that “At that time I was an ardent Abolitionist.”

There were many elements in Illinois opposed to Douglas, yet neither Lincoln nor Herndon could feel completely at home with any faction. The radical antislavery men, led by New England-bred Ichabod Codding and Owen Lovejoy, urged immediate extermination of the peculiar institution, but in central Illinois “abolitionist” was “an odious epithet,” applicable to scarcely a dozen men in Sangamon County. With a deep love and appreciation for the South, where he had been born, Herndon at this time could not be an abolitionist; there were limits to his antislavery zeal. Though “Personally ... opposed to slavery—slavery aggression—despotism everywhere,” he wrote, “I have no business to interfere with Southern Slaveholder’s property...” He did not “propose to wage war on them, but to let...the peculiar institution, alone where it is.” “I love the South,” he stated frankly, “and cannot help it; there is something open, manly, chivalrous to draw me.” As late as 1856 he was afraid that section would be at the rights of all and “do what is just to all and Each member of this Great Confederacy.”

**Birth of John Fry**

John Fry was born in Springfield, Illinois on November 10, 1854, the son of Richard and Mary Fry.

**1855**

Abraham Lincoln Addresses Illinois Colonization Society

On the evening of January 4, 1855, Abraham Lincoln addressed the Illinois Colonization Society. He reviewed the history of slave trade, the society and apparently intended to have the society adopt a resolution for amending the Kansas-Nebraska Act. The following are believed to be his notes for his speech.

Outline for Speech to the Colonization Society

- 1434- A portaguse [sic] captain, on the coast of Guinea, seizes a few African lads, and sells them in the South of Spain.
- 1501-2-3. Slaves are carried from Africa to the Spanish colonies in America.
- 1516-17 Charles 5th. of Spain gives encouragement to the African Slave trade.
- 1562- John Hawkins carries slaves to the British West Indies.
- 1620 A dut[ch] ship carries a cargo of African slaves to Virginia.
- 1626- Slaves introduced into New-York.
1630 to 41. Slaves introduced into Massachusetts.
1776. The period of our revolution, there were about 600-000 slaves in the colonies; and there are now in the U.S. about 3 1/4 millions.

Soto, the catholic confessor of Charles 5. opposed Slavery and the Slave trade from the beginning; and, in 1543, procured from the King some amelioration of its rigors.

The American colonies, from the beginning, appealed to the British crown, against the Slave trade; but without success.
1727- Quakers begin to agitate for the abolition of Slavery within their own denomination
1751- Quakers succeed in abolishing Slavery within their own denomination.
1787- Congress, under the confederation, passes an Ordinance forbidding Slavery to go to the North Western Territory.

1808- Congress, under the constitution, abolishes the Slave trade, and declares it piracy.
1776. to 1800- Slavery abolished in all the States North of Maryland and Virginia.

All the while- Individual conscience at work.
1816- Colonization Society is organized—it’s direct object—history—and present prospects of success. Its collateral objects—Suppression of Slave trade—commerce—civilization and religion.

Objects of this meeting.

Marriage of Thomas Rountree and Esther Young

On January 16, 1855, Thomas Rountree married Esther Young in Sangamon County, Illinois.823

Nancy Collier Conveys Real Estate to Jacob J. Weber

On February 19, 1855, Nancy Collier conveyed a farm in Cotton Hill Township to Jacob J. Weber.824

Arrival of Jacob J. Weber

WEBER, JACOB J., was born February, 1815, in Frederick City, Maryland. He came to Springfield in the fall of 1837. He afterwards went to Fulton county, where he engaged in business and married Miss LaMasters. He came back to Sangamon county in 1855 and engaged in farming in Ball township. They had six children. Mrs. Weber died, and Jacob J. Weber died suddenly, both on the farm in Sangamon county, Illinois.

Teacher Sought for “Colored School”

An 1855 Illinois law required that in townships with African American residents, the school taxes paid by them be used for “colored children.”825 On April 13, 1855, the Journal reported that Landen C. Coleman, a 25 year-old African American Springfield shoemaker,826 and M. Donnegan, as Trustees of the Springfield Colored School, sought a teacher for the school. Applicants were to be made at Coleman’s, probably his shoe shop—one door east of the American House at the southeast corner of Sixth and Adams Streets.

School Teacher Wanted

Coleman and M. Donnegan, trustees, desire to employ a teacher to teach a colored school. A competent teacher, will be well paid. Apply to L. Coleman, one door east of American House.827

Coleman was a native of Kentucky. In 1860 the firm of Coleman and Donnegan, shoemakers, was located at the northwest corner of 7th and Mason Streets.828

The 1855 United States Census

A full listing of the 1855 United States Census information on Springfield African Americans may be found in Appendix J.

Richard Fry

The 1855 Census for Springfield lists Richard Fry as a “Black” who is the head of household consisting of 4 males (Richard, Thomas, Robert E., and John) and 8 females (Mary, wife, Margaret, Sarah, Amanda, ____________,).829
The 1855 Census for Springfield lists Henry Fry as a “Black” who is the head of household consisting of 5 males and 5 females.

Late 1850s

Slaves Brought to Chinquapin Hill and Freed

In the late fifties some colored slaves were brought here and set free by their masters. Their first settlement was located at what is now Chinquapin Hill, and they were given land on which they might lay the foundation of complete material and political liberty.

Amanda Ball Sells Lots

On September 11, 1855, Amanda Ball sold real estate to Zarah C. Johnson for the sum of $700. In the 1860 census, Zarah C. Johnson was listed as a 34 year-old, millwright who had been born in Ohio. He was living at the northwest corner of 8th and Adams Streets in a wooden L-house with a small square addition. He lived with his wife, Sarah who was 23 and born in Ireland, and three sons.

Marriage of John H. N. Fountain and Mary E. Price

John N. H. Fountain and Mary E. Price married on October 2, 1855.

Birth of Phoebe Johnson

In 1855 Gilbert and Sinette Floureville Johnson had their first child, a daughter named Phoebe.

1856

Amanda Ball Advertises Embroidery Stamping

On April 17, 1856, Amanda Ball advertised her embroidery stamping business in the Journal. It was located at her residence on Fifth Street.

Embroidery Stamping

Mrs. Ball wishes to inform the public, that she has succeeded Mr. B__t_t__ in the above business and is now prepared to furnish the most beautiful patterns for embroidery and needle work, at the shortest notice.

Please call at her residence on Fifth street, next north of E. P. Pennman’s residence.

Jane Pelham, A Mulatto, Member of the First Methodist Church

Jane Pelham (sometimes spelled “Pellam” or “Pellum” or “Pelhum”) was born in Virginia in 1787. She was the mother of Elizabeth P. Pelham who married Jamieson Jenkins. In 1856, Jane was 68 years-old mulatto washerwoman known as “Aunt Pelham.” She was a member of the First Methodist Church where she was assigned the back seat on the north side of the church. The Church provided a load of wood for her or in the alternative, $3.00 from the Poor Fund to buy wood. A history of the First Methodist Church gives the following account of Aunt Pelham.

“...The back seat on the north side was given to Aunt Pelham. Shortly thereafter the preacher was directed to purchase a load of wood for her, or else pay her $3.00 from the Poor Fund so that she might buy her own.”

“There were several sisters who were a great help in the church. Efficient workers for the Savior, and always ready for every good word and work. There was a colored sister too who was a very devout Christian, Aunty Pelham. She was a woman of strong faith, always in her place in the sanctuary when her infirmities would permit, and though very poor and a great suffering, bearing all without a murmur.”

The 1850 United States Census states that Jane was a 62 year-old mulatto woman who was a native of Virginia. She was residing with James Blanks, a 38 year-old mulatto who was also born in Virginia.

The 1860 United States Census states that Jane was a 75 year-old mulatto washerwoman who had been born in Virginia. She owned no real estate and had a personal estate of $30. By 1860, she resided on the east side of Eighth Street near Edwards, where she boarded with Jameson Jenkins. The house was in the block south of the Lincoln home and perhaps still stands although it has been moved a block south.

“…black women Jane Jenkins colored woman did not live there (at Lincoln’s home)—in next block…”
On November 9, 1867, Jane Pelham (Pellum), age 80, died and was buried in the “Colored Section” of Oak Ridge Cemetery.

Arrival of Thomas J. and Sarah Fortune Wright

In 1856, Thomas J. Wright, a 36 year-old African American man born in Kentucky (Virginia?? 1860 Census), and his 31 year-old wife, Sarah Fortune, born in Virginia, moved to Springfield with their daughter Matilda, born in Huntsville, Missouri, on February 11, 1847. Other children were Frances V., born in Missouri circa 1840, William H., born in Missouri circa 1843, G. M., born in Missouri circa 1848, Garthur, born in Missouri circa 1854 and Willis T., born in Illinois in 1860. They were members of the African Methodist Episcopal Church. Matilda would marry John Edward Jackson. In 1860 they resided at the northeast corner of 13th and Mason Streets and the census of that year lists Thomas as a “farm laborer” with real estate having a value of $400 and personal property worth $150.

John Shelby Jailed in New Orleans: Abraham Lincoln Assists in Release

In the fall of 1856, Mack and Mary Shelby’s 22 year-old son, John, made a trip to New Orleans as a hired hand.

In the fall of 1856, Polly Mack’s [Shelby] son, John Shelby, who had been born “free,” went to St. Louis and hired out as a hand on a lower Mississippi steamboat bound for New Orleans. When the boat docked at New Orleans, young Shelby went ashore without his “free papers,” and was arrested by the local constabulary. According to New Orleans law, any Negro found on the streets after dark without a written pass from his owner, was subject to immediate imprisonment. ...

“Though born free, he was subjected to the tyranny of the ‘black code,’ all the more stringent because of the recent utterances of the Abolitionists in the North, and was kept in prison until his boat had left”--Herndon

Shelby was brought to trial and fined. Unable to pay, he languished in the New Orleans jail, alone and forgotten.

“After a certain length of time established by law”, Herndon said, “ he would inevitably have been sold in slavery to defray prison expenses had not Lincoln and I interposed our aid... We went first to see the governor of Illinois, who, after patient and thorough examination of the law, responded that he had no right or power to interfere. Recourse was then had to the Governor of Louisiana, who responded in like manner. We were sorely perplexed.”
When a second interview with the governor of Illinois proved fruitless, Lincoln is said to have arisen, hat in hand, and exclaimed: “By God, Governor, I'll make the ground in this country too hot for the foot of a slave, whether you have the legal power to secure the release of this boy or not.”

“Having exhausted all legal means to recover the negro we dropped our relation as lawyers to the case,” Herndon relates. “Lincoln drew up a subscription-list, which I circulated, collecting funds enough to purchase the young man’s liberty. The money we sent to Col. A. P. Field, a friend of ours in New Orleans, who applied it as directed, and it restored the prisoner to his overjoyed mother.

Nancy Collier Purchases Real Estate at Twelfth and Mason Streets

On November 10, 1856, Nancy Collier purchased real estate at the northwest corner of Twelfth and Mason Streets for the sum of $850. The 1860 United States Census lists Nancy Collier as a 50 year-old washer woman who had been born in Virginia. She is stated to have $700 in real estate and $50 in personal property. She lived at the northwest corner of Twelfth and Mason Streets with an 18 year-old man named Francis Collier who had been born in Mississippi and was a laborer.

Arrival of Reuben Coleman

In 1856, Reuben Coleman, a 49 year-old African American shoemaker, arrived in Springfield. He was born in Spotsylvania County, Virginia in 1807. He was a shoemaker by trade and a member of the Union Baptist Church. On May 10, 1873, he would marry Phebe Florville.

1857

Orville H. Browin’s diary entry for January 26, 1857 describes his attendance and speech to the Colonization Society.

Birth of Gilbert Johnson

In February 1857, Gilbert and Sinette Floureville Johnson had their second child, a son named Gilbert.

Marriage of Thomas J. Wright and Sarah Fortune

Dred Scott Decision

In March of 1857, the United States Supreme Court’s Chief Justice Taney rendered the Dred Scott decision holding that: (1) a Negro could not be a citizen of the United States; and (2) the Missouri Compromise was not and never had been constitutional.

The antislavery agitation had an unfortunate effect on Herndon’s personality. He lost something of that exuberance and versatility that had made him a worthy example of the Aufklärung in the Middle West. Now all his emotions were squeezed through one wine press and the juice was bitter. In his calmer moments Herndon himself realized what was happening. “My colored brethren here,” he wrote in joshing style to a Democratic friend, “say -- ‘shy -- Good Lord-a-mass y Billy -- de Nigger am the great object of the American Globe...-- dey am always de talk -- Can’t legislate for mail bags; but that the nigger am in the threads...’ “ But for the most part Herndon had the intolerance of a man whose knowledge comes entirely from books. He knew all about slavery—about the number of Negroes, and slave insurrections, and the value of Southern crops. He could give a disquisition on European forms of servitude and denounce the Inquisition and the Bastille. He could detail the legislative history of the Missouri Compromise and the Kansas-Nebraska bill. But did he really know slavery? He left Kentucky an infant, and, except for one hasty visit in 1858, probably never returned to a slave state. Lincoln was bound by birth and marriage to the Southern tradition; Douglas had firsthand knowledge of slavery in actual practice; Herndon knew it only from books. It was a thing to be pointed at—from a distance—to be censured, to be feared. It never occurred to him that slavery was something more than organized oppression, that the plantation was a way of life.

Future Site of African Baptist Church

On April 25, 1857, the Second Portuguese Presbyterian Church building at the northwest corner of Gemini (now Carpenter) and Ninth Streets was sold at public auction. This was later the site of the African Baptist Church, now known as the Zion Baptist Church.

CHURCH AND LOT FOR SALE

I will sell on the premises on Saturday, the 25th day of April, at 3 o’clock for four ($400) hundred dollars cash in hand, the remainder in 6, 12 and 18 months, six per cent, interest from date, the Portuguese Church and lot situated in the Northeast part of the city, in Wells and Peck’s addition to the city of Springfield; being lot No. 16, in Block No. 5. This is a new house and can, with but a little expense, be converted into a good dwelling house. The sale is positive and title good.

John C. Maxcy, Autrh.

Journal Editorial on Slavery in Illinois

The following editorial appeared in the May 18, 1857 edition of the Journal.

SLAVERY IN ILLINOIS

The Register of Saturday takes up a full column in the laudable and very Democratic occupation of defending the black laws of Illinois, by which all free negroes are sold at the block for presuming to come into the State. That ultra pro-slavery sheet thinks it the height of “abolitionism” to condemn those inhuman enactments, and a sure and infallible test of Democracy to approve and applaud them. We shall not argue this latter point with the Register, agreeing with it as we do, exactly so far as its statement of the pro-slavery proclivities and principles of its party are concerned. But it does look somewhat strange to see the Register, published on the free soil of Illinois, apologizing for and making much of our abominable black laws, when even the St. Louis Republican, published in a slave State, utterly condemns their inhumanity. This is not, however, any more startling than to see the Register denouncing emancipation even when proposed by the Slave States themselves. Nothing in its gan-greened eyes is “national,” or “patriotic,” or “Union-loving,” but abstract love for human slavery. This is the entire burden of its “Democracy.”

The Register defends its approval of the black laws by quoting what it calls a constitutional requirement, whereby it is provided that “the General Assembly shall at its first session pass such laws,” &c. We agree that there is such a provision in our state Constitution, but as no action was taken under it by the Legislature “at its first session,” we contend that the power was spent, and that the law passed at the second session, is wholly unconstitutional and void. The following extract from the Constitution, the Register in its zeal in the cause of slavery, seems to have entirely overlooked:

“Sec. 16.--There shall be neither slavery nor involuntary servitude in the State except for the punishment of crime whereof the party shall have been duly convicted.”

This has ever been the organic law of the State and of the Territory, and the decisions of the Court under it have fully settled that “in Illinois every person is presumed to be free, without regard to color, and a sale of a
free person is illegal.” We think this provision of our fundamental law is sufficiently strong and comprehensive to settle the want of power in the General Assembly to legislate slavery into the State; but if not, the sooner it is made broad enough, the better it will be for the humanity of our citizens.

The insinuation made by the Register, that those who condemn the unconstitutional black laws of our State are actuated by a desire to “elevate the free negro to a political equality with the white man,” is gratuitously false. We do not ask suffrage for them; we do not ask for them the right to hold office, or anything else of the kind; but we simply insist that they be allowed to have the privilege of quietly going and coming when and where they please among us, and not be sold under the hammer, like dumb, driven cattle, for daring to set their feet upon our free soil. Even swine and horses are allowed to run loose, and why not a negro? One would think that his abject and degraded position was rather entitled to our sympathy than to our constant and unrelenting oppression; but so, it would seem, the Register and its party do not think.

Lincoln and the Illinois Colonization Society


Lincoln looked for a rational way to deal with the problems caused by the existence of slavery in a free American society, and he believed he had found it in colonization. Like Clay and Chief Justice John Marshall, who belonged to the American Colonization Society, he became convinced that transporting African Americans to Liberia would defuse several social problems. By relocating free Negroes from the United States—and, at least initially, all those transported were to be freedmen—colonization would remove what many white Southerners considered the most disruptive elements in their society. Consequently, southern whites would more willingly manumit their slaves if they were going to be shipped off to Africa. At the same time, Northerners would give more support for emancipation if freedmen were sent out of the country; they could not migrate to the free states where they would compete with white laborers. Moreover, colonization could elevate the status of the Negro race by proving that blacks, in a separate, self-governing community of their own, were capable of making orderly progress in civilization. Thus, Lincoln thought, voluntary emigration of the blacks — and, unlike some other colonizationists, he never favored forcible deportation — would succeed both “in freeing our land from the dangerous presence of slavery” and “in restoring a captive people to their long-lost father-land, with bright prospects for the future.”

The plan was entirely rational — and wholly impracticable. American blacks, nearly all of whom were born and raised in the United States, had not the slightest desire to go to Africa; Southern planters had no intention of freeing their slaves; and there was no possibility that the Northern states would pay the enormous amount of money required to deport and resettle millions of African Americans. From time to time, even Lincoln doubted the colonization scheme would work. He would like “to free all the slaves, and sent them to Liberia — to their own native land,” he announced in 1854. “But,” he added, “a moment’s reflection would convince me, that whatever of high hope, (as I think there is) there may be in this, in the long run, its sudden execution is impossible. If they were all landed there in a day, they would all perish in the next ten days; and there are not surplus shipping and surplus money enough in the world to carry them there in many times ten days.”

John Shelby’s Fees Paid by Lincoln

As noted earlier, in 1857 Mary and Mack Shelby’s son, John, traveled to New Orleans. Upon leaving his boat and not having the proper papers to prove that he was a free man, he was arrested and put in jail. Mary Shelby sought and obtained Lincoln’s assistance. Lincoln contacted the son of an Illinois friend who practiced law in New Orleans. The correspondence from Lincoln to Mr. Jones does not survive, but Jones’ letters to Lincoln do. It is clear from the following letter that Lincoln knew John Shelby. It is also clear that John Shelby while sitting in a New Orleans jail thought that Lincoln “would take an interest in his behalf”.

New Orleans La
June 4th 1857
Honl. A. Lincoln
Springfield, Illinois
Dear Sir:

Your letter of the 27th ult, enclosing draft for $69.30 on the Metropolitan Bank of New York — in full for advances, and fee — in the matter of the colored boy John Shelby, has just been received — and permit me Dr Sir, to return my most sincere acknowledgments — for your kind services in this matter
I should never have ventured to trouble you, had not the boy mentioned your name, as that of one, who would take an interest in his behalf — and had I not recognized in you an old friend of my father.

I owe an apology to the lady for misinterpreting the cause of her silence—but I was of course disappointed, at receiving an answer to neither of my letters—and besides I thought my correspondent was a gentleman, as the boy spoke of Mr. Grimsley.

I am glad that he has returned safe—should he come south again—be sure and let him have his papers with him—and he must also be careful not to be away from the boat at night—without a pass, which it is the duty of the Captain to procure for him.

What right Col. A. P. Field had to charge a fee of $25, I am at a loss to imagine as he had nothing to do with the matter—and so far as I know, rendered no service whatever.

Again sir permit me to thank you—and to assure you that any service I can render you in this part of the world will give me pleasure.

With much respect

Truly yours

B. F. Jonas.

On May 28, 1857, the day after Lincoln wrote to Jones, Lincoln’s bank account record at Springfield’s Marine Bank shows a withdrawal of $40.30. Since the draft was for $69.30, it would appear that only $29 was collected by Herndon or Lincoln to free John Shelby and the balance was paid by Lincoln personally.

Lincoln’s Speech in Springfield

A month later on June 26, 1857, Abraham Lincoln spoke at Springfield.

I have said that the separation of the races is the only perfect preventive of amalgamation. I have no right to say all the members of the Republican party are in favor of this, nor to say that as a party they are in favor of it. There is nothing in their platform directly on the subject. But I can say a very large proportion of its members are for it, and that the chief plank in their platform—opposition to the spread of slavery—is most favorable to that separation.

Such separation, if ever effected at all, must be effected by colonization; and no political party, as such, is now doing anything directly for colonization. Party operations at present only favor or retard colonization incidentally. The enterprise is a difficult one; but `when there is a will there is a way;’ and what colonization needs most is a hearty will. Will springs from the two elements of moral sense and self-interest. Let us be brought to believe it is morally right, and, at the same time, favorable to, or, at least, not against, our interest, to transfer the African to his native clime, and we shall find a way to do it, however great the task may be. The children of Israel, to such numbers as to include four hundred thousand fighting men, went out of Egyptian bondage in a body.

How differently the respective courses of the Democratic and Republican parties incidentally bear on the question of forming a will—a public sentiment—for colonization, is easy to see. The Republicans inculcate, with whatever of ability they can, that the negro is a man; that his bondage is cruelly wrong, and that the field of his oppression ought not to be enlarged. The Democrats deny his manhood; deny, or dwarf to insignificance, the wrong of his bondage; so far as possible, crush all sympathy for him, and cultivate and excite hatred and disgust against him; compliment themselves as Union-savers for doing so; and call the indefinite outspreading of his bondage “a sacred right of self-government.”

The plainest print cannot be read through a gold eagle; and it will be ever hard to find many men who will send a slave to Liberia, and pay his passage while they can send him to a new country, Kansas for instance, and sell him for fifteen hundred dollars, and the rise.

Thomas J. Wright Purchases Freedom of Brother, Richard

The Journal of June 27, 1857 reported that Tom Wright had purchased the freedom of his brother Richard for $856. Richard was living in Randolph County, Missouri. He also attempted to purchase Richard’s son, George, but his owner would not sell him. The money for the purchase was raised in the Springfield community. Thomas J. Wright was married to Saarah Ann Fortune Wright. In 1856, Thomas, age 40, and Sarah, age 35, were living at the northeast corner of Mason and 13th Streets. Thomas was a farm laborer. They were born in Virginia. Their daughter, Matilda, was married to John Edward Jackson on July 9, 1874. Sarah was buried in the colored section of Oak Ridge Cemetery on August 9, 1892. Thomas was buried in Oak Ridge Cemetery on October 22, 1901.
Richard Wright was married to Alceene Florville. They had three children, Edward, Martin and Clifford.

**PURCHASED HIS FREEDOM**

Tom Wright, a well known colored man of this place, called at our office on yesterday, and stated that he had just returned from Randolph county, Mo., where he has succeeded in purchasing the freedom of his brother Richard, for $856 cash. The money was raised for the purpose of purchasing the freedom of his son George, but his owner would not sell him on any terms. He makes this statement, that those who made contributions may know what became of the money.\(^{859}\)

On July 9, 1874, John Edward Jackson married Matilda J. Wright in Sangamon County.\(^{860}\) Matilda was the daughter of Thomas J. Wright and Sarah Ann Fortune Wright.\(^{861}\)

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**Fugitive Slave Case at Springfield**

**PAUL M. ANGLE**

A month later slavery was lifted from the realm of political argument and placed squarely on Springfield’s doorstep as a living, human problem. Late in July, a few miles south of the city, the United States Marshal arrested a negro who was alleged to be a fugitive slave from Missouri. As it was Springfield’s first case of the kind since the passage of the fugitive slave law of 1850, interest was widespread. When the U. S. Commissioner, S. A. Corneau, heard the case a few days later, the courtroom was crowded; but there were no threats of violence, and the general attitude was that if a fair trial should show the fugitive to be a slave, he should be returned to his owner. After W. H. Herndon and John E. Rosette had argued the case for the defendant, and E. B. Herndon and John A. McClernand had appeared for the claimant, the commissioner took it under advisement. A few days later he decided that the negro should be returned to Missouri. The crowd which had gathered to hear the decision quietly dispersed.\(^{862}\)

**DAVID DONALD**

Late in July Springfield was shocked to learn that a Negro in Logan County, a few miles north, had been arrested as a fugitive slave and was to be haled before the United States Commissioner at the state capital.

...Though there was much interest there was little excitement in the state capital. The Negro was, of course, poor, and Herndon “freely--quickly as well as freely” volunteered his legal services for the defense, securing also the assistance of John E. Rosette, a better Republican than he was a lawyer. For the slave’s owner appeared Herndon’s brother, the crabbed and crippled Elliott.\(^{863}\)

**Mary Shelby Sues Clarkson and Abraham Freeman**

**Mary Shelby vs. Clarkson Freeman and Abraham Freeman**

On September 4, 1857, Mary Shelby filed suit in the Circuit Court of Sangamon County—a bill in Chancery for Dower. In her suit, she alleged that property on the north side of Washington Street between Sixth and Seventh Streets was unlawfully held by Clarkson and Abraham Freeman when in fact the property was hers. The property was purchased by Frank and Mack Shelby in 1831. The west half of the property was inventoried in Frank Shelby’s estate in 1837 and sold at auction in 1838. She alleged that her husband Mack Shelby had built a house on the north half of the property and lived there for a number of years. Mack sold his half of the lot, but Mary never released her dower rights. Mary retained Lincoln and Herndon and sued Abraham and Clarkson Freeman, who owned the lot to recover her dower. Sheriff John Cook served summons on both of the Freeman’s on September 4, 1857, and they were given until the October 1857 term of the Circuit Court of Sangamon County to respond. The parties reached an agreement, and the court dismissed the case.
Clarkson and Abraham Freeman answered Mary Shelby’s Bill in Chancery in 1857.

Disposition

On the cover sheet for the pleadings file, it is noted “Disposed of April Term, 1858.”

Death of Thomas Galt

Thomas Galt died on September 12, 1857. The Center Presbyterian Church passed a resolution on the death of Thomas Galt.  

GRAVE OF THOMAS GALT,  
FARMINGTON CEMETERY, GARDNER TOWNSHIP, ILLINOIS
On February 12, 1858, Abraham Lincoln celebrated his 49th birthday.

Negro Meeting on Liberia Question at Clinton Hall

On February 12, 1858, Landen C. Coleman, a 28 year-old African American Springfield shoemaker, was Chairman of a meeting of colored citizens of Springfield held at Clinton Hall to consider the Liberia question. Clinton Hall was on the north side of the Public Square.

The resolution is an eloquent statement of the beliefs of most of Springfield’s African Americans. The author remains unknown.

Pursuant to notice given, there was a meeting of colored citizens at Clinton Hall, for the purpose of considering the Liberia question.

The meeting opened by prayer.

On motion, L. Coleman was called to the Chair.

On motion, G. (Gilbert) Johnson was appointed Secretary.

On motion, resolved that there be a committee appointed to draw up a series of resolutions for this meeting.

The house now being called to order, and the Chairman stating the object of our meeting together was to make known our wants, and that if there was any gentleman who wished to address the house, could now have an opportunity of doing so.

After which there was several addresses from several distinguished gentlemen.

After which, the committee returned and reported.

Whereas, the “Illinois State Colonization Society” has, at its last meeting in this city (Springfield) expressed the determination to ask the Legislature of this State for pecuniary assistance in removing the people of color from the State and whereas, it is also stated in the proceedings of said Society, that “some of the most intelligent and enterprising of the people of color in the State of Illinois desire the assistance of the Colonization Society, to enable them to remove to Liberia or some other part of Africa” therefore, be it resolved by the colored people of Springfield, assembled in public meeting to take this subject into consideration:

That we deem this a suitable occasion to express our views and make known our feeling upon this subject.

That after careful inquiry, we have been unable to ascertain than any intelligent man of color, having the confidence of the people here assembled, either desires to remove to Africa, or requires aid for such an enterprise.

That we cannot regard the “Illinois State Colonization Society,” as a charitable institution, deserving the sympathy and support of the Christian public, or as a public benefit, for the support of which it is the duty of the Legislature to tax the good people of this State, in as much as we are not aware of any benefit which it is calculated to bestow, either upon the State at large or upon the colored people particularly; with all due submission to the superior wisdom of the gentlemen who have organized and who manage the Colonization society, we cannot perceive what benefit it will be to the State of Illinois to remove from it the five or ten thousand laborers composing our colored population. The State needs laborers to cultivate its fields and to perform various other services, and we are both able and willing to work. We also believe that the colored people of this State are, in general, as industrious and inoffensive a population as can anywhere be found. We do not interfere with other people, and only ask that we may be let alone, and simply protected in our
“inalienable rights to life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness, as are other citizens of the State. We have no desire to exchange the broad prairies, fertile soil, healthful climate and Christian civilization of Illinois, for the dangerous navigation of the wide ocean, the tangled forests, savage beasts, heathen people and mismotic shores of Africa. We also believe that the operations of the Colonization Society are calculated to excite prejudices against us, and to impel ignorant or ill disposed persons to take measures for our expulsion from the land of our nativity, from our country and from our homes. We, therefore, beg the Legislature and the people of this State, that they will lend no countenance to such a project.

That the action of those southern States which are now taking measures for the re-opening of the African slave trade, and the importation of tens of thousands of hopeless victims, torn from their homes by the slave trader or by those whom he has excited to make war upon each other, to engage with him in his foul traffic, affords the clearest evidence of the mistake of those who believe that the expulsion of the colored race would be a benefit to this country. If our labors are so valuable as slaves, will they be less so as freemen? Why should the northern States go to such trouble and expense to send us from the country, when the south is so bent upon the introduction of Africans, as to propose the abrogation of all laws, human and Divine, by which this traffic is forbidden? We, therefore, most earnestly appeal to our white fellow men, if we may not call them fellow citizens, in the northern States, not to gratify the inhuman slave dealer of the south, by oppressing us or expelling us from their borders, so as to give countenance to those who would represent us as unworthy of the privileges and blessings of freemen.

That the colored people of this State should earnestly petition the Legislature at its next session to give them greater security in their persons and property, than they now have under the laws of this State, and especially to give them the benefits of common schools for which they are now taxed, without having any provision made for their instruction.

That they respectfully submit to their consideration of the capitalists, farmers and house keepers of Illinois, whether a change of the laws of this State, so as to allow of the free settlement of people of color in the State, would not be favorable to the improvement of the State, by making labor cheaper and more abundant.

That we do for ourselves, and in behalf of our colored brethren throughout the United States, most earnestly protest against the recent decision of the Supreme Court of the United Stated in the case of Dred Scott, not only because said Scott and his family, were by that decision most unjustly doomed to slavery, but also because said decision misrepresents, (especially in the language of Chief Justice Taney,) the great charter of American liberty, the Declaration of Independence and the spirit of the American people, as well as the Constitution of the United States. We take that Declaration as the Gospel of freedom; we believe in its great truth, “that all men are created equal, endowed with certain inalienable rights, among which are life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness.” We know ourselves to be men, and we claim our rights as such under this “Declaration” of the Old Thirteen. We also claim the right of citizenship in this, the country of our birth. We were born here, and here we desire to die and to be buried. We are not African. The best blood of Virginia, Maryland, Kentucky and other States, where our brethren are still held in bondage by their brothers, flows in our veins. We are not, therefore, aliens, either in blood or in race, to the people of the country in which we were born. Why then should we be disfranchised and denied the rights of citizenship in the north, and those of human nature itself in the south? We here, most solemnly protest against this decision of the Supreme Court, as designed to rob us of the inherent rights of humanity, as well as of the soil upon which we were born and to countenance the tyrannical and odious doctrine that we “have no rights” which the white man is bound to respect, and that one may be justly and lawfully reduced to slavery by another.

On motion, the preamble and resolutions were adopted.


Adjourned.

William K. Donnegan: Conductor on the Underground Railroad in Springfield

William K. Donnegan, an African American, was born in Kentucky circa 1832, and came to Springfield in 1845. In 1858, he was living on the north side of Jefferson Street (53 Jefferson), between Eighth and Ninth Streets, just five blocks north of the Lincoln Home. Donnegan was a shoe maker with his shop on the north side of Adams Street, between Seventh Street and the Public Square, just a block east of the Lincoln & Herndon law offices. He made shoes for Abraham Lincoln.
Recently, Curtis Mann, Manager of the Sangamon Valley Room at Springfield’s Lincoln Library, discovered a William K. Donnegan reminiscence published in the Old Settlers Department of the May 1898 edition of Springfield’s The Public Patron. Donnegan’s reminiscence of his 1858 participation in Springfield’s underground railroad deserves a complete publication.

Most old people will remember, and many young ones have read in their school histories about the celebrated “Underground Railways” established throughout the Northern States in the old slavery days, before the civil war. If all of the thrilling events incident to the escapes, and attempted escapes of runaways were written out they would form a volume as intensely interesting and dramatic as any of the “blood and thunder” novels of any age or authorship.

Springfield was by no means wanting in such events, and we give the following story as a sample. It comes from a well-known colored citizen of Springfield, himself and brothers free-born, and bent on freeing others, as can well be guessed from the narrative that follows. The story will be given as nearly as possible exactly as he relates it.

“I lived, in those days, on the north side of Jefferson, between Eighth and Ninth streets, in a story and a half house. It is still standing, and I could show you the garret yet in which many a runaway has been hidden while the town was being searched. I have secreted scores of them, I once had seven hundred dollars in gold and silver turned into my lap by the owner of a slave as a bribe for my assisting in his recapture. This took place in my shoe shop on Fourth street. The house is not now standing. Well, could not capture the fellow, and had to return the money; but all the same he was under a pile of leather in that very room when the money was paid.

“One early morning in the summer or spring of 1858, I think it was, George Burreas, a barber and a near neighbor of mine, came into my shop somewhat excited and wanted me to go home at once. He said that during the night a wagon had driven up to his house and hurriedly unloaded a runaway slave girl, the driver getting away as quickly as possible, explaining that they had been hotly pursued from Jacksonville, and that their pursuers could not be far away then. He also hurriedly explained that the girl must be concealed carefully and quickly as she was a dangerous character, being hard to manage. What was especially dangerous was that she had an excellent memory and could tell the name of every man, woman and baby along the route. She had come from St. Louis to Springfield. She was liable to give all of them away to authorities by her imprudence. You must recollect that we didn’t know another’s names. It was best not. When a man unloaded one or more Negroes at my house or at any other station in the night (it was always done then) his name was not asked. But this girl had caught the names and would tell them. So George said I must take her and hide her.

“I went home at once and found a girl about sixteen years of age and weighing about one hundred and forty pounds. This man Burreas, you understand, lived right by me, and the girl had been left there by mistake in the excitement. I said, “See here, gal, they say that you’re in danger of giving us all away, and if you don’t do as I tell you, or if you threaten to get us into trouble, I’ll shoot you. She replied that she hoped I’d shoot here if she was about to be recaptured. She said that a brother and a sister of hers had been caught again and burned. She was in earnest, too; but smart as she was, she was a fool. She had no judgment; she wanted to see everything. I sent her into the back part of the house and told her to keep out of sight. I stayed around, and in about an hour I saw three men – one red-headed – coming down the street. As they approached, the girl peeped out of a window and exclaimed, “O, that’s my young master and his father.” I told to go quick the back way to Burreas’ house. She had hardly gout out of sight when in came the three inquiring for a wash woman who lived there. I told them there was none there – they must be mistaken in the place. They seemed disappointed, and came on into the kitchen. Finding nobody, and having no excuse, they reluctantly went out again at the front door.

“I knew they’d go to Burreas’, and as soon as they left the door I manage to slip back by the back way and come into the kitchen. So, as they entered the house, she left and came into mine. I hustled her into the attic,
and told her to go away back and crawl in behind the chimney and stay there till I told her to come out. Well, the men came back and fooled around awhile and left disappointed.

“Now what was to be done was a question. I knew the house would be watched all night. I heard in the afternoon that about thirty men had been engaged about town for that night. A full description of her had been given in the Springfield Register as she looked when she ran away, with an offer of, I think, $500 for her capture. I knew she was a dangerous girl to keep about the place and finally hit on an expedient. Another girl, almost white, lived near named Hal, who was just about this girl’s size and form, but this runaway was quite black. I went down town and got a pair of white gloves and a white false face, which I knew in the darkness would give the impression of whiteness. I told her what to call me, and what to talk about and instructed her to alter her voice, so that if her master heard he would not know her. I knew that the dog-fennel all around between me and Ninth street would probably be full of men watching who came to or left my house after night.

When it was dark enough I sallied out with her, talking to Hal loud enough to be heard, and she talking to me about things that happened days before. We started east, I intending to get her into a house in the east of town for awhile. We hadn’t got far when three men passed us, one of whom I recognized as a Springfield man named Emmet. Immediately after passing they had stopped and were holding a consultation. I heard a man say:

“She moves exactly like my girl.”

“No,” said another, “this one’s white.”

“Well, I believe we ought to get her away – I believe it’s the girl I’m after,” was the reply.

I heard Emmet say, “You’d better be careful not to make a mistake. He carries bowie knife and a shooter that will kill at 150 yards, and he’s the kind that uses them.”

“Well, I won’t risk my life for any nigger,” was the reply.

They kept at a distance, but still knew where we went. I couldn’t get the girl taken in at the house to which we went, so thought I’d take her up to the timber near the Converse school, hoping to escape pursuit there. I went directly north on Ninth street, but they blocked my game, outflanked me and got there ahead. I began to think it was dangerous to get into the woods with those three against me, so I turned down the C & A track and went over to Third street, and back towards town. The men still followed. Near Carpenter street a bulldog broke his chain and attacked us, catching hold of the girl’s skirts. She screamed. I told her to be still, and placing my revolver to the dog’s head I fired, splattering its brains over my hands. Then I turned to the men who were crowding still closer and shouted that I would kill any four-legged or two-legged dogs that bothered me much more. At this they fell back somewhat. I was going down Fourth street by this time, towards a Methodist church that stood there then, and in which there was a meeting that night. It all at once occurred that I might make this useful. I went to a man at the door and told him I was being followed, and asked him in a few moments to open the door widely and close it again, while we slipped around the building and out of sight. I thought the men would think we went in and while they were looking we might escape. And sure enough, that worked! They stopped, and while they were finding out that we were not in the house we doubled on our track as fast as possible, crossed the C & A going west, jumped over a fence and made away for the woods and down where the present O & M track is, towards the old West Shaft. I was aiming to get to a Mr. Gardner’s or Lyman’s, one of our stations near the Beards town road, west of Bradfordton. As I drew near the bridge over the creek west of the city I thought I’d better be cautious, as it might be guarded. So, going off a few rods from the road, I made the girl climb up into the fork of a red-bud tree to wait until I went forward to look for enemies. The woods were full of wild hogs and cows, the latter being quite fierce when they had calves as many of them had, so I told her she must not come down till I came back. Some little distance from the bridge a dog growled at my side. I gave it some meat – I always carried a lunch on such occasions – and soon quieted it. Going cautiously forward I found the bridge at the old mill guarded by a dozen with guns. I came back to where the girl was. She said she was afraid and must come down, and in fact did climb down. I made her get up, and again left her, going this time up to the bridge on the Beards town road. It was guarded. I tried to find a place to cross but could not as the stream was full, so I went back again to where I left the girl. It was now getting on towards daylight. Presently I heard the clatter of horses’ feet and the whole company swept by on horses toward town. They had left for the night. But it was too late for us to go on: daylight would catch us before we could get half way to our destination. I says to the girl, “Get down now, and follow me quick.” And we came into town right behind our pursuers. I went straight for my brother’s house on Carpenter street, and called him up. He said:

“You’d better get in here quick. My house has been watched all nigh, and I think they just left.”

“So we hustled in, and began to plan how to get the girl out of the city. My brother said that John Stewart was going to take a gang of colored men out to the neighborhood of Lyman’s to go plowing.”
“That’s all right,” I said. “Now, let us get her up a boy’s rig and send her out with them as a boy. None but Stewart need know, and he can tell Lyman all about her.” So we rigged her out and sent her to the country in that way in daylight.”

“One of our men down near St. Louis that helped run slaves off got shot about this time, and broke our line for nearly six weeks, during which time she remained at Lyman’s. Finally he sent word that something must be done. She couldn’t be restrained from showing herself, and they were in terror lest she give the whole underground railroad gang away. I sent word to Mrs. Lyman to tell the girl I was going to shoot her. And I did go and hunted the house over for her, shot my pistol off a few times and scared her nearly to death. Of course I couldn’t find her, but she was so frightened that when she was told to go into the basement and remain hid she did so.

“After some time we succeeded in getting her out of the country, off towards Canada.”

“Oh,” said our informant, after relating the above, “I could give you a whole lot of such scrapes. But I’ll never forget the night I spent in trying to get that girl away.”

Marriage of Benjamin Rodgers and Francis Wright
Benjamin Rodgers and Francis Wright were married on May 11, 1858.

Marriage of Franklin W. Watson and Martha L. Price
Franklin W. Watson and Martha L. Price were married on June 21, 1858.

Colored Baptist Church Holds Ice Cream Festival at Clinton Hall
On July 2, 1858, the members of the Colored Baptist Church gave an ice cream festival at Clinton’s Hall in order to raise funds for a new Colored Baptist Church building. Clinton Hall was located on the north side of the Public Square.

COLORED BAPTIST CHURCH--The members of the congregation of the intend giving an ice cream festival this evening at Clinton’s Hall, in order to raise funds for their new church. Doors open at 8 o’clock.

George W. Brents, Sr. Minister of Colored Baptist Church
In the late 50’s and for many years thereafter, George W. Brents, Sr., who had been one of the organizers of the Colored Baptist Church in 1838, served as minister to the members of the Zion (earlier known as the “Colored”) Baptist Church.

African Americans Celebrate Anniversary of Emancipation in British West Indies at Kelly’s Grove
On August 2, 1858, the African Americans of Springfield celebrated the anniversary of the emancipation of the British West Indies slaves in 1834. This is the first of several reported such early August annual celebrations by Springfield African Americans.

We neglected to notice that the colored people of our city, on the 2nd, celebrated the twenty-fourth anniversary of the British West Indies emancipation. They formed a procession and with music and banners, marched through the principal streets. They then proceeded on to Kelly’s Grove [WHERE?], where they had a number of speeches. The generally observed by the colored people, who were - .

Our colored population by a procession, oration, etc., celebrated the anniversary of Jamaica emancipation yesterday. They made quite a display—the woman folks and children participating in the celebration.

Marriage of Thomas Killion and Margaret Fry
On August 18, 1858, Thomas Killion married Margaret Fry, the daughter of Richard and Mary Fry, who were born in Kentucky. Margaret and Thomas were the parents of three children: Frank, Stephens, and Laura. Margaret Fry Killion died in the fall of 1863 and Thomas married Jane Smith, who was a daughter of Jacob Smith. They had five children, viz.: Allie, Georgia, John, Joseph and Bessie. Jane Smith Killion had two children by her prior husband: viz. James and Fred Smith. In 1881, Thomas Killion owned a residence at 1818 East Adams Street.
Public Colored School Established and Principal Selected

The capital city lagged in providing public schooling for its black children and when that schooling came it was of poor quality. On December 21, 1858, the Springfield board of school inspectors adopted a resolution to have the superintendent organize a colored school and to hire a teacher and select a room. The room chosen was a “shanty” at the rear of St. Paul’s African Methodist Episcopal Church, and the teacher and principal hired was Thomas York. He began teaching on January 10, 1859, going about his duties in a “dilapidated” room where he had to instruct forty to sixty pupils divided into nine age and achievement levels.

His salary for doing this was $900 a year as contrasted with the $1,250 a year all the other male principals were making. York’s feelings about this disparity could hardly have been soothed if he read in the superintendent’s report that the teachers’ and principals’ salaries were being published to show how much their labors were “appreciated by our citizens.” When the size of salaries was used as the criterion by which citizen appreciation was measured, York’s labors would not have been highly appreciated, obviously.

1859

First Colored Public School

On January 10, 1859, a separate public school for colored children, was established at Fifteenth and Madison Streets, and began instruction with Thomas York as the teacher and principal.

The authentic record show that our first colored school was established in the Cottage Garden district on North 15th St. just north of Madison St. It was built in 1859 and its corps of teachers included Prof. York, (1859 to 1867). The old building, a silent monument of an ancient dispensation has resisted the ravages of time and still (1926) stands in its original location.

Petition for Deed

Jacob J. Weber vs. Nancy Collier and unknown heirs of Lewis A. Collier deceased

Ball Township Farm-February 1859

On February 8, 1859, Jacob J. Weber sued Nancy Collier for a deed to the property located in Section 35 in Ball Township, Sangamon County, Illinois.

Marriage of Richard Frye and Mahala Jones

On February 25, 1859, Richard Frye married Mahala Jones.

Charles Parker Pleads Guilty to Assault of Edward Cauter

The Register of July 30, 1859 reported that Charles Parker, African American bill poster and porter, had pled guilty and was fined $3 for assaulting Edward Cauter. Parker lived at the northeast corner of Fourth and Mason Streets. Is this Edward Canter who was arrested as a fugitive slave in February 1860?
City Intelligence.

Police Items.--Before Justice Dodge:
Charles Parker, the “culled individual” who was up before Justice Francis day before yesterday, for assault on one Edward Cauter, another sable “genmen,” and nonsued the city, yesterday plead guilty before Justice Dodge, who fined him $3 and costs.

Judging from the meagreness of the record the boys must have been unusually sober and quiet yesterday. 885

Birth of Laura Ann Johnson

In 1859, Gilbert and Sinette Florville Johnson had their third child, a daughter named Laura Ann “Annie.”

Death of Gilbert Johnson

Gilbert Johnson died on Monday, August 1, 1859. The Daily State Register reported on the funeral.

The Lodge of Colored Free Masons of this city were out yesterday, to attend the funeral of one of their number, Gilbert Johnson, a much respected colored man, and an old resident, who died on Monday evening. 886

Gilbert left a widow, Sineet Flourville Johnson, age 22, daughter of Phoebe 887 and William Florville, and three children, Phoebe, age 4 (born in 1855), Gilbert, age 2 (born in February 1857) and Laura Ann “Annie” an infant of less than 1 year.

After Gilbert Johnson’s death, Sinette Johnson married Henry Scott. They had one child, Eliza. Henry Scott enlisted in the Civil War, and was never heard of after.

On March 1, 1865, Sinette Scott married Jordan Richardson. They had four children, James, William, George and Thomas. Jordan Richardson was a grocer and lived in Springfield.

Negroes Celebrate Anniversary of Emancipation in British West Indies at Fair Ground

The August 5, 1859 Journal reported on the Springfield African American celebration of the 25th anniversary of the emancipation of slaves in the West India colony in 1834.

CELEBRATION OF THE COLORED PEOPLE OF SPRINGFIELD

The colored people of this city, celebrated Monday the first of August, in commemoration of the emancipation of the 800,000 slaves men, women and children, in the West India colony, in 1834. They went out to the Fair ground, 888 whereupon the following speeches were delivered:

Opening address--P. L. Donnegan; subject, “West India Emancipation.” Mr. Donnegan made a good speech; one that did good to the audience and honor to himself.

The Rev. Mr. Myers was next called upon to occupy the stand; subject, “Sabbath Schools.” His speech was very encouraging to parents and children.

After this the audience were dismissed till after refreshment. It was amusing to see every one take their baskets and retire on the blue grass, to partake of their pic-nic dinner. After which the audience was called on to rally around the stand to hear more speeches. Mr. Green, from Pa. next occupied the stand; subject, “Education.” His speech was good, but not lengthy.

The Rev. G. Nelson from Belleville, next spoke; subject, “Temperance.” His speech was animating and good. After which the whole audience was greatly deceived by a young man from Belleville, John W., Menard, Jr., who came to the stand. His voice is very strong and his manner impressive. Subject “American Slavery,” which he painted in its darkest hues, and gave able remarks in defense of Liberty and equality. His speech was truly the best of the day; after which all retired with hearty cheers for Menard, Fred. Douglass, and others.

SPECTATOR 889

Charles Parker Operates Delivery Service

On September 14, 1859, Charles Parker advertised in the Register that he was conducting a delivery service from the Chenery House at the northeast corner of Fourth and Washington Streets. 890
CITY EXPRESS.

Chas. Parker will always be found at the Chenery House barber shop, and will deliver promptly to any part of the city, notes, parcels, bundles, &c., for gentlemen or ladies, and solicits their favors in this line. Bill sticking attended to as usual. CHARLES PARKER.

September 16, 1859

**African Methodist Episcopal Church Begin Building**

The September 6, 1859 *Journal* reported that the African Methodist Episcopal Church had begun construction of a new church on North Fourth Street. The new church was to be 50’ by 32’ and would seat 400 people.

African M. E. Church.--The society composing this church have begun the erection of a new edifice on the site of their former house of worship, north Fourth street. They propose to build a brick edifice, 50 by 32 feet, capable of seating 400 persons, and as their means are not very plenty, a committee has been appointed to wait upon our citizens with a view of obtaining aid. The proverbial liberality of our citizens gives assurance that this appeal will not be in vain, and we trust that all who are able, will contribute their mite towards a worth subject. 891

**Marriage of William Donegan and Lavina Coleman**

William Donegan and Lavina Coleman were married on November 28, 1859. 892

**John Jackson Works at State Capitol**

John Jackson next obtained the job of cleaning the chamber pots in the basement. He also whitewashed the latrine walls. His services began by 1859. Some wag with a knowledge of English history noted in the Auditor’s record that John Jackson was paid $28 for services as a “privy Councillor”. Mr. Jackson was about forty-nine, stemmed from Virginia, owned $1,000 worth of real estate and was a black laborer with a large family. He listed his occupation as whitewasher and resided on the east side of Ninth between Cook and Edwards. 893

In 1860, John Jackson lived on the east side of Ninth Street, between Edwards and Cook, just a few blocks from the Lincoln home. There were a total of six in John’s family.

---

**1860**

**The 1860 United States Census**

By 1860 Springfield’s population had grown to 9,320, of which the African American population was approximately 234 or 2.5% of the total population. A full listing of the 1860 United States Census information on Springfield African Americans may be found in Appendix L.

**Thomas Killion**

The 1860 Census lists Thomas and Margaret Fry Killion. Thomas is listed as a 21 year-old mulatto barber who is living on the north side of Washington, between Klein and Rutledge. He owned no real estate but had personal property worth $200. Living with the Killions was 35 year-old Narcissus Donegan who was born in Kentucky. 894 According to the 1860 City Directory, they lived at the southeast corner of 13th and Mason Streets. 895 Thomas Killion had a barber shop at 112 South Sixth Street, on the east-side of Sixth, between Washington and Adams Streets--across from the then State Capitol.
Jefferson Fry (Fey)

The 1860 Census lists Jefferson Fry as a 22 year-old cook who was born in Illinois. Jefferson was a cook at Rippon’s and at the Chenery House Hotel.896

Amanda Fry Ball

The 1860 Census lists Amanda Fry Ball, a 33 year-old mulatto who was born in Kentucky, and her two children, Edward, 13 year-old, and Elizabeth, 10 years-old. She had real estate valued at $800 and personal property valued at $100.897 The family lived at the northeast corner of Carpenter and First Streets.

Henrietta Fry in 1860-61 City Directory

The 1860-61 Springfield City Directory listed Mrs. Henrietta Fry as living on the west-side of 10th, between Mason and Reynolds.898

Jacob Fry in 1860-61 City Directory

The 1860-61 Springfield City Directory listed Jacob Fry as a carpenter, living on the south side of Mason, west of Cox.899

Conrad Fry in 1860-61 City Directory

The 1860-61 Springfield City Directory listed Conrad Fry as a laborer, living on the east-side of 8th, between Cancer and Enos.900

Jefferson Fry in 1860-61 City Directory

The 1860-61 Springfield City Directory listed Jefferson Fry as a cook at the Chenery House.901

Advertisement for Henry Ellis’ Barber Shop

On January 18, 1860, Henry Ellis advertised in the Register that he occupied a barber shop in the St. Nicholas Building.

Henry Ellis, tonsorial artist, informs his numerous friends that he still occupies the south west corner of the St. Nicholas building, where, with skillful assistance, sharp razors, and all other artistic appliances, he is always ready to take the handsome faces of his patrons in hand. He respectfully solicits a continuance of past favors of the gentlemen of the city and transient visitors.902

Advertisement for Henry Ellis and Henry W. Baylor’s Barber Shop

On March 9, 1860, Henry Ellis advertised in the Register that he was associated with Henry Baylor and the “sable twain” solicited customers for their barber services.

Lincoln Pays William Fleurville’s Real Estate Taxes

On February 10, 1860, Abraham Lincoln paid William Fleurville’s taxes as agent for Fleurville.904 When on one occasion Lincoln forgot to pay, he asked Packard to pay Florville’s taxes, which Packard did.
Edward Canter Arrested as Fugitive Slave in Springfield

In Sangamon County, Illinois, the marshal arrested Canton, a fugitive slave who escaped from Dickinson in Missouri in 1857. Dickinson sued to claim Canton under the Fugitive Slave Law. Herndon represented Canton and argued that the claimant had not proved that Missouri was a slave state. The U. S. Commissioner ruled for Dickinson. Dickinson sold Canton in St. Louis, Missouri, for $1,150. Canton later escaped again and passed through Springfield, Illinois, on his way to Canada.

Another fugitive slave case was that of Edgar (sic Edward) Canton, a negro about fifty-five years of age, who was apprehended in Springfield February 11, 1860, and arraigned before United States Commissioner Corneau, charged with being the property of George M. Dickinson, of Shelby County, Missouri, from whom he ran away in the fall of 1856. More or less feeling arose, and although it was contended that no proof of the existence of slavery in Missouri had been offered or introduced, and the court, therefore, had no right to presume from historical knowledge that Missouri was a slave State, Commissioner Corneau held against the negro, who had a wife and two children in Springfield, and delivered him over to Dickinson to be transported to Missouri.

The following account of the arrest and trial of Edward Canter as a fugitive slave appeared in the February 13, 1860 edition of the Register.

A fugitive slave was arrested in this city a few days ago and taken before Commissioner Corneau, who decided that he belonged to the applicant, and delivered him up. The negro was defended by J. E. Rosette, esq., whose eloquence and legal acumen were not sufficient to convince the commissioner, that the negro was entitled to his freedom, and therefore Mr. Rosette occupies nearly a column of yesterday’s Journal (GET) to convince the public that the commissioner doesn’t understand his business. Mr. Rosette will be about as successful in his attempt to enlighten the public, as he was in his effort to convince the commissioner.

Early in 1860 a fugitive slave by the name of Edward Canter was arrested in Springfield. There could be no doubt that he was the property of the Missourian who claimed him. Herndon jumped into the case with aggressive sympathy, for this poor fellow was “in the clutches of Hounds” and would be sent “to a southern Hell.” When every possible legal technicality was exhausted and it was positively demonstrated that the “smiling African” was indeed a fugitive, Herndon rose and said that no proof had been offered of the existence of slavery in Missouri, and ... the Commissioner had no right to presume from historical knowledge that Missouri was a slave State.” Naturally his plea was overruled.

William H. Herndon Seeks Freedom Papers of Edward Canter, Fugitive Slave Arrested In Springfield

Springfield, Ill. Feby 11th 1860

Gentlemen

There is a man—black man—arrested here as a fugitive slave and he says he is free and that his free papers are recorded somewhere in Quincy. His name is Edward Canter—Will you please see if this is so quickly. This negro is not a slave, but ___ I am fearful that he is in the clutches of hounds and must go to a southern Hell. If you can find such papers please ___ me instantly and I will ___ her and be under many obligations—act quickly

Your friend
W. H. Herndon

If any white man knows him send him here & our black population will foot the bill—pay his expenses, if the white man knows that he is free.

Your Friend
W. H. Herndon

African Methodist Episcopal Church Dedicated

On April 22, 1860, the new African Methodist Episcopal Church located on North Fourth Street was dedicated.

The new African M.E. Church, North Fourth Street, will be dedicated to the worship of ___ on the next Sabbath, April 22nd, 1860.

......... by the Rev. Charles _______at __ o’clock p.m. Rev. James Leaton .

The public are invited to attend.

Frederick Myers, Pastor.
Colored Baptist Church Benefit Supper at Clinton’s Hall

On May 16, 1860, the Journal reported that the Colored Baptist Church would hold a fund raising benefit supper at Clinton’s Hall on the north side of the Public Square.

COLORED BAPTIST CHURCH.--A supper for the benefit of this church was given in Clinton’s Hall on Wednesday evening. Everything passed off finely. The managers of the supper sent a number of choice things to this office at a late hour on Wednesday. They have our thanks for the same. 910

Abraham Lincoln Elected President of the United States

On Tuesday, November 6, 1860, Abraham Lincoln was elected President of the United States. Benjamin Quarles, an African American historian, has this to say about Lincoln and the Negro in 1860.

The Lincoln who moved into the national picture in 1860 did not have a rounded knowledge of the colored people. Lincoln knew little of Negro life, of the Negro’s hopes, and of his efforts to move into the mainstream of American life. Lincoln was well schooled, as has been noted, in the historical record of slavery in America, but prior to the Civil War he never had a heart-to-heart talk with a runaway slave. ...he knew little of John Doe, colored. 911

The Lincoln of 1860 knew the Negro of dialect story, minstrel stage, and sea chantey. 912

1861

Lincoln Says Good Bye to William “Billy” Florville Upon Leaving Springfield

In February 1861, when President-elect Lincoln left Springfield for Washington, one of his most sorrowful farewells was at the old barbershop on Fifth Street, where Billy waited on him for the last time. Lincoln did not forget his colored fellow townsman. On two occasions while at the White House, he sent verbal regards and best wishes to his former barber-client., using as messengers his friend and physician, Anson G. Henry, and Governor Richard Yates. 913

Jameson Jenkins Drives Lincoln’s Carriage to Railroad Depot for Departure From Springfield

When Lincoln left Springfield for Washington on February 12, 1861, Jameson Jenkins drove Lincoln’s carriage from the Chenery House at the northeast corner of Fourth and Washington Streets to the Great Western railroad depot at 10th and Monroe Streets.
Lincoln Takes William H. Johnson to Washington

When Lincoln left Springfield, he took William H. Johnson with him.

There is no record of a colored person being on the train when Lincoln left Springfield, but from letters of Lincoln we know that William Johnson was with him, and the photograph shows him with Lincoln upon arrival. Undoubtedly he was hidden where he could be on the alert to defend the President-elect on an instant’s notice, for was he not “faithful and sober”?

Visiting the William H. Johnson Gravesite

William H. Johnson was described as a free ‘colored man’ who came with Lincoln from Illinois and became President Lincoln’s part-time valet and messenger of the Treasury Department. He worked for Samuel Y. Atlee of the Treasury in the afternoon and tended to Lincoln’s wardrobe, shaved him, and did other personal services for the president in the morning.

On November 18, 1863, Lincoln wrote a note explaining that Johnson would travel with him to Gettysburg for the dedication of the soldiers’ cemetery. Mrs. Lincoln did not accompany the president because their son Tad was ill with smallpox. Once in Gettysburg, Lincoln must have mentioned Tad’s condition to Edward Everett, the featured orator at the dedication, because he later wrote him, “Our sick boy, for whom you kindly enquired, we hope is past the worst.” After delivery of his now famous speech, Lincoln also felt ill and on the return train trip to Washington “lay in a relaxed position with a wet towel across his head,” placed there by Johnson.

Upon arrival at the White House, the president was put to bed and his doctor was called, who remarked, “Mr. Lincoln’s case is not fully developed yet. Varioloid.” The White House became a virtual smallpox hospital. Out of it came a touch of Lincoln’s humor. “Now let the office-seekers come, for at last I have something I can give all of them.” But he probably gave it to his valet, and Johnson died. Lincoln requested that he be buried in what is now called Arlington National Cemetery, and paid for his burial and tombstone.

One day I told a friend who worked at the Reagan White House that I wanted to locate Johnson’s grave. So we drove to the cemetery and the military guard motioned us to the left when we needed to drive to the right. My friend yelled, “I have a Lincoln scholar here who wants to locate the grave of Lincoln’s black valet.” Immediately he motioned us to drive to the far right side of the cemetery. There we found the simple grave. The stone reads “William H Johnson,” and below that, “Citizen.” Johnson died sometime before January 28, 1864, when Lincoln appointed Solomon James Johnson as his Treasury messenger replacement. Today, a black valet of President Lincoln rests as a citizen in Arlington National Cemetery.

1865

Abraham Lincoln’s Funeral

The Reverend Henry Brown, a native of Raleigh, Halifax County, North Carolina, was living in Springfield as early as 1847, and except for four years residence at Galena and Quincy, made Springfield his home. Rev. Brown was a pastor in the African Methodist Episcopal Church. He was a great admirer of Abraham Lincoln and served him in various capacities until he went to Washington as President. When Lincoln’s remains were brought back to Springfield in May 1865, Rev. Brown came from Quincy to lead Lincoln’s old family horse “Bob” in the funeral procession. Rev. Henry Brown died in 1906, and on
September 2, 1906 was buried in the Colored Block at Oak Ridge Cemetery, across the way from the Lincoln tomb.

William Lloyd Garrison Visits Lincoln’s Grave

In the fall of 1865, abolitionists William Lloyd Garrison visited Lincoln’s grave at Oak Ridge Cemetery.

In Springfield he stayed with Billy Herndon, still an enthusiast of the cosmos, and Herndon arranged an appearance before the Illinois legislature and took him to visit the temporary crypt in which Lincoln’s coffin lay, still draped and festooned with mourning crepe. The guest book already contained thousands of names, the editor told Helen, and he mingled solemnly with throngs of visitors of both races.
LINCOLN’S SPRINGFIELD

THE EARLY AFRICAN AMERICAN POPULATION
OF SPRINGFIELD, ILLINOIS
(1818-1861)

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Springfield, Illinois
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APPENDIX A: The Probate Estate Of George Bartlet, Deceased-1823

Bond of Joshua Chilton as Administrator

KNOW ALL MEN BY THESE PRESENTS That we, Joshua Chilton, William Chilton & John Woody---are held and firmly bound unto the People of the State of Illinois, for the payment of which well and truly to be made, we and each of us bind ourselves, our and each of our heirs, executors and administrators, jointly, severally, and firmly by these presents. Sealed with our seals, and dated this fifth day of April in the year of our Lord 1823.

The condition of this obligation is such, That if the within bounden Joshua Chilton administrator of all and singular the goods, chattels, and credits of George Bartlet a free negro man deceased, do make, or cause to be made, a true and perfect inventory of all and singular the goods, chattels, and credits of the said deceased, which have, or shall come to the hands, possession, or knowledge of him the said Joshua Chilton or into the hands and possession of any other person or persons for him and the same so made do exhibit, or cause to be exhibited in the Court of Probate of the county of Sangamon at or before the third Monday of July next ensuing, and the same goods, chattels, and credits, and all other the goods, chattels, and credits of the said deceased, at the time of his death, which, at any time hereafter, shall come to the hands or possession of the said Joshua Chilton or into the hands and possession of any other person or persons for him do well and truly administer according to law, and further do make, or cause to be made, a true and just account of his said administration, at or before the third Monday of April 1824 and all the rest and residue of the said goods, chattels, and credits, which shall be found remaining upon the said administrator’s account (the same being first examined and allowed of by the Court of Probate of the said county) shall deliver and pay unto such person or persons, respectively, as the said Court of Probate in the said county, by its decree or sentence, pursuant to the true intent and meaning of law, shall limit and appoint: And if it shall hereafter appear, that any last will and testament was made by the said deceased, and the executor or executors therein named, do exhibit the same, into the said court, making request to have it allowed and approved accordingly: if the said Joshua Chilton within bound, being thereunto required, do render and deliver the said letters of administration, approbation of such testament being first had and made, in the said court, then this obligation to be void, and of none effect, or else to remain in full force and virtue.

(Signed) Joshua Chilton
(Signed) William Chilton
(Signed) John Woody

Test. C. R. Matheny

Appointment of Joshua Chilton as Administrator

April  Springfield   1823
The people of the State of Illinois—
To Joshua Chilton, Greetings

Whereas George Bartlet a free negro of the County of Sangamon and State aforesaid Deceased died intestate as it is said  I do therefore give and grant unto you the said Joshua Chilton full power and authority to administer all and singular the goods, chattels and _____ of the said deceased wheresoever the same may be found and to demand, collect, levy and in a legal manner require and receive all and all manner of debts due & owing to the said deceased and will and faithfully to dispose of the same according to law.

And lastly I do constitute and appoint you the said Joshua Chilton Administrator of all & singular the goods, chattels rights and _____ of the George Bartlet Deceased----

In Testimony whereof I have hereunto set my hand and affixed the seal of the court of probate of Sangamon County at Springfield the fifth day of April in the year of our Lord one thousand and eight hundred and twenty-three and of the independence of this United State the forty seventh

Charles R. Matheny Judge of Probate

921
Inventory

April the 14 1823
80 Bushels of corn appraised to 25cts pr bushel $20
potatoes at 37 ½ per bushel 4.50
Rifle gun appraised to 7.00
powder appraised to .50
1 Settout coat praised to 3.00
1 close coat praised to 2.00
1 money purse praised to .50
1 wiscoat praised to 1.00
1 ____ praised to 1.50
Set of Shoe tools praised to 1.00
1 Saddle & bridle praised to 2.00
2 Buckskins praised to 1.00
3 gallons of vinegar praised to 7.50
1 oven praised to 1.75
1 Stewkittle praised to 1.
2 Crock & candlesticks praised to .50
1 pail praised .50
1 chest praised to 1.12 1/2
3 bee gums praised to 4.50
1 fish gig praised to 1.00
2 hats praised to 1.50
11 head of hoggs praised to 15.50
10 foot of plank praised to .25

Appraisement of the property of George (a black man) 923

Sale Bill

Sale bill of the Property of George (a black man) sold on the 15th day of April 1823

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item</th>
<th>$</th>
<th>Cents</th>
</tr>
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<tr>
<td>Money purse</td>
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<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Set Shoes Tools</td>
<td>1.00</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Crock &amp; candlesticks</td>
<td>.50</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Axe</td>
<td>1.87 1/2</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>saddle &amp; bridle</td>
<td>.87 1/2</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Surtout Coat</td>
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<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vest</td>
<td>.81 1/4</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Coat</td>
<td>.87 1/2</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gun</td>
<td>7.00</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>oven</td>
<td>1.62 1/2</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stewkettle</td>
<td>1 12 1/2</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Buckskin</td>
<td>.75</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Do</td>
<td>.56 1/4</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>fish gig</td>
<td>.56 1/4</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>gun powder</td>
<td>.50</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>plank</td>
<td>.25</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>pail</td>
<td>37 1/2</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chest</td>
<td>1 12 1/2</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20 bushels corn</td>
<td>5.00</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>27 pr 5.50</td>
<td>6.00</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>25 pr 5.00</td>
<td>6.00</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>bushels potatoes</td>
<td>14 .50</td>
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<tr>
<td>4 Do</td>
<td>12 1/2 .50</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>15</td>
<td>.60</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>30 gal. Vinegar</td>
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<tr>
<td>bee gums</td>
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## APPENDIX A

<table>
<thead>
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<th>Description</th>
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<tr>
<td>Lot of Hogs</td>
<td>12.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Amount of sales brought over</td>
<td>63.11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Probable amount Due the Deceased at the time of his death</td>
<td>100.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>$163.11</td>
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Joshua Chilton

### Accounting

The Estate of Black George in acct with Joshua Chilton administrator

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Do Darling account</td>
<td>$15.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Coffin William Chilton</td>
<td>4.50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Letters of administration</td>
<td>5.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>auctioneer</td>
<td>1.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>fees on sale Bill inventory</td>
<td>2.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>collecting property for sale</td>
<td>10.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>62.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>6.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>_________</td>
<td>68.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>deduct</td>
<td>4.50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>63.50</td>
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Contra

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>By sale of property</td>
<td>$63.11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>probable claim on the Estate of John Fu________</td>
<td>100.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>probate fees on settlement</td>
<td>4.33</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>deduct from E. Darling account</td>
<td>5.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(on reverse)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Estate of Black George</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>filed the 20th April 1824</td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Payment to Ephriam Darling

July 28th 1824
This day Received of Joshua Chilton five Dollars in behalf of the Estate of Black George in full of Book account
Ephriam Darling

### Payment for Coffin

Received of Joshua Chilton four Dollars fifty cents the full amount he owes up to this date of Johnston for coffin
28th July 1824
William Chilton
APPENDIX B: Thomas Cox

Nance and Dice, His Slaves

Thomas Cox Borrows $300 From Nathan Cromwell
and Pledges Nance and Dice as collateral—June 1825

June 24, 1825
State of Illinois

I Thomas Cox do hereby bargain and sell and by these presence do bargain and sell unto Nathan Cromwell
the following property to wit: one negro girl named Nancy and the negro girl named Dice both of which are
servants for a term as will appear from the record of the State records and a lot of ground and still house with
all the appertances thereto belonging; one other lot or tract of land containing thirty acres more or less in
Town 16 Range 5, entered by John Taylor and all my right title and interest in and to the town of Naples on
the Illinois River together with all my household and kitchen furniture consisting of beds, tables, chairs etc.
Together with all my horned cattle all of the above property I have bargained and sold to the within named
Cromwell for the consideration of a certain sum of money as will appear from note given under my hand and
seal the date and year above written

Thomas Cox

Rec’d three hundred Dollars in consideration of the above property from Nathan Cromwell.
Thomas Cox.

Recorded 9th Nov. 1825
C.R. Matheny, R.S.C.

Schedule of Property Delivered to Nathan Cromwell by Thomas Cox—June 24, 1825

Schedule of Property Delivered to Nathan Cromwell conveyed sold and delivered by virtue of a bill of sale
bearing date the 24th day of June 1825.
Towit
1 Negro girl named Nance
1 Negro girl named Dice
1 distillery and all the apparatus
towit 63 mash tubs and two rectifying tubs
1 boiler-pipes trafts, &
2 wooden stills, cooler, and warmer &
and all my household and kitchen furniture
towit 1 bed and clothing, Curtains and stead
4 bed and clothing and steads
2 beauraws
1 cubboard
2 stands
2 tables
1 large looking glass
1 small looking glass and Jap ware
Cubboard and Table ware—Chipan ware
Dishes, Plates, Knives, forkes & tea ware
1 Pair Brass firedogs
2 pair firedogs iron
1 large iron kettle
2 Post iron
3 Dutch ovens-iron
1 stove Kettle
1 tea kettle
1 iron griddle
2 cowes & calves
2 yearling calves
1 yoke of steers
11 oxen on the mill wheel
APPENDIX B

12 volumes of Encyclopaedia to

all of which schedule, has been by me, sold and delivered, unto the said Nathan Cromwell, being part of the
same property, heretofore conveyed unto the said Cromwell by a bargain & sale of the same together, with
other property bearing date June twenty-fourth, Eighteen hundred and twenty five.

Thomas Cox

Test
John W. Cox
November 21, 1826

Thomas Cox Borrows $400 From Nathan Cromwell
and Pledges Nance and Dice as Collateral-November 8, 1825

Know all men by these presents that I Thomas Cox of the county of Sangamon and State of Illinois for and in
consideration ...four hundred dollars cash in hand paid Receipt whereof is hereby acknowledged have this
day granted bargained & sold a lien conveyed and enfoffed as by these presents grant bargain and sell a lien
convey confirm and enoff to Nathan Cromwell of the County of Peoria and State aforesaid all and singular
the following described property and personal that is to say--one lot of ground lying at the west end of, and
in, the Town of Springfield Illinois upon which there is erected a mill and distillery together with the said
mill and distillery including all their appendages and appurrtenances also one tract of land situated in the
County of Sangamon and being a part of the north east quarter of Section Twenty Eight in Township Sixteen
North of Range five west Entered by John Taylor and as the same is surveyed and laid off to me containing
thirty acres be the same more or less—together with all the right privileges and appurrtenances thereunto
belonging--And also all of my right title and interest in and to the Town of Naples in the State aforesaid—To
have and to hold the said lots and parcels of land together with all the rights privileges immunities
appendages and appurrtenances thereunto belonging to him the said Nathan his heirs and assigns for ever—
And also in consideration aforesaid the following personal property—(towit) one negro girl named Nance
and another named Dice for the term which they are bound to serve me according to the constitution and laws
of this State and also all my horses and cattle of every description size or age--and also all my household
and kitchen furniture of every and description—consisting of beds and bed clothing and bedsteads, chairs,
tables & sofourth--The said Thomas Cox reserving to himself the profits and emoluments of said property
until the condition of this obligation is discharged Which is as follows (viz) If the said Thomas shall well and
truly pay or cause to be paid to the said Nathan the said sum of three hundred dollars in ____ or its equivalent
in current money of the United States together with interest thereon from the date hereof at the rate of Twelve
& one half per centum per annum on or before the 24th day of June in the year Eighteen hundred and twenty
six then this obligation to void otherwise to remain in full force and effect in law or Equity In witness
whereof I have hereunto set my hand and seal this Twenty-fourth day of June in the year Eighteen hundred
and Twenty five.

Thomas Cox

State of Illinois
Sangamon County

Personally came before me Asa S. Shaw one of the Justices of the peace in and for the county aforesaid
Thomas Cox signer to instrument and acknowledged the same to be his voluntary act for the purposes
therein named

Witness my hand and seal this 1 day of Nov. 1825  Asa S. Shaw
Recorded 8th Nov. 1825

Thomas Cox Borrows $500 from John Taylor
and Pledges Nance and Dice as Collateral-March 1826

Know all men by these presents that I Thomas Cox of the county of Sangamon and State of Illinois for and in
consideration of the sum of five hundred Dollars Cash in hand paid the receipt whereof is hereby
acknowledged have this day bargained granted & sold a lien enfoffed & conveyed to and do by these presents
grant bargain and sell a lien enoff and convey to John Taylor of the County and State aforesaid all the
following described property to wit--one lot of ground lying at the west end of, and in the Town of
Springfield Illinois upon which there is erected a mill & distillery & a part of which is described as follows in
the survey of the same ____ survey for Thomas Cox a lot of (Ground) land lying within the South East
quarter of Sixteen No. Twenty-eight in Township No. Sixteen North of Range No. Five West, Beginning at a
point forty nine links south forty three & one half degrees East from Coxes mill thence Eighty eight west four chains to a post-Vandergrift corner--Thence South fifty four & an half East, two chains, sixty five links to a post another of Vandergrift's corners. Thence north fifty two chains twenty three links to the place of beginning. Containing Eleven chains & Eighty four hundredths ————of less Signed Jos C. Stephenson C. S. Together with the said mill and distillery including all the appendages privileges and appertances of the same-{Also one track of land situated in the county of Sangamon and being a part of the north East quarter of said no. Twenty eight in township Sixteen North of Range five west Enter by said Taylor as the same is surveyed & laid off to said Cox containing thirty acres be the same more of less} - together the appendages and appurtenances belonging to the same-

And also all of my right title interest & claims to the Town of Naples in the county of Morgan and State aforesaid--To have & to hold the said lots and parcels of land with appendages and appurtenances him the said Taylor his heirs and assigns for ever--And also in consideration aforesaid I hereby sell & convey to said Taylor all the following personal property--(towit) one negro girl named Nance. one named Dice for the term for which they are bound to serve me and also all my horned cattle of every description size or age—and also all my household and kitchen furniture of every _______ and description—consisting of beds & bed clothing, chairs, tables, bureaus, cupboards, desks from & so forth—The said Thomas reserving to himself the use profits & rents of said property until the condition of this deed is discharged. And whereas a part of the foregoing property has been conveyed by a deed of Mortgage bearing date the twentieth day of August in the year Eighteen hundred & twenty four to Elijah Iles & said Taylor, and a part or the whole of the same conveyed to Nathan Cromwell also by a deed of Mortgage bearing date the twenty fourth day of June in the year Eighteen hundred & twenty four & recorded in Book B. In the recorders office of said county now if said Mortgage shall be redeemed by said Cox or any person for him or if the same shall be foreclosed & any part of said property sold then whatever surplus may remain after the consideration of said Mortgages shall be discharged, or if whole should be redeemed, the same shall be absolutely discharged _______ in vested in said Taylor But subject to the condition (towit) If the said Cox shall well & truly or cause to be paid a certain note of hand made by said Cox to _______ for the sum of three hundred & thirty dollars with the interest thereon date -- on day of ____ in the year _____ to which said Taylor is security or release said Taylor from all liability to pay the same and shall also pay the balance of a note made by said Cox to said Taylor for one hundred and ninety dollars & ninety six cents with a credit thereon of forty dollars, dated on the eighth day of April in the year Eighteen hundred & twenty-five Then this deed of mortgage with its provisions & conditions is to be null & void otherwise to remain in full force & effect

In witness whereof I have hereunto set my hand & seal this ninth day of March in the year Eighteen hundred twenty-six

Thomas Cox

State of Illinois
Sangamon

Be it remembered that on this 7th day of April 1826 personally came before me the above signer Thomas Cox and acknowledged his signature to be his free voluntary act and deed for the purposes thereon

Witness Asa S. Shaw Jus. Peace931

Recorded 10th May 1826932.
Thomas Cox vs. Jehu Durley

Replevin Action To Recover “Ruben, A Boy Of Color”

The Replevin Request

October 8, 1826
Ths Cox
v
Jehu Durley

I want a writ of Replevin to ______ Ruben a boy of Colour---Make the papers out

Thomas Cox

Oct 8th 1826--value of the negro $125
Charles R. Matheny
Clerk Circuit Court

The Replevin Writ

October 9, 1826
The People of the State of Illinois
To the Sheriff of Sangamon County

Greeting

We Command you that if Thomas Cox make you safe you cause to be replevied out of the possession of Jehu Durley a certain boy named Ruben (of colour) of the value of one hundred & twenty five dollars and that you summons the said Jehu Durley to be and appear before the Circuit Court for Sangamon County at the next Term (to answer wherefore he took and detained the said boy) to be holden on the third Monday in the month of November next--and have you then there this writ-

Witness the Honbl John Y. Sawyer Judge of Said court
at Springfield the 9th day of October 1826
Charles R. Matheny, Clerk of said court

Reverse Side of Replevin Writ

The Bond

October 9, 1826

Know all men by these presents that we Thomas Cox, Thomas Vandegriff and James L. Kirkpatrick are held and firmly bound unto John Taylor sheriff of Sangamon County in the penal sum of two hundred and fifty dollars current money of the United States, to the true and faithful payment of which we bind ourselves our heirs and executors. October the 9th 1826.

Now the condition of the above obligation is such that whereas a writ of Replevin issued out of the office of the Sangamon Circuit Court of date the 9th day of October 1826 commanding said John Taylor to Replevy out of and from the possession of a certain Jehu Durley a negro boy named Reubin of the value of one hundred and twenty five dollars now if the said Thomas Cox will well and truly prove the best right to said negro boy at the next November Circuit Court for Sangamon County and indemnify and save harmless the said John Taylor Sheriff aforesaid from all costs and charges in consequence of the seizure of said negro boy then and in that case this obligation is to be void otherwise to remain in full force and virtue in Law

Test J. W. (Case?) Thomas Cox  SEAL
Thomas Vandergriff  SEAL
James L. Kirkpatrick SEAL
LINCOLN'S SPRINGFIELD
THE EARLY AFRICAN AMERICAN POPULATION
OF SPRINGFIELD, ILLINOIS
(1818-1861)

APPENDIX B

The Proof of Service

October 10, 1826

Thos Cox   )
  v   ) Replevin
Jehu Durley  )

Executed this 10th day of October 1826 By reading the within To Leka Durley

Serving---------------------50
Ret----------------------------9
Traveling 6 mi--------------36

John Taylor shff

The within named boy taken out of the possession of Leka Durley and delivered to the Plaintiff
JT [John Taylor]

The Plaintiff’s Complaint

State of Illinois   ) To the Term of
  ) November 1826
Sangamon Circuit Ct )

Sangamon County (towit) at the County & Circuit aforesaid Jehu Durley was summoned to answer Thomas Cox of a plea, wherefore he took the Colored boy named Ruebin of the said Thomas Cox and unjustly detained the said Colored boy against sureties and pledges, until, the 20th day of October 1826 and thereupon the said Thomas Cox by James M. Strode his attorney complains for that the said Jehu Durley, on the eleventh day of October in the year of our Lord 1826 in the Town of Springfield in the County aforesaid in a certain dwelling house there took the said Colored boy named Reubin aforesaid, to wit, a negro boy of the age of sixteen years, of him the said Thomas Cox of great value (towit) of the value of $125 and unjustly detained the said colored boy against sureties and pledges until the 20th day of October in the year of 1826 whereupon the said Thomas Cox saith that he is injured & hath sustained Damages to the value of $125 and therefore he brings his suit ...Strode

The Defendant’s Response

November __, 1826

Jehu Durley  )
  ) Nov. Term Circuit Court Sangamon County
  ads   ) Plea Demurring
Thos Cox   )

Now the said Jehu Durley comes into court and defends the wrong and injury wherein, whereas, etc, and says that the plaintiffs declaration and the matters and things therein contained are insufficient in law for him to have and maintain his action aforesaid against him and hereof prays judgment etc.
Cavarly for Defendant
The Summons of Defendant's Witnesses

Asa S. Shaw

November 17, 1826
The People of the State of Illinois
To the Sheriff of Sangamon County Greeting

We command you that you summons Asa S. Shaw Esqr to be and appear before the Circuit Court for Sangamon County at the next term to be held on the third Monday in the month of November 1826 on the sixth day of the Term to testify and the truth to speak in behalf of Jehu Durley in a certain matter of controversy pending and undetermined in our said court wherein Thomas Cox is plaintiff and Jehu Durley is defendant—and that he have with him his papers & proceeding together with the Execution issued thereon, in a certain suit lately had before him — Wherein Jehu Durley was plaintiff and Thomas Cox Deft. and have you then there this writ.

The seal is broken and I have to use my private Seal LL
Witness the Honbl John York Sawyer
Judge of said court at Springfield the 17th November 1826
Charles R. Matheny
Clerk of said Court

James C. McNabb and John Young

The People of the State of Illinois,
To the Sheriff of Sangamon County, Greeting:

YOU are hereby commanded to summon James C. McNabb John Young—to be and appear before the Circuit Court of Sangamon county, on the 6th day of the next term, to be holden at Springfield on the third Monday in the month of November 1826, to testify, and the truth to speak, in behalf of Jehu Durley in a certain matter of controversy depending and undetermined before our said Court, wherein Thomas Cox is plaintiff and Jehu Durley defendant This in no wise omit, under the penalty of what the law directs. And have you then there this writ.

Witness the Honorable John York Sawyer Judge of said Circuit Court at Springfield the 17th

November 1826 C. R. Matheny, Clerk

The Fee Bill

November __, 1826

Jehu Durley ) Fee Bill Nov. Term 1826
Ads 
Thomas Cox ) Replevin

Filing precipe 6 1/2 Dockg 12 1/2 Declaration 6 1/4 25
Issuing summonses 50, sup. 50 each
filing 4 papers 6 1/4 each 1.75
Rule & order 25 order to Dismiss 25 50
Judgement 3 1/2 bill of costs 3 1/2 .75
Exon 50 Docketing 12 1/2 filing 2 pleas 12 1/2 .75
Entering satisfaction of Record 12 1/2 12 1/2

Sheriffs fees .95

I certify the above to be the costs in the above cause.
Matheny Clerk S.C.
The Execution for Costs

February 10, 1827

The People of the State of Illinois
To the Sheriff of Sangamon County, Greeting

We command you that of the goods & chattels lands and tenements of Thomas Cox in your county you cause to be made the sum of Five Dollars & seven & 1/2 cents which Jehu Durley on the 25th of November 1826 before the Circuit Court of said County recovered against him for costs which was by the said Court adjudged to him for his costs and charges by him about his suit in that behalf expended whereof the said Thomas Cox stands convicted as appears of record and that you have the money at the Clerk’s office of said Court within ninety days from the date hereof to render unto the said Durley the costs & charges aforesaid And have you then there this writ.

Witness the Hon’ Samuel D. Lockwood Judge of said Court at Springfield this tenth Day of February eighteen hundred and twenty seven

Charles R. Matheny Clk.

The Return of the Execution

February 12, 1827-May 12, 1827

Came to had this 12th February 1827 at two o’clock in the afternoon
John Taylor Sheriff
Jehu Durley )
Ads ) Exon.
Thomas Cox )

Costs $5.07 1/2
No property found this 12th May 1827
Ret---------9
John Taylor shff.

Thomas Cox, Plaintiff, vs. Reuben Lobb, Defendant.
Attachment-1831

STATE OF ILLINOIS, Sangamon County,
Circuit Court, September term, 1831.

Thomas Cox, Plaintiff, )
against }Attachment
Reuben Lobb, Defendant. )

This day came the plaintiff, by his attorney, and it appearing to the satisfaction of the Court, that the defendant is not an inhabitant of this state: and it appearing from the return of the sheriff, that the attachment has been levied on lot number three, in block number thirty-one (31), in the Town of Springfield.

It is therefore ordered, that the defendant enter his appearance, and plead to this action, on the first day of the next term of this court, to be holden on the fourth Monday of April next, according to the rules and practice of this court, otherwise judgment will be had against him, and the property attached will be sold to satisfy the same. And it is further ordered, that a copy of this order be printed in some public newspaper, four weeks successively at least once in each week, and this cause is continued until the next term of this court.

A true copy from the record.
Attest, CHARLES R. MATHENY, Clk.

T. M. Neale, att’y for plt’ff.
APPENDIX C:  
Return of Nathan Cromwell to Nance’s Habeus Corpus Action-October 5, 1827

To the Honorable the judge of the First Judicial Circuit of the State of Illinois, —

Nathan Cromwell to whom a writ of Habeas Corpus has been directed and delivered commanding him to have Nance a girl of colour before the said Judge at Springfield on the 7th day of October instant with the cause of her detention, — making the following return thereto. To wit,—

On the 24th day of June 1825, one Thomas Cox of the town of Springfield, County of Sangamo and State of Illinois, for and in consideration of the sum of three hundred dollars to him paid by Nathan Cromwell, he the said Cox sold to the said Cromwell the said negro girl Nance, the same which is mentioned in said writ of Habeas Corpus together with sundry other articles of personal property as will fully, and more particularly appear by reference to the deed of sale of the same bearing date 24th June 1825 which is here shown to the said Judge, marked A, and made a part of this return.

And on the 21st day of November 1826 the said Thomas Cox did deliver into the possession of the said Cromwell the said Nance, a girl of colour with sundry other articles of personal property which is fully shown by a certain article in writing signed by said Cox, which is likewise made a part of this return —

And afterwards, to wit on the 12th day of July 1827, an execution issued from the Clerk’s office of the Sangamo Circuit Court directed to the coroner of said Sangamo County in favor of John Taylor (who was at that time Sheriff of said County) against the goods and chattels, lands and tenements of the said Thomas Cox, and on the ___ day of said month the said Coroner levied said execution on the said negro girl Nance as the property of the said Thomas Cox, and afterwards to wit on ___ day of the month and year last aforesaid the said Coroner exposed the said Nance at public sale to satisfy sd execution and at said sale the said Nathan Cromwell became the highest and best bidder, and the purchaser of the said Nance for the sum of 151 dollars and the said Coroner in pursuance of said sale did deliver said Nance to the said Cromwell, and on the same day the said Nance voluntarily and of her own free will and consent did agree and go with the said Cromwell to his place of residence in Sangamo town in said Sangamo County. Where she still continues to live with said Cromwell by her own choice

Nathan Cromwell

The said Nathaniel Cromwell made oath that the statements made in the foregoing return as made of his own knowledge are true and those made from the information of others he believes to be true, Given under my hand as clerk of the Sangamon Circuit Court this 5th day of October 1827.  C. R. Matheny Clk. 946

Nance’s Response to Nathan Cromwell’s Return to Writ of Habeus Corpus-October 6, 1827

State of Illinois — Sangamon Circuit Court
Oct. Term 1827

Nance a negro girl
vs.
Nathan Cromwell

Said Nance alledges that the return of said Nathan Cromwell (to a Habeas corpus issued against him by this court to bring up the body of said Nance) is untrue in this

1. It is not true as stated in said return that Thomas Cox delivered her said Nance to the possession of said Nathan Cromwell on the 21st day of November 1826, nor at any other time whatever, nor was said Nance ever in the custody or possession of said Cromwell, nor did she ever reside with him, nor did she ever serve him; nor was she ever in his possession at Sangamon town or at any other place whatever until she was delivered to said Cromwell by John Howard coroner of Sangamon County in July last, and which was against her will and consent, and which said delivery of said Nance to said Cromwell was not until after she had been levied upon & sold under execution by said Howard as the property, as she is informed, of Thomas Cox, and purchased at such sale as she understands by said Cromwell, and further, that such delivery of her by said
Howard to said Cromwell was in pursuance of such sale under execution aforesaid and in no other way as she believes.

2. It is not true as is stated in said return, that she voluntarily and of her own free will and accord agreed to go with the said Cromwell to his place of residence in Sangamon County, nor is it true that she still continues to live with said Cromwell by her own choice, which will more fully appear by reference to her affidavit filed marked (A) But on the contrary she was forced against her will & consent to go with said Cromwell and has been restrained of her personal liberty ever since by said Cromwell against her will & consent, and is now restrained of her said personal liberty by said Cromwell against her will & consent.

3. She further states, that she never either before or since such sale and delivery of her said Nance to said Cromwell by said Howard as aforesaid, did make any contract with said Cromwell to serve him in any manner or form whatever, & is now detained & restrained of her personal liberty by him against her will & consent.

She therefore prays the court to order that such further proceedings may be had, by which the material facts may be ascertained, as may be just & right, & that may conduce to a full & fair hearing, of this cause, and upon which she hopes to be discharged & released from the illegal restraint of said Cromwell.

Her
Negro X Nance
Mark

State of Illinois
Sangamon County

This day came personally before me the undersigned Justice of the peace in aforesaid county, Nance the negro girl, who after being duly sworn says that the above statements so far as made from her own knowledge are true & so far as made from the information of others she believes to be true.

Edmd. Mitchell J. P.
Sworn to & subscribed before me the 6 October 1827.

Jane Cox’s Affidavit Supporting Nance’s Writ of Habeus Corpus-October 6, 1827

State of Illinois, Sangamon Circuit Court, October term 1827

Nance a negro girl
vs.
Nathan Cromwell

The affidavit of Mrs. Jane Cox. This deponent being duly sworn deposes and says that Nance the negro girl aforesaid was raised from a child in the family of Thomas Cox, in this state, that said Nance is about sixteen years of age, that said Nance was never out of the service of said Thomas Cox’s family, until July last, this deponent believes.

This deponent further says that after John Howard the coroner had levied the execution upon said Nance, she saw said Nance in Howards custody confined with chains, that said Nance became very sick while thus confined, that this deponent was present and saw Howard the coroner sell said Nance under the execution, that said Nathan Cromwell became the purchaser after which he asked said Nance if she would go and live with him, that said Nance refused and persisted that she would not, that said Cromwell then told the coroner to take her where he brought her from, and upon which said Howard the coroner tied her & took her back to the old salt house. That after this said Cromwell took her off.

This deponent further says that as to the statement of said Cromwell in his return to the habeas corpus that “on the 21 of November 1826 Thomas Cox did deliver unto the possession of said Cromwell the said Nance” she this deponent can say because she knows the fact so to be that said Nance was during the whole of the month of November 1826 and ever since until July last in the service of Thomas Cox and that of his family, and this deponent firmly believes that said Nance never was in the possession of said Cromwell until last July as before stated. This deponent was intimate in the family of Thomas Cox and is fully satisfied that said
Nance was not out of their service, or in the service of any other person, before last July as before stated, when she was sold under the execution.

This deponent further says that she has heard said Nance repeatedly protest against going to live with or serve said Cromwell, and also protest against remaining in his service.

Her
Jane X Cox
mark

Sworn to and subscribed
before me this 6th day of
October 1827
J.P. Asa S. Shaw Jus. Peace

Bond of Thomas Cox in Nance’s Habeus Corpus Action—November 3, 1827

Know all men by these presents that we Thomas Cox and Jabez Caps are held and firmly bound unto Nathan Cromwell in the sum of ten dollars good and lawful money for the payment of which will and truly to be made we bind our selves our heirs executors and administrators firmly by these presents sealed with our hands and seals this 3 Nov. 1827.

The condition of this obligation is such that whereas the Circuit Court of Sangamon County has awarded a habeas corpus to said Cromwell to bring up the body of Nance a negro girl, now in said Cromwell’s possession returnable Friday the fifth inst morning--Now should said court award said negro girl to be remanded to said Cromwell, and said Cox shall well & truly pay said Cromwell the charges allowed by the court to the said Cromwell for carrying back said Nance, then this obligation to be void or otherwise to be & remain in full force & virtue.

Thomas Cox
Jabez Capps

Signed sealed and delivered in presence of
Saul McRoberts
APPENDIX D: Frank Shelby

Michael Dodd’s Suit Against Frank Shelby-1826

On December 11, 1826, Michael Dodd executed against George White, Frank Shelby and Charles P. Cabiness in order to satisfy his judgment of $13.25 and $6.76 for costs.

The people of the State of Illinois
To the Sheriff of Sangamon County Greeting

We command you that of the goods and Chattels land and Tenements of George White, Frank Shelby & Charles P. Cabiness in your county you make the sum of thirteen dollars and Twenty five cents which Michael Dodd on the 25th day of November last before the circuit court for Sangamon County recovered against them on an appeal. Also the sum of Six dollars and seventy six cents which was by the said court adjudged to him for his costs and charges by him about his suit in his behalf expended whereof the said Defendants are convicted as appears to us of record. And that you have the money at the Clerks office of our said court ninety days from the date hereof to render unto said plaintiff the debt and costs aforesaid and have you then there this writ.

Witness the Hon. John Y. Sawyer
Judge of Said Court at Springfield
the 11th day of December 1826
Charles R. Matheny Clk.

Levey and Sale of Lot-March 1827

I John Taylor sheriff of Sangamon County do hereby certify that on the tenth day of March 1827 I have leveyed on and sold an undivided interest of lot number one in Block number Six (should be 16?) in the Town of Springfield the property of Frank Shelby the above property was sold by virtue of an Execution issued in the Clerk’s office for Sangamon County to apply on an execution in favour of Michael Dodds against George White, Frank Shelby & Charles P. Caveniss. Charles R. Matheny became the purchaser at seven dollars and unless said property be redeemed according to law the said Charles R. Matheny will be entitled to a deed for said premises in fifteen months from the above date. Sangamon County Illinois 3rd March 1827.

John Taylor Sheriff

Execution on Judgment-November 17, 1827

On November 17, 1827, Michael Dodd sought to enforce the $13.25 judgment and $8.31 in costs he had obtained against George White, Frank Shelby and C. P. Cabinis by asking the sheriff to proceed against their property in order to satisfy the judgment.

The People of the State of Illinois
TO THE SHERIFF OF SANGAMO COUNTY, GREETING:

We command you that of the goods and chattels, lands and tenements of George White, Frank Shelby and C. P. Cabiniss in your county, you cause to be made the sum of Thirteen dollars and 25 cents, which Michael Dodd on the 25th day of Nov. 1826 before the Circuit Court of Sangamo county recovered against them for Debt.

Also the sum of Eight dollars and 31 cents which was by the said Court adjudged to him for costs and charges by him about his suit in that behalf expended; whereof the said George, Frank and Charles P. Are convicted, as appears to us of record; and that you have that money at the Clerk’s office of said Court within ninety days from the date hereof, to render unto the said Michael Dodd the debt, costs and charges aforesaid. And have you then there this writ.

Witness the Honorable Samuel D. Lockwood, Judge of the said Court at Springfield, this 17th day of Nov. 1827
R. Matheny, clerk.
Frank Shelby’s Attachment Of William Mitchell’s Property-1831

On this day [December 6, 1831] Frank Shelby a man of color came into court and presented to the court a title bond from William Mitchell for lot no. 6, in block no. 12 in the Town of Springfield and it appearing to the satisfaction of the court that one third of the purchase money have been paid and the said Frank paid into court the balance due amounting to six dollars forty one and two thirds cents. It is therefore ordered that that the said lot no. 6 in block no. 12 be deeded to Frank Shelby.

Frank Shelby’s Conveyance of Land To James F. Reed-1833

This Indenture made and Entered Into this 26th February A.D. 1833 between Frank Shelby a man of colour of the County of Sangamon and State of Illinois of the one part & James F. Reed of the County and State aforesaid the other part Witnesseth that the said Shelby, a man of colour, for and in consideration of the sum of thirty Dollars Cash to him in hand paid the Receipt whereof is hereby acknowledged has this day given granted bargained sold aliened conveyed and confirmed and by these presents do give grant bargain sell and convey and confirm unto the said Frank Shelby a man of colour as aforesaid his heirs and assigns forever the following piece or parcel of land known and ___ as follows Being Lot No six (6) in Block Number twelve (12) in the Town of Springfield in County and State as aforesaid to have and to hold to him the said Frank Shelby his heirs executors and administrators the above described land together with all and singular the privilege and appurtenances thereunto belonging or in any way appertaining. In testimony whereof we Frank B. Smith, Zachariah Peter and Garrett Elkin commissioners aforesaid for ourselves and our successors in office have hereunto set our hands and affirmed our mark this 6 day of December A. D. 1831.

In testimony whereof I have hereunto set my hand and seal the day and date above.

His
Frank X Shelby
mark
The Probate Estate Of Frank Shelby, Deceased-1837

Affidavit of Intestacy-March 14, 1837

James F. Reed being duly sworn deposeth and saith that he is informed and verily believes that Frank Shelby of Sangamon County is dead and that he died intestate so far as he knows and believing on or about the 8th day of March 1837

Sworn this 14th March 1837
Adams Judge of Probate

Affidavit of No Widow-March 14, 1837

James F. Reed being duly sworn deposeth and saith that he was acquainted with Frank Shelby a man of color in his lifetime and that he died leaving no widow so far as he knows and believes.

Sworn this 14th March 1837
J. Adams, Judge of Probate

Appointment as Administrator-March 14, 1837

State of Illinois
Sangamon County

The people of the State of Illinois
To all to whom these presents shall come Greeting

Know ye that whereas Frank Shelby of Sangamon County in the State of Illinois died intestate as it is said on or about the 8th day of March 1837 having at the time of his decease personal property in this State which may be lost destroyed or diminished in value if speedy care be not taken of the same to the end therefore that the said property may be collected and preserved for those who shall appear to have a legal right or interest therein. We do hereby appoint James F. Reed Administrator of all and singular the goods and chattels rights and credits which were of the said Frank Shelby at the time of his decease with full power and authority to secure and collect the said property and debts wheresoever the same may be found in this State and in general to do and perform all other acts which now are or hereafter may be required of him by law.

Witness James Adams Judge of Probate for Sangamon County (there having been no public seal provided) his private seal is substituted this 14th day of March 1837.
J. Adams Judge of Probate

Oath-March 14, 1837

I do solemnly Swear that I will well and truly administer all and singular the goods chattels right credits and effects of Frank Shelby a man of color deceased and pay all just claims and charges against his estate so far as his goods chattels and effects shall extend and the law charge me and that I will do and perform all other acts required of me by law to the best of my knowledge and ability

Sworn this 14th March 1837
J. Adams Judge of Probate
The People of the State of Illinois
To Charles R. Matheny, John S. Roberts & Erskine Douglas of the County of Sangamon

Greetings

These are to authorise you jointly to appraise the goods, chattels and personal estate of Frank Shelby a man of color late of the County of Sangamon and State of Illinois deceased so far as the same shall come to your sight and knowledge each of you having first taken the oath herto annexed a certificate whereof you are to return annexed to an appraisement bull of said goods, chattels and personal estate of your appraised in dollars and cents and in the said bill you are to set down in a colmn or columns opposite to each article appraised the value thereof--

Witness James Adams Judge of Probate for Sangamon County no public seal having been provided his private seal is substituted this 14th day of March 1837
J. Adams Judge of Probate

Oath of Appraisers-May 18, 1837

We Charles R. Matheny, John S. Roberts & Erskine Douglas do each of us Solemnly swear that we will well and truly without partiality or prejudice value and appraise the goods, chattels and personal estate of Frank Shelby a man of colour deceased so far as the same shall come to our sight and knowledge and that we will in all respects perform our duties as appraisers to the best of our skill and judgment.

C. R. Matheny
John S. Roberts
Erskine Douglas

Subscribed & sworn to before me May 18, 1837
Jas. M Shakelford J.P. S.C.

Inventory of Personal Property-May 18, 1837

Inventory of the property of Frank Shelby a Man of Color deceased, taken this 18th day of May 1837 in Dollars & cents by Chs. R. Matheny, John S. Roberts & Erskine Douglas.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item</th>
<th>Value</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1 Bedstead and Bedding and Bed</td>
<td>$15.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 Cupboard &amp; Cupboardware &amp; Table</td>
<td>$3.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>$4.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>$7.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 Stand</td>
<td>$3.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 Bowl of</td>
<td>38c</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&amp; 7 pieces Casting</td>
<td>$2.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 Gridiron</td>
<td>.50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7 Chairs</td>
<td>$1.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5 Crocksp</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&amp; 1 Jug</td>
<td>$1.25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>2.75</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 Bucket &amp; Fir ware</td>
<td>.50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 axes</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>spade</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>dressing knife</td>
<td>2.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>2.50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 Well Bucket S___ &amp; Shovel</td>
<td>1.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 Coffee Mill</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pin cushion</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>bond stack snuffers &amp; 3 hats</td>
<td>.75</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
**APPENDIX D**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item Description</th>
<th>Price</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>4 Deer Skins</td>
<td>1.50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 S_____y Glass Scrennn</td>
<td>.52</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>2.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 auger T__ pipe</td>
<td>.50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 Trunk &amp; contents</td>
<td>5.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 Chest &amp; contents</td>
<td>10.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&amp; 1 violin</td>
<td>2.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>12.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 Bo &amp; Contents &amp; 2 Rugs</td>
<td>1.50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>2.25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 Salt Brick &amp; ____</td>
<td>2.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Note on D. Bagby</td>
<td>1.75</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>8.75</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Account against Watkins</td>
<td>2.41</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Account against Mack Shelby</td>
<td>9.48</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>____ Book</td>
<td>.50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Whole amount Doll’s</td>
<td>76.77</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

C. R. Matheny  
John S. Roberts  
Erskine Douglas

---

**Report of Sale of Personal Property-June 3, 1837**

List of Personal Property late of Frank Shelby Decd, a colored man sold at auction June 3rd 1837.

James Reed, Admin.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item Description</th>
<th>Price</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1 Bedstead</td>
<td>3.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bed &amp; Bedding</td>
<td>10.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 Cupboard</td>
<td>.50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 lot Cupboard ware</td>
<td>1.25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 Table</td>
<td>5.25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 Stand</td>
<td>2.18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 Wooden Bowel etc.</td>
<td>.18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7 pr Castings</td>
<td>62.1/2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 Gridiron</td>
<td>.25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7 Chairs</td>
<td>1.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5 Crock &amp; jug</td>
<td>37.1/2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 Bucket</td>
<td>.45</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 Axes, Spades</td>
<td>1.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 Well Bucket</td>
<td>.50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Coffee Mill, Hats &amp; etc.</td>
<td>.06</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4 Deer skins Glass &amp; saipors</td>
<td>.56</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 Auger &amp; tin pipe</td>
<td>.06</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 Trunk &amp; contents</td>
<td>1.50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 Stand Curtains</td>
<td>1.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 quilt</td>
<td>.50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 Chest</td>
<td>.25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lot Bonnets &amp; Comb</td>
<td>12.1/2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lot Women’s Clothes</td>
<td>2.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>11.37</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1/2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Nathan Wall</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4 Bars Lead</td>
<td>.20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 Box &amp; Contents</td>
<td>18.1/4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 Box &amp; 2 Kegs</td>
<td>6.1/2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 Lot Brick &amp; Lumber</td>
<td>.50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 Box &amp; Contents</td>
<td>1.50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4 Blankets</td>
<td>1.75</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 Lot of Iron</td>
<td>.25</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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APPENDIX D

1 Saw & Knife .10 Mack

39.20 1/4

We the undersigned certify that the above is a correct list of article sold at auction this day as the personal property of Frank Shelby, a man of color, deceased

B. L. Clerr____  Auc.
J. S. Roberts, Clerk

Springfield, June 3, 1837
Francis F. Reed administrator

1837
July 5th  By amt. Of bill of Sales Filed
5th July 1837  35.00 1/4
Deficit of assets for payment of debts 267.19 ¾
302.20

Dr. The Estate of Frank Shelby in exhibit by

1827
July 5
To amount of Established Claims 252.20
Estimated Costs 50
302.20

These are to certify whom it may concern that the administrator has filed his Inventory appraisment and Bill of sales as required by law
J. Adams Judge of Probate

List of lands of which Frank Shelby died seized West 1/2 Lot 6, Block 12 Town of Springfield Sangamon Cty, North part of Lot 1 Block 15 in Springfield aforesaid being a towit undivided interest in the said north part
The above list is from Inventory filed in Sangamon Probate Court
J. Adams Judge of Probate

Estate Notice-July 12, 1837

NOTICE

The personal estate of FRANK SHELBY, (a man of color) deceased, late of Sangamon county, having proved deficient for the payment of debts against the estate, I shall apply by petition to the Sangamon circuit court, to be held at the court house in Springfield, in and for said county, on the 2d Monday in the month of October 1837, for an order of the said court, authorizing me to sell the real estate of the said deceased, being the west half of lot 6, block 12, also, an undivided share of the north part of lot No. 1, in block 16, in the town of Springfield, Sangamon county, Illinois, or so much thereof, as will be sufficient to pay the debts against the estate. At which time and place all persons are notified and requested to show cause if any they have, why the same should not be sold for the purposes aforesaid.

JAMES F. REED, Adm’r
July 12, 1837.
Petition to Sell Real Estate

To the Honorable the Circuit Court of the County of Sangamon, now in session.

Humbly representing. Sheweth unto the Honorable Court, your petitioner James F. Reed, that letters of administration have been granted unto him in the aforesaid County of Sangamon, upon the estate of Frank Shelby (a colored man, late of Said County) deceased, and that he has taken upon himself the burden of administering said Estate:

That the said Frank died seized of the following described real estate vis: The West 1/2 of Lot No. Six (6) in Block No. Twelve (12), and the north part of Lot No. One (1), in Block Sixteen (16) in the town of Springfield in the aforesaid County--

That he has discovered that the personal estate of the said intestate is wholly insufficient, to pay the just claims against his estate, as will more fully appear by the account current herewith filed marked A and prays to be made a part of this petition

And your petitioner would further represent unto this Honorable Court, that the said Frank died intestate leaving no minor heirs.

Your petition in consideration of the premises prays this Honorable Court to order, direct and authorize your petitioner to make sale of the above described real estate, for the payment of the debts due by said estate, according to the Statutes in such case made and provided and your petitioner as is duty bound will ever pray--

James F. Reed.

Petition To Sell Real Estate-October 4, 1837

To the Honorable Circuit Court for the county of Sangamon & State of Illinois--

The Petition of James F. Reed who is Administrator of the Estate of Frank Shelby a man of color deceased Respectfully sheweth:

That the said Frank Shelby a man of color late of Sangamon County has departed this life without wife & without heirs as your Petitioner is informed & believes & that your Petitioner has been appointed administrator of his Estate & entered upon the duties of the same.

That your Petitioner has caused an inventory, appraisement & sale bill of the personal Estate to be made & filed with the Judge of Probate for said county & caused all the personal Estate to be sold & that the deficit for the payment of claims established against the Estate is $267.20 all of which will appear by the accompanying Exhibit of the Judge of Probate.

That the notes given upon the sale of the personal Estate are not yet due & no assets are yet in the hands of your Petitioner for the payment of debts.

That the said Frank Shelby died seized of the following described property situate in the Town of Springfield & County of Sangamon to wit, The West half of Lot No. Six (6) in Block No. Twelve (12) & the north equal undivided part of Lot No. One (1) in Block No. Sixteen (16) in the Town of Springfield aforesaid.

Your Petitioner states that he has given notice of this application as will more fully appear by the accompanying Certificate of the Petitioner.

Your Petitioner prays for an order of this Honorable Court authorizing him to sell the said real estate or so much thereof as shall be necessary for the purpose of _____ the claims against the said Estate & as in duty _____ will ever pray ___.

James F. Reed

Sworn to before me this
The West half of Lot No. Six (6) in Block No. Twelve (12) is located on the north side of Washington Street, between Sixth and Seventh Streets. It is now the site of a Bank One parking lot. This is the west half of the lot Frank purchased in 1831 wherein he is listed on the survey map as being “Blk. Frank”. This lot is also the subject of litigation in 185__ when Polly Shelby filed suit against the then “owners”.

The second tract, Lot No. One (1) in Block No. Sixteen (16) is located at the southwest corner of Washington and Third Streets.

**Notice of Sale of Real Estate-December 6, 1837**

**NOTICE**

Public notice is hereby given, that the undersigned administrator of the estate of Frank Shelby deceased will, in pursuance of an order of the Sangamon circuit court, made at the October term thereof for 1837, on the 19th day of January 1838, at 2 o’clock P. M. On the premises, expose to public sale to the highest bidder, the following described real estate, to wit: the west half of Lot No. Six, in block No. Twelve, in the town of Springfield, Illinois. And also, an equal undivided interest of one-half, in the north half of Lot No. One, in block sixteen, in said town of Springfield, excepting so much as is contained in the following description: beginning at the north east corner of said lot, running thence south 20 feet, thence west 90 feet, thence north 20 feet, and thence east 90 feet to the place of beginning. The same being property of which the said Frank Shelby died seized. Such sale will be upon a credit of six and twelve months, in equal payments, the purchaser giving good personal security, and a mortgage on the premises, to secure the payment of the purchase money.

JAMES F. REED, Admr.
December 6, 1837.\(^{959}\)

**Report Of Sale Of Real Estate-January 30, 1838**

James F. Reed administrator of the Estate of Frank Shelby deceased, Reports to the Sangamon Circuit Court that in pursuance of the order of said court made at the October term thereof, for 1837 authorizing him to sell the real estate of the said deceased, he caused the said real estate to be advertised for sale as required by said order, all of which will more fully appear by a copy of said notice of sale & the printed certificate hereto amended.

That on the 19th day of January 1838 at the hour & place named in said notice of sale, he caused said lot of ground first-mentioned in said order to wit the west half of Lot No. Six (6) in Block No. Twelve (12) in the town of Springfield, Illinois to be exposed for sale at public auction & that James ____. Keyes being the highest bidder for the sum of Five hundred & fifty two dollars became the purchaser thereof.

That he has made & executed to the said James ____. Keyes his heirs & assigns a conveyance in fee simple for said lot of ground & has received from said James ____ Keyes two promissory notes for two hundred & seventy-five dollars each, the one payable in six & the other in twelve months together with a mortgage on said lot of ground to secure the payment of the purchase money. Said conveyance notes the mortgage all bearing date the 19th day of January 1838

Sworn & subscribed before me this 30th day of January, 1838
James F. Reed
Wm. Butler, Clerk.\(^{960}\)
APPENDIX D

Claims

Thomas P. Smith

Frank Shelby
To Thomas P. Smith
To pair Goose Boots $5.00
Springfield 1837

Thomas P. Smith being duly sworn deposeth & saith that the above account is just and has not been paid nor any part thereof.
Thomas P. Smith
Sworn this 17th day of April 1837.
J. Adams Judge of Probate

Ellis & Vaughan

Ellis & Vaughan
6.31
Due Ellis & Vaughan Six dollars & 31 cts. For value Red Novem, 11, 1834

his
Frank Shelby
mark

Test.
Thomas Peake

Springfield June 30 1837
Estate of Frank Shelby Decd.
1836 In account with Ellis & Vaughan
Dec. 1st For 1 Handkerchief 1.00
1 pocket knife .75
1.75

Springfield Dec. 1836
Estate of Frank Shelby
Due to Ellis & Vaughn
For 1/2 yd Jeans $.56

A. Y. Ellis being sworn saith that the above account is just & has not been paid
A. Y. Ellis

Sworn this 16th day May 1837
J. Adams, J. J.

John Capps

John Capps
One day after date Value Re’d I promise to pay John Capps Thirteen Dollars & 43 & 3/4 cents

his
Frank X Shelby
mark

Springfield
March 1, 1836
Test Jabez Capps

James F. Reed

James F. Reed being duly sworn saith that he is one of the creditors of Frank, a man of color, Shelby di____ in about the sum of seven dollars.

James F. Reed
Mack and Polly Shelby

Luke Maberry being duly sworn deposes and saith that he knew of Frank Shelby a man of color boarding with Mack Shelby and he thinks from the best of his recollection that he the said Frank must have boarded with Mack for the term of one year. Further the deponent saith that he knew that Macks wife washed for Frank and made clothes for Frank.

his
Luke X Maberry
mark

Sworn this 20th day of June 1839
Geo. R. Weber

B. C. Johnson

To a Note on Frank Shelby a man of collor
Estate left with the Judge of Probate Jas. Adams 8.00

Red pay by order for groceries
B. C. Johnson
March 30, 1841

David Rolls
David Rolls
Frank Shelby
1836 To David Rolls Dr.
Cash lent $6.50

David Stringer
Apl. 5, 1837
David Stringer
10.50

One Day after date we or either of us promise to pay David. Stringer or order nine dollars & fifty cents for value red. This 1st day of Decr. 1836

Frank X Shelby
Mack X Shelby

Cash lent
since the above $1.00

Frank Shelby Decd
To James F. Reed Dr.
1834 June 25th Balance on acct. $7.01

John Smith & Brothers
John Smith & Brothers
Four months after date value recd. I promise to pay John Smith & Brothers Thirteen Dollars
Springfield
Nov. 10th, 1834
his
Frank X Shelby
mark
Mary Smith being duly sworn deposes and saith that she saw Morrison Bernet deliver the annexed note to Mary Shelby in payment for services by her rendered for him in board.

Her
Mary X Smith
mark

Sworn this 1st day of Apr. 1848
J. Adams, P.J.P.S.C.

C. Goodman

Estate of F. Shelby
To James F. Reed Dr.

1838
To am't. Paid C. Goodman previous to date
for his lease on lot 6 pt. Of Block 12 $125.00
3/2 years interest at 6 per cent per annum 25.80
150.80

Morrison Burnett

5.00

One day after date I promise to pay Morrison Burnett or order the sum of five dollars for value received March 18, 1833

his
Frank X Shelby
mark

To General James Adams Probate Justice of the Peace for the County of Sangamon

Sir.

Please pay over all the proceeds of a note for the sum of five due to me and made payable to me by Frank Shelby to Polly Shelby as I have assigned all my right title and interest in the same to said Polly Shelby.

Galena
May 25, 1840

his
Morrison X Burnett
mark

Bennett & Johnson

$7.00 due Bennett & Johnson order
Seven Dollars for value. Red
Springfield Nov. 30th 1836

his
Frank Shelby
mark

Attest Henry Neuman
Accounting of Money Paid

Amount of money paid on acct. F. Shelby Estate and other liabilities etc.

1837
- paid for lock & fastening on the door of his house to secure the property after appraisement: $2.50
- paid Bellman: $.25
- paid J. Shakleford administering oaths to appraisers: $.75
- advertising to different times: $11.75

1837 & 8 paid Tax on Estate being two lots:
- Old Plat lot 6 block 12 & lot 1 in block 16 for 39 & 40: $20.08
- also Tax on lot 1 block 16 being 28 1/2 feet: $2.00
- 6 appraisers fees: $6.75
- auctioneers fee: $2.00
- Clerks fees: $2.00
- Total: $48.08

James F. Reed, Adm. On Estate

Appointment of Appraisers-December 21, 1840

The People of the State of Illinois
To B. Thornburg, James Hannan & D. E. Walker of the County of Sangamon

Greetings

These are to authorize you jointly to appraise the goods, chattels and personal estate of Frank Shelby late of the County of Sangamon and State of Illinois deceased so far as the same shall come to your sight and knowledge each of you having first taken the oath hereto annexed a certificate whereof you are to return annexed to an appraisement bull of said goods, chattels and personal estate of you appraised in dollars and cents, and in the said bill you are to set down in a column or columns opposite to each article appraised the value thereof--

Witness James Adams Probate Justice of the Peace in and for Sangamon County (no public seal having been provided) the law has authorized my private seal which is here substituted this 21st day of December 1840

J. Adams P. J. R. S.C.
This Indenture made and entered into this the Twelfth day of August A D 1843 Between Lewis A. Collier of Concordia parish Louisiana and Nancy Collier a free woman of Color of Sangamon County State of Illinois. Witnesseth, that the said Lewis A. Collier for and in consideration of the sum of thirteen hundred Dollars, two Hundred dollars paid cash in hand, receipt of which acknowledged and the further sum of Eleven hundred Dollars to be paid as follows: To wit—the said Lewis A. Collier has executed his four certain promissory Notes all dated at said County & State of Illinois the first day of August AD 1843 in favor of Mathew P. Crowder of said County & State of Illinois first Note for three hundred payable 25th of December next the others each for two hundred and sixty six Dollars and sixty cents payable first November AD 1844, AD 1845 & AD 1846 which were given for the Purchase of the Lands herein conveyed to the said Collier to secure the payment of the said four Notes & has executed a Mortgage in favour of said Crowder on the Lands so Sold to him by said Crowder which are hereby sold to said Nancy Collier by the said Lewis A. Collier and whereas the said Nancy Collier has agreed to pay the said four Notes as they become respectively due & payable which when paid will be payment in full for the Lands & other property herein described and sold by said Lewis A. Collier to said Nancy Collier wherefore the said Lewis A. Collier has granted, bargained and sold and by these presents do grant bargain and sell unto the said Nancy Collier her heirs and assigns certain Tracts of lands lying situate and being in said County of Sangamon State of Illinois known and designated as follows to wit, Twenty Acres off of the West side of part of the South East Quarter of Section thirty Township fourteen North of Range four west of the third principal Meridian Beginning at the quarter section corner on the East a post +from which a White Oak eighteen bars North seventy four west ten links, thence South eighty two West 22 50/100 Chains to a post from which a Hickery bears north eight two East 10 links thence South ¾ west 20 Chains to a Hickory corner thence North eighty 82 East 22 50/00 chains to a Stone from which a Hickory bears South 60 west 9 links and an Elm 6 North 65 East 20 links thence North ¾ 20 chains to the beginning containing 45 acres, Also the South west quarter of the north East quarter of Section thirty five Township fourteen North of Range five West of the third principal meridian containing forty acres. Also the north West quarter of the South East quarter of Section Number thirty Township 14 north of Range 5 West of the third principal Meridian. Also the East half of the South west quarter Section thirty-five Township 14 North of Range five west of Third principal Meridian containing 80 Acres and making the aggregate of one hundred and Eighty acres the said Lewis A. Collier also Sells & Delivers to said Nancy Collier all the crop of corn & oats on said lands all the Stock of Hogs, Cattle Sheep & Farming Tools & other Articles sold by said Crowder to said L. A. Collier also one Mule & one horse waggon the consideration of the payment for the above named Stock a& articles is two hundred dollars in hand paid to said L. A. Collier the receipt is hereby Acknowledged therefor.

To have and to hold the aforesaid Tracts or parcels of land together with all and singular the privileges and appurtenances thereunto belonging or in anywise appertaining to the only proper use of the said Nancy Collier her heirs and assigns forever And the said Lewis A. Collier does hereby covenant to & with the said Nancy Collier for himself his heirs administrators that he is lawfully seized & have full right to convey and will forever warrant and defend the said Tracts of land & the said Stock from the claims of himself his heirs or against the claims of any other person whomsoever.

In Witness whereof the said Lewis A. Collier has hereunto set his hand and seal on the day & year aforesaid
Signed Sealed & Delivered
In the presence of Lewis A. Collier

State of Illinois
Gallatin County
Before me the undersigned a Justice of the peace in and for St. Clair County this day appeared Lewis A. Collier personally known to me to be the real person who have subscribed the foregoing Deed and acknowledged the same to be his free and voluntary act for the purpose therein contained all of which I do hereby certify under my hand and seal this 12th day of August 1843
James M. Jones

State of Illinois
Gallatin County

I Leonard White Clerk of the County Commissioners Court in and for said County certify that James W. Jones whose signature appears to the above Certificate is and was at the time of signing the same an acting Justice of the Peace duly commissioned and qualified and that due faith and credit is due all his official acts as such

Given under my hand and Seal of Office at Equality this 14th day of August AD 1843
Leod White Clk.

Mortgage From Lewis A. Collier to Nancy Collier
Cotton Hill Township Farm-August 2, 1847

This Indenture, made and entered into this second day of August in the year of our Lord, Eighteen hundred and forty seven between Lewis A. Collier ___ of the County of Sangamon and State of Illinois, of the first part, and Nancy Collier of the County of Sangamon and State of Illinois, of the second part, WITNESSETH, that the said party of the first part, for and in consideration of the sum of Two Hundred Dollars and Cents, in hand paid, the receipt where of is hereby acknowledged, do hereby grant, bargain and sell, convey and confirm unto the said party of the second part, here heirs and assigns, forever, all and singular, the following described Real Estate, situated, lying and being in said County of Sangamon and State of Illinois and designated as follows— The south west quarter of the south east quarter of Section thirty five in township 14 north, of Range five containing forty acres for which tract the _____________ to William J. Epea situated a& lying in the County of Sangamon & State of Illinois

Together with all and singular the appurtenances thereunto belonging, or in anywise appertaining: TO HAVE AND TO HOLD the above described premises unto the said party of the second part here heirs and assigns, forever. And the said party of the first part warrants the aforesaid premises unto the said party of the second part her heirs and assigns, against the lawful claim or claims of all personas and will warrant and forever defend by these presents

Bill of Foreclosure

Nancy Collier vs. Virgil Hickox, Admin & unknown heirs of Lewis A. Collier Decd.
Cotton Hill Township Farm-March 1851

State of Illinois Of the March Term AD 1851
Sangamon County of the Circuit Court for Said County

Nancy Collier, Complainant
vs.
Virgil Hickox, Admin
& unknown heirs of
Lewis A. Collier Decd, Defts.

To the Honorable Judge of the Sangamon Circuit Court in Chancery sitting—Hereby complaining would shew unto your honor oratrix Nancy Collier that on the second day of August AD 1847 Lewis A. Collier now deceased by a note or writing obligatory acknowledged himself indebted to your complaint in the just & full sum of Two hundred dollars which said sum remains due and unpaid to secure which amount said Lewis A. Collier executed to your oratrix a Mortgage whereby the south west quarter of the south east quarter of section thirty five in Township 14 North of Range five West of the 3rd P.M. was conveyed to your complainant – Copies of said note & mortgage are herewith filed & made part of this bill said note was drawn payable the first day of August AD
1849 with six per centum interest which said note or any part or parcel thereof has not yet been paid and said Mortgage has thereby become forfeited & the law day has passed

Your oratrix would further represent unto your Honor that since the death of Lewis A. Collier which occurred during the year AD 1849 letters of Administration have been granted to Virgil Hickox who is made ___________ know if said Lewis A. Collier has heirs your complainant believes they are non residents of the State of Illinois In consideration of the premises your complainant prays for a decree of foreclosure of said Mortgage & that the regular subpoena in Chancery issue & for whatever is just & right your complainant will ever pray

Nancy Collier
By Robbins & Taylor, Solicitors

**Report of Sale by Master in Chancery: Bill of Foreclosure**

*Nancy Collier vs. Virgil Hickox, Admin & unknown heirs of Lewis A. Collier Decd.*

**Cotton Hill Township Farm—February 1, 1851**

Nancy Collier vs. Virgil Hickox et al

State of Illinois
Sangamon County

I Antrim Campbell Master in Chancery in aforesaid County hereby certify that by virtue of a decree rendered in the above entitled cause at the November Term of the Sangamon Circuit __ 1850 The debt, interest & costs due upon said decree not having been paid in 20 days from the date of said decree as required by the same: he offered for sale on Saturday the 1st day of February AD 1850 between 9 O’clock AM & 4 o’clock P.M. of that day at public auction to the highest bidder for cash at the door of the Court House in the City of Springfield the real estate in said decree described having first given 20 days public notice of the time & place of sale by posting up written notice thereof at four public places in Sangamon County and said complainant Nancy Collier bid at said sale for said premises Towit, the South West Quarter of the South East Quarter of Section Thirty five, 35, in Township Fourteen, 14, North of Range Five, 5, west of the 3rd principal meridian containing forty acres in Sangamon County, Illinois the sum of $274 Dollars which being the highest & best bid made therefor said premises were struck off to her

Now if said premises be not redeemed within fifteen months from the said day of sale according to Law then the said Nancy Collier will be entitled to a deed for the same.

Given under my hand & seal this 1st day of February 1851
Antrim Campbell
Master in Chay. S.C., Ills.

**Report of Conveyance by Master in Chancery: Bill of Foreclosure**

*Nancy Collier vs. Virgil Hickox, Admin & unknown heirs of Lewis A. Collier Decd.*

**Cotton Hill Township Farm—February 19, 1855**

Nancy Collier Vs. Virgil Hickox et al

To the Hon. The Judge of the
Sangamon Circuit Court
In Chancery sitting

The undersigned reports to the Court that in pursuance of the decree rendered in the above entitled cause at the November Term 1850 of the said Court he proceeded to sell the Real Estate in said decree described on Saturday the 1st day of February 1851 between 9 o’clock am & 4 o’clock P.M.
of that day at public auction to the highest bidder for cash ion had at the door of the Court House in
the City of Springfield (the debt interest & costs due on said decree not having been paid) having
previous to said sale given 20 days public notice of the time and place thereof by posting up written
notices thereof at four public places in Sangamon County and said complainant bid at said sale in
full satisfaction of here debt interest &* costs the sum of $274 for said premises Towit, the South
West Quarter of the South East Quarter of Section thirty five, 35, in Township Fourteen ,14, North
of Range Five ,5, West ;of the 3rd principal meridian containing 40 acres in Sangamon County Ill.
Which being the highest bid made therefor said premises were struck off to her a copy of the said
notice of sale is filed herewith marked A, The undersigned further reports that on the said 1st day
of February 1851 he executed to said purchaser a certificate of purchase a copy of which is filed
herewith marked B and on the 19th day of February 1855 (said Land not having been redeemed) he
executed to said purchaser a deed for the said Land  Masters fees are paid

Respectfully submitted

Nancy Collier

Conveys Cotton Hill Township Farm to Jacob J. Weber

February 19, 1855

This Indenture made this 19th day of February 1855 Between Nancy Collier of the County of
Sangamon and State of Illinois of the first part and Jacob J. Webber of the County of Fulton and
State aforesaid of the Second part

Witnesseth, That the party of the first part for and in consideration of the sum of Two Thousand
Seven hundred and fifty dollars in hand paid the receipt whereof is hereby acknowledged does
hereby grant bargain sell and convey and confirm unto the sd party of the second part his heirs and
assigns forever all and singular the following described real estate situate lying and being in the
County of Sangamon and State of Illinois and known and designated as follows. Viz: Twenty acres
taken from the West Side of the North East Quarter of Section (30 Thirty Township (14) Fourteen
North Range 4 four West ;of the 3rd Principal :Meridian Beginning at the Quarter Section corner
on the East a point from which a White Oak eighteen bears North 7 00 West ten links thence South
d82) West 22 50/100 chains to a post from which a Hickory bears North 82 0 East 10 links thence
South 7 ¾ West 20 chains to a Hickory corner thence North 82 ) East 22 50/100 chains to a stone
from which a Hickory bears South 60 West 9 links and an Elm 6 North 65 East 20 links thence
North 7 ¾ 20 chains to the beginning also the East half of the West half of the South East Quarter
of Section (35) thirty five Township and Range as above 80 acres also the South West Quarter of
the North East Quarter (35) thirty five Township (14) North rang 5 five West of the 3rd principal
meridian containing in all 220 acres according to Government Survey together with all and
singular the appurtenances thereunto belonging or in anywise appertaining To have and to hold the
above described premises unto the party of the Second part his heirs and assigns forever and the sd
party of the first part the aforesaid premises unto the sd party of the Second part his heirs and
assigns against the lawful claims or claims of all and every person whomsoever does and will
warrant and forever defend by these presents In testimony whereof the sad party of the first part
has hereunto subscribed her name and affixes her seal the day and year first above written

Signed and sealed &
Witness

Nancy Collier
X
Her mark

James W. Matheny
Petition for Deed

*Jacob J. Weber vs. Nancy Collier and unknown heirs of Lewis A. Collier deceased*
*Cotton Hill Township Farm-April 1859*

State of Illinois
Sangamon County

Of the April Term of the Sangamon
County Circuit Court AD 1859

To the Honorable the Judge of the Sangamon County Circuit Court in Chancery sitting

Your Orator Jacob Weber humbly complaining sheweth unto your honor that on the twenty first
day of September in the year of our Lord One thousand Eight Hundred and thirty five a patent to
forty acres of land was issued by the United State of America unto one Mathew Crowder the said
land lying and being in the district of land subject to sale at Springfield Illinois and known and
designated as the North West quarter of the South East quarter of Section No. Thirty five in
Township No fifteen North of Range five west of the third principal Meridian lying and being in
the County of Sangamon and State of Illinois which said patent your Orator herewith files and
marks exhibit A and makes it a part of this his Bill

And your Orator would further show unto your honor and so expressly charges that on the first day
of August in the year of our Lord One thousand Eight Hundred and forty three the said Matthew
Crowder the Patentee of said land and Jane M. Crowder his wife made executed an delivered to one
Lewis A. Collier a good and sufficient warranty To wit North West quarter of the South East
quarter of Section No. Thirty five in Township No fifteen North of Range five west of the third
principal Meridian which said deed was duly signed by the said Matthew Crowder and Jane M.
Crowder his wife and acknowledged and recorded according to law which will more fully appear to
your honor from the legally certified copy of said deed which your Orator herewith files as part of
this his Bill and marks exhibit B

And your Orator would further show unto your honor and so expressly charges that the said Lewis
A. Collier on the twelfth day of August in the year of our Lord One thousand Eight Hundred and
three made executed and delivered unto one Nancy Collier a good and sufficient warrantee deed for certain land lying adjacent to the land heretofore described and in___ at the same time and
by the said deed to convey unto the said Nancy Collier the said tract of land hereinafter described to
wit the North west quarter of the South East quarter of Section thirty five Township fourteen
North of Range five west of the third principal meridian. And your Orator would further show unto
your honor that the said Lewis A. Collier misdescribed the said tract of land and described in the
deed unto the said Nancy Collier a tract of land which had never up to that time belonged to min
nor has not come into his possession or ownership since the date of said deed the land he described
being a distinct and different parcel of land from the tract which your Orator alleges that he the said
Lewis A. Collier intended to deed unto the said Nancy Collier and described in said deed as the
South West quarter of the North East quarter of Section No thirty five Township No. fourteen
North of Range five west of the third principal meridian

And your Orator would further show unto your honor that the said Lewis A. Collier in pursuance of
his intention aforesaid delivered possession of the said premises hereinbefore described to wit the
North west quarter of the south East quarter of Section thirty five in Township Fourteen North of
Range five west of the third principal meridian immediately upon the execution of said deed in
which said land is ___ described unto the said Nancy Collier and that the said Nancy Collier during
the lifetime of the said Lewis A. Collier for a long time to wit for the space of ______ years held
possession of said land by and with the consent and desire of the said Lewis A. Collier in pursuance
of the said Lewis A. Colliers intention in said deed and that during all that time the said Nancy
Colliers has been paying taxes on said land and exercising exclusive acts of ownership over and to
said tract of land
To wit the North west quarter of the south east quarter of Section thirty five in Township No.
fourteen

And your Orator would further show unto your honor that he herewith files a legally certified copy
of said deed and that said deed was duly signed by the said Lewis A. Collier and acknowledged and
recorded in the recorders office for the County of Sangamon and State of Illinois and that he herewith makes the said certified copy of the said deed a part of this his Bill and marked Exhibit C.

And your Orator would further show unto your honor that on or about the ___ day of ______ in the year of our Lord One thousand Eight Hundred and ___ _ the said Lewis A. Collier departed this life and that the said Nancy Collier since the death of the said Lewis A. Collier up to the nineteenth day of October in the year of our Lord One thousand Eight Hundred and fifty five paid taxes on the said land and held possession of and exercised exclusive acts of ownership over and to the said tract of land at which time the said Nancy Collier made executed and delivered unto your Orator a warrantee deed for said tract of land and delivered possession of said tract of land unto your said Orator and __________--signed by the said Nancy Collier and acknowledged and recorded in the recorders office for the County of Sangamon and State of Illinois. And your Orator would further show unto your honor that he herewith files a properly certified copy of said deed and makes it a part of this his Bill and marks it Exhibit D.

And your Orator would further shew unto your honor that the Heirs of Lewis A. Collier are unknown to your said Orator.
APPENDIX F: Estate of Samuel S. Ball, Deceased

Amanda Ball’s Release of Rights to Administer Estate of Samuel S. Ball-September 18, 1852

Springfield Ills September 18, 1852

I Amanda Ball wife of Samuel Ball now deceased do hereby release all my right to administer the Estate of Saml. Ball aforesaid and waive all the right of myself to administer upon the Estate of said S. S. Ball and said waiver to operate in favor Robt. J. Robinson, Andrew W. Jackson as I desire them to administer upon the same

Given under my hand and seal this 17th day of September A. D. 1852.
Attest- Amanda Ball Edmund Fry test (Seal)

Order on Petition to Sell Real Estate to Satisfy Debts

Robinson et al Vs. Ball et al.

This day came the Petitioners by their solicitor and the said cause coming on to be heard and it satisfactorily appearing to the court that due ____ has been made in the Sangamon Journal, a weekly paper published in the City of Springfield, Sangamon County and State of Illinois by ___ form therein for weeks the first of which was made six weeks before the f____ day of the present term of the Court. To all concerned in Estate and the herein Amanda Ball, Johanan Ball, Milner Ball, William H. Ball, Edmund Ball & Elizabeth Ball came not but made default and it appearing that the aforesaid ______ are minors except and the court appointing Jas. N. Matheny Guardian ad Litem for said infants and answering the said Petition says he knows nothing of the truth allegations of said Petition and requiring full and strict proof. And the court hearing the ____ and ____ of said Petition and being fully satisfied of the truth and ____ of the same it is therefore ordered and ____ by the Court that said Petitioners Robinson & Jackson ____ of the Estate of Saml Ball decd sell the lands described in said Petition to wit. Lot 4, B. 16. Lots 5, 6 & 7 in __ Block 23 in ____ addition to the Town now City of Springfield and ½ acre of land to be taken out. N.W. Corner of SW ¼ Sec. 27 7-16 Lot No. 7 Block 16 in Masons Addition to said City & Lots 12 & 13 in Block 3 ______ all in Sangamon County and Lot Number 2 in Block 16 Masons Addition to City of Springfield State of Illinois to satisfy $1008 34/100 debts of the estate Saml Ball or so much of said land as will pay such sum ___ and

And it is further ordered and decreed by the Court said admin execute and deliver a deed or deeds to the purchaser or purchasers of said land and that said adms report then ____ to the court. And that they pay the costs of this proceeding in course of administration.

Personal Property Allowed Under Law to Amanda Ball as Widow-October 8, 1852

A Bill of Appraisement of the Specific Property Allowed by Law to ____ Ball Widow of Samuel S. Ball Deceased

Necessary Bed Bedsteads & bedding for herself & family 60.00
One Spinning Wheel 5.00
One Loom & appendages 20.00
One pair of
One Stove & the necessary pipe therfor
One Milch Cow & Calf for every four in family 31.00
One Horse of the value of $40 40.00
One Womans Saddale & bridle of the value of $15 15.00
Provisions for herself & family for one year 200.00

We the ____ appraisers of the persal property of Samuel S. Ball Deceased as h____ certify the above to be a correct Bill of Appraisement of the Specific Property allowed by Law to the Widow made as according to the best of our skill & ____.
APPENDIX F

Given under or hands and seal this 8th day of October A. D. 1852

T. S. Little
B. __ Watson

Claims

Kibbe & Lathrop

Mr. S. S. Ball
January 1, 1845

Bought of Kibbe & Lathrop
Satinet trimming etc. $6.67
Interest 2.60
$9.27

S. S. Ball

J. A. Hough

On July 25, 1851, Samuel S. Ball purchased a bureau for $13.00, a bookcase for $10.00, a lounge for $6.00 and a mattress for $2.50 from J. A. Hough, whose furniture and carpet store was located on Fifth Street, between Adams and Monroe. On October 6, 1851, Samuel S. Ball purchased six pine back chairs for $15.00, a bedstead for $4.00 and a towel roller for 30 cents from J. A. Hough.

Estate of S. S. Ball

1851 To J. A. Hough
July 25 __ Bureau 13.00
Book Case 10.00
Lounge 6.00
Mattress 2.50 31.50
Oct. 6 6 Pine Back Chairs 2.50 15.00
1 Bedstead 4.00
Towel Roller .30 19.30

1852
April 16 Glass plate .80 51.60

Cr.
Jay 1 By Cash 15.00
March 11 " " 5.00
July 2 " " 15.00
Bal. 35.00

Springfield
Oct. 16, 1852

Thomas S. Little

On October 12, 1851, Samuel S. Ball purchased a coat, vest and pants from Thomas S. Little for $9.25, paying $5.00 cash and charging the rest. Little had a clothing store at 2 South Side of the Public Square.

On November 21, 1851, Samuel S. Ball purchased pants for John from Thomas S. Little for $2.50.

Hawley & Loose

On January 31, 1852, Samuel S. Ball purchased a pair of boots for $2.50 from Hawley & Loose, a dry goods store located on the Public Square. The purchase was for Ball’s son. On February 6, 1852, Samuel S. Ball purchased a boys cap for $1.00.
N. W. Edwards & Co.

On February 14, 1852, Samuel S. Ball purchased a pair of calf boots for $3.50 and a pair of socks for 15 cents from J. T. Smith at N. W. Edwards & Co., a dry goods store located at 14 West Side of the Public Square.  

William Jayne

On March 16, 1852, Samuel S. Ball borrowed $25.00 from William Jayne.

S. B. Haggard & Co., Chicago, Illinois

On April 16, 1852, Samuel S. Ball signed a promissory note in the amount of $16.00 made payable to S. B. Haggard & Co. The note was payable on October 15, 1852 and bore interest at an unstated amount.

J. A. Hough

On April 16, 1852, Samuel S. Ball purchased a glass plate from J. A. Hough for 80 cents.

John A. Mason

On April 28, 1852, Samuel S. Ball had a chair refinished and repainted by John A. Mason and was charged $1.75. Mason’s furniture shop was located on the corner of Jefferson and Sixth Streets.

S. S. Ball

To J. A. Mason Dr.
April 28, 1852 to repainting & painting chair $1.75

N. W. Edwards & Co.

On May 5, 1852, Samuel S. Ball purchased 25 yards of rag carpet from N. W. Edwards & Co. for $8.75.

George L. Huntington

On May 6, 1852, Samuel S. Ball purchased 30 feet of flooring and 8 _____ from George L. Huntington for $1.06.

D. E. Ruckel

Springfield Dec. 21st 1852
Estate of S. S. Ball

To D. E. Ruckel Dr.
May 15th to 1 Trundle Bedstead $3.00

E. G. Johns

On May 22, 1852, Samuel S. Ball purchased 7 ____ paints from E. G. Johns for $1.60. E. G. Johns & Co, were painters located on Market, between Forth and Fifth Streets.

On June 7, 1852, Samuel S. Ball purchased 4 ____ paints from E. G. Johns for $.80.

S. Francis & Co.

Due S. Francis & Co. on demand Six dollars and sixty seven cents
This 26th day of May 1852.

S. S. Ball
Samuel S. Ball Purchases Boots and Shoes from _____

June 12, 1852
Mr. S. S. Ball  To M. __hler  Dr.
Repairing shoes .40
June 30  1 pair of boots  5.00
July 16  1 pair of shoes  2.50
$7.90

Thomas L. Little:
Samuel S. Ball Charges Thomas S. Little for Shaving

Aug. the 10th  /52  Springfield
Thos. L. Little  Dr.
To S. S. Ball  ded.
For shaving up to date  $5.62 1/2

William Jayne

Sept. the 16th  /52  Springfield
Doc. Wm. Jayne  Dr.
To S. S. Ball  ded.
For shaving ___ months at 75cts per month
$6.37 1/2
To four baths  1.00
7.37 1/2

G. & William Jayne: Samuel S. Ball Charged for Family Medical Services by Dr. William Jayne

Samuel Ball (deceased)
1852  To G & W. Jayne  Dr.
To Medical attention to self & family from
January 1852 to August 15th 1852  seventeen dollars & a half ($17.50)

Samuel Ball (deceased)
To G & W. Jayne  Dr.
To Medical attention in last illness from
27th August to 16th of September
twenty four dollars & a half ($24.50)

Hawley & Loose

Ball & Baylor
in a/c Hawley & Loose

January 31  To  Bal. Pr bill Rendered of Old a/c  6.86
“    1 pr boots 2.50 pr Ball’s son  2.50
Febry 6  1 Boys Cap 1.00 “ “ “ “  1.00
1852
April 12  By Cash  3.00
May 18  “ ditto  2.00
$5.36

LINCOLN'S SPRINGFIELD
THE EARLY AFRICAN AMERICAN POPULATION
OF SPRINGFIELD, ILLINOIS
(1818-1861)

APPENDIX F
Petition to Sell Real Estate-August 12, 1853

Filed August 12, 1853
To the Honorable the Judge of the County Court
To September Term A. D. 1853

Your Petitioners Robert J. Robertson & Adnrew W. Jackson administrators of the Estate of Samuel S. Ball deceased would most respectfully represent unto your Honor that they have duly and legally letters of Admn. Of said Estate from the Probate’s office in and for Sangamon County where said Ball lived and died and a copy of which said letters of admn. Is herewith and marked (a) and (b) to be taken as part of this bill --- that said Ball died on or about Sept. 16th A. D. 1852 intestate. Your Petitioners would further show that said Ball departed this life in debt and that claims have now been proved against said Estate to the amount of ______ Dollars and ____cents. And your Petitions would further show that all the personal Estate has been duly and legally sold and is wholly exhausted leaving a deficit __ Claims __ and against said Estate of $____. Your Petitioners would show that Samuel S. Ball deceased died seized of the following

Lot Four (4) in Block Sixteen (B 16)
Lots Five (5), Six (6) and seven (7) in ___

(B23) all in ___ addition to the Town now City of Springfield and one half acre of alnd to vbe taken out of the north west corner of S. W. quarter of Section twenty seven (27) Township sixteen (16) North Range five west of 3d reference being had to a ___ from ____Fogg & Williams upon the recorders office in Sangamon County & fractional Lot NO. seven (7) in Block Sixteen in Masons addition to the Town now City of Springfield and ___ Lots No. twelve & thirteen (12 & 13) in Block in Taylors & Darlings addition to the Town now City of Springfield and Lot No. (2) in Block Sixteen (16) in Masons addition

Your Petitioners therefore pray for a decree of this Honorable court for a sale of the aforesaid lands or so much thereof as will be sufficient to pay off and wholly discharge the aforesaid claims and demands and __ proved against the Estate aforesaid and that the said ___ be by these Petitions in pursuance of law due notice having been given of the ___ application in pursuance of law

Your

___ in and to said lands and who is now living, and the following heirs and children to wit Jonathan Ball, Milner S. Ball, William H. Ball, Edmound F. Ball, Elizabeth Balll and _____ who are all minors. Your Petitioners therefore pray that said Amanda Ball wife of said Saml. S. Ball and his children to wit Jonathan, Milner, Willima, Edmond Elizabeth and ____ be made defendants to the Petition and that a subpoena issue for them and that they be required to answer this Petition and that a guardian ad litem be appointed for said infants defendants. And as in duty bound you Petitioner will ___

R. J.
Pet.
A. W. Jackson

Answer of Guardian ad Litem

Robinson et al
vs.
Amanda Ball et.

James H. Matheny Guardian ad Litem for infant defendants Jonathan Ball, Milner Ball. Wm. H. Ball, Edmund Ball, Elizabeth Ball, says he knows nothing of said Petition or the truth of the same and requires full & ____ proof.

J. H. Matheny
Guardian ad Litem
Statement of the Settlement of Samuel S. Ball Deceas. Made December 18th 1854

By Bill of Appraisal of Property_________ $231.85

To the Widow $615.50 By Sale of Real Estate 110.00 $341.85

“ N. W. Matheny 18.65 20.00

“ S. Francis____________ 2.00

____ $656.15
APPENDIX G: Indentures

Shelby, A Boy Of Colour, To Thomas Houghan-1832

See “Shelby, A Boy Of Colour, Indenture To Thomas Houghan” at 1832.

Hepsey, A Mulatto Girl, To Ninian W. Edwards-1835

Hepsey a mulatto girl
Apprentice to
Ninian W. Edwards

This Indenture of apprenticeship made this 29th day of October 1835

Witnesseth that Hepsey a mulatto girl aged eleven years as supposed on the 28th day of October 1835 having no parent or guardian in this state of her own free will and agreement and by and with the approbation of the Judge of Probate for Sangamon county hath put placed and bound —and bound herself apprentice to Ninian W. Edwards—of Sangamon county in the State of Illinois to learn the art and mystery of domestic housewifery ------ and with him the said Ninian W. Edwards to dwell continue and serve from the date hereof until the said Hepsey shall attain the full age of eighteen years during all which time the said apprentice her said master well and faithfully shall serve his lawful secrets and commands shall keep and obey Hurt to her said master or his she shall not do nor suffer it to be done by others if in her power to prevent the goods of her said master she shall not embezzle waste or lend without her masters consent from the service of her said master she shall not absent herself without leave Taverne alehouses tipling shops or houses of ill fame she shall not frequent Matrimony she shall not contract but in all things she shall well and faithfully demean herself towards her said master and all his as becomes an obedient faithful apprentice during all her term of service aforesaid.

And the said Ninian W. Edwards—on his part agrees that he will during all the term of service of his said apprentice find and allow unto her good holesome and sufficient meat drink washing lodging and apparel suitable and proper for such an apprentice and needful medical attention in case of sickness and will cause her to be instructed in the best way and most approved manner of domestic housewifery and will cause her to be taught to read write and the ground rule of arithmetic (stricken through) and at the expiration of her term of service will give unto her a new bible and two new suits of clothes suitable land proper for summer and winter wear

Witness our hands and seals the day and year first above written

Her
Hepsey X
mark

Ninian W. Edwards

State of Illinois )
) s.s.
Sangamon county )

These are to certify that I James Adams Judge of Probate for Sangamon county having examined Hepsey the within named mulatto girl touching her consent & agreement to be bound an apprentice by the within indenture, and do find that it is her voluntary agreement and consent and I being satisfied that the said Ninian W. Edwards is a good moral man I therefore approve of the same

Witness my hand and private seal (no public seal having yet been provided) this 29th day of October 1835. Adams, Judge of Probate for Sangn Cty.
Elizabeth, A Girl Of Colour, To John Todd-1836

Elizabeth (Todd) a girl of colour
Apprentice to John Todd

This Indenture of apprenticeship made this 18th day of April 1836

Witnesseth that Elizabeth a girl of colour aged eight years on the 25th day of October 1835 having no father by her own agreement free will and consent and by and with the approbation and consent of her Mother Phoebe hereon endorsed hath given and bound herself apprentice to John Todd of Sangamon county in the State of Illinois to learn the art and mystery of domestic housewifery and with him the said John Todd to dwell continue and serve from the date hereof until the said Elizabeth shall attain the full age of eighteen years during all which time the said apprentice her said master well and faithfully shall serve his lawful secrets and commands shall keep and obey Hurt to her said master or his she shall not do nor suffer it to be done by others if in her power to prevent the goods of her said master she shall not embezzle waste or lend without her masters consent from the service of her said master she shall not absent herself without leave Taverns alehouses tipling shops or houses of ill fame she shall not frequent Matrimony she shall not contract but in all things she shall well and faithfully demean herself towards her said master and all his as becomes an obedient faithful apprentice during all the term of service aforesaid.

And the said John Todd—on his part agrees that he will during all the term of service of his said apprentice find and allow unto her good holumes and sufficient meat drink washing lodging and apparel suitable and proper for such an apprentice and needful medical attention in case of sickness and will cause her to be instructed in the best way and most approved manner of domestic housewifery and will cause her to be taught to read and at the expiration of her term of service will give unto her a new bible and two new suits of clothes suitable and proper for summer and winter wear

Her
Elizabeth X
Mark
Witness
_______, Judge of Probate

John Todd

I do hereby consent and agree that my daughter Elizabeth age eight years on the 25 day of Oct., 1835 be bound an apprentice by the foregoing indenture

Witness my hand and seal this 18th day of April 1836

Her
X (Phoebe)
Mark

James M. Shelby, A Boy Of Colour, To Henry B. Truett-1837

This Indenture of apprenticeship made this 2nd day of May 1837

Witnesseth that James M. Shelby aged 10 years on the 14th day of January 1837 of his own consent and agreement and by and with the approbation of his father Mack Shelby hereon endorsed hath put placed and bound himself apprentice to Henry B. Truett of Sangamon county in the State of Illinois to learn the art and mystery of common domestic labour and with him the said Henry B. Truett to dwell continue and serve from the date hereof until the 14th January 1846 during all which time the said apprentice his said master well and faithfully shall serve his lawful secrets and commands shall keep and obey Hurt to his said master or his he shall not do nor suffer it to be done by others if in his power to prevent the goods of his said master he shall not embezzle waste or lend without his masters consent from the service of his said master he shall not absent herself without leave Taverns alehouses tipling shops or houses of ill fame he shall not frequent Matrimony he shall not contract But in all things shall well and faithfully demean himself towards his said master and all his as becomes an obedient faithful apprentice during all his term of service aforesaid.

And the said Henry B. Truett—on his part agrees that he will during all the term of service of his said apprentice find and allow unto him good hosomes and sufficient meat drink washing lodging and apparel suitable and proper for such an apprentice and needful medical attention in case of sickness and will cause him to be instructed in the best way and most approved manner of common domestic labor and will also
APPENDIX G

cause him to be taught to read and at the expiration of his term of service will give unto him a new Bible and 
two new suits of clothes suitable and proper for summer and winter wear and will moreover give unto him 
eighty acres of land or in lieu thereof one hundred dollars in cash.

Witness our hands and seals the day and year first above written

     His
     James M. Shelby X
     Mark
     Henry B. Truett

I hereby consent and agree that my son James M. Shelby aged 10 years on the 14th day of January 1837 bind 
himself apprentice by the foregoing indenture to Henry B. Truett to serve until the 14th day of January 1846 
Witness my hand & seal this 2nd day of May 1837

     His
     Mack X Shelby
     Mark

Rhoda Jane, A Girl Of Colour, To Charles Dresser-1838

Rhoda Jane a girl of colour
Apprentice to Charles Dresser

This Indenture of apprenticeship made this 26th day of May 1838

Witnesseth that Rhoda a girl of colour aged 15 years on the 25th day of August 1837 having no parent or 
guardian within this state of her own consent and agreement and by and with the approbation of the Probate 
Justice of the Peace in and the county of Sangamon herein endorsed hath put placed and bound herself 
apprentice to Charles Dresser—of Sangamon county in the State of Illinois to learn the art and mystery of 
domestic labour ------ and with him the said Charles Dresser to dwell continue and serve from the date hereof 
until the said Rhoda shall attain the full age of eighteen years during all which time the said apprentice her 
said master well and faithfully shall serve his lawful secrets and commands shall keep and obey Hurt to her 
said master or his she shall not do nor suffer it to be done by others if in her power to prevent the goods of 
said master she shall not embezzle waste or lend without her masters consent from the service of her said 
said master she shall not absent herself without leave Taverne alehouses tipling shops or houses of ill fame she 
shall not frequent Matrimony she shall not contract But in all things — shall well and faithfully demean 
herself towards her said master and all his as becomes an obedient faithful apprentice during all her term of 
service aforesaid.

And the said Charles Dresser—on his part agrees that he will during all the term of service of his said 
apprentice find and allow unto her good holesome and sufficient meat drink washing lodging and apparel 
suitable and proper for such an apprentice and needful medical attention in case of sickness and will cause 
her to be instructed in the best way and most approved manner of common domestic housework and will 
cause her to be taught to read write and the ground rule of arithmetic (stricken through) and at the expiration 
of her term of service will give unto her a new bible and two new suits of clothes suitable and proper for 
summer and winter wear

Witness our hands and seals the day and year first above written

     Her
     Rhoda Jane X
     mark
     Charles Dresser

I approve the above binding J. Adams, P.J. P. S. C.
Julia Ann, A Woman Of Colour, To Daniel Cutright-1838

Springfield, September 4th, 1838
Court met pursuant to adjournment. Present as yesterday.

Daniel Cutright presented to the Court the two following indentures and requested that they should be spread upon the Record.

This indenture made and entered into this 31st day of August 1838 between Daniel Cutright of the County of Sangamon and State of Illinois of the one part and Julia Ann a woman of Color, Witnesseth. That whereas heretofore Daniel Cutright brought the said Julia Ann who was then a slave the property of Said Cutright to the State of Illinois and has since resided with said Ann in the said State of Illinois by reason whereof the said Julia Ann claims a right to her freedom. Now for the settlement of all controversy, it is agreed that the said Julia Ann shall serve the said Daniel Cutright for the term of two years as follows: She is to live with the said Cutright from now until the 25th day of December next and after that time until the expiration of two years from this date the said Cutright is to hire out said Ann at some good place where She may select provided he can at such place get fair wages for her and he to be entitled to her hire for that time. And at the expiration of said term of two years the said Daniel Cutright is bound to give her up and suffer her for the remainder of her life to go be and remain free and unmolested and the said Cutright binds himself not to remove said Julia Ann from Sangamon County.

Attest
Given under our hands and seals this 31st day of August 1838
S. T. Logan Daniel Cutright

her
Julia Ann mark

Tuesday Sept. 4, 1838
State of Illinois)
Sangamon County)

Before me the undersigned Clerk of the Sangamon County Commissioners Court personally came Daniel Cutright and Julia Ann a woman of Color who are known to me to be the real persons who and in whose name the foregoing instrument of writing was executed and acknowledged their signatures thereto to be their free and voluntary act and deed for the purpose therein expressed.

Given under my hand and seal of office this 1st Sept. 1838
C. R. Matheny Clk.991

Major, A Man Of Colour, To Daniel Cutright-1838

This Indenture made and entered into this 31st day of August 1838 between Daniel Cutright of the County of Sangamon and Major a man of color Witnesseth. That whereas the said Daniel Cutright heretofore brought the said Major who was then a slave the property of said Cutright in the said State of Illinois by reason whereof the said Major claims a right to his freedom. Now for the settlement of all controversy it is agreed that the said Major shall serve the said Daniel Cutright faithfully for the term of two years as follows, he is to live with said Cutright from now until the 25th day of December next and after that time until the expiration of two years from this date the Said Cutright is to hire out said Major at some good place if he chooses within the limits of Sangamon County and is to receive the hire for the time above specified and at the expiration of the said term of two years the said Daniel Cutright is bound to give him up and suffer him for the remainder of his life to go be and remain free and unmolested and the said Cutright binds himself not to remove said Major out of the limits of Sangamon County.

Given under our hands and seals this day and date above written
Daniel Cutright
John Shelby, A Boy Of Colour, To Virgil Hickox-1840

Virgil Hickox
with
John Shelby a boy of colour
Indenture of Apprenticeship

This Indenture of apprenticeship made this 20th day of May 1840

Witnesseth that John Shelby a boy of colour aged 9 years on the 9th day of February 1840 of his own consent and agreement and by and with the approbation of Mack Shelby his father hath put placed and bound himself an apprentice to Virgil Hickox of Sangamon county in the State of Illinois to learn the art and mystery of common domestic labor and with him the said Virgil Hickox to dwell continue and serve from the date hereof until the said John Shelby shall attain the full age of twenty one years during all which time the said apprentice his said master well and faithfully shall serve, His lawful secrets and commands shall keep and obey Hurt to his said master or his he shall not do nor suffer it to be done by others if in her power to prevent The goods of his said master he shall not embezzle waste nor lend except by consent, from the service of her said master he shall not absent himself without leave, Taverns alehouses tipling shops or houses of ill fame he shall not frequent Matrimony he shall not contract But in all things shall well and faithfully demean himself towards his said master and all his as becomes a good and faithful apprentice during all his term of service aforesaid.

And the said Virgil Hickox on his part agrees that he will during all the term of service of his said apprentice find and allow unto him good wholesome and sufficient meat drink washing lodging and apparel suitable and proper for such an apprentice and needful medical attention in case of sickness and will cause him to be instructed in the best way and most approved manner of common domestic labor and will cause him to be taught to read and write (stricken through) and at the expiration of his term of service will give unto him a new Bible and two new suits of clothes suitable and proper for summer and winter wear and will moreover give unto him eight acres of land or in lieu thereof one hundred dollars in cash.

Witness our hands and seals the day and year first above written

His
John Shelby X
Mark

Virgil Hickox

I hereby consent and agree that my son John Shelby age 9 years on the 9th day of February 1840 bind himself apprentice by the foregoing indentures to Virgil Hickox to serve until he attains the full age of twenty one years.

Witness my hand and seal this 20th day of May 1840

His
Frank X Shelby
Mark
The foregoing Indentures of apprenticeship are approved. 
Witness my hand and private seal (no public seal having yet been provided) this 20th day of May 1840. 
Adams, P. I. P. J. 

Josephine, A Girl Of Color, To James F. Owings-1841 

Josephine, a girl of color  
Apprenticeship to  
James F. Owings 

This Indenture made this fifth day of August in the year of Our Lord one thousand eight hundred and forty one between William Lavely Esquire & Thomas Moffett, Esquire two acting Justices of the Peace for the County of Sangamon & State of Illinois & James F. Owings of the county & State aforesaid Witnesseth that the said parties of the first part have placed and bound out, and by virtue of an act of the State Entitled “An Act respecting apprentices,” do hereby place & bind out Josephine — a girl of color aged eight years upon the first day of August Eighteen hundred forty one who by reason of infancy is unable to take care of and support herself— as an apprentice to be taught the household duties of female such as cooking washing & etc. & to live with & serve him as an apprentice for the term of ten years from the first day of August last past, that is to say until she the said Josephine shall have arrived at the age of eighteen years which the said parties of the first part and informed & believe will be on the first day of August in the year One thousand Eight hundred & fifty one. 

And the said parties of the first part do by these presents, give unto the said party of the second part all the authority power and right, to and over the said Josephine and her service during the said term, which by the laws of this State a master hath to and over an apprentice and the said party of the second part, in consideration thereof promises covenants & agrees to & with the said parties of the first part, and each of them their and each of their successors for the time being, and with the said Josephine each separately & respectively that he will teach the said Josephine or cause her to be taught & instructed in the performance of household labor after the best way & manner that he can and the she shall be taught & instructed to read & write and also that he will train her to habits of obedience, in d___ & morality, & will clothe her suitably in summer & winter & provide & give to her sufficient of food, and that at the Expiration of the term of service he will give unto the said Josephine a new Bible, & two new suits of clothes suitable to her condition 

Thomas Moffett 

Lavely 

Signed sealed & acknowledged in the presence of James E. Owings 
Bunn 

Isaac Smith, A Boy Of Colour, To John R. Herndon-1841 

Isaac Smith a boy of colour  
Apprentice to  
John R. Herndon 

This Indenture of apprenticeship made this 12th day of November 1841 

Witnesseth that Isaac Smith a boy of colour aged 18 years on the 6th day of June A.D. 1841 having no parent or Guardian within this state & of his own free will & accord and by and with the approbation of the Probate Justice of the Peace for Sangamon county herein endorsed hath put placed and bound himself an apprentice to John R. Herndon of Sangamon county in the State of Illinois to learn the art and mystery of Farming and with him the said John R. Herndon to dwell continue and serve from the date hereof until the said Isaac Smith shall attain the full age of twenty one years during all which time the said apprentice his said master well and faithfully shall serve, His lawful secrets & commands shall keep & obey Hurt to his said master or his he shall not do nor suffer it to be done by others if in his power to prevent, the goods of his said master he shall not embezzle waste or lend without his said masters consent, from the service of his said master he shall not absent himself without leave, Taverns alehouses tipling shops gaming houses of ill fame he shall not frequent
Matrimony he shall not contract But in all things shall well and faithfully demean himself towards his said master & all his as becomes an obedient faithful apprentice during all his term of service aforesaid.

And the said John R. Herndon on his part agrees that he will during all the term of service of his said apprentice find and allow unto good wholesome & sufficient meat, drink, washing lodging & apparel suitable & proper for such an apprentice, & needful medical attention in case of sickness & will cause him to be instructed in the best way & most approved manner of Farming and will cause him to be taught to read and write (stricken through) and at the expiration of his term of service will give unto him a new Bible and two new suits of clothes suitable & proper for summer and winter wear

Witness our hands and seals the day and year first above written

His
Isaac X Smith
Mark
Herndon

I James Adams Probate Justice of the Peace in and for Sangamon county have examined Isaac Smith a boy of colour touching his agreement & consent to be bound by the foregoing indenture & find that it is his voluntary agreement & consent.
I therefore approve of the same.
Witness my hand & private seal this 12th day of November 1841. J. Adams, P.J.P. S.C.

James, A Boy Of Color, To William Hickman-1843

James, a boy of color-
Monor
Indentures to
William Hickman

This Indenture made this 13th day of Nov. in the year of Our Lord one thousand Eight hundred and forty three between E. G. Buck and John Dawson two acting Justices of the Peace in and for the County of Sangamon and State of Illinois of the first part and Wm. Hickman of the county and State aforesaid of the second part, Witnesseth that the said parties of the first part have placed and bound out, and by virtue of an act of the State entitled an act respecting apprentices, do hereby place and bind out James, a Negro Boy Aged sixteen years the 26th day of last February As an Apprentice to the said party of the second part to be taught the art of farming which the said party of the second part now uses, to live with and serve him as an apprentice for the term of near four years and six months or until the 26th day of February 1848 at which time the said apprentice will be twenty one years of age which the said parties of the first part are informed and believe,

And the parties of the first part do, by these presents give unto the said part of the second part, all the Authority, power and right, to and over the said James and his service during the said term, which by the laws of this State, a master hath to and over a lawfully indentured apprentice. And the said party of the second part, in consideration thereof doth promise, covenant and agree to and with the said parties of the first part, and each of them, and each of their successors for the time being, and with the said James each by himself respectively to teach & instruct the said James As his apprentice or otherwise cause him to be well and sufficiently instructed and taught in the art of farming after the best way & manner that he can And to teach & instruct the said apprentice within the said term to read, and also to train him to habits of obedience, industry & morality, and provide for and allow him meat drink washing lodging and apparel for summer and winter And all other necessaries proper for such an apprentice during the term of his service as aforesaid, and at the expiration of said term, will give unto the said apprentice a new Bible and two new suits of clothes suitable to his condition. In Testimony whereof the said parties have hereunto set their hands and seals the day and year first above written.

In the presents of us
Buck
John Dawson
Wm. Hickman
Thomas Moffett
Appendix G

Lavely
Signed sealed & acknowledged in the presence of James E. Owings
Bunn

Elizabeth Jones, A Girl Of Colour, To Robert Irwin-1845

Elizabeth Jones a girl of colour
Apprentice to
Robert Irwin

This Indenture of Apprenticeship made this 17th day of February 1845
Witnesseth that Elizabeth Jones a girl of colour aged 17 years on the 25th day of August 1845 having no father Mother or Guardian in this State of her own agreement free will and consent and by and with the Approbation and consent of the Probate Justice of Sangamon County in the State of Illinois Hath put placed & bound and by these presents doth put place and bind herself Apprentice to Robert Irwin of said County to learn the art and mystery of Domestic housewifery and with him the said Robert Irwin to dwell continue and serve from the date hereof until the said Elizabeth shall attain the full age of Eighteen years during all which time the said apprentice her said master well & faithfully shall serve his lawful secrets and commands Shall keep & obey Hurt to her said master or his she shall not do nor suffer it to be done by others if in her power to prevent. The goods of her said Master she shall not embezzle waste or lend without her masters consent from the service of her said Master She shall not absent herself without leave. Taverns alehouses tippling shops or houses of ill fame she shall not frequent Matrimony she shall not contract But in all things she shall well and faithfully demean herself towards her said Master and all his as becomes an obedient faithful apprentice during all her term of service aforesaid.

And the said Robert Irwin-on his part agrees that he will during all the term of service of his said Apprentice find and allow unto her good wholesome and sufficient meat drink washing lodging and apparel suitable & proper for such an apprentice & needful medical attention in case of sickness or bodily affliction and will cause her to be instructed in the best way and most approved manner of domestic housewifery and will cause her to be taught to read and at the end of her term of service will give unto her a new bible and two new suits of clothes suited to her condition.

In Testimony whereof the Parties have hereunto set their hands & seals this day & year first above written
Her
Elizabeth X Jones
mark
Robert Irwin

Witnesseth

Know all men by these Presents that I Ellen Moore do hereby relinquish all claim which I may or might have to the services of Elizabeth Jones a girl of colour as an apprentice by virtue of her apprenticeship to me forever. And do freely consent that she be bound apprentice to Robert Irwin of the City of Springfield County of Sangamon & State of Illinois

Witnesseth my hand & seal this 17th day of February AD 1845
Ellen Moore

Witnesseth Thomas Moffett

State of Illinois )
) S.S.
Sangamon County )

I Thomas Moffett Probate Justice hereby certify that on this 17th day of February AD 1845 Elizabeth Jones a girl of colour came before me and of her own will signed the foregoing Indenture of Apprenticeship which were explained & Read to her and that I do fully approve of said Binding and officially Sanction the Same. Witnesseth my hand & private Seal (there being as yet no Public Seal) provided my private seal is here substituted) this day first above written.
Thomas Moffett Pro. J. P. SC
APPENDIX H

Sylvania White's Certificate of Freedom-1826

Know all men by these presents that I William Archer of Sangamon County do hereby assign and release to Scyrus White (alias Scy a man of colour) a Black girl named Sylvania now about twenty years of age which I hold by virtue of a claim of entry or Register under the laws of the late Territory of Illinois and it is expressly understood that I do hereby relinquish all claim to the said girl Sylvania fully and absolutely in every respect whatsoever for value received as witness my hand and seal the seventeenth day of July 1826.

William Archer
his X mark

Edward Voluntine's Certificate of Freedom-1826

State of Illinois, Sangamon County August 3, 1826. I Stephen Stillman do hereby certify that Edward Voluntine, a coulard boy was delivered to me by Doct. Joseph B. Stillman in Shawneetown, Galetin county, with orders to keep ____ boy until he the said Joseph B. Stillman should call for him—Since that time which was (I believe) sometime in March 1820 and is now twenty one years of age and of course free according to the laws of the State. The said Joseph B. Stillman having never called for him—To the best of my knowledge the said boy was twenty one years of age on the sixteenth day of July one thousand Eight hundred and twenty six—

Given under my hand & seal this third day of August 1826
Stephen Stillman
Recorded March 6th 1827

Phoebe, Isaac, Daniel and Judah Rountree Fleurville: Certificate of Freedom-August 1826

In the Matter of the application
of Feba Fleurville (formerly Feba Rountree), Application for
Isaac Rountree, Daniel Rountree & Certificate of Freedom
Judah Rountree,

And now at this day came Feba Fleurville (formerly Feba Rountree) Isaac, Daniel & Judah Rountree, and application having been made to the Court. It is ordered, that the original certificate of freedom of said Feba, Isaac, Daniel & Judah be entered upon the records of this Court by the Clerk thereof and that he endorse a certificate on said original certificate stating the time the same was entered, and the name and description of the person producing the same and that the following evidence of their freedom be entered upon the records of this Court, and a copy thereof be granted to each of them when applied for the same. To wit: Barren County Kentucky This day I have sold Lucy to herself for twenty years work done by her to be free and eight of her children Free them and all their future increase from this day until the end of the world to wit Feba, Betsy, Isaac, Nancy, Daniel, Judah, Thomas and Sophia I do relinquish all my right and title to the above nine slaves to themselves from me my heirs and all other persons forever as witness my hand and seal this 13 day of August 1826

Henry Rountree

Witness to my hand
Bird Strange
___ Handy
___ Forbes
State of Illinois  
Sangamon County

This affiant Edmund Taylor, first being duly sworn deposes and saith that he is acquainted with Feba Fleurville formerly Feba, Rountree, Isaac, Daniel & Judah Rountree, that he is informed and believes that the witnesses to instrument of writing herewith attached and of which the above is a true copy, reside without the jurisdiction of the Court in the State of Kentucky. That he is acquainted with Henry Rountree who executed said instrument hereunto attached and believes the writing and signature to be his handwriting from having seen him write, that he came to this State in or about the year 1829. When he rented a farm from said deponent. That he then brought with him said Feba, Isaac, Daniel & Judah, ever since which year 1829 said Feba, Isaac, Daniel & Judah have resided in this State, and have been regarded and recognized by said Henry Rountree who executed above described instrument as absolutely free, and said deponent further saith that said Feba, now the wife of William Fleurville & residing in Springfield Illinois is of a copper color about thirty two years of age, hair straight about five feet one inch and a half high, with a mole on the right side of her nose just under the eye, and said deponent further saith that said Judah Rountree also residing in Springfield, Ills is also of a copper color, about twenty two years of age, straight hair, about five feet one inch high. And said deponent further saith that said Isaac Rountree residing also at Springfield, Ills is also of a copper color, about twenty nine years of age, straight hair, rather heavy set about five feet ten inches high & high check bones, and somewhat stooped when walking.

And said deponent further saith that said Isaac Rountree residing also at Springfield, Ills is also of a copper color about twenty nine years of age, straight hair, rather heavy set about five feet ten inches high & high check bones, and somewhat stooped when walking.

Edmund Taylor

Subscribed before me this 30th day of March 1843  
J. Calhoun, Clerk of Sangamon Circuit Court, Ill. 
J. Calhoun Clerk.

Macklin Shelby’s Certificate of Freedom-1830

Tuesday, March 4, 1834

Macklin Shelby a colored man presented the following certificate of Freedom which is ordered to spread on the record.

State of Illinois )  
) Circuit Court Nov. Term A. D. 1830  
Jo Davis County )

I James W. Stephenson clerk of the Circuit Court in and for the County of Jo Davis and State aforesaid do hereby certify attest and make known that at the November Term of our said Circuit Court A. D. 1830 Macklin Shelby (a man of colour) brought suit against Messers. Gratist, Prattle and Gratiot in an action of assault and battery and false imprisonment at which said term of said Court the said Macklin obtained a Judgment against the said Gratist, Prattle and Gratiot for costs and the said judgment operates and confers to the said Macklin his Freedom and by the Laws and Constitution of the State of Illinois.

I do further certify that the said Macklin by virtue of said Judgment is entitled to all the privileges of a free man of colour.

In testimony whereof I have hereunto set my hand and affixed the seal of said court at Galena this 25th day of April A. D. 1831. 
Attest James W. Stephenson clerk
Frank Shelby’s Certificate of Freedom-1830

Frank Shelby a colored man presented the following certificate of Freedom which is ordered to spread on the Records.

State of Illinois  )
Jo Davis County  )
Circuit Court Nov. Term A. D. 1830

I James W. Stephenson clerk of the Circuit Court in and for the County of Jo Davis and State aforesaid do hereby certify attest and make known that at the November Term of our said Circuit Court A. D. 1830 Frank (Shelby) a man of colour brought suit against Henry Gratist, Bernard Prattle, and J. B. Gratiot in an action of assault and battery and false imprisonment in which said Court and at said term the said Frank obtained a judgment against said Gratist, Prattle and Gratiot for costs and said judgment operates and confers to the said Frank his freedom, and by the State Laws and Constitution of Illinois he the said Frank is entitled to all the privileges of a free man of colour.

In testimony whereof I have hereunto set my hand and affixed the seal of said court at Galena this 25th day of April A. D. 1831.
Attest James W. Stephenson clerk

Major, A Man Of Colour, To Daniel Cutright-1838

Indenture and Freedom Agreement
Tues. Sept. 4, 1838

This Indenture made and entered into this 31st day of August 1838 between Daniel Cutright of the County of Sangamon and Major a man of color Witnesseth. That whereas the said Daniel Cutright heretofore brought the said Major who was then a slave the property of said Cutright in the said State of Illinois by reason whereof the said Major claims a right to his freedom. Now for the settlement of all controversy it is agreed that the said Major shall serve the said Daniel Cutright faithfully for the term of two years as follows, he is to live with said Cutright from now until the 25th day of December next and after that time until the expiration of two years from this date the Said Cutright is to hire out said Major at some good place if he chooses within the limits of Sangamon County and is to receive the hire for the time above specified and at the expiration of the said term of two years the said Daniel Cutright is bound to give him up and suffer him for the remainder of his life to go, be and remain free and unmolested and the said Cutright binds himself not to remove said Major out of the limits of Sangamon County.

Given under our hands and seals this day and date above written
Daniel Cutright

his
Major X
mark

State of Illinois
Sangamon County

Before me, the Undersigned, Clerk of the Sangamon County Commissioners Court personally came Daniel Cutright and Major a man of color who are known to me to be the real persons who and in whose name there foregoing instrument of writing was executed and acknowledged their signatures thereto to be their free and voluntary act and deed for the purpose therein expressed.

Given under my hands and seal this 1st Sept. 1838
C. R. Matheny Ck
Nancy Collier: Freedom Papers-1843

Lewis A. Collier
To—Free papers to
Nancy a Mulatto Woman & others

State of Louisiana City of New Orleans
Be it known that this day before me Achille Chiapella a Notary Public in and for the City and Parish of New Orleans duly Commissioned and sworn—

Personally came and appeared Lewis A. Collier residing in the Paris of Concordia in this State who produced and exhibited unto me a certain document purporting to be an act or Deed of Emancipation of Slaves executed under private signature the thirteenth August eighteen hundred and forty one at St. Clair County, State of Illinois and required of me to make record of the same in my Current Register, and in Compliance with said Request I have Transcribed said Document the same being in the words and figures following viz—

State of Illinois
St. Clair County

Know all Men by these presents that I Lewis A. Collier of Concordia Parish in the State of Louisiana for a good and valuable consideration do hereby manumit, emancipate and set at liberty one Mulatto woman called Nancy aged about thirty five years and Mother of the hereinafter mentioned Liza and Henry—Also a one Mulatto man called Albert aged about thirty years the Husband of Liza and the father of Caroline and Francis hereinafter mentioned—Also a mulatto girl called Liza aged about Twenty three years—Also the Two mulatto children of Liza called Caroline aged about four years and Francis aged about three years.—Also one Mulatto man called Henry aged about Twenty two years. Henry, Nancy and Liza being the same purchased by me from William H. Goodin and Henry N. Templeman of Richmond City Virginia and also were raised by a Mr. Goodin of Fredericksburgh in Virginia. Albert was Purchased by me from John P. Burton of Henerico County Virginia and he was raised in said City of Richmond by Dr. Trent.

Witness my hand and seal this thirteenth day of August in the year 1841.
All of which Slaves are now in the County & State aforesaid of Illinois.

Signed Sealed & Delivered
In presence of
Henry W. Moore   (Signed) Lewis A. Collier

“And having so Transcribed said document in this my Current Register I have annexed the same to these presents to remain for recourse, said—document having been first duly parphed by the said appearer the undersigned Witness and me Notary – And the said Lewis A. Collier declared and acknowledged that this Deed of Emancipation was signed by him in the State of Illinois St. Clair County on the thirteenth August 1841 and that the Slaves therein named were at that date of Emancipation in said State of Illinois that said Deed was Executed in presence of the subscribing witness Henry W. Moore, that the foregoing emancipated slaves are now on his plantation on Lake St. John, in the said Parish of Concordia, State of Louisiana, as free persons, and are entitled to all Civil privileges as such with faculty to emigrate to any of the free States without Molestation at any time they may think fit so to do—Done and passed at New Orleans this Seventh February eighteen hundred and forty three in presence of Herman Lucas and Carlile Pollock Junior Witnesses who have signed their names with said appearer and me Notary

H. Lucas   C. Pollock Jr   (Signed) Lewis A. Collier

I Certify the foregoing to be a true copy of the original act on Record in my office   New Orleans this 8th February 1843.
NOTARY SEAL

State of Illinois
Gallatin County
I, Leonard White, Clerk of the Circuit Court for said County, do certify that I have Recorded within Deed of emancipation together with the certificate and attestation fully in my office in Book C, pages 50 & 51 kept for the purpose of Recording the evidence of Freedom of Persons of Color.

In testimony whereof I have hereunto set my hand and the seal of said Court at Equality this 11th day of August A. D. 1843.

Leod. White

John Bundy, a Colored Man, Former Slave of William David Jarret

Springfield, Ills 2 Aug 1843

John Bundy of _____ Lick Cr. Coloured Man states in (pension(?)--of I. B. Loose) while plowing corn & stop to rest one very hot day in Bundy's field his former Master who had moved from Virginia living in the same neighborhood and having hired to said Bundy to plow corn h____ down his head said Jack how times have changed round once you belonged to me now I belong to you---said D. Jarett Jack had bought himself and given $600--previously to his Master Wm. David Jarret.

Jameieson Jenkins' Freedom Papers
APPENDIX I: THE 1840 CENSUS

By 1840, there were 3,598 free African Americans and 331 slaves in Illinois. The population of Springfield was 2,579,\(^{1006}\) 6 of whom were “Slaves” (4 males and 2 females) and 109 were free colored (58 males and 51 females), or about 4.4% of the total population. This is an increase of 9 slaves and 10 free colored from the 1830 Census. The 1840 Census was the last Census identifying some African Americans as “Slaves.”\(^{1007}\)

Four Springfield residents were listed as having “Slaves”.

- James Bell 1 female age 10-24.
- J. T. Betts 2 males age 10 to 24.

“Free Colored” Residing With White Families

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>White Head of Household</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Richard F. Barrett, Dr.:</td>
<td>1 Free Colored male age 10 to 24 and 1 Free Colored female age 10 to 24.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>William Butler:</td>
<td>1 Free Colored male under the age of 10.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>John Calhoun:</td>
<td>1 Free Colored female, age 10 to 24.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>J. A. Cornean:</td>
<td>1 Free Colored male, age 10 to 24.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Levi Davis:</td>
<td>1 Free Colored male under the age of 10.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Benjamin Ferguson:</td>
<td>1 Free Colored female, age 10 to 24.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dorothea Grant:</td>
<td>1 Free Colored female, age 10-24.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>William P. Grimsley:</td>
<td>2 Free Colored: one age 10 to 24 and the other age 36 to 56.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Virgil Hickox:</td>
<td>1 Free Colored male, under 10 years of age. This would have been 9 year-old John Shelby, who was born on February 9, 1831.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>E. M. Hinkle:</td>
<td>1 Free Colored male, age 10 to 24.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thomas Houghan:</td>
<td>1 Free Colored male, age 10 to 24.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lawson Levering:</td>
<td>1 Free Colored male, age 10 to 24.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>William Lowry:</td>
<td>2 Free Colored females, one under age 10 and the other age 24 to 36.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>William Prentice:</td>
<td>3 Free Colored males age 10 to 24.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>James Frazier Reed:</td>
<td>2 Free Colored females age under 10.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nicholas H. Ridgely:</td>
<td>1 Free Colored female age 24 to 36.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Edmund Roberts:</td>
<td>1 Free Colored male under age 10.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>S. M. Sill:</td>
<td>1 Free Colored female age 10 to 24.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>David Spear:</td>
<td>1 Free Colored male under age 10.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Samuel H. Treat:</td>
<td>1 Free Colored male, age 10 to 24.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Free African Americans With Independent Residence

Thomas Cox, a African American man,
  4 Free Colored males: 2 under 10; 1 age 10 to 24 and 1 age 24 to 36.
  4 Free Colored females: 1 age 10 to 24, 1 age 24 to 36 and 1 age 36 to 55.
Ephraim Henson, a African American man,
  4 Free Colored males: 2 under 10, 1 age 10 to 24 and 1 age 24 to 36 (Ephraim).
  3 Free Colored females: 1 under 10, 1 10 to 24 and 1 age 24 to 36.
John Jackson, a African American man,
  6 Free Colored males: 2 age 10 to 24 and 4 age 24 to 36.
  2 Free Colored females: 1 age 10 to 24 and 1 age 56 to 100.
Titus Kirkpatrick, a African American man,
  3 Free Colored males: 1 under 10, 1 age 24 to 36 and 1 age 36 to 55 (Titus).
  2 Free Colored females: 1 under 10 and 1 age 24 to 36.
Henry Mann, a African American man,
  5 Free Colored males: 3 under 10, 1 age 10 to 24 and 1 age 55 to 100 (Henry).
  1 Free Colored female age 10 to 24.
Uriah Maxwell, a African American man,
  1 Free Colored male age 10 to 24, Uriah, a 23 year-old mulatto who had been born in Illinois.
  3 Free Colored females: 1 age under 10 and 2 age 10 to 24, one of whom would have been Lucy, then age 22 and listed in the 1850 Census as a mulatto who had been born in Kentucky.
Luke Mayberry, a African American man,
  1 Free Colored male age 55 to 100 (Luke).
  3 Free Colored females: 1 age 10 to 24 and 2 age 55 to 100.
Jesse Price, a African American man,
  3 Free Colored males: 1 under 10, Charles; 1 age 10 to 24; and 1 age 56 to 100, Jessie.
  2 Free Colored females: one age 10 to 24 and 1 age 36 to 56.
Mary Shelby, a African American woman,
  6 Free Colored males: 2 under 10, 2 age 10 to 24, 1 age 36 to 55 and 1 age 36 to 55.
  3 Free Colored females: 2 age 10 to 24 and 1 age 24 to 36.
Meshac Stewart, a African American man,
  1 Free Colored male age 24 to 36 (Meshac).
  3 Free Colored females: 1 under 10 and 2 age 10 to 24 and 1 age 10 to 24.
Allen Stewart, a African American man,
  2 Free Colored males: 1 under 10 and one age 36 to 55 (Allen).
  1 Free Colored female age 24 to 36.
Daniel West, a African American man,
  1 Free Colored male age 36 to 55.
  2 Free Colored females: 1 under 10 and 1 age 36 to 55.
APPENDIX J: THE 1850 CENSUS

Allen, Eliza  
1850 Census, p. 171 (13)(f)(Ky.).  
Resides with Nicholas A. Garland.

Baker, William  
laborer.  
1850 Census, p. 171 (28)(m)(Ky.).  
Resides with Henry W. Baylor.

Ball, Samuel  
barber  
1850 Census, p. 170 (40)(m)(Va.).  
Resides with Henry W. Baylor.

Bannister, Patterson  
1850 Census, p. 179 (30)(m)(M)(Va.).

Bartlet, Phoebe  
1850 Census, p. 171 (70)(f)?  
Resides with Henry W. Baylor.  
Is this Maria Vance’s mother?

Baylor, Henry W.  
barber  
1850 Census, p. 171 (28)(m)(Ky.).  
$375

Bird, Caroline  
1850 Census, p. 174 (b)(Ill.)(6).  
In 1850 living with the William Butler family.

Blanks, James  
laborer  
1850 Census, p. 194 (38)(m)(M)(Va.).

Bullard, Lewis  
cook  
1850 Census, p. 167 (50)(m)(Va.).  
Resides with Henry Baylor.

Butler, William  
laborer  
1850 Census, p. 176 (35)(m)(Ky.).  
$200.

Channers (Chaverous), Mahlon  
1850 Census, p. 171 (20)(m)(Ill.).  
Resides with Henry Baylor.

Clark, Major  
laborer  
1850 Census, p. 179 (30)(m)(Ky.).

Clark, Major  
laborer  
1850 Census, p. 177 (48)(m)(Ky.).  
Resides with William F. Grimsley.

Cox, Thomas  
barber  
1850 Census, p. 157 (46)(m)(Tn.).  
$800.

Crenshaw, Thomas  
1850 Census, p. 170 (39)(m)(Tn.).

Daniel, Elsay  
Resides with Anderson Harris.

Dickson, Mary  
1850 Census, p. 176 (15)(f)(M)(Ill.).  
Resides with Robert Jackson.

Donnegan, Narcissa  
Resides with H. S. Dodge.
APPENDIX J

Donnegan, S. barber
1850 Census, p. 185 (30)(m)(Ky.).
$200.

Donnegan, Wiley laborer
1850 Census, p. 184 (30)(m)(Ky.).
$200.

Dyer, Aaron Blacksmith
1850 Census, p. 184 (31)(m)(Va.).

Fowler, Cornelia
1850 Census, p. 176 (23)(f)(?)

Gray, Nancy

Guy, Anna

Harris, Anderson laborer
1850 Census, p. 179 (32)(m)(M)(N.C.)

Howard, Susan
1850 Census, p. 167 (18)(f)(Ky.).

Insole, Ephraim laborer
1850 Census, p. 179 (30)(M)(Ky.).

Jackson, John Cook
1850 Census, p. 193 (45)(m)(Va.).

Jackson, Robert laborer

Jenkins, Jimison drayman
1850 Census, p. 194 (40)(m)(M)(N.C.)
$300.

Jenkins, Bellfield
1850 Census, p. 194 (14)(m)(M)(Ind.)

Jones, Harriett

King, David barber
1850 Census, p. 197 (22)(m)(M)(Va.).

Lewis, Charles
1850 Census, p. 167 (6)(m)(M)(Ill.).

Mason, Lydiam
1850 Census, p. 194 (13)(f)(M)(Ind.)

Maxwell, Uriah barber
1850 Census, p. 176 (33)(m)(M)(Ill.)

Millington, Michael carpenter.
1850 Census, p. 156 (35)(m)(M)(Ill.).

Planter’s Hotel, northeast corner of 7th and Adams.

Resides with James Blanks.

Resides with Uriah Maxwell.

Resides with James Blanks.

Resides with James Blanks.

Resides with James Blanks.
Mills, Harriett
Resides with Richard Smith.

Morris, Rose
1850 Census, p. 177 (65)(f)(Va.).
Resides with William P. Grimsley.

Morrison, John F.
1850 Census, p. 176 (1)(m)(M)(Va.).
Resides with John Thompson.

Morrison, William
1850 Census, p. 200 (25)(m)(Ill.)
Servant. Resides with John W. Gray, 36 and born in New York, a baker.

Musick, Violet
1850 Census, p. 162 (65)(f)(Va.).

Pelham, Jane
Resides with James Blanks.

Powell, Catharine
Resides with William Butler family.

Price, Charles
1850 Census, p. 177 (20)(m)(M)(Ill.).
Resides with Charles R. Harst.

Price, Martha Ann
1850 Census, p. 169 (9)(f)(M)(Ill.).
Residing with Mack Shelby.

Robinson, Jesse Eliza (29)(f)(Ill.).
1850 Census, p. 169 (27)(m)(Ill.).
Laborer. Residing with Mack Shelby.

Rountree, Daniel Frances (19)(f)(M)(Va.).
Farmer.

Rountree, Sophia
Resides with Joel Knox.

Shelby, Albert
1850 Census, p. 169 (15)(m)(M)(Ill.).
Residing with Mack Shelby.

Shelby, John
1850 Census, p. 169 (16)(m)(M)(Ill.).
Residing with Mack Shelby.

Shelby, Mack Mary (50)(f)(M)(Md.).
550

Smith, Richard Sarah (27)(f)(Ky.).
1850 Census, p. 170 (30)(m)(Al.).
Barber.

Stewart, Cordelia John (8)(m)(M)(Ill.).
Resides with Robert Jackson.

Stewart, Dalton Malissa A. (24)(f)(Ill.).
1850 Census, p. 172 (25)(m)(Tn.).
Barber. Resides with Henry W. Baylor.

Stewart, John Turner P. (4)(m)(Ill.).
1850 Census, p. 172 (25)(m)(Tn.).
Laborer. Resides with William A. (1)(m)(Ill.).

Taylor, Dinah
1850 Census, p. 193 (80)(f)(Va.).
Resides with John Jackson.

Tinson, Samuel
Servant. Resides with John W. Gray, 36 and born in New York, a baker.
APPENDIX J

Todd, Phoebe
1850 Census, p. 167 (40)(f)(M)(Va.),
Planter’s Hotel, northeast corner of 7th and Adams.

Vance, Henry
Maria (28)(f)(Ill.).
William (8)(m)(Ill.).
Ellen (7)(f)(Ill.).
Catharine (6)(f)(Ill.).
Phoebe (4)(f)(Ill.).
Ellen (7)(f)(Ill.).

$75

Waldin, Bartlit
laborer.
Resides with Aaron Dyer.

Watkins, Jane
Quilly Ann (12)(f)(M)(Ind.).
Resides with Jimison Jenkins.

Woods, Rebecca
1850 Census, p. 186 (40)(f)(M)(Md.)
Resides with Nicholas H. Ridgely at the southwest corner of Monroe and 4th.

White, Cyrus
laborer.
1850 Census, p. 171 (50)(m)(Va.).

White, Irene
1850 Census, p. 195 (16)(f)(Ill.).
Resides with Peter Van Bergan.

Williams, Benjamin
laborer
1850 Census, p. 179 (26)(m)(Ind.).
Rosella (30)(f)(M)(Ill.).
Mary L. (7)(f)(M)(Ill.).
William F. (5)(M)(M)(Ill.).
Julia E. (3)(f)(M)(Ill.).
The City of Springfield’s population in 1855 was 5,106.\textsuperscript{108}

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Gender</th>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Page</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Bell John</td>
<td></td>
<td>1855</td>
<td>p. 104</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>3 females</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>1881</td>
<td>History, pp. 112, 268, 275, 305 and 411.</td>
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<td>Bringman, Henry</td>
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<td>1855</td>
<td>p. 113</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<td>1 female</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Brown, J. N. (James N.)</td>
<td></td>
<td>1855</td>
<td>p. 135</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>1 female</td>
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<tr>
<td>Brummitt, Thomas</td>
<td></td>
<td>1855</td>
<td>p. 106</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>5 females</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>*Butler, William (African American)</td>
<td></td>
<td>1855</td>
<td>p. 104</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>1 female</td>
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<tr>
<td>Conner, Ed.</td>
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<td>1855</td>
<td>p. 118</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>1 male</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>1 female</td>
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<td>1881</td>
<td>History, pp. 168, 226, 227, 656.</td>
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<td>Cradock, John</td>
<td></td>
<td>1855</td>
<td>p. 106</td>
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<td></td>
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<td>6 males</td>
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<td>Cuzic, John</td>
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<td>1855</td>
<td>p. 104</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
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<td>4 males</td>
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<td>1855</td>
<td>p. 112</td>
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<td>Fannestock, B. A.</td>
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<td>1855</td>
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<td>Fletcher, Nicholas</td>
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<td>1855</td>
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<tr>
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<td>1 male</td>
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<td></td>
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<td>2 females</td>
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<tr>
<td>*Fry, Henry (African American)</td>
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<td>1855</td>
<td>p. 143</td>
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<td>History, pp. 738 and 748.</td>
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<td>*Fry, Richard (African American)</td>
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<td>1855</td>
<td>p. 142</td>
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<td>History, pp. 740 and 743.</td>
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<td>Henric, Michel</td>
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<td>1855</td>
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<td>Hewitt, Elizabeth</td>
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<td>1855</td>
<td>p. 101</td>
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<td>Hicks, George B.</td>
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<td>1855</td>
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<td>History, p. 864.</td>
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<td>Hill, Robert</td>
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<td>1855</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>1 male</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>1 female</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>The state’s attorney summoned Isabella Hill, an African American, on a recognizance for keeping the peace. Hill retained Lincoln and Herndon. The court dismissed the case, and Robert Hill, Isabella Hill’s husband, paid the costs.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hill, Robert</td>
<td></td>
<td>1855</td>
<td>p. 112</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
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<td>1 female</td>
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<td>Keys, J. W.</td>
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<td>1855</td>
<td>p. 116</td>
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<td>History, pp. 441, 454, 572, 621, 122, 140, 287, 565, 676, 708, 979, 1025.</td>
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<td>1855</td>
<td>p. 122</td>
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<td></td>
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<td>Latham, Katharine</td>
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<td>1855</td>
<td>p. 124</td>
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<td></td>
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<td>Mchntire, B.</td>
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<td>1855</td>
<td>p. 104</td>
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<td>1881</td>
<td>History, p. 566: Alderman-2nd</td>
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<td>1855</td>
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<td>5 females</td>
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<td>Powell, Thomas</td>
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<td>1855</td>
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<tr>
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</table>

\textsuperscript{108} See 1850 Census.

*Butler, William (African American) 1855, p. 104 1 female See 1850 Census.
## APPENDIX L: THE 1860 CENSUS

**Ayerse, John**  
Bill poster  
1860 Census p. 191 (19)(m)(Ill.)  
Resides with William K. H. Donnegan.

### Baker (Barger), Hiram

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Gender</th>
<th>Age</th>
<th>Race</th>
<th>Occupation</th>
<th>Residence</th>
<th>Family Members</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Julia</td>
<td>f</td>
<td>36</td>
<td>M</td>
<td>Barber</td>
<td>Ema</td>
<td>Lucy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ema</td>
<td>f</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>M</td>
<td>Barber</td>
<td>Lucy</td>
<td>Ella</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lucy</td>
<td>f</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>M</td>
<td>Barber</td>
<td>Ella</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

1860 Census, p. 169 (39)(m)(Ky.).

Northwest corner of Carpenter and 1st.

**Ball, Amanda**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Gender</th>
<th>Age</th>
<th>Race</th>
<th>Occupation</th>
<th>Residence</th>
<th>Family Members</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Edward</td>
<td>m</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>M</td>
<td>Barber</td>
<td>Elizabeth</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Elizabeth</td>
<td>f</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>M</td>
<td>Barber</td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
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</table>

1860 Census, p. 481 (33)(f)(M)(Ill.).

Northwest corner of Carpenter and 1st.

**Bannister (Banester) (Banster), Patterson**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Gender</th>
<th>Age</th>
<th>Race</th>
<th>Occupation</th>
<th>Residence</th>
<th>Family Members</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Biddle</td>
<td>f</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>M</td>
<td>Laborer</td>
<td>Maria</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

1860 Census, p. 206 (35)(m)(Va.)

Northwest corner of Jefferson, between 6th and 7th.

**Baylor (erroneous “Bailey” in the Census), Henry W.**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Gender</th>
<th>Age</th>
<th>Race</th>
<th>Occupation</th>
<th>Residence</th>
<th>Family Members</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Lucinda</td>
<td>f</td>
<td>26</td>
<td>M</td>
<td>Barber</td>
<td>William</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>William H.</td>
<td>m</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>M</td>
<td>Barber</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

1860 Census, p. 453 (37)(Ken.).

West side of Washington, between Klein and Rutledge.

**Bird, Caroline**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Gender</th>
<th>Age</th>
<th>Race</th>
<th>Occupation</th>
<th>Residence</th>
<th>Family Members</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

1860 Census, p. 185 (18)(f)(Ill.).

Resides with Landen Coleman.

**Boyd, Hiram B.**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Gender</th>
<th>Age</th>
<th>Race</th>
<th>Occupation</th>
<th>Residence</th>
<th>Family Members</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

(of Donnegan & Boyd)-barbershop.  
West side of 7th, between Enos and Cancer-1860 C.D.

**Brance, Ann**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Gender</th>
<th>Age</th>
<th>Race</th>
<th>Occupation</th>
<th>Residence</th>
<th>Family Members</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

1860 Census, p. 453 (33)(f)(Va.).

Northside of Washington, between Klein and Rutledge.

**Brooks, Ann E.**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Gender</th>
<th>Age</th>
<th>Race</th>
<th>Occupation</th>
<th>Residence</th>
<th>Family Members</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

Resides with Nancy Collyer at the northwest corner of 12th and Mason.  
1860 Census, p. 139 (4)(f)(Ill.).

**Brown, Henry**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Gender</th>
<th>Age</th>
<th>Race</th>
<th>Occupation</th>
<th>Residence</th>
<th>Family Members</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mary Ann</td>
<td>f</td>
<td>31</td>
<td>F</td>
<td>Methodist Preacher.</td>
<td>W. M.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>W. M.</td>
<td>m</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>M</td>
<td>Methodist Preacher.</td>
<td>Sarah J.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sarah J.</td>
<td>f</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>F</td>
<td>Methodist Preacher.</td>
<td>Luella</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Luella</td>
<td>f</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>F</td>
<td>Methodist Preacher.</td>
<td>Nancy</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>


Northwest corner of 10th and Madison.

**Butcher, Lucy**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Gender</th>
<th>Age</th>
<th>Race</th>
<th>Occupation</th>
<th>Residence</th>
<th>Family Members</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>servant</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>


Resides with Isaac A. Hawley at the northwest corner of Market (Capitol) and 9th.

**Butler, St. W.**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Gender</th>
<th>Age</th>
<th>Race</th>
<th>Occupation</th>
<th>Residence</th>
<th>Family Members</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>barber, s.s. of Washington, between 4th and 5th.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Clay, Rachel**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Gender</th>
<th>Age</th>
<th>Race</th>
<th>Occupation</th>
<th>Residence</th>
<th>Family Members</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sarah</td>
<td>f</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>F</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Adaline</td>
<td>f</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>F</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>


West side of 8th, between Washington and Jefferson.
Coleman & Donnegan
shoemakers, s.s. of Adams, between 6th and 7th.
1860 C.D.-shoe shop-n.s. of Adams, between 7th and Public Square.
h. 53 Jefferson, between 8th and 9th.

Coleman, Landen C.
shoemaker (f. C. & Donnegan).
n.w cor. of 7th and Mason.
1854 Hart Map.
1858 Sides Map.
Wooden: two rectangles.

Coleman, Landen C.
shoemaker (f. C. & Donnegan).  Augustine 10)(m)(Ill.)
n.w cor. of 7th and Mason.
1854 Hart Map.
1858 Sides Map.
Wooden: two rectangles.
S. 1/2 of Lot 8, Block 2, Mitchell’s Addition.

(firm of Coleman & Donnegan) (shoemaker)
1860 Census, p. 185 (Ky.)(30). -0-
Feb. 12, 1858.

Collier, Albert William
whitewasher.
n.s. of Mason, between Klein and Rutledge.
1860 C.D.-same address.
1860 Census, p. 466 (Va.)(44).
1881 History: No.

Collyer, Nancy
washer

Collyer, Nancy
laborer

Northwest corner of 12th and Mason.

Crenshied, William

Daniel, M. M.
barber

Demery, John
laborer.
n.e. cor. of Washington and Rutledge.

Demery, John
laborer.
n.e. cor. of Mason and 13th.

Demery, John
laborer.
n.e. cor. of Mason and 13th.

Donnegan, Presley L.
barber.
n.s. of Washington, between 4th and 5th.
h. e.s. of 4th, between Mason and Reynolds.
1860 C.D.-e.s. of 4th, between Madison and Gemini.
1860 Census, p. 185 (Ky.)(30). $1,000/$300.
### Donnegan, Spencer D.

- **barber.**
- e.s. of 6th, between Monroe and Adams.  
- h. 3rd, between Adams and Scarritt.  
- 1857-58 C.D.  
- $2,000/$300.  

#### Donnegan, William K. H.

- 1857-58 C.D.  
- 1860 Census, p. 191 (Ky.)(28).  
- $900/$100.  

### Donnegan, Cyrus

- shoemaker  
- Resides with Rudolph Huggy on the north side of Adams, between 6th and 7th.  

### Dwyre, John

- laborer  
- 1860 Census, p. 482 (Tenn.).  
- $0/$40.  

### Dyer, Aaron

- drayman  
- Hostler  
- $800/0  
- North side of Washington, between Klein and Rutledge.  

### Elliot, Alex

- carpenter.  
- n.s. of Carpenter, between Klein and Rutledge.  
- 1860 C.D.-n.e. cor. of Adams and Spring.  

### Ellis, Henry

- barber.  
- e.s. of 4th, between Jefferson and Washington.  
- h. s.s. of Miller, between 1st and 2nd.  
- 1860 C.D.-barber shop-n.w. cor. of 4th and Washington (Johnson’s Block).  
- h. w.s. of 2nd, between Jefferson and Madison.  
- 1881 History: 659, 930, 932, 932, 391.  

### Ellis, Maria

- south side of Reynolds, between 11th and 12th.  
- 1860 C.D.-same address.  
- 1860 Census, p. 143 (Va.)(40).  
- $400/$50.
Ensaw, Harriet  
n.s. of Jefferson, between 7th and 8th.  
1857-58 C.D.

Feey, Sarah  
Domestic.  
1860 Census, p. 220 (17)(f)(Ill.)  
Resides with Robert P. Johnson at the northeast corner of 3rd and Madison.

Flourval (Fleurville), Farvas  
barber  
1860 Census, p. 99 (21)(m)(Ill.).  
Resides with Henry Scott at the southeast corner of 10th and Jefferson.

Fleurville (Fleurville), William  
Phoebe (48)(f)(Ky.).  
William (19)(m)(Ill.).  
Varville (22)(m)(Ill.).  
Power, p. 303 (d.o.d. 4/13/1868).
1881 History: 742, 737, 736.

Fountain, John N. H.  
barber, n.s. of Adams, between 4th and 5th.  
h. s.s. of Miller, between 1st and 2nd.

Fry (Fey), Jefferson  
cook at Rippon’s.  
Cook: Chenery House Hotel.  
1860 Census, p. 194 (22)(m)(Ill.).

Gaines, Lavinia  
1860 Census, p. 453 (15)(f)(Ill.).  
Resides with Robert Jackson on the north side of Washington, between Klein and Rutledge.

Gibson, Margaret  
North side of Washington, between Klein and Rutledge.

Goulding, Abram  
Jane (36)(f)(La.).  
laborer  

Griffin, Louise  
1860 Census, p. 138 (17)(f)(Ill.).  
Resides with Henry Brown at the northeast corner of 10th and Madison.

Hams, A.  
Servant at E. Craften’s.  
1860 Census, p. 414 (45)(m)(N.C.)

Hayrons, Eveline  
Resides with Harriet May at the southwest corner of Washington and 13th Streets.

Hayrons, John  
Eveline (1 month)(f)(Ill.).  
1860 Census, p. 226 (20)(m)(Ill.).  
Resides with Rachel Clay on the west side of 8th, between Washington and Jefferson.

Henson (Hanson), John  
s.s. of Reynolds, between 10th and 11th.  
1860 C.D.-s.s.e. cor. of Reynolds and 11th.  
1860 Census, p. 143 (Va.)(50) (Blind).  
0/$300.
Howard, Julia
servant
1860 Census, p. 109 (29)(f)(Ill.).
Resides with William A. Turney at the northwest
corner of Madison and 4th (144 S. 6th, opp. Douglas).

Jackson, John
white washer.
e.s. of 9th, between Edwards and Cook.
1860 and 1863 C.D.’s: .-85 S. 9th, between Edwards and Cook.
1860 Census, p. 112 (Virginia)(50).

Jackson, Robert
laborer.
n.s. of Washington, between Klein and Rutledge. George
1857-58 C.D.

Jenkins (Jarkins), Jameson
colored. (mulatto)
1860 C.D.: same.
1860 Census, p. 122 (50)(N.C.). -0-
e.s. of 8th, between Jackson and Edwards.
and 1860 C.D.’s: same.
1857-58 C.D.
Power, p. 303:
Base Map, pp. 84-86.

Johnson, Agnes
1860 Census, p. 138 (64)(f)(Va.) (She is not listed as a black or mulatto.)
Resides with Henry Brown at the northeast corner of 10th and Madison.

Johnson, Josephine
Resides with Henry W. Bailey on the north side of Washington, between Klein and Rutledge.

Johnson, Phoebe
Resides with Henry Scott at the southeast corner of 10th and Jefferson.

Johnson, Gilbert
1860 Census, p. 99 (3)(m)(M)(Ill.).
Resides with Henry Scott at the southeast corner of 10th and Jefferson.

Johnson, Laura Ann
Resides with Henry Scott at the southeast corner of 10th and Jefferson.

Killion, Thomas
barber.
Resides with Henry Scott at the southeast corner of 10th and Jefferson.
King, David  Mary  (Mu1009.)(Tenn.)(25)
  barber.  Elizabeth A.  (Mu.)(Ill.)(10).
  n.e. cor. of Cook and 9th.
  1857-58 C.D.  James  (Mu.)(Ill.)(9).
  Virginia  (Mu.)(Ill.)(5).
  1860 & 1863 C.D.s: 91 S. 9th,  John  (Mu.)(Ill.)(7 mo.).
  between Edwards and Cook.
  1860 Census, p. 112 (Virginia)(26).
  $2,000/$100.
  1881 History: 967.
  9th and Cook
  Lot 8, Block 13, E. Iles’ Addition.

Knox, Mrs. Leona
  widow.
  53 n.s. of Jefferson, between 8th and 9th.
  1860 Census, p. 191 (60)(f)(Ill.).
  Living in the residence of William K. H. Donnegan.

Lee, Elizabeth
  1860 Census, p. 97 (20)(f)(Ky.).
  Resides with Thomas J. Wright, at the northeast corner of Mason and 13th.

Loomis, James
  white washer.
  n.s. of Madison, between Klein and Rutledge.
  1857-58 C.D.
  1860 C.D.: n.e. cor. of Madison and Rutledge.

Loomis, Flora  Mary  (22)(f)(Va.)
  1860 Census, p. 208 (Va.)(50).
  Susan  (20)(f)(Va.)
  washerwoman.
  William  (25)(m)(Va.)
  e.s. of 5th, bet. Jefferson & Madison.
  laborer.

May, Mrs. Harriet  David  (14)(m)(Alabama)
  widow.
  s.w. cor. of Washington and 13th.
  1860 C.D.: w.s. of 8th, between Washington and Jefferson.

May, W. H.
  s.w. cor. of Washington and 13th.

Myers, Frederick  Maria  (32)(f)(M)(Ky.).
  preacher-African Methodist Church.
  Caroline  (12)(f)(M)(Ky.).
  w.s. of 7th, between Cancer (Miller) and Enos.
  1881 History: 609.

Nash, Dick
  1860 Census, p. 226 (3)(m)(Ill.).
  Resides with Emma Gladden.
Noland, L.
1860 Census, p. 509 (10)(f)(Ill.) residing in the household of Alex Elliot at the northeast corner of Adams and Spring.

Parker, Charles
bill poster and porter.
Wooden rectangle with the broadside facing Mason, which is the width of an alley at this point.
Small wooden rectangle outbuilding at northeast corner of lot.
Lot 1, Block 4, Edwards’ Addition.
n.e. cor. of 4th and Monroe. 1858 Sides Map.
1859 City Directory, p. 96.
1881 History: 933, 420, 393.
Defendant in police court: July 30, 1859-3:1.
Daily State Register, July 30, 1859, p., cl 2:

Parker, Elmira
widow, laundress.
e.s. of 4th, between Mason and Reynolds.
1857-58 C.D.
1860 C.D.: e.s. of 4th, between Madison and Gemini.

Patterson, B.
n.s. of Jefferson, between 6th and 7th.

Pease, P
1860 Census, p. 503 (40)(m)(Va.).
Servant at J. E. Owsley’s residence.

Pelham, Jane
washerwoman
8th, near Edwards (bds. J. Jenkins)

Posey, Dinah

Riden, Maria

Robinson, Robert J.
barber.

Rodgers, Benjamin
barber.
Washington, between 4th and 5th.
1860 C.D.: 69 Cancer, between 9th and 10th.

Runnell, James
laborer.
Sarah (32)(f)(Ky.).
Edward (6)(m)(Ill.).
0/$25.
Ann (1)(f)(Ill.).
South side of Madison between 8th and 9th. Joseph (8 months)(m)(Ill.).
Henrietta (70)(f)(Va.).

Sample, M.

Sappington, David
laborer.
Elijah (35)(m)(Mo.).
1860 Census, p. 184 (31)(m)(Mo.). $150/0

Scott, Henry
shoemaker.
Sinette (25)(f)(M)(Ill.).
Sims, Charlotte
servant
1860 Census, p. 120 (f)(D.C.) Resides with John A. McClernand at the northwest corner of 7th and Edwards (110 S. 7th)

Smallwood (Smallwell), Nathaniel B.
cook. Nathaniel (18)(f)(Md.)
s.w. cor. of Mason and 11th. cook
1860 C.D.: same.

Smith, Elizabeth A.

Smith, Peter
laborer. Martha Watson (19)(f)(Ill.)
s.s. of Cancer, between 8th and 9th. same address.
1860 Census, p. 176 (La.)(f). $800/$100

Smith, Rebecca
1860 Census, p. 120 (18)(f)(Ill.). Resides with Jacob Bunn at the southwest corner of 6th and Jackson.

Stewart, Martha
servant.
1860 Census, p. 226 (f)(Alabama)

Thomas, Polly
1860 Census, p. 454 (60)(f)(Tenn.).
North side of Washington, between Klein and Rutledge.

Thomas, Thomas
steward at Chenery House.
1860 C.D.: same.

Thompson, Rebecca
North side of Washington, between Klein and Rutledge.

Tinson, Samuel
cook at T. Brady’s.

Todd, Phoebe (Phoebe)
domestic
1860 Census, p. 228 (57)(N.J.) (not listed as a black) Resides at a boarding house on the south side of Jefferson, between 5th and 6th.

Todd, Elizabeth

Tyler, Diana
Watkins, Bellfield
Ostler–hostler one who takes care of horses, especially at an inn.
   Resides with John Fortune.  Where?

Watkins, Quintan

Watson, Franklin
barber.
   n.s. of Mason, between Klein and Rutledge.

   Franklin is probably the “slave” of Arthur Watson listed in the 1830 census.  The following is information on Arthur:
Berkley County, Virginia.
(1770-1827)
Arrived in Springfield on April 10, 1825.
Married: 1796. Temperance Robinson  Baltimore, Maryland.  (1774-1837)

Watson, Martha
1860 Census, p. 176 (19)(f)(Ill.).  Resides with Peter Smith on the south side of Cancer (Miller) between 8th and 9th.

Williams, William

Wood, Rebecca
Servant

Wright, Thomas
farm laborer.
   n.e. cor. of Mason and 13th.
1860 C.D.: same address.
1860 Census, 96 (Va.) (40).
$400/$150.
1881 History: 733, 739, 738.
Sarah (35)(f)(VA.)
Frances V. (20)(f)(Mo.).
William H. (17)(m)(Mo.).
Matilda (14)(f)(Mo.).
G. M. (12)(f)(Mo.).
Garthur (6)(f)(Mo.).
Willis T. (1 mo.)(m)(Ill.)
Elizabeth Lee (20)(f)(Ky.).

York, Margaret
Domestic
   Madison between 7th and 8th.  (With Alex Simpson.)
## APPENDIX M: Springfield African Americans 1818-1861
### Alphabetical Listing

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Occupation</th>
<th>Address</th>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Age</th>
<th>State</th>
<th>Relationship</th>
<th>Notes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Allen</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>1850</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Arnold</td>
<td>Luther, Rev. Minister</td>
<td>North side of Jefferson, between 8th and 9th.</td>
<td>1838</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>First pastor of African Baptist Church-1838</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ayerse</td>
<td>Jesse</td>
<td>Resides with William K. H. Donnegan.</td>
<td>1860</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>Kentucky</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ayerse</td>
<td>John</td>
<td>Bill poster</td>
<td>1860</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>Illinois</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bailey</td>
<td>(See Baylor)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Baker</td>
<td>William</td>
<td></td>
<td>1846</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Baker</td>
<td>Ella</td>
<td>99 N. 6th, corner of Reynolds.</td>
<td>1860</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>Illinois</td>
<td>mulatto</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Baker</td>
<td>Ema</td>
<td>99 N. 6th, corner of Reynolds.</td>
<td>1860</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>Missouri</td>
<td>mulatto</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Baker</td>
<td>Hiram</td>
<td>Barber</td>
<td>1860</td>
<td>39</td>
<td>Kentucky</td>
<td>$100 mulatto</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Baker</td>
<td>Julia</td>
<td>99 N. 6th, corner of Reynolds.</td>
<td>1860</td>
<td>36</td>
<td>Virginia</td>
<td>mulatto</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Baker</td>
<td>Lucy</td>
<td>99 N. 6th, corner of Reynolds.</td>
<td>1860</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>Illinois</td>
<td>mulatto</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ball</td>
<td>Amanda</td>
<td>Widow</td>
<td>1845</td>
<td>33</td>
<td>Kentucky</td>
<td>$800 $100</td>
<td>Mulatto, nee Fry</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Northeast corner of 1st and Carpenter.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Married Samuel S. Ball in 1846.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ball</td>
<td>Edward</td>
<td>Northeast corner of 1st and Carpenter.</td>
<td>1845</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>Illinois</td>
<td></td>
<td>Son of Samuel S. and Amanda Ball. Mulatto.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ball</td>
<td>Elizabeth</td>
<td>Northeast corner of 1st and Carpenter.</td>
<td>1845</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>Illinois</td>
<td>mulatto</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ball</td>
<td>Jonathan</td>
<td></td>
<td>1845</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ball</td>
<td>Samuel S.</td>
<td>Barber</td>
<td>1845</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Died in 18__</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ball</td>
<td>Smith</td>
<td></td>
<td>1845</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ball</td>
<td>William H.</td>
<td></td>
<td>1845</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ball</td>
<td>Edward F.</td>
<td></td>
<td>1846</td>
<td>14</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ball</td>
<td>Mary L.</td>
<td></td>
<td>1848</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bannister</td>
<td>Biddie</td>
<td>North side of Jefferson, between 6th and 7th.</td>
<td>1850</td>
<td>30</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
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<td>1850</td>
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<td>1850</td>
<td>35</td>
<td>Virginia</td>
<td>$0 $0</td>
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<tr>
<td>Bartlet</td>
<td>Roba</td>
<td></td>
<td>1822</td>
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<td></td>
<td>1850</td>
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<tr>
<td>Bartlett</td>
<td>Maria</td>
<td></td>
<td>1838</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Married Henry Vance in 1842.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Baylor</td>
<td>Henry W.</td>
<td>Barber shop</td>
<td>1846</td>
<td>37</td>
<td>Kentucky</td>
<td>$800 $300</td>
<td>Buried in Oak Ridge Cemetery, Block 5, Lot 73 on February 20, 1876.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Name</td>
<td>Birth Year</td>
<td>Occupation</td>
<td>Residence</td>
<td>Age</td>
<td>State/Occupation</td>
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<tr>
<td>Baylor</td>
<td>1846</td>
<td></td>
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<td>Mulatto</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
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<td>1880</td>
<td></td>
<td>North side of Washington, between Klein and Rutledge.</td>
<td>1</td>
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<td>Son of Henry W. Mulatto</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bell</td>
<td>1855</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<td>Bird</td>
<td>1850</td>
<td></td>
<td>Resides with Landen Coleman at northwest corner of 7th and Mason.</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>Illinois</td>
<td>Buried in Oak Ridge Cemetery, Block 5, Lot 16 on April 20, 1873.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Blanks</td>
<td>1846</td>
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<td>Bell</td>
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<td></td>
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<td>Bradford</td>
<td>1860</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Brent (Brance)</td>
<td>1860</td>
<td></td>
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<td>33</td>
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<td>$1,200 $150 Also known as “Brance”.</td>
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<td>Breasts</td>
<td>1838</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Brown</td>
<td>1860</td>
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</tr>
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<td>Name</td>
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<td>Living Year</td>
<td>Location</td>
<td>Notes</td>
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<td></td>
<td>1852</td>
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<tr>
<td>Butcher</td>
<td>Lucy</td>
<td>Servant</td>
<td>Northwest corner of 9th and Market.</td>
<td>1860</td>
<td>26 Virginia</td>
<td>Lincoln's neighbor. Servant at Isaac A. Hawley's.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Butler</td>
<td>Anna</td>
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<td></td>
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<td></td>
<td>Organizer of African Baptist Church-1838.</td>
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<td>William H.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<td>Diana</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>1850</td>
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<td>S. W.</td>
<td>Barber</td>
<td></td>
<td>1860</td>
<td></td>
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<td>Callyhan</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>1852</td>
<td></td>
<td>Black meeting in 1852.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Carter</td>
<td>Anderson</td>
<td></td>
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<td>1838</td>
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<td>Isaiah</td>
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<td></td>
<td>1852</td>
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<td>Black meeting in 1852.</td>
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<td>Chaverous</td>
<td>Mahlon</td>
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<td></td>
<td>1850</td>
<td></td>
<td>Married Alseen Fleurville in 1851.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Chaverous</td>
<td>Julia C.</td>
<td></td>
<td>April 28, 1865</td>
<td>8 Illinois</td>
<td></td>
<td>Daughter of Alseen Fleurville and Mahlon Chaverous; married in 1871 to Clark Duncan.</td>
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<td>Rhoda</td>
<td></td>
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<td>1845</td>
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</tr>
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<td>Isabella</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Clark</td>
<td>Major</td>
<td></td>
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<td>1850</td>
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<td>Purchased Lot 7, Block 5 in Oak Ridge Cemetery in April 1865, and was buried there on July 1 or September 15, 1890.</td>
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<tr>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>1860</td>
<td>8 Missouri</td>
<td></td>
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<td>West side of 8th, between Washington and Jefferson.</td>
<td>1860</td>
<td>47 Missouri</td>
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<td>1860</td>
<td>19 Missouri</td>
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<td>Address</td>
<td>Year</td>
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<td>Age</td>
<td>State</td>
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<td>1855</td>
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<td>$0</td>
<td>$0</td>
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<td>1850(55?)</td>
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<td>Collier Albert</td>
<td></td>
<td>North side of Mason, between Klein and Rutledge.</td>
<td>1858</td>
<td>Illinois</td>
<td>4</td>
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<td>1858</td>
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<td>44</td>
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<td>Collier Ann M.</td>
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<td>1860</td>
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<td></td>
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<td>Cox Dice</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
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<td>Crenshaw E</td>
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<td>1860</td>
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</table>
**APPENDIX M**

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<th>Place of Residence</th>
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<tr>
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<td>1850</td>
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<td>1850</td>
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<td>William</td>
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<td>1860 14 Illinois</td>
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<td>Major</td>
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<tr>
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<td>Elsay</td>
<td>1850</td>
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<td>M. M.</td>
<td>1860</td>
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<tr>
<td>Davis</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<td>between Klein and Rutledge.</td>
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<td>1860 Indiana</td>
</tr>
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<td>Mulatto</td>
</tr>
<tr>
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<td>Saddie</td>
<td>1838</td>
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<td></td>
</tr>
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<td>John</td>
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</tr>
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<td>H. S.</td>
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<td>1849</td>
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<td>Narcissus</td>
<td>1855</td>
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<tr>
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<td>Laura</td>
<td>1857</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>Daughter of Spencer and Elizabeth.</td>
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<td>Elizabeth</td>
<td>1843</td>
<td>33 North</td>
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<tr>
<td>Name</td>
<td>Occupation</td>
<td>Location</td>
<td>Year</td>
<td>Age</td>
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<td>39</td>
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<td>1845</td>
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<td>3rd, between Adams and Scarritt.3rd and Scarritt.</td>
<td>1847</td>
<td>13</td>
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<td>Laborer</td>
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<td>Quin E.</td>
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<td>1838</td>
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<td>Maryland</td>
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<td>1860 2</td>
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### APPENDIX M

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### APPENDIX M

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<th>Year</th>
<th>Age</th>
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## APPENDIX M

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<td>1860</td>
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<td>J. E.</td>
<td>Resides with John Henson on the south side of Reynolds, between 10th and 11th.</td>
<td>1860</td>
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<td>Charles”Ch arley R.”</td>
<td>Bill poster Resides with John Henson on the south side of Reynolds, between 10th and 11th.</td>
<td>1860</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Buried in Oak Ridge Cemetery on Lot 31, Block 5, on July 19, 1886.</td>
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<td>Laundress Widow Resides with John Henson on the south side of Reynolds, between 10th and 11th.</td>
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<td>48</td>
<td>Virginia</td>
<td>$600 $100 Buried in Oak Ridge Cemetery on Lot 31, Block 5, on January 22, 1881.</td>
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<td>Watkins</td>
<td>Quilly Ann</td>
<td>1850</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Watkins</td>
<td>Quintan</td>
<td>1850</td>
<td>Resides with Jameson Jenkins on the east side of 8th, between Jackson and Edwards.</td>
<td>Mulatto Lincoln neighbor.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Watkins</td>
<td>Bellfield &quot;Be ll&quot;</td>
<td>1860</td>
<td>Resides with John Fortune.</td>
<td>Mulatto. On November 11, 1867, Bell Watkins purchased Block 5, Lot 16 in Oak Ridge Cemetery. Buried in Oak Ridge Cemetery on the South ½ of Lot 78, Block 5, on October 8, 1891.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Watson</td>
<td>Franklin</td>
<td>1860</td>
<td>North side of Mason, between Klein and Rutledge.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Watson</td>
<td>Martha</td>
<td>1860</td>
<td>Resides with Peter Smith on the South side of Cancer, between 8th and 9th.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>West</td>
<td>Daniel</td>
<td>1840</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>West</td>
<td>Daniel</td>
<td>1840</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>White</td>
<td>Cyrus</td>
<td>1826</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>White</td>
<td>George</td>
<td>1826</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>White</td>
<td>Sylvania</td>
<td>1826</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>White</td>
<td>Irene</td>
<td>1850</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Williams</td>
<td>Benjamin</td>
<td>1850</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Williams</td>
<td>Julia E.</td>
<td>1850</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Williams</td>
<td>Mary</td>
<td>1850</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Williams</td>
<td>Rosella</td>
<td>1850</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Williams</td>
<td>William F.</td>
<td>1850</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Williams</td>
<td>William</td>
<td>1860</td>
<td>Servant Southwest corner of 2nd and Monroe.</td>
<td>Servant at Mather residence.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wood</td>
<td>Rebecca</td>
<td>1835</td>
<td>Servant Nicholas Ridgely household.</td>
<td>Mulatto. Brought as a slave to Springfield.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wright</td>
<td>Frances V.</td>
<td>1856</td>
<td>Northeast corner of Mason and 13th.</td>
<td>Son of Thomas J. And Sarah Fortune Wright.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wright</td>
<td>George M.</td>
<td>1856</td>
<td>Northeast corner of Mason and 13th.</td>
<td>Son of Thomas J. And Sarah Fortune Wright.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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</tbody>
</table>
## APPENDIX M

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Occupation</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Age</th>
<th>Place</th>
<th>Notes</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Wright Garthur</td>
<td></td>
<td>Northeast corner of Mason and</td>
<td>1856</td>
<td></td>
<td>Son of Thomas J. And Sarah Fortune Wright.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wright Matilda</td>
<td></td>
<td>Northeast corner of Mason and</td>
<td>1856</td>
<td>Missouri</td>
<td>Daughter of Thomas J. and Sarah Fortune Wright. Married John E. Jackson.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wright Sarah Fortune</td>
<td></td>
<td>Northeast corner of Mason and</td>
<td>1856</td>
<td>Virginia</td>
<td>nee Fortune. Married Thomas J. Wright. Buried in Oak Ridge Cemetery Lot 31, Block 5, on August 9, 1892.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wright Thomas J.</td>
<td>Farm laborer.</td>
<td>Northeast corner of Mason and</td>
<td>1856</td>
<td>Virginia</td>
<td>$400 $150 Buried in Oak Ridge Cemetery on Lot 31 and North ½ of Lot 32, Block 5, on October 22, 1901.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wright William H.</td>
<td></td>
<td>Northeast corner of Mason and</td>
<td>1856</td>
<td>Missouri</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wright Willis T.</td>
<td></td>
<td>Northeast corner of Mason and</td>
<td>1860</td>
<td>Illinois</td>
<td>Son of Thomas J. and Sarah Fortune Wright. Buried in Oak Ridge Cemetery on the South ½ of Lot 22, Block 5, on March 16, 1899.</td>
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<tr>
<td>York Margaret</td>
<td>Domestic</td>
<td>Madison, between 7th and 8th</td>
<td>1860</td>
<td>New York</td>
<td></td>
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</table>
APPENDIX N: Springfield African Americans 1818-1861: Listed By Date Of Arrival In Springfield

The following is a list of Springfield’s early African American residents, organized by the date of the earliest reference to their being present in Springfield.

1819
Negro Jack

Circa 1820
Voluntine, Edward
Six slaves of the Kelly sisters, for only 30 days.
White, Sylvania

1821
John Taylor???
Cutright, Major

1822
Cox (Taylor), Nance
Cox (Taylor), Dice
Slaves of Thomas Cox

1823
Joyce White
Lucretia White
George Bartlett

1824
Franky, slave of Benjamin Farmer
Tom, slave of Benjamin Farmer
Ruben, slave of Benjamin Farmer

1825
Slaves of Arthur Watson

1826
Ruben
Shelby, Mack
Shelby, Frank
White, Cyrus

1827
Todd, Phoebe (Phoebe)
Todd, Elizabeth (October 25, 1827—____)
Polly (“Aunt Polly”)
Shelby, James M.

Moore, Lurectia (“Aunt Cressy”)
Moore, Thomas
Moore, Parker
Shelby, Mary

Forquer, Major [See Smith Forquer]
Forquer, Smith
Rountree, Phoebe (“Feba”)

1829
Rountree, Daniel
Rountree, Isaac
Kirkpatrick, Titus
Rountree, Judah
Polly, servant of Joseph Poley

1830
Bob
Three young females
Two young male slaves of Dr. John Todd
One young female slave of Dr. John Todd
One young male slave of Arthur Watson
Gaines, Sybil
1831
Shelby, John  son of Mack and ___ Shelby, born on February 9, 1831
Dianah
Nelson

Fall of 1831

Fleurville (Fleurville), William

1832
Shelby
Fleurville, Samuel Henry
Mann, Abram
Houghan, Shelby

1833
Fleurville, Alseen  (December 1833-____)

1834
Edmunson, Amanda
Hedrick, H. H.
Mann, Catherine
Mann, Sussanna
Stallings, William
Maxwell, John
Scott, Elizabeth
Rountree, Lucy

1835
Wood, Rebecca
Hepsey
Bundy, John
Kincaid, Fannie
Kincaid, Harriet
Gaines, Joe
Insloe, Ephraim
Thomas, Harriet
Insloe, Harriet, nee Thomas

1836
Josh, servant of William Caldwell

1837
Fleurville, Sineet  (September 1837-____)
Negro Girl Mary
Mann:Hannah
Huston: Adam
Rountree, Betsy

1838
Arnold, Rev. Luther
Brents, George W., Sr.
Butler, Anna
Butler, William
Carter, Anderson
Coleman, Thornton
Demery, Saddie
3 Free Colored females: 1 age 10 to 24 and 2 age 55 to 100. (1840)
Ellis, Frances
Huston, Joseph
Huston, Winefred
Jackson, Nancy
__________, Isaac  (Elijah Iles)
Jane, Rhoda
Livingston, John
Vance, Maria

Huston, Thomas
Rountree, Nancy
Robinson, Robert J.
Robinson, Robert J.
Mayberry, Luke
Mann, Henry
Cutright, Julia Ann
Fry, Edmund
Houston:Thomas
1839

Fleurville, Varveel (1839-____) served in Civil War

Foster, James
Maxwell, Uriah
Maxwell, Lucy

1840

Cox, Thomas
4 Free Colored males: 2 under 10; 1 age 10 to 24 and 1 age 24 to 36. Cox, Thomas; Cox Columbus
4 Free Colored females: 1 age 10 to 24, 1 age 24 to 36 and 1 age 36 to 55. Cox, Charlotte; Cox, Almina

Fleurville, William LaRue (March 10, 1840-____)

Jackson, John
6 Free Colored males: 2 age 10 to 24 and 4 age 24 to 36.
2 Free Colored females: 1 age 10 to 24 and 1 age 56 to 100.

Henson, Ephraim
4 Free Colored males: 2 under 10, 1 age 10 to 24 and 1 age 24 to 36 (Ephraim).
3 Free Colored females: 1 under 10, 1 10 to 24 and 1 age 24 to 36.

Mann, Henry
5 Free Colored males: 3 under 10, 1 age 10 to 24 and 1 age 55 to 100 (Henry).
1 Free Colored female age 10 to 24. (Nancy Rountree Mann)

Price, Jesse
3 Free Colored males: 1 under 10, Charles; 1 age 10 to 24; and 1 age 56 to 100, Jessie.
2 Free Colored females: one age 10 to 24 and 1 age 36 to 56.

Stewart, Allen
2 Free Colored males: 1 under 10 and one age 36 to 55 (Allen).
1 Free Colored female age 24 to 36. Stewart, Polly Ann

Stewart, Meshac
1 Free Colored male age 24 to 36 (Meshac).
3 Free Colored females: 1 under 10 and 2 age 10 to 24 and 1 age 10 to 24.

West, Daniel Get into from 1840 Census.
3 free colored females with Luke Mayberry

Price, Charles

1841

Josephine
McIntire, Sidney
Bernice and child, servant of Willima Lewis May
Bernice’s child, servant of Willima Lewis May
Smith, Isaac

1842

Vance, Henry
Vance, Julia
Vance, William
Hill, Robert
Doughtery, Isabella
Early, Eliza Nancy?
Pendigrass, J. C.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Names</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1843</td>
<td>Donnegan, Charlotte, Donnegan, Elizabeth, Donnegan, William</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Donnegan, Laura, Donnegan, Miranda, Dorothea Grant’s colored girl</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Donnegan, Quin (?), Donnegan, S.H., Hickman, James</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Donnegan, Spencer, Donnegan, Spencer D., McDaniel, John Wesley</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Collier, Nancy, James</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Vance, Ellen</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
| 1844 | Ball, Samuel S., Shelby, Melvina A., Jackson, Elizabeth Jones???
|      | Clark, Rhoda, Jackson, Matilda Foster (1820-1880), Tyler, Diana???
|      | Fry, Amanda, Jones, Elizabeth, Jackson, Henrietta (1841-____)
|      | Jackson, John Edward (1845-____), Vance, Catharine |
|      | Ball, Jonathon (1834-____), Ball, Amanda, Ball, Smith (1836-____)
|      | Ball, William H. (1844-____), Stewart, John C. W. |
| 1845 | Baker, William, Ball, Edward F. (1846-____), Butler, William H. |
|      | Jackson, Jno., Hargrove, Nancy, Dyer, Aaron |
|      | Baylor, Henry W., Baylor, Lucinda |
|      | Baylor, William H., Blanks, James, Vance, Phoebe |
|      | Bartlett, Elizabeth, Clark, Major |
|      | Washington, Mary Emily, Butler, Devillah, Diana, nee Devillah |
|      | Mason, John |
| 1846 | Baylor, Althea, Smith, Robert “Negro Bob” |
|      | Brown, Henry, Rev., Jackson, Georgeanna (1847-____)
| 1847 | Ball, Mary L. (1848-____), Jenkins, James, Stanton, Ruth |
|      | Jackson, Josephine (1848-____), Jenkins, Nancy H. (1844-____), Maxwell, Henrietta |
|      | Jenkins, Elizabeth, Jones, Larkin |
| 1848 | Musick, Violet |
|      | Brown, James, King, David |
| 1849 | Allen, Eliza, "Bannister, Biddy" |
|      | Bannister, Patterson, "Bartlet, Althea" |
|      | Bartlet, Phoebe, "Bird, Caroline" |
|      | Bullett, Lewis, "Clark, Dilsa" |
|      | Channers (Chaverous), Mahlon, "Cox, Francis" |
|      | Crenshaw, Mary, "Crenshaw, Sarah F." |
|      | Crenshaw, William H., "Daniel, Elsay" |
|      | Dodge, H. S., "Donnegan, B. C." |
|      | Donnegan, D. P., "Donnegan, Marinda" |
| 1850 | Bannister, Maria A., Bartlet, Lucinda |
|      | Blanks, Martha A., Clark, Isabella |
|      | Crenshaw, Thomas, Dickson, Mary |
|      | Donnegan, Cyrus, Donnegan, George |

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### APPENDIX N

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Name</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Donnegan, Mary</td>
<td>Donnegan, Leana</td>
<td>Donnegan, Phoebe</td>
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<td>Donnegan, Presley</td>
<td>Donnegan, Narcissa (Narcissus)</td>
<td>Donnegan, Presley L.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Donnegan, S. E.</td>
<td>Donnegan, Sidney</td>
<td>Donnegan, William R.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Donnegan, Susan</td>
<td>Donnegan, Wiley</td>
<td>Dyer, Alfred</td>
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<td>Dyer, Eliz</td>
<td>Dyer, Harriet</td>
<td>Dyer, James T.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dyer, John</td>
<td>Dyer, Richard</td>
<td>Dyer, Sarah</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dyer, William H.</td>
<td>Fowler, Cornelia</td>
<td>Guy, Anna</td>
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<td>Gray, Nancy</td>
<td>Harris, Anderson</td>
<td>Harris, Mary H.</td>
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<td>Harris, Hannah</td>
<td>Harris, Nancy A.</td>
<td>Howard, Mary</td>
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<td>Howard, Susan</td>
<td>Insloe, William</td>
<td>Jackson, Elizabeth</td>
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<td>Insloe, W.R.</td>
<td>Jackson, James</td>
<td>Jackson, Joshua</td>
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<td>Jackson, George</td>
<td>Jackson, Robert</td>
<td>Jenkins, Bellfield</td>
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<td>Powell, Catharine</td>
<td>Jones, Alonzo</td>
<td>Jones, Harriet</td>
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<td>King, Benjamin</td>
<td>Smith, Delsa</td>
<td>King, Mary</td>
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<td>King, Mary E.</td>
<td>Watkins, Quintan</td>
<td>King, Elizabeth A.</td>
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<tr>
<td>King, James</td>
<td>King, John</td>
<td>King, Virginia</td>
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<tr>
<td>Lewis, Charles</td>
<td>Mason, Lydiann</td>
<td>Millington, Harriet</td>
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<td>Millington, John</td>
<td>Millington, Michael</td>
<td>Millington, Thomas</td>
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<td>Mills, Harriet</td>
<td>Morris, Rose</td>
<td>Morrison, John F.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Morrison, William</td>
<td>Price, Martha Ann</td>
<td>Pelham, Jane</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ball Elizabeth</td>
<td>Shelby, Albert</td>
<td>Robinson, Eliza</td>
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<tr>
<td>Robinson, Jesse</td>
<td>Stewart, Cordelia</td>
<td>Rountree, Frances</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rountree, Sophia</td>
<td>Smith, Sarah</td>
<td>Smith, Richard</td>
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<td>Stewart, John</td>
<td>Stewart, Dalton</td>
<td>Stewart, Malissa A.</td>
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<td>Stewart, Martha L.</td>
<td>Stewart, Turner P.</td>
<td>Stewart, William A.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Taylor, Dinah (Diana)</td>
<td>Tinson, Samuel</td>
<td>Waldin, Bartlit</td>
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<tr>
<td>Watkins, Jane</td>
<td>Watkins, Quilly Ann</td>
<td>White, Irene</td>
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<td>Williams, Benjamin</td>
<td>Williams, Julia E.</td>
<td>Williams, Mary L.</td>
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<td>Williams, Rosella</td>
<td>Williams, William F.</td>
<td>Walden, Clarissa</td>
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#### 1851

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<td>Johnson, Gilbert</td>
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#### 1852

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<td>Broadwaters, Andrew</td>
<td>Burris, George</td>
<td>Lee, John</td>
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<tr>
<td>Callyhan, David</td>
<td>Chambers, Isaiah</td>
<td>Lee, William</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chaverous, Julia C. (1852-___)</td>
<td>Hill, J. W.</td>
<td>McCoslin, William</td>
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<tr>
<td>Hendrix, James</td>
<td>Petete, A. J.</td>
<td>Reynolds, James</td>
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#### 1853

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<td>Vance, Narcissa</td>
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#### 1854

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<td>Ellis, Henry</td>
<td>Jackson, Jenny</td>
<td>Hill, Isabella</td>
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<td>Ellis, Mary J.</td>
<td>Ellis, Placid H.</td>
<td>Ellis, Thomas R.</td>
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#### 1855

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<tr>
<td>Coleman, Adora</td>
<td>Coleman, Alonzo</td>
<td>Killion, Margaret Fry</td>
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<tr>
<td>Coleman, Augustine</td>
<td>Coleman, Landen C.</td>
<td>Fountain, John N. H.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Coleman, Jenny</td>
<td>Johnson, Phoebe (1855-___)</td>
<td>Vance, Rosa</td>
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<tr>
<td>Coleman, Malissa</td>
<td>Young;Ester</td>
<td>Powell, Thomas</td>
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#### Fry

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<td>Fry, Mary Fry</td>
<td>Fry, Richard Fry</td>
<td>Fry, John Fry</td>
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<td>Fry, Margaret Fry</td>
<td>Fry, Henry Fry</td>
<td>Fry, Robert E.</td>
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<td>Fry, Sarah Fry</td>
<td>Thomas</td>
<td>Price, Mary E.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Price, Mary E.</td>
<td>Killion, Thomas</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
# APPENDIX N

## 1856

| Lee, Elizabeth | Vance, Cornelius | Wright, Sarah Fortune |
| Wright, Frances V. | Wright, Garthur (?) | Wright, Thomas J. |
| Wright, G. M. | Wright, Matilda J. | Wright, William H. |

## 1857

| Johnson, Gilbert born in February 1857 | Smallwood Nathanial |
| Smallwood, Hester Ann | Vance, John |
| Smallwood (Smallwell), Nathanial B. | Fortune, Sarah |

## 1858

| Collier, Albert W. | Collier, Teressa | Collier, Harriet |
| Collier, Ann M. | Collier, Mary A. | Collier, Emma |
| Rodgers, Benjamin | | |

## 1859

| Coleman, Baby | Parker, Charles R. | Myers, Frederick |
| Johnson, Annie (1859-____) | York _____-____) | Johnson, Laura Ann |
| Myers, Maria | Price, Martha L. | |

## 1860

<p>| Ayerse, Jesse | Ayerse, John | Baker (Barger), Hiram |
| Baker, Julia | Baker, Ema | Baker, Lucy |
| Baker, Ella | Baylor, Abraham L. | Boyd, Hiram B. |
| Brance, Ann | Brooks, Ann E. | Brown, Mary Ann |
| Brown, W. M. | Brown, Sarah J. | Brown, Luella |
| Brown, Nancy | Butler, Lucy | Butler, S. W. |
| Clay, Rachel | Clay, Sarah | Clay, Adeline |
| Clay, Mary | Coleman &amp; Donnegan. | Collier, Charles |
| Fortune, John | Collyer (Collier), Francis | Crenshied, William |
| Donnegan, Wm. K. H. | Donnegan, Levina | Donnegan, Thomas |
| Dwirye, Ada A. | Dwirye, Allison | Dwirye, Didiamia |
| Dwirye, James W. | Dwirye, John | Dwirye, William G. |
| Elliot, Alex. | Donnegan, Laura | Ellis, Maria. |
| Ensaw, Harriet. | Feey, Sarah | Fleurville (Fleurville), Farvas |
| Knox, Mrs. Leona | Fry (Fey), Jefferson. | Gaines, Lavinia |
| | | Fry, Conrad Fry, Henrietta Fry, Jacob |
| | | Thomas: Polly. |
| Gibson, Margaret | Goulding, Abram | Goulding, Jane |
| Griffin, Louise | Hams, A. | Hayrons, Eveline |
| Hayrons, John | Henson (Hanson)(Henderson?), John (1852-____). | Henson, Louise |
| Henson, Rachel | Mercer, Decatur | Mercer, William |
| Howard, Julia | Johnson, Agnes | Johnson, Josephine |
| Loomis, Flora | Loomis, James. | Loomis, Mary |
| Loomis, Susan | Loomis, William | May, David |
| May, Mrs. Harriet. | May, W. H. | Myers, Caroline |
| Parker, Elmira. | Nash, Dick | Noland, L. |
| Posey, Dinah | Patterson, B. | Pease, P. |
| Riden, Maria | Runnell, Edward | Runnell, Ann |</p>
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Runnell, Henrietta</th>
<th>Runnell, James</th>
<th>Runnell, Joseph</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Runnell, Mary</td>
<td>Runnell, Sarah</td>
<td>Sample, M.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sappington, David</td>
<td>Sappington, Elijah</td>
<td>Scott, Henry</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Scott, Sinette</td>
<td>Sims, Charlotte</td>
<td>Smith, Elizabeth A.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Smith, Peter.</td>
<td>Smith, Rebecca</td>
<td>York, Margaret</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thomas, Thomas.</td>
<td>Thompson, Rebecca</td>
<td>Vance, Walter</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Watkins, Bellfield</td>
<td>Watson, Martha</td>
<td>Hugy, Randolph</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wright, Willis T.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
APPENDIX O

APPENDIX O: Some Descendants of Early Springfield African Americans

Donnegan Family

Connie McGee
219 West Elliott
Springfield, Illinois
789-0844
descendant of Nancy Donnegan

Fleurville Family

Irene Willis
1701 S. 14th Street
522-6046
APPENDIX P: African American Servants In The Lincoln Home

Maria Vance
Ruth Stanton
   The LaHarper newspaper, LaHarp, Illinois, February 1895.
Brown, Henry
   white washer
   Methodist Minister  Northeast corner of 10th and Madison.  1847  37  Raleigh, Halifax County
   Employed by Lincoln in various capacities.
Early, Eliza
   Claims to have been Mary Todd’s maid at her wedding and to have worked in the Lincoln Home as Robert’s nurse.  Register, August 28, 1912, p. 7.
In 1860, there were at least three African American families living within three blocks of Mary and Abraham Lincoln’s home at the northeast corner of Eighth and Jackson Streets. In addition to these families, there were at least two servants living with white families within three blocks of the home. Members of these African American families, the African American boarders living with them and the African Americans acting as servants to white neighbors totaled twenty-one African American people. The map on the next page shows the location of the Lincoln home and the African Americans living within three blocks of the home. They were:

1. Lucy Butcher, a 26 year-old Virginia native, living at the northwest corner of Ninth and Capitol (Market) Streets, where she is a servant at the residence of Isaac A. Hawley.

2. Rebecca Smith, an 18 year-old mulatto born in Illinois and living at the southwest corner of Sixth and Jackson Streets, where she is a servant at the Jacob Bunn residence.

3. Jameson Jenkins, a 50 year-old North Carolina native, living on the east side of Eighth Street, between Jackson and Edwards Streets with a total of three in Jameson’s family. In addition, Jane Pelham and Quinton Watkins were residing with the Jenkins’ family. Jameson was a drayman.

On September 2, 1848, Elizabeth Jenkins transferred her church membership from the Colored Methodist Church of Springfield to the Second Presbyterian Church, now Westminster Presbyterian. On November 5, 1848, Jameson Jenkins was also received into the same church on profession of faith. This is the first appearance of Elizabeth and Jameson Jenkins. “…black women Jane Jenkins colored woman did not live there (at Lincoln’s home)—in next block”

4. Charlotte Sims, a 40 year-old District of Columbia native, living at the northwest corner of Seventh and Edwards Streets, where she is a servant at the John A. McClernand residence.

5. John Jackson, a ___ year-old native, living on the east side of Ninth Street, between Edwards and Cook Streets with a total of six in John’s family. In addition, Diana Tyler was residing with John Jackson.

6. David King, a 26 year-old Virginia native, living at 91 South Ninth Street, between Edwards and Cook Streets (the northeast corner of Ninth and Cook Streets) with a total of six in David’s family.
APPENDIX R: Former African American Slaves in Lincoln’s Springfield

Nelson, a Negro Man
Freed upon Henry Yates posting bond
In 1831, the commissioners court freed a slave after a white man posted a bond on his behalf. "Henry Yates came into court and gave bond as this law requires, in setting free a negro man named Nelson aged fifty five years.

Rountree, Daniel
Rountree, Isaac
Rountree, Judah
Rountree, Thomas
Shelby, Frank
Shelby, Mack
Taylor, Dice (Slave of Thomas Cox)
Taylor, Nance (Slave of Thomas Cox)
Todd, Phoebe (Slave of Dr. John Todd)
Wood, Rebecca (Slave of Nicholas H. Ridgely)
Negro Jack
APPENDIX S: Abolitionist in Lincoln’s Springfield

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Springfield</th>
<th>Chatham, Sangamon County</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Z. Hallock</td>
<td>Luther N. Ransom</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>E. [Eliphalet] B. Hawley</td>
<td>Josiah Porter</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>R. [Roswell] P. Abel</td>
<td>H. T. White</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Roswell Abel</td>
<td>Cornelius Lyman</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Isaac Bancroft, jr.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jonathan C. Bancroft</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oliver B. Culver</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>J. [John] B. Watson</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>J. Stephenson</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C. [Calvin] B. Francis</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>J. G. Rawson</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Joseph Taney</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Edmund R. Wiley</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>James Pratt</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Josiah Francis</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Elisha Taber</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Geo. N. Kendall</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>S. Conant</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>E. [Erastus] W. Thayer</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lyman Washburn</td>
<td></td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Farmington, Sangamon county</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Peter Bates</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Asahel Stone</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Azel Lyman</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Alvan Lyman</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Harooldus Estabrook</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Ezra Lyman</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Bishop Seely</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>B. B. More</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Jay Slater</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>H. P. Lyman</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Oliver Bates</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Stephen Child</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>O. L. Stone</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>A. S. Lyman</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Joel Buckman</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>John Lyman</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Thomas Galt</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>


# APPENDIX T: African American Population of Springfield, Illinois, 1820-1930

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Total Springfield Population</th>
<th>Percent of Total Population</th>
<th>Percent Increase</th>
<th>Total Springfield Population</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1820</td>
<td>236</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1825</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1830</td>
<td>9 slaves</td>
<td>10 Free Colored</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1835</td>
<td>1,419</td>
<td></td>
<td>1.0</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1840</td>
<td>6 slaves</td>
<td>20 Free Colored</td>
<td>1.0</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1850</td>
<td>171</td>
<td></td>
<td>3.9</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1855</td>
<td>4,533</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1860</td>
<td>203</td>
<td></td>
<td>2.2</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1865</td>
<td>9,320</td>
<td></td>
<td>18.7</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1870</td>
<td>16,725</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1880</td>
<td>19,743</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1890</td>
<td>24,963</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1900</td>
<td>29,861</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1910</td>
<td>33,000</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1920</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1930</td>
<td>3,324</td>
<td>4.6</td>
<td>20.0</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
This photograph was taken by Springfield photographer Frederick W. Ingmire and is from the collection of Lance Ingmire, Pittsford, New York.

The State of Illinois became the Northwest Territory.

Indentured servitude was not a new concept conjured up by the leaders of the Northwest Territory. It was a well-established part of Eighteenth Century American life. As early as 1685, nearly half of the adult white males arriving in Pennsylvania were indentured servants. By 1697, the transport of humans from England to America for placement as indentured servants was a common occurrence. Servant ships sailed for America from every important port in the British Isles. It was easy to transfer the rules and practices of the existing institution of indentured servitude in particular. A number are referenced in the Bibliography.

Hereinafter, what is now the State of Illinois will sometimes be referred to as the “Illinois Country.”

Slavery was officially sanctioned by a 1615 edict of Louis XIII of France. In 1724, Louis XV reconfirmed French recognition of slavery in an ordinance that re-enacted Louis XIII’s 1615 edict and regulated the government and administrations of justice, policies, discipline and traffic in black slaves in the Province of Louisiana.

This was a provision of the Treaty of Paris made at the conclusion of the Anglo-French battle for control of what Kaskaskia for many years was the largest town west of the Allegheny Mountains. It existed before Pittsburgh, Cincinnati or New Orleans.


Power, p. 27.

Kaskaskia for many years was the largest town west of the Allegheny Mountains. It existed before Pittsburgh, Cincinnati or New Orleans. Power, p. 26.

Power, pp. 27 and 715. John’s brother, Levi Todd, was the grandfather of Robert T. Stuart, Mrs. Ninian Edwards, Mrs. Dr. William S. Wallace, Mrs. C. M. Smith and Mary Todd Lincoln, all early Springfield residents.


Aldrich, pp. 118-119.

Power, p. 29.


Many of the more wealthy French had moved across the Mississippi into Spanish territory because they understood that the Northwest Ordinance prohibited slavery.


Aldrich, pp. 121-122.

Indentured servitude was not a new concept conjured up by the leaders of the Northwest Territory. It was a well-established part of Eighteenth Century American life. As early as 1685, nearly half of the adult white males arriving in Pennsylvania were indentured servants. By 1697, the transport of humans from England to America for placement as indentured servants was a common occurrence. Servant ships sailed for America from every important port in the British Isles. It was easy to transfer the rules and practices of the existing institution of indentured servants to the institution of slavery, thereby making slavery acceptable in the form and under the name of “indentured servitude.”

Buck, p.182.

Zucker, pp. 29-30.

Zucker, pp. 30-31.

Zucker, pp. 31-33.
Buck, p. 185.
Zucker, pp. 33-34.
Zucker, pp. 34-35.
Buck, p. 187.


Ninian Edwards was a Chief Justice of Kentucky and the first Governor of the Territory of Illinois, appointed by President Madison.

1812 History, p. 483.

1881 History, p. 26. The population of Illinois in 1809 was estimated at 9,000, with Illinois then including the present State of Wisconsin.

Barnhart, pp. 362-363.


1881 History, p. 26. The population of Illinois in 1818 was estimated at 40,000.

Section III of Article VI of the Illinois Constitution of 1818.

Aldrich, p. 127.

Barnhart, p. 373.

Allen, pp. 104-105.


See Thomas Cox’s Replevin Action Against Jehu Durley beginning at page 9, and Benjamin Farmer’s will at page 25 as Sangamon County, Illinois examples.


1810 United States Census, North Carolina. The 1810 United States Census of Rutherford County North Carolina shows the following: 2 males 16-26; 1 male 45-upwards; 1 female 10-16; 1 female 26-45; 3 slaves; 2 looms with 50 yards of homespun valued at $25; and 1 still (no quantity given). American Gazeteer, p. 305. “Rutherford, a co. of Morgan district, N. Carolina, bounded south by S. Carolina-7,808 inhabitants.”


Power, p. 424. “He came to Macoupin county, Ill., about 1817, and remained there for two years, spending most of his time in hunting. His [Elisha Kelly] selecting the place for a hunting ground and inducing others to come, was the beginning of Springfield. The parties caused to come were his father, Henry Kelly, and his three brothers, William, John and Elijah. The younger brother, George, came a few years later.”


Illinois Census Returns, 1810-1818. Collections of the Illinois State Historical Library, Illinois State Historical Library, Springfield, Illinois, 1935, p. 134; household number 630. From September 14, 1812, to January 30, 1821, what is now Springfield was a part of Madison County. The Illinois Census was taken between April 1 and June 1, 1818. That part of the census for Madison County lists “Elijah Kelly,” not “Elisha,” with two free white males of 21 years and upward [Elisha and John?] and 3 other white inhabitants [John’s wife, Mary Whitesides and two children?] in the household, a total of 5. He is also found in the Federal and state census of 1820.

The location was earlier described as north of the Town Branch, near where it is crossed by Jefferson Street. At present (2007), the site is marked with a stone monument and tablet. Power, p. 423. Rutherford County, North Carolina (1783-1823) Children: Jonathan (1808-1873); Sarah; Elizabeth; William R.; Mary M.; Elijah. All were under 14 in 1823. Z. Enos: Snow Birds. 1881 History, p. 283. Angle, pp. 5 and 608. C.W.: v. II, p. 183. Veach, p. 9. John Kelly, was born about 1783, in Rutherford county, North Carolina. He was there married to Mary Whitesides, had five children there, and moved to Illinois in the fall of 1818, first stopping on Macoupin creek. In the spring of 1819 he moved to what is now Springfield. The 1810 Census for Rutherford County, North Carolina shows the following for the household of John Kelly: 1 male 26-45 (John); 3 females 10 years of age; 3 females of 10-16; 1 female of 26-45 (Mary); 1 loom with 100 yards of homespun valued at $50.


Elijah died about 1832 and his widow, Mary, and children moved to Missouri.

LINCOLN'S SPRINGFIELD

THE EARLY AFRICAN AMERICAN POPULATION OF SPRINGFIELD, ILLINOIS
(1818-1861)

ENDNOTES


69 This is not confirmed by the 1820 United States Census, probably because Negro Jack went on to Missouri about 1820 with Henry’s daughter, Eleanor, and son-in-law, Joseph Reavis. With regard to Henry Kelly’s slaves, Power’s history states that Henry Kelly owned slaves, but none of the sons, except George, would have them; so he freed the slaves, and gave land to his sons, instead. Power, p. 424. See the entry under date of 1822, “The Sale of Negro Jack” at page 15, when Henry and Mary sold “Negro Jack” to their son-in-law, Joseph Reavis.


71 Southeast corner of the Northwest ¼ of the Northwest ¼ of Section 29, Ball Township.


73 Power, p. 707. John was granted a tavern license by the County Commissioners. Job Fletcher and John Taylor were appointed justices of the peace, the first in what is now Sangamon County. When Sangamon County was organized in May 1821, John Taylor was chosen as the first sheriff, and by re-elections held the office about six years. In one of their first acts, the Sangamon commissioners divided the County into two “battalions,” each with two districts, and called for the organization of companies and the election of officers. One district, they decreed in 1821, “shall include from Mathew Eades including Sugar Creek to source and Lick fork to source and that an election shall be held in said district on Twenty third Instant at the House of John Taylor on Sugar Creek…” Taylor, the newly appointed County sheriff, lived on a farm in the center of this large district, and each of the “superintendents” came from a different neighborhood. On June 23, 1821, forty-seven Sugar Creek heads of household assembled on Taylor’s farm for a militia election and the first of many quarterly militia “musters.” On December 4, 1821, John Taylor appeared into court and protested against the sufficiency of the jail. Sometime in 1822, John and his family moved from Sugar Creek to Springfield. He was appointed the second Receiver of the United States Land Office at Springfield. He was one of the four original proprietors of the town. On December 12, 1828, John Taylor purchased the West ¼ of the Northwest ¼ of Section 29 in Ball Township. On February 17, 1829, John and his wife sold the west ¼ of the northwest ¼ to Lewis Laughlin. On November 30, 1835, Laughlin and his wife sold the property to Alexander Black. On May 19, 1835, Alexander Black and his wife sold the property to Eddin Lewis, et al. John Taylor died at Beardstown on May 12, 1849, on his way to New Orleans. Elizabeth Taylor died in July, 1855, in Springfield, Illinois.


75 Power, p. 424.


77 Power, pp. 424 and 688. Joseph soon left Sangamon County and went to the West Indies where he died in 1825. 1881 History, pp. 48, 280, 524, 572 and 621.

78 Governor Edward Coles, Collections of the Illinois State Historical Library, Volume XV, p. 96. Isaiah Stillman was in command of a body of troops in the Black Hawk war in 1832, at a point in Ogle county, which has ever since been known as “Stillman’s Run.”

79 A document found in the records of the Sangamon County Recorder of Deeds is evidence that Edward was living with Stephen Stillman in March of 1820. See page 31 for the full text of the document.

80 1820 United States Census, Illinois Historical Collections, Census of 1820.

81 The Forgotten Settlement at Fancy Grove, Curtis Mann, Sangamon County Historical Society, Historico.

82 1881 History, p. 883: William Archer was born on July 30, 1793, in North Carolina, and in 1807 his parents moved to Tennessee, where he married Elizabeth Jackson, moved to Madison county, Illinois, where Mrs. Archer died, and he married Elizabeth Holt, December 20, 1818. She was born December 3, 1793 in Oglethorpe county, Georgia, and, losing her parents when she was quite young, she was taken by an uncle, Robert White, to Madison county, Illinois, in 1811. William and Elizabeth had twins in Madison county, and moved to Sangamon county, arriving on April 30, 1820, in what is now Curran Township. See page 31 for the full text of the document.

83 The “Springfield” area listings of heads of households and the number in each household was as follows: Peter Lanterman (8), John Lanterman (6), Richard Dogit (6), Henry Kelly (4), John Kelly (6), Elijah Kelly (4), William Kelly (10), Andrew Elliot (4), Jacob Ellis (10), Levi Ellis (7), John Lindsey (9) and Samuel Little (9).

84 Power, p. 52.

85 1881 History, p. 70.

86 Thomas Cox, Harvey Reid, Iowa Biographical Series, edited by Benjamin F. Shambaugh, Iowa City, Iowa, 1909, p. 35. (Hereinafter “Reid.”)

87 Power, pp. 32-33. “It was the first building of any kind erected within what are now the city limits of Springfield, and was hand built of logs 20 feet long, with a plank floor, cabin roof and doors and windows cut out. John was paid $42.50 plus $5.00 for expenses for its construction.”

88 Angle, pp. 42-43.

89 Power, p. 479.


91 1881 History, p. 581.

92 Iles, pp. 7-8.


Noye, p. 182.

Power, p. 446.


Power, 707.

Did Taylor have the slaves shown in the 1830 Census at the time he arrived in Springfield?

Power 707.


C. Nathan Cromwell lived on the north side of Jefferson, between First and Second Streets.

D. Enos, p. 197.

Enos, p. 197.


Reid, p. 33.

Zucker, p. 104. The seven authors of the February 17 Address were: John McLean, Theophilus W. Smith, Emanuel J. West, Thomas Reynolds, William Kinney, Alexander P. Field and Joseph Beaird. Zucker, p. 142, f.n. 29.

Zucker, p. 142, f.n. 29.


Power, p. 372.


Dr. Wayne Temple has a different view of Maia and Mr. Shelton. I respectfully disagree with Dr. Temple. I believe it should be “Chilton” not Shelton. “Phebe” Bartlett was brought to Illinois by her master, Stephen Shelton. Shelton in not shown in any Illinois Census until 1830,
but he purchased land for the first time on April 3, 1825, in what is now Curran Township, Sangamon County and listed his residence as being in that location. Mariah, however, stated that she was born in Round Prairie, four miles east of Springfield in Clear Lake Township, Sangamon County. That perhaps was true. The Sheltons may have stopped in that area before purchasing their own land in Curran Township, southwest of Springfield. *Mariah (Bartlett) Vance Daytime Servant to the Lincolns*, Part 1, For the People, A Newsletter of the Abraham Lincoln Association, Volume 7, Number 1, Spring 2005, Springfield, Illinois. Mariah (Bartlett) Vance Daytime Servant to the Lincolns, Part 2, For the People, A Newsletter of the Abraham Lincoln Association, Volume 6, Number 4, Winter 2004, Springfield, Illinois.


131 The full text of the estate administration documents may be found in Appendix A. The original documents pertaining to the Estate of George Bartlet may be found in the records of the Sangamon County Circuit Clerk, Probate file # 14, now located at IRAD.

132 The full text of the document may be found in Appendix A. A report of the sale was filed in the probate records.

133 Sugar Creek Power Dillon, 1881 History Springfield, Illinois.

134 *Arrival of George Forquer And His Boy, Smith,* at page 39.

135 See “Arrival of Thomas Cox and Nance and Dice, His Colored Slaves”, at page 16.

136 Thomas Cox entered the land described as the S.W. ¼ of Section 28, on which the few cabins west of First Street and north of Washington where located, including the Kelly improvements.

137 SVC.


140 See “Arrival of Dr. John Todd and Phoebe Todd, Slave, and Elizabeth, Her Daughter,” at page 34.

141 See “Arrival of George Forquer And His Boy, Smith,” at page 39.

142 See “Nance” of the Bailey vs. Cromwell Lincoln case in 1838, at page 33.

143 *Zimri Enos Reminiscence.*

144 Angle, p. 67.

145 The full text of the document may be found in Appendix A. The original documents pertaining to the Estate of George Bartlet may be found in the records of the Sangamon County Circuit Clerk, Probate file # 14, now archived at IRAD, Brookens Library, University of Illinois at Springfield, Springfield, Illinois.

146 1881 History, p. 165: Black Hawk War: Private in Captain Abraham Lincoln’s Company, April 21, 1832-mustered in; May 27, 1832-mustered out.

147 The original documents pertaining to the Estate of Benjamin Farmer may be found in the probate records of the Sangamon County Circuit Clerk now archived at IRAD.


149 Angle, p. 29. Angle gives no source for this information. I have not found the underlying primary material.


152 1881 History, p. 272. Sugar Creek, p. 48.

153 This vote was by secret ballot and, therefore, there is no record of individual votes on this issue. Angle, p. 29.

154 Dillon, p. 155.

155 Dillon, pp. 149-150.

156 Dillon, p. 151. 1881 History, p. 488.


158 Power, p. 255.

159 The full text of the document may be found in Appendix A.

160 *Sugar Creek* at page 48 says Western Tennessee.
LINCOLN'S SPRINGFIELD

THE EARLY AFRICAN AMERICAN POPULATION OF SPRINGFIELD, ILLINOIS

(1818-1861)

ENDNOTES

[ Footnotes are not included in this natural text representation. ]

280
200 Power, p. 408. 1881 History, p. 888.
202 Power, p. 408. Jonathan Jarrett was born July 23, 1778, in Kanawha county, West Virginia. He was married there to Sarah Anderson. They had six children, and Mrs. Jarrett died Oct. 28, 1812. Mr. Jarrett married Jan. 1, 1814, to Rebecca Wilson. They had six children in West Virginia, and moved to Sangamon county, Ill., arriving Nov., 1826, and settled one and one-half miles south of the present town of Loami, where two children were born. Fourteen children. Jonathan Jarrett, Sen., died Apr. 28, 1834, and Mrs. Rebecca Jarrett died Dec. 11, 1863, both in Loami township.
203 Sugar Creek, pp. 48-49. Power, pp. 408-409.
206 Intelligencer, Vandalia, Illinois, January 20, 1827, provided by Curtis Mann.
209 Van Meter, pp. 145-146.
210 Obituary: 12/31/1862 at the age of 63. She died at the home of Mrs. Winters. SVC.
211 See page 75.
213 Illinois Statutes, 1827.
214 The original of the documents pertaining to this matter may be found in the records of the Sangamon County Circuit Clerk now archived at IRAD.
215 Power, p. 694.
216 Lincoln’s New Salem, Benjamin P. Thomas, The Abraham Lincoln Association, Springfield, Illinois, 1934, pp. 61, 112, 115-116, 124. (Hereinafter “New Salem.”) “...Bowling Green, a justice of the peace and local Democratic leader, who lived about a mile north of New Salem,” pp. 112-113. “As his (Lincoln’s) depression continued, he was persuaded to leave New Salem with its memories, and for a week or ten days he lived at Bowling Green’s.”
217 The original of the minutes of the Sangamon County Commissioners’ may be found in the records of Sangamon County now archived at IRAD.
220 See “April 15, 1828” at page 35.
223 1881 History, p. 198.
224 Reid, p. 39.
226 Enos, p. 197.
228 Angle, pp. 32-33.
229 The documents pertaining to this matter may be found in Appendix B. The original of the documents are in the files of the Sangamon County Circuit Clerk, now archived at IRAD.
230 There are random issues of the Sangamo Spectator on microfilm in the Newspaper Section of the ALPL.
231 The documents pertaining to this matter may be found in Appendix C. The original of the documents are in the files of the Sangamon County Circuit Clerk, now housed at IRAD.
232 The original of the documents pertaining to this matter may be found in the records of the Sangamon County Circuit Clerk now archived at IRAD.
233 1850 United States Census.
234 In 1857 Mary filed a Chancery suit against Clarkson Freeman in the Circuit Court of Sangamon County. She alleged that she had arrived in Sangamon County in 1827 and married Mack Shelby. Clarkson Freeman’s answer says that he has no knowledge of Polly’s assertions. “For Answer to said bill ...respondent says that he knows nothing of the intermarriage of the said complainant with the said Mack Shelby or of their residing in the County of Sangamon and State of Illinois during the year 1827 down to within a year or two past. IRAD.
238 Smith and McKnight Papers, Galena Public Library District, 601 South Bench Street, Galena, Illinois 61036: Records kept by the resident agents of the War Department.
239 Zucker, p. 184.
240 Lot 4, Block 2, Old Town Plat. Sangamon County, Illinois Recorder of Deeds, IRAD.

ENDNOTES
See “June 7, 1827” at page 35.
Special Collections Division, ALPL.

John Todd Stuart: born on November 10, 1807, at Walnut Hills near Lexington, Kentucky; September 27, 1826, graduated from Centre College, Danville, Kentucky; 1826, went to Richmond, Kentucky, to study law with Judge Daniel Breck; December 19, 1827, licensed to practice law; 1828 came to Louisville, Illinois, then moved to Springfield; May 11, 1829, appointed sergeant-major in Twelfth Regiment of Illinois State Militia; 1831, elected major in Second Regiment; 1832-34, served as major in Black Hawk War; 1832-36, represented Sangamon County in General Assembly; 1836, unsuccessful Whig candidate; October 25, 1837, married Mary Virginia Nash at Jacksonville; 1837-41, law partner of Abraham Lincoln; 1839-43, congressional representative; 1843, formed law partnership with Benjamin S. Edwards; 1848-52, state senator from Sangamon County. Governors’ Letter-Books, Illinois Historical Collections, p. 190 n. 2.

1881 History, pp. 198 and 736.

ALPL.

Reports of Cases at Common Law and In Chancery, Argued and Determined in the Supreme Court of the State of Illinois (1819-1831), Sidney Breese, Chicago, Callaghan & Company, 1877, 242-247.

Adams.

See Power, p. 303.

IRAD.

1881 History, p. 913.

IRAD.

Unpublished manuscript written and provided by Mary Beth Roderick, Macomb, Illinois.

Unpublished manuscript written and provided by Mary Beth Roderick, Macomb, Illinois.

(Forquer)(Farquar)(Farquar)


George Forquer was born at Uniontown, Pennsylvania (near Brownsville) in 1794. He was the son of a Revolutionary soldier, and the older half-brother of Gov. Thomas Ford. In 1804, he and his widowed mother settled at New Design, Illinois in Monroe County. After learning, and for several years following the carpenter’s trade at St. Louis, he returned to Illinois and purchased the tract where Waterloo now stands. For a time he was a business partner of Daniel P. Cook, but was unsuccessful and took up the study of law, and was admitted to the Bar in 1825. In 1824 he was elected to represent Monroe County in the House of Representatives, but resigned in January, 1825 to accept Governor Coles’ appointment of him as of Secretary of State. His friendship with Coles was no doubt in part because they had been united in their opposition to the proposal to make Illinois a slave state. Forquer was a Whig. On March 20, 1828, Forquer married twenty-two-year-old Ann Crammer of Cincinnati, Ohio. He was also a candidate for Congress that year, but was defeated by Joseph Duncan, afterwards Governor. At the close of 1828, he resigned the office of Secretary of State, and a few weeks later in January of 1829 was elected Attorney-General by the legislature. He was Attorney General until January 1833, when he resigned, having, at the previo us election, been chosen State Senator from Sangamon County, serving in the 8th and 9th General Assembly’s. Before the close of his senate term in 1835, Forquer was appointed Register of the Land Office at Springfield which appears to have been the last office held by him. He died at Cincinnati in 1838, and his widow married Antrim Campbell of Springfield.


“Pascal Enos,” Special Collections Division, ALPL.

1881 History, pp. 49, 50, 415 and 815.


1912 History, p. 483.

1830 United States Census.

See “John Taylor Arrives in Springfield With Slaves” at page 22 and “Sale of Slaves at Public Auction” at page 53.

See “Arrival of Dr. John Todd and Phoebe Todd and Elizabeth, Her Daughter” at page 34.

The full text of the Certificates of Freedom may be found in Appendix H.

Chapin, pp. 8 and 10. The name of the church was originally Sangamon Presbyterian Church. The name was changed in 1831 to Presbyterian Church of Springfield and shortly thereafter to First Presbyterian Church.

Angle, p. 33.

Angle, p. 34.


Power, pp.789-790. Henry Yates, born on October 29, 1786, in Caroline County, Virginia, was taken at a young age to Fayette County, Kentucky, where his father died. The family moved to Woodford, then to Scott, and from there to Gallatin County, in the same state in 1804. Henry Yates, Henry Ellis and Col. Robert Johnson laid out a town on the Ohio River and Colonel Johnson named it Fredericksburg. It was later changed to Warsaw and is the county seat of Gallatin County. Henry Yates returned to Caroline County, Virginia and married on July 11, 1809 to his cousin, Millicent Yates, who was born on May 15, 1791. They went to Gallatin County, Kentucky, where they had eleven children, five of whom died young, and Millicent Yates died on April 19, 1830.

Sangamon County Commissioners Records, IRAD.

Angle, p. 43.

Power, p. 37.

She died in 1843. *Session Minutes of the First Presbyterian Church, Springfield Illinois*, original in the Special Collections Division, ALPL.

Lot 3, Block 31, Old Town Plat. The full text of the Attachment Complaint may be found in Appendix B. *Journal*, November 17, 1831, p. 3, cl. 4.

Register of Wills for Baltimore County, Maryland, Liber WB - No. 12, folis 91.

Unpublished manuscript written and provided by Mary Beth Roderick, Macomb, Illinois.


Lot 6 in Block 12 of the Old Town Plat. See Survey of Town-1825, at page 25.

See November 1834, when Frank was granted a certificate of freedom. *Power*, p. 44.

See “Arrival of Feba (Phoebe), Isaac, Daniel and Judah Rountree” at page 40. *Illinois State Marriage Index, 1763-1900*.

*Power*, p. 303.

1831 History, pp. 736-737.

*They Knew Lincoln*, p. 188.

Unpublished manuscript written and provided by Mary Beth Roderick, Macomb, Illinois.

*Illinois Statewide Marriage Index, 1763–1900*.

*Casey*.


*Chapin*, pp. 6-7, and 17. Reverend John G. Bergen was born at Hightstown, New Jersey, on November 27, 1790. He attended Baskinridge Academy, then entered Princeton college from which he graduated in 1808 and served as a tutor at the same institution for two years thereafter. In 1828 he went West and arrived at Springfield in the same year.

1881 History, p. 517.

1881 History, p. 274. In August of 1843, Edmund B. Roberts ran as a Democrat for the office of Probate Judge and was defeated by Whig Thomas Moffett, by a vote of 1,685 to 1,043.

*Power*, p. 232-233: William M. Cowgill was born near Lebanon, Warren County, Ohio, and was married early in 1832, in Lebanon, to Clementine Sayre, a native of the same county. They moved in the spring of that year to Springfield, Ill., and had five children. William M. Cowgill was engaged in mercantile pursuits from 1832 to 1844, in Springfield, [a portion of the time as a member of the firm of S. M. Tinsley & Co.] when he moved to Petersburg. He died in Petersburg, Menard County, in 1862. 1881 History, p. 652.


1881 History, pp. 84: Edward J. Phillips: one of lawyers practicing in Springfield between 1831-1841; 86: “Edward J. Phillips, one of the first to commence here the practice of law in the second decade, was a man of fine personal appearance, above average in scholarship, and a fine business man. He continued the practice of his profession but a short time, and then secured a position in the State bank, and as an officer of that institution was exceedingly popular as he was also in social life.” 600: Methodist steward; and 186: mentioned.

*Journal*, August 31, 1833, p. 3, cl. 2.

James Frazier Reed, was born November 14, 1800, in County Armagh, Northern Ireland. His ancestors were Polish and immigrated to northern Ireland rather than submit to Russian power. The family name was originally Reednskbi, but in time the Polish “nosi” was dropped, and the family was called Reed. James F. Reed’s mother’s name was Frazier, whose ancestors belonged to the Scottish Clan Frazier. The widowed Mrs. Reed, and her son, James F., came to America when he was a youth, and settled in Virginia. He remained there until 1820, when at age twenty he left for the lead mines in northwestern Illinois. He was engaged in mining until 1831, when he came to Springfield. He served in the Black Hawk War, and at its conclusion returned to Springfield, where he engaged in mercantile pursuits, made money, and bought a farm near Springfield. Did he meet Frank or take Frank to the lead mines in Galena? Frank received a Certificate of Freedom in Jo Davis County in 1830. On October 14, 1835, James married Margaret Wilson Keys Keyes Backenstoe, a young widow with an infant daughter, Virginia. For several years, Reed manufactured cabinet furniture at a point on the Sangamon River, seven miles east of Springfield. He employed a large number of men, and a village grew up there, which, in honor of his first name, was called Jamestown. It has since been changed to Riverton. In 1834, he married Mrs. Margaret W. Backenstoe, whose maiden name was Keyes, a daughter of Humphrey Keyes. In April, 1846, John and Margaret Reed and their family together with many others, started overland for California with the now famous Reed-Donner Party. The Reed’s survived the trip and settled at San Jose Mission, California, and invested in land. John was among the first California gold hunters and was very successful. In the early spring of 1846 a notice, signed “G. Donner and Others” appeared in the Sangamo Journal. “Who wants to go to California without costing them anything?” the first sentence read. The services of eight young men of good character who were able to drive ox-teams were solicited. The party was quickly made up. With the families of James F. Reed and George Donner as nuclei, thirty-four persons left Springfield on April 14, 1846. Other groups joined them as they moved westward. One month after departure they were on the Kansas River a hundred miles west of Independence in a company which totaled more than three hundred men, women and children. Soon afterward, however, the majority of the emigrants, whose destination was Oregon, selected a northern route, while the Reeds and Donners, with a smaller number, pushed on for California. James F. Reed was able to write back to Gershom Keyes in Springfield: “The disasters of the company to which I belonged, should not deter any person from coming who wishes to try his fortune.”

IRAD.

*Journal*, March 23, 1833.

*Journal*, July 20, 1833.
ENDNOTES


309 Angle, p. 40.


311 Doctor Samuel Willard was born on December 30, 1821 in Lunenburg, Essex County, Vermont. On the night of November 7 1837, he witnessed some of the events around the pro-slavery mob killing of Elijah P Lovejoy. The Martyrdom of Lovejoy. An Account of the Life, Trials and Perils of Rev. Elijah P. Lovejoy, Who Was Killed by a Pro-Slavery Mob, at Alton, Ill., on the Night of November 7, 1837. By an Eye-Witness, Henry Tanner, Fergus Printing Co., Chicago, 1881. (Hereinafter referred to as "The Martyrdom of Lovejoy.") Samuel contributed several pages to Tanner’s book. Samuel and his father, Julius A. Willard, were charged with assisting in the escape of a fugitive at Jacksonville, in 1843, while Samuel was a student in Illinois College. "The National Corporation Reporter," gave an account of this affair, together with a letter from Samuel, in which he states that, after protracted litigation, during which the case was carried to the Supreme Court, it was ended by his pleading guilty before Judge Samuel D. Lockwood, when he was fined one dollar and costs. He enlisted in the 97th Regiment of the Illinois Volunteers on September 5 1862, and acted as the surgeon for the regiment. He resided in Springfield Illinois from October 1863 to September 1870 when he moved to Chicago. Doctor Samuel Willard died on February 9 1913 in Chicago, Illinois. The Underground Railroad, Historical Encyclopedia of Illinois, 1901, transcribed by Kim Torp. http://genealogytrails.com/il/undergroundrailroad.html

312 My First Adventure with a Fugitive Slave: The Story of It and How It Failed, Samuel Willard, typewritten manuscript, no date, Special Collections Division, ALPL.

313 William Chauncy Carter was born in New Canaan, Connecticut, on April 2, 1820, and died in Jacksonville, Illinois, on December 9, 1896. At age thirteen, William was brought by his parents to Illinois. In the spring of 1834, the family located on a farm about four miles south of Jacksonville, where his father had purchased 80 acres. William graduated from Illinois College in 1845. For four years, he farmed and taught school near Jacksonville during the winter. He purchased a farm and spent his active life farming. William’s barn was an underground railroad station. Historical Encyclopedia Of Illinois & History Of Morgan County, Munsel Publishing Company, publishers, 1906.

314 My Second Adventure with A Fugitive Slave: and How It Was Won, Samuel Willard, typewritten manuscript, no date, Special Collections Division, ALPL.


318 Power, pp. 467-468.


320 The house may be reached by going west on Route 97 (Jefferson Street) from Springfield to Bradfordton; 2 miles from the intersection of Jefferson Street and Veterans Parkway. At Bradfordton, continue west for one mile on Route 97 to the first road on the right (north), Lincoln Trail. The intersection of Lincoln Trail and Route 97 is marked as 5.5 West and 1.95 North, being the distance from the intersection of First and Washington Streets in Springfield. Turn right on Lincoln Trail and go one mile north. The house sits back on the left (west) side of the road.

321 Power, p. 198.

322 Communicant Register of Farmington-Farmingdale United Presbyterian Church, Mary E. Stone, typed manuscript, p. 82. (Hereinafter referred to as "Communicants.") SVC.


325 Power, pp. 576-577.


327 Genius.


330 Communicants, p. 69.

331 Genius.
LINCOLN'S SPRINGFIELD

THE EARLY AFRICAN AMERICAN POPULATION
OF SPRINGFIELD, ILLINOIS
(1818-1861)

ENDNOTES

33 Power, p. 593.
33 1881 History, p. 914.
33 Illinois Statewide Marriage Index, 1763-1900, 001/0110.
33 Speech of Clinton L. Conkling to the Synod of Illinois, October 19, 1916, Special Collections Division, ALPL. (Hereinafter “Conkling Speech.”)
33 Ninety Years of Service in Springfield, a paper read at the celebration of the ninetieth anniversary of the organization of the Westminster Presbyterian Church of Springfield, Illinois, May 25, 1925, Rev. Walter R. Cremeans, D.D. (Hereinafter “Ninety Years of Service.”)
33 Zucker, p. 220.
34 The full text of the Certificates of Freedom may be found in Appendix H.
34 Sangamon County Commissioners Record, IRAD.
34 Illinois Statewide Marriage Index, 1763–1900.
34 Illinois Statewide Marriage Index, 1763–1900.
34 Illinois Statewide Marriage Index, 1763–1900.
34 Journal, November, 1834.
34 Sugar Creek, p. 123.
34 The Origins of Westminster Church, Speech of Floyd Barringer, Westminster Presbyterian Church, Springfield, May 1, 1985.
34 Journal, circa February 17, 1835.
34 C.W., v.1, p. 37.
34 Sangamon County, Illinois Recorder of Deeds, Book B, page 538, IRAD.
35 Sangamon Presbytery (Presbyterian Church in the U.S.A.) Minutes, Vol. 1, 1831-1847, April 6, 1835. The Department of History, Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.), 425 Lombard Street, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. (Hereinafter referred to as “Sangamon Presbytery Minutes.”)
35 Illinois Statewide Marriage Index, 1763–1900.
35 1881 History, p. 605.
35 Minutes of Session and Church Register, Second Presbyterian Church, Vol. 1, 1835-1867, records in possession of Westminster Presbyterian Church, Springfield, Illinois. (Hereinafter “Minutes of the Second Presbyterian Church.”)
35 Ninety Years of Service.
35 Chapin, pp. 6-7.
35 Norton.
35 1881 History, pp. 255.
36 1881 History, pp. 180, 283, 402, 628 and 682: John G. Ives, Secretary of the Board of Trade, has been a resident of Springfield since 1839. He was born in Oneida county, New York, in 1818; learned the jeweler’s and watch maker’s trade in his native State, and worked at the bench there, and after coming to Springfield, until 1855. In that year he erected the Aetna mill and run it ten years. He sold it in 1865, and the two following years, 1866 and 1867, he filled the office of Treasurer of Sangamon county, being elected on the Republican ticket against a usual Democratic majority of several hundred. Since retiring from that office, Mr. Ives has been chiefly identified with the grain traffic. He was also twice elected to the Board of Supervisors. In 1843, he married Miss Abigail Watson, a native of Nashville, Tennessee. They have three sons and a daughter, the latter married and living in Denver, Colorado. One of the sons is there also, the other two reside in Springfield. Mr. Ives is a Master in the Masonic Order, was for many years an active member of L.O.O.F. and a number of years Treasurer of the Grand Lodge.
36 1881 History, p. 287. 1830 note for State Capitol.
36 Power, pp. 616-617. Ridgely, Nicholas H., was born April 27, 1800, on his father’s tobacco plantation in Maryland, near Baltimore; was educated in Baltimore, and was engaged in mercantile business there until April, 1828, when he removed to St. Louis, Mo., and became a clerk in the United States branch bank; established there shortly after his arrival. He continued in this position until May, 1835, when he was appointed cashier of the State Bank of Illinois, incorporated in that year, which office he held until the termination of the charter of the bank, and was one of the trustees who finally closed the business of the bank. While engaged in this closing process, and afterwards, he carried on a private banking business on his own account, and organized “Clark’s Exchange Bank of Springfield,” and continued his connection with it until it was discontinued, and all its obligations promptly and fully discharged. In 1866 he, in connection with Charles and William Ridgely—his sons,—J. Taylor Smith, and Lafayette Smith, organized “The Ridgely National Bank of Springfield.” He became President, and has continued in this office ever since. He has thus been actively engaged in the banking business constantly for forty-eight years. He has been married twice, and has a family of thirteen adult children living, namely: Sarah married Rev. Richard V. Dodge, and resides in Chicago. Vincent is married, and now resides in Adams county, Illinois. Sophia married J. Taylor Smith, of Springfield, Illinois, Redick M. is married, and now resides in Springfield, Illinois. Henry married, and now resides in Springfield, Illinois. Charles married, and now resides in Springfield, Illinois. Julia married John H. Rea, now of Chicago. William is unmarried, and resides in Springfield, Illinois. Anna married James L. Hudson, of Springfield, Illinois. Mary married Chas. E. Hay, of Springfield, Illinois. Jane married James T. Jones, of Springfield,


Illinois Statewide Marriage Index, 1763–1900.

The Sugar Creek Country in 1840, Moses Goodwin Wadsworth, p. 2. (Hereinafter “The Sugar Creek Country in 1840.”) Power, p. 194.

Power, p. 278. Lincoln Encyclopedia, pp. 95-96. See “The Territorial Period of Illinois (1809-1818)” at page 8. Ninian W. Edwards was born on April 15, 1809, near Frankfort, Kentucky. His father, Ninian Edwards, was at the time of his birth the Chief Justice of the Court of Appeals of Kentucky, and in the same month in which Ninian was born his father was appointed Governor of the Illinois Territory. The following June, Governor Edwards moved with his family to the Illinois capital at Kaskaskia. Ninian was sent to Transylvania University in Lexington, Kentucky, and in 1833 graduated in law. On February 16, 1832, prior to his graduation, he married in Lexington, Kentucky to Elizabeth P. Todd, who was born in November of 1813. Elizabeth’s father was Robert S. Todd, also the father of Mary Todd Lincoln. Mr. Edwards began the practice of law in 1832. In 1834, Governor John Reynolds appointed him Attorney General of Illinois. The law required the Attorney General to reside at the capital in Vandalia, and Mr. Edwards, who did not like living in Vandalia, resigned the office and moved to Springfield in 1835. 1860 United States Census, p. 503. According to the 1860 Census, the Edwards family was then served by a 30 year-old Irish woman, Tierna, B. and a 15 year-old Massachusetts girl, Winslow, E. Mary Todd Lincoln died at the Edwards home in 1882. Hart Map, Sides Map. Name:’N.W. Edwards”; Brick-modified cross. Present site of Centennial Building. Built 1850’s. Razed circa 1890. “The Stately Old Baker Residence at Second and Charles Street,” Illinois State Journal, Vertical File, SVC. Angle, pp. 232, 258 and 284. 1881 History, p. 218. Lincoln Encyclopedia, pp. 95-96.

The full text of the indenture may be found in Appendix G.

Photographic Section, ALPL.

Journal, October 31, 1835, p. 4, cl. 1.

Journal, October 1, 1835.


Journal, 1835.

Journal, December 12, 1835, p. 1, cl. 3.

Special Collections Division, ALPL.

Journal, December 12, 1835, p. 3, cl. 3.

Power, p. 509-510.

Special Collections Division, ALPL.


The full text of the indenture may be found in Appendix G.

See: “Arrival of Dr. John Todd and Phoebe Todd, Slave, And Elizabeth, Her Daughter,” at page 30.

Dewey Whitney was born in 1796 at Marlborough, Vermont. His ancestors were English. He was Presbyterian. He studied with Dr. Gideon

The full text of the Indenture may be found in Appendix G.


Nicolay and Hay, p. 154.

Journal, February 11, 1837, p. 3, cl. 3.

Power, p. 690. Dan Stone was born March 13, 1800, in Monkton, Addison County, Vermont, and graduated at Middlebury College, in his native State, in 1818. He went to Cincinnati and studied law with his uncle, Ethan Stone, and was married in that city in 1824 to Augusta M. Farnsworth, who was born March 8, 1808, in Vermont, also. Mr. Stone practiced law in Cincinnati a few years, and during that time was a member of the State Legislature of Ohio, and for years a member of the City Council. He moved to Springfield, Illinois, in 1834, and in 1836 was elected on of the Representatives of Sangamon County to the Legislature of Illinois. Hew was, consequently, one of the “Long Nine.” While a member of the Legislature he received the appointment of Judge of the circuit Court, and was assigned to the district in the extreme northwester part of the State, and moved to Galena. He was a Whig. November 9, 1833: Dan Stone, atty & Counselor—for ____ in Kirkman’s Row—near Public Square: Journal, December 28, 1833: Dan Stone, atty. & Counselor at law—Court House.


Oates, pp. 36-39.


Documents from the court files in the Probate Division of the Circuit Court of Sangamon County, Illinois, now archived at IRAD.

IRAD.

1881 History, p. 572.


The full text of the Indenture may be found in Appendix G.

The Lincoln Legal Papers, now Series I of the Papers of Abraham Lincoln. The Papers of Abraham Lincoln is a long-term project dedicated to identifying, imaging, and publishing, both comprehensively in electronic form and selectively in printed volumes, all documents written by or to Abraham Lincoln during his entire lifetime (1809-1865). http://www.papersofabrahamlincoln.org/

Sangamon County Commissioner Records, IRAD.

Illinois Statewide Marriage Index, 1763–1900.

Titus Kirkpatrick.

Mack Shelby.

James Frazier Reed.

Mack Shelby.

Sullivan Conant, was born Feb. 26, 1801, at Oakham, Worcester county, Mass. Lydia R. Heminway was was born November, 1803, in the Sangamon county. She is a cousin of Mrs. Mathew Cloyd.) Mr. and Mrs. John Capps had five children in Springfield, and in 1844 moved to Mt. Pulaski, where they had four, and about 1855 moved to Decatur, where they had three; thence to Iliopolis, Sangamon county. John Capps and family reside one and a half miles west of Iliopolis.

The full text of the document may be found in Appendix D.


Illinois Statewide Marriage Index, 1763-1900.

Lincoln and Herndon, pp. 8-9.

Simon, p. 81.

Simón, p. 83.

Simón, p. 97. Those signing included 56 of Quincy, 42 of Galesburg, 32 of Jacksonville, 23 of the Alton, 21 of Springfield, 17 of Farmington, and 5 of Chatham and 72 in other places. Significantly, no one south of Alton signed the convention call

Simón, p. 97.

ALPL. In the fall of 1996, the Illinois State Historical Library purchased this handbill, believed to be the only extant copy.

Abel W. Estabrook attended school at Illinois College. He lived at Farmington, Sangamon County, Illinois.

Sullivan Conant, was born Feb. 26, 1801, at Oakham, Worcester county, Mass. Lydia R. Heminway was was born November, 1803, in the same county. They were married Sept. 10, 1822, at Shutesbury, Mass., where they had three children, and moved to Amherst, where they had one child. They returned to Shutesbury, and from there started west, Nov. 2, 1830, traveling in wagons to Troy, N. Y., 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, Ill., where the youngest child died. In January, 1831, Mr. Conant started with his family, in a sleigh, to visit some old friends near Carrollton, Greene county, Ill., going by Iliopolistown, now East St. Louis. They continued their journey by Jacksonville to Springfield, arriving Feb. 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.” They had five children born in Springfield. Mrs. Lydia R. Conant died May 30, 1867, and Sullivan Conant was married again. He resides in Springfield.

Special Collections Division, ALPL.

See page 70 for a biography of Josiah Porter.

Porter. See page 70 for a biography of Josiah Porter.

Norton.

Chapin, p. 18.

Noye, p. 254.

Journal, September 3, 1836, p. 3, cl. 3: minister and trustee of Princeton Academy. The First Presbyterian Church 1833-1913, by Philo Adams Otis, 1913, assembled by Barry Smith, historian, Lincoln Park Presbyterian Church, Chicago.

The Rev. Jeremiah Porter was born in Hadley, Mass., December 27, 1804. The Rev. Jeremiah Porter was born in Hadley, Mass., December 27, 1804. The Rev. Jeremiah Porter was born in Hadley, Mass., December 27, 1804. He came of a lineage which represented the best families in that commonwealth. His grandfather, Hon. Samuel Porter, married Susanna, a granddaughter of Jonathan Edwards, the elder, “one of the brightest luminaries,” says Robert Hall, “of the Christian Church, not excluding any country or age, since the apostolic, and by whose death Calvinism lost its ablest defender.” Jeremiah Porter was educated at Hopkins Academy and Williams College, entering Williams in the same class with David Dudley Field. In the year ahead of him, were Mark Hopkins and Brainerd Kent, our “Father Kent.” I who founded Railroad Mission. Mr. Porter was graduated in 1825, and in the same year entered Andover Theological Seminary. Doubting if he was called to the ministry, he left the Seminary after two years, and in the spring of 1828 took charge of a high school in Troy, N. Y. He entered Princeton Theological Seminary in 1830, and in the autumn of 1831, after graduation, was ordained at the request of the American Home Missionary Society, as a Missionary Evangelist. In November, he began his missionary work at Fort Brady, Sault Ste. Marie, Michigan Territory, holding a revival in the fort and town, and organizing a Church of five members, which soon increased to thirty-three.

The home Missionary for May, 1832, contains an article by young Porter, giving some experiences of pioneer life at Fort Brady, with an account of his journey from the East and the primitive conveyances in use at that time. After eight days and nights of continuous travel,
he reached Detroit (Fort Gratiot), only to wait another ten days for a vessel going up the lakes. Seven days more were consumed in going to Mackinac, where he was again “held up,” (the last vessel for the season having gone) until a canoe was sent for him from the Sault. In this frail craft, propelled by two French boatmen, whose language he could not speak, with a black man for a companion, in bitter cold weather, the last ninety miles of his voyage were accomplished.

In later life, Mr. Porter often spoke of the long voyage in May, 1833, when he accompanied the troops, under the command of Major Fowle, from the Sault Ste. Marie to Fort Dearborn. He dwelt with pleasure on his recollections of a little child; then only a year and a half old, the daughter of Major Fowle, who helped to brighten his tedious trip. “It was her mother,” says Dr. Mitchell, “who may be said to have brought to this place the founder of its first Christian Church, or at least to have been the right hand helper of the pioneer.” Forty years after that voyage, when Mr. Porter was in Boston, a lady sought him out and asked him if he were the Minister who accompanied Major Fowle and the troops to Chicago in 1833. Learning that he was, she replied: “Do you remember the little girl that was on board? I am that little girl.” She became the wife of Mr. Henry F. Durant of Boston, and at that time (1873), she and her husband were engaged in the generous enterprise of founding Wellesley College.

The Rev. Jeremiah Porter organized the First Presbyterian Church, of Chicago, in the capacity of a Missionary Evangelist, representing the American Home Missionary Society, but never having been installed, he could not be properly called its first Minister. The First Presbyterian Church, founded by him on June 26, 1833, is the oldest religious Society in Chicago—older than the town of Chicago, which was not incorporated until August 10, 1833. Mr. Porter aided the Baptists in starting their first Society, October 19, 1833, and gave the use of the Presbyterian meeting house to the Episcopalians for the organization of St. James’ Church in October, 1834.

During the first two years of its existence, the infant Church was more or less dependent on the Home Missionary Society for its support. Mr. Porter’s position being that of stated supply. His whole life seems to have been consecrated to missionary work on the frontier, organizing Churches and planting the good seed in carefully selected places, leaving to others the care and management and gathering of the fruit. And what a goodly heritage has come down to us!

In 1835, Dr. Porter accepted the call to the Main Street Presbyterian Church, Peoria, Ill., where he felt there was great need for the preaching of the Gospel. Dr. Porter’s next pastorate was in Farmington, Fulton County, Ill., where he labored until the spring of 1840, and then accepted a call to the Presbyterian Church of Green Bay, Wis., remaining there eighteen years. From Green Bay, he came, in 1858, to the Edward’s Congregational Church of Chicago.

Mr. Henry W. Dudley in his address (Memorial Service, 1904) on the life of Dr. Porter, said: “I speak of Dr. Porter from two standpoints; first, from my affection for him as the founder of this Church, with which I have now been connected some forty years; and second, from the fact, that when I felt it my duty to enlist as a soldier in the Civil War, I found to my surprise on going into the field that the Rev. Jeremiah Porter was Chaplain of the Regiment, to which my company (B), of Taylor’s Battery, had been assigned. His relation to our company was especially intimate, as he had a son, James W. Porter, now a member of this Church, and a nephew, Harmon T. Chappell, in our ranks.”

I cannot give a better account of the noble services of Dr. and Mrs. Porter in the Sanitary and Christian Commissions during the Civil War than by quoting the words of Dr. Barrows, in his sermon at the Jubilee Services in 1883:

“Dr. and Mrs. Porter joined the army for service in the field at Cairo, in March, 1862, and labored in the hospitals at Cairo, Mound City, Pittsburg Landing, Memphis, and Vicksburg. Dr. Porter entered Vicksburg on July 6, 1863, and helped bury the dead found in the hospitals. During the next winter, he ministered to the Presbyterian Church in Vicksburg, and served in the city hospitals, while Mrs. Porter followed with sanitary stores the army corps in Tennessee and Alabama. Dr. Porter joined his wife under Kennesaw Mountain, and passed the summer of 1864 at Marietta, Ga., until the capture of Atlanta, ministering to the wants of the sick and wounded of our army, and also to the needs of the Confederate prisoners. Five of the Confederate officers and twenty of the Confederate soldiers gave to Mrs. Porter certificates testifying to her great kindness to them, and asking like kindness to her, if she should ever become a prisoner. Dr. and Mrs. Porter were at Savannah a few days after General Sherman made a Christmas gift of that city to the nation. After the surrender of Lee, they went to Washington to labor with the troops there, and, later, accompanied General Logan’s army to Louisville, Ky., and remained with that corps till July 31, 1865. Later in the year, Dr. Porter was sent by the United States Christian Commission to the troops on the Rio Grande, who were ordered there to protect our border from the aggressions of France under the Emperor Maximilian. Mrs. Porter was sent there at the same time with supplies, by the North West Sanitary Commission. Their work with the troops having been accomplished, and the Rio Grande Seminary having been revived by Mrs. Porter, they were called to Chicago in the spring of 1866. That year, Dr. Porter accepted the call to the Congregational Church at Prairie du Chien, Wis., and in 1868, he became pastor of the Presbyterian Church in Brownsville, Tex., and with his wife and the Misses Grant of Chicago, took charge of the Rio Grande Seminary. In 1870, Dr. Porter was appointed by the United States Senate, Post Chaplain, U. S. A., at Fort Brown, and officiated there until 1873. He was then transferred to Fort Sill, Indian Territory, and in 1875, to Fort Russell, Wyoming Territory. He was retired from service by act of Congress, June 30, 1882. Few lives have been as eventful and useful as those here sketched. There are multitudes on earth and in heaven who call them blessed.”

Dr. Porter’s last days were quietly passed in the home of his beloved daughter at Beloit, Wis., where he died on July 25, 1893, in the ninetieth year of his age. At the funeral services, held in the College Chapel, Pastor Hamlin preached from the text of Dr. Porter’s first
sermon in Fort Dearborn: “Herein is my Father glorified, that ye bear much fruit” (St. John xv: 8), a text happily illustrated by the fruitful life of this beloved, successful missionary.

Zucker, p. 254.

1881 History, p. 251.

1881 History, p. 544.


Chapin, p. 18.

Edward W. Beecher.

Chapin, p. 18.

Illinois Synod Minutes, v. 1, 1831-1855, pp. 119-121.

A Walk Through Oak Ridge Cemetery, Floyd Barringer. History of Westminster Presbyterian Church, 3 volumes, Clinton L. Conkling, manuscript. Day by Day, p. 81. October 23, 1837. (Hereinafter referred to as “History of Westminster Presbyterian Church.”)

Reverend Gideon Blackburn was a staunch antislavery man. Zucker, p. 239.

Rev. Albert Hale was the minister of the Bethel Church in Bond County, Illinois from 1832 to 1836. Norton, p. 99.

William Carr was one of several of Alton’s most militant ant-abolitionists. Zucker, p. 238.

A young Kentuckian recently appointed the Attorney General of Illinois and the leader of a group of several of Alton’s most militant anti-abolitionists to the Convention.

Zucker, p. 239.

He was from Jacksonville, Illinois and was one of the founders of the Congregational Church there.

1881 History, pp. 830, 287 and 605.

Chapin, pp. 18-19.

Barringer, p. 7.

Hostick Collection, Special Collections Division, ALPL. (Hereinafter “Hostick Collection.”) See page 103 for a description of the real estate.

Hostick Collection.

Reverend Asa Turner was an antislavery Congregational minister. Zucker, p. 251.

Transcript in the Special Collections Division, ALPL.


Lot No. Six (6) in Block No. Twelve 12.

Hostick Collection.


Journal, May 5, 1838

Manuscript File of Elijah Iles, Special Collections Division, ALPL.

Special Collections Division, ALPL.

Sangamon County Commissioners Court, v. 4, p. 2. March 5, 1838. IRAD.


C.W., v.1, p. 37.

The church today is named “Zion Baptist Missionary Church” and it is located at 1601 East Laurel Street, Springfield, Illinois. 217-528-6113.

Zion Missionary Baptist Church, 145th Anniversary, Bulletin, dated April 24, 1983. Maria Vance, p. 35.


The High School referred to was the square block between Washington and Adams, and Pasfield and College. This had been the site of the City Graveyard.

The old 4th Street church. African Methodist Episcopal Church.

Casey.


Journal, April 14, 1838, p. 3, cl. 5.


Prophet, p. 394.

The full text of the Indentures may be found in Appendix G.

Illinois Statewide Marriage Index, 1763-1900.

Journal; July 14, 1838, p. 1, cl. 1.
Josiah Francis: 1860 police magistrate, home: south side of Mason, between 7th and 8th (Conn.).

The full text of the Indentures may be found in Appendix G.

The Power family

Erastus Wright Manuscript File, Special Collections Division, ALPL.

1881 History, p. 502. ...Isaac Bancroft, who was born April 29, 1776, and Mercy Coburn, who was born March 12, 1781. Native of Massachusetts, where they were married March 5, 1799...In 1803, ...emigrated to St. Lawrence county, New York, being the first man that paid for his land in the county...In 1839, left his home in St. Lawrence county, New York, coming through with teams and making the trip in six weeks, and located in Springfield, where they remained until 1844, when he died. Previous to his death he purchased the land in section nineteen, Cantrall, Fancy Creek Township, Sangamon County, Illinois.

Josiah Francis: 1860 police magistrate, home: south side of Mason, between 7th and 8th (Conn.), (55 in 1860).


Erastus Wright Manuscript File, Special Collections Division, ALPL.

1881 History, p. 902. ...Isaac Bancroft, who was born April 29, 1776, and Mercy Coburn, who was born March 12, 1781. Native of Massachusetts, where they were married March 5, 1799...In 1803, ...emigrated to St. Lawrence county, New York, being the first man that paid for his land in the county...In 1839, left his home in St. Lawrence county, New York, coming through with teams and making the trip in six weeks, and located in Springfield, where they remained until 1844, when he died. Previous to his death he purchased the land in section nineteen, Cantrall, Fancy Creek Township, Sangamon County, Illinois.

Power, p. 528. Thomas Moffitt, was born April 13, 1797, in that part of Montgomery, which is now Bath county, Kentucky, and came to Springfield, Illinois, November 14, 1826. He married January 22, 1829, in Morgan County, Illinois, to Eliza A. Gatton, who was born July 26, 1810, in Kentucky, also. They had eight children in Springfield. Thomas Moffitt taught school when he came to Springfield, devoting all the time at his command to the study of law, and was licensed to practice in 1828 or ‘9. He was Orderly Sergeant in a company from Sangamon county in the Winnebago war of 1827, and in 1832 was captain of a company in the Black Hawk war. He served two years as county commissioner, and from 1843 served as Judge of the Probate Court. Under the constitution of 1848, he was elected County Judge for four years. He has for many years been a Ruling Elder in the Second Presbyterian church of Springfield. 1881 History, pp. 50, 77,78, 83, 84, 111, 274, 282, 298, 431, 439, 605, 849, 856, 164.

Power, p. 753. John B. Watson, born Feb. 10, 1800, in York District, South Carolina, and came to Illinois with his father, settling somewhere in Randolph county. He was married in Kaskaskia, April 9, 1829, to Mary Gillis, who was born in Wilmington, Delaware, Jan. 31, 1814. They moved to Springfield, soon after they were married, Mr. Watson having been to Sangamon county in 1827, to look at the country. J. B. Watson taught school the first year he resided in Springfield. He was afterwards county surveyor and engineer of the Great Western railroad. He went to California in 1849 and returned in 1852. Mrs. Mary Watson’s mother, Elizabeth Gillis, belonged to the Society of Friends, and she resided with her daughter in Springfield from about 1830 until her death, which occurred in August 1852.

Power, pp. 435 and 436: James L. Lamb, brother to George Lamb, was born Nov. 7, 1800, at Connellsville, Fayette county, Penn. His father, George Lamb, died while he was quite young, leaving six children to be cared for by the widowed mother. The family were members of the “Society of Friends”. James early desired to assist his mother in bringing up the family, and at twelve years of age went to Cincinnati, making his trip on horseback, and engaged as clerk with Hugh Glenn, a relative of the family, and a prominent merchant of that city. In 1820 J. L. Lamb removed to Kaskaskia, Ill., where he engaged in mercantile pursuits and pork packing, in company with Col. Thos. Mather and S. B. Opdycke, at that place and at Chester, Ill. This firm packed and shipped the first barrel of pork ever sent to New Orleans from Illinois. J. L. Lamb was married, Jan. 13, 1824, at Cincinnati, Ohio, to Susan H. Cramer, daughter of Dr. Cramer of that city. She was born there, Aug. 13, 1803. They moved to Springfield, Ill., in 1831, and in moving his effects it was necessary to charter a boat at St. Louis, and take it up the Kaskaskia river to the village. This was the only instance of a steam boat ascending that stream. The goods were landed at Beardstown, and transported to Springfield in wagons. Mr. and Mrs. J. L. Lamb had seven children; two died young.

1881 History, p. 686: James L. Lamb one of the early merchants and for many years one of the leading business men of Springfield, was born in Connellsville, Fayette county, Pennsylvania, November 7, 1800. At twenty years of age he came to Illinois and located in Kaskaskia, formed a partnership with a brother-in-law, Thomas Mather, and I. B. Opdycke, and engaged in general merchandising, and also carried on hogs and pork packing extensively, which they shipped south. This firm shipped the first cargo of barreled pork to New Orleans ever sent from Illinois. In 1824, Mr. Lamb, returned to Cincinnati, Ohio, and on June 13, of that year married Susan C. Cramer, daughter of Dr. John Cramer, of that city. They settled in Kaskaskia, where Mr. Lamb continued in business about eight years. In the fall of 1832, he severed his connection there and they moved to Springfield, and after a few months residence on Jefferson street settled on the site of Mrs. Lamb’s present large and beautiful homestead. The hazel brush were cleared away to make room for their primitive pioneer home, from which a cow-path lead up through where Adams street now is. Mr. Lamb assumed the mercantile business in Jefferson street, opposite the present St. Charles hotel. From there he moved to the west side of the square, and later to the corner now occupied by Hall & Herrick, at the southeast corner of the square. A number of years previous to his death he retired from that branch of business, and devoted the last years of his life to buying and packing pork. He departed from this life on December 3, 1873. Mr. Lamb was an extensive reader, especially of history and travels; possessed a vigorous, active mind, was very sociable and hospitable, and particularly fond of the society of the young. He was public spirited in a marked degree, and ready to contribute to whatever inured to the welfare and prosperity of Springfield. Descended from Quaker ancestry, the religious element was conspicuous in his nature. He was for many years a member and an elder in the Presbyterian Church. Mr. and Mrs. Lamb had one son and five daughters born of their martial union, namely, John C., proprietor of the AEina Iron Works of Springfield; Mrs. Gen. John Cook, Mrs. W. J. Black, Mrs. G.R. Brainerd, and a deceased daughter. All the living are residents of Sangamon county.


Journal, October 13, 1838, p. 3, cl. 4.

Journal, November 24, 1838 p. 3 cl. 5.

Oak Ridge Cemetery Records, Springfield, Illinois. Block 5, Lot 15 purchased by Edward F. Ball, the son of Amanda Fry and Samuel S. Ball, on August 28, 1868. *Obituary, SVC.*

Sangamon County Commissioners Records, June 1839 Term, IRAD.

Illinois Statewide Marriage Index, 1763-1900.


The full text of the indenture may be found in Appendix G.

John C. Doremus; *Christopher S. German* See “Arrival of Abolitionist at Farmington” at page 77.

Dr. James R. Gray. See “Resolution of Presbytery of Sangamon” at page 125.

A few issues for this period are on microfilm in the Newspaper Section.

*Zucker Register*.


four of the most respectable men in the State. Probably no twenty-four men could be selected in the State, with whom the people are better acquainted, or in whose honor and integrity, they would more readily place confidence. Day by Day, p. 41. November 22, 1834: Meeting of Sangamon County citizens is held at court house to consider common schools and elect delegates to state education convention, Vandalia, Dec. 5. Edmund Roberts presides and Henry E. Dummer is secretary. Resolution of Dan Stone favoring common schools is adopted and 11 delegates selected: Lincoln, Stone, Roberts, Stuart, Logan, John Dawson, William Carpenter, J. M. Early, C. R. Matheny, George Forquer and E. D. Taylor, Sangamo Journal, Nov. 29. Power, p. 620. Edmund Roberts, was born in 1785, in Farmington, New Hampshire. His ancestors were Welsh, and emigrated to New England before the Revolution. They were members of the society of Friends. Forbidden by their principles to take up arms, they, nevertheless, assisted in that struggle as far as they consistently could, by carrying supplies to the army. The subject of this sketch left New Hampshire when a young man, on horseback, for western Pennsylvania. In 1808 an Indian treaty opened the country between the Mississippi and Arkansas rivers, and as far west as Fort Clark now Peoria, Illinois. Mr. Roberts was one of the first eastern men who settled in that country. Steamboats not being used on the western waters then, he made the voyage down the Ohio river in a flatboat, and in 1810 engaged in merchandizing at St. Geneieve, Missouri, as a member of the firm of Keil, Bisch & Roberts. He afterwards removed to Kaskaskia, Ill., where he associated with himself in business, Thomas Mather and James L. Lamb. Mr. Roberts made his trips east on horseback, crossing the Ohio river at Shawneetown, Ill., often sleeping on the ground, with a saddle for a pillow. He was always liable to attacks from Indians and once lost his horse by them, compelling him to walk and carry his saddle until he could buy another. He was married, in 1819, at Mt. Pleasant, Pennsylvania, to Susan Lamb, a native of Chester county, in the same State. She was a sister to his partner, James L. Lamb. See his name. After prosecuting business for many years at Kaskaskia and Chester, he removed to Springfield, in the same State, in 1832. Mr. and Mrs. Roberts had eight children, three only of whom survive—George L., born March 16, 1821, in Kaskaskia, Ill., was married in Lebanon, Ill., to Virginia E. Horner, a native of the latter place. They had two children in Lebanon, Edmund and Virginia, and reside in Old Mission, Grand Traverse county, Michigan. James H., born Dec. 12, 1825, in Kaskaskia, Ill., was married Sept. 16, 1863, to Harriet E. Smith, who was born Dec. 6, 1840. Mrs. Harriet E. Roberts died Feb. 28, 1866, leaving two children, Lucretia B., born Sept. 6, 1864, and James H., Jun., who died in infancy. James H. Roberts was married Nov. 9, 1870, to Mrs. Susan M. Slater, whose maiden name was Lamb. They have one child, Mary T. J. Roberts and family reside in Chicago, Ill. He is engaged in business at 86 Washington street--Sept., 1876. Mary R., born July 13, 1829, in Kaskaskia, Ill., was married Nov. 11, 1857, to Benjamin M. Thomas, who was born Aug. 10, 1810, in Philadelphia, Penn. They had three children: Susan R., born Oct. 25, 1858, in Springfield, Ill.; Mary P., born April 7, 1860, in Chicago, Ill., died July 26, 1863; Morris T. P., born Feb. 27, 1862, in Chicago. Mr. Thomas died Oct. 31, 1864, in Vincennes, Ind. His widow and children reside in Chicago, Illinois. Mr. Roberts was a citizen of Illinois when it contained less than twelve thousand inhabitants. In 1829 he was appointed one of the commissioners on the part of the State of Illinois to determine the route for a canal to connect the Illinois river with Lake Michigan, and lay out town sites; Chicago and Ottawa were two of these towns. Seven years later--1836--ground was broken, and the work of constructing the canal commenced. Mr. Roberts was a firm friend of education, having himself been a teacher in his younger days. He was, in the early Eastern history of McKendree college, at Lebanon, Ill., a member of its board of trustees. His two sons were educated there. In 1846 he visited the Eastern States in the interests of this institution, and was successful in supplying it with funds and teachers. From that to the present time, McKendree college has continued to prosper. In consequence of failing health, he retired from active business about 1836, and passed many of his winters in the south, but continued to make Springfield his home. Mrs. Susan Roberts died Aug. 4, 1844. She had long been a member of the Methodist Episcopal church, loved and revered by all who knew her. In his funeral address on the occasion of her death, Rev. Dr. Akers, describing her influence, said: “She moved among her sisters like the moon among the stars.” Her husband never recovered from the shock occasioned by her death, and he died March 28, 1847, both in Springfield, and the remains of both are buried in Oak Ridge Cemetery.
ENDNOTES

57 The full text of the document may be found in Appendix D.
59 Zucker, pp. 255-256.
61 *The Sugar Creek Country in 1840*, p. 2. Sugar Creek, p. 123.
62 Thomas, p. 88.
64 Sidney McIntry was born on August 1, 1833.
65 *1881 History*, p. 287. N. A. Rankin signed the March 22, 1830 note to bring the Capitol to Springfield.
66 The full text of the indenture may be found in Appendix G.
68 *Lincoln Legals*.
69 *Journal*, July 2, 1841, p. 2, cl. 7.
70 Special Collections Division, ALPL.
72 *3 Scammon*, p. 71.
74 *Thomas*, p. 88.
76 Josephine was born on August 1, 1833.
77 The full text of the indenture may be found in Appendix G.
79 *The handbill* is in the Henry Horner Collection, ALPL.
80 See Abraham Lincoln Writes to Joshua F. Speed Concerning Luther N. Ransom at page 125. In August 1844, Luther’s wife, Zerviah, died, and Luther and his two sons moved to Utopia, Ohio on the Ohio River. There he joined a group of 250 Frenchmen who were members of a communal society known as the Fourierite Association. He married there and he and his new wife had one child, Albert. In December 1847, the Ohio River flooded and a very large brick building, owned and occupied by the Fourierites, was flooded and collapsed killing 100 persons, including Luther’s wife and two eldest children. Albert survived. In 1848, Ransom and his baby son left the Fourierites and joined the Shakers at Lebanon, Ohio. He remained with the Shakers until August, 1859, when he and his son, Albert, moved west to Lawrence, Kansas, where Luther lived until his death in July, 1872.
81 See “Arrival of New Englanders and Abolitionists at Farmington” at page 53.
84 Winkle, p. 254.
85 *Records of the County Clerk of Sangamon County, Illinois, IRAD. Illinois Statewide Marriage Index, 1763-1900*.
86 *Maria Vance*, p. 68.
87 Special Collections Division, ALPL.
88 *Journal*, February 18, 1842, p. 3, cl. 3.
89 A Story of Ancestors That Tried To Serve The Lord, typed manuscript in the library of Westminster Presbyterian Church, Springfield, Illinois.
91 *Records of the County Clerk of Sangamon County, Illinois, IRAD. Illinois Statewide Marriage Index, 1763-1900*.
93 *Register*, December 9, 1842, p. 1, cl. 5.
94 *Register*, December 9, 1842, p. 2, cl. 7.
Elizabeth Jones was born on August 25, 1828.

His residence is shown on the
The full text of the Deed of Emancipation may be found in Appendix H.

The full text of the indenture may be found in Appendix G.

The full text of the Certificate of Freedom may be found in Appendix H. 1881 History, p. 913.


The Underground Railroad, Historical Encyclopedia of Illinois, 1901, transcribed by Kim Torp.
http://genealogytrails.com/ill/undergroundroad.html

Chapin, p. 17.

1840 United States Census.

Sexton Minutes, First Presbyterian Church, Springfield, Illinois, pp. 45-47, Special Collections Division, ALPL.


1881 History, pp. 409 & 369.

Erasus Wright Manuscript File, Special Collections Division, ALPL.

Power, p. 408.

History of Westminster Presbyterian Church, p. 6.
Minutes of the Second Presbyterian Church.

The full text of the Deed of Emancipation may be found in Appendix H.

Sangamon County, Illinois Recorder of Deeds, IRAD. The full text of the deed may be found in Appendix E.


James was born on February 26, 1827.

The full text of the indenture may be found in Appendix G.


Register, September 20, 1844, page 4, cl. 5.
Register, November 29, 1844, p. 1, cl. 5.


Witness, p. 255.


Power, p. 79. Robert Allen was born in the year 1800, in Greensburg, Green county, Ky. He was married there to a Miss Anderson, and came to Springfield, Ill., in 1831. Col. Allen engaged in the mercantile business as a member of the firm of Allen & Blankenship, soon after coming to Springfield. He also became a mail contractor on a very extensive scale, and brought a large number of fine stage coaches from Nashville, Tenn., being the first ever introduced into the State. He made Springfield his headquarters, and on some occasions had as many as five hundred horses on hand at one time. Col. Allen was one of the directors of the old State Bank. He was connected with the army in the Mormon war in 1845, and in the Mexican war of 1846-7. Not long after coming to Springfield, Mrs. Allen died, and Mr. Allen was married in April, 1833, to Jane Eliza Bergen. They had two children, one of whom died young. Their son, Robert, Jun., born Feb. 28, 1837, in Springfield, and brought up in the city. When the rebellion broke out he was commissioned, August 28, 1861, as Captain of Co. - , 30 Ill. Inf., and served as such until May 25, 1863, when he was promoted to Major of the regiment, in front of Vicksburg. He served part of the time in the Quartermaster’s department; also acted as Assistant Inspector-General of the 3d Div. 17th Army Corps, and resigned August 8, 1864. Major Robert Allen was married Dec. 5, 1865, in Springfield, to Anna M. Purdy, who was born May 12, 1838, in Trenton, N. J. They had three children. George B., the youngest, died August 12, 1872, in his second year. Henry T. and Fannie M. reside with their parents in Springfield. Major Allen is a practicing attorney. Col. Robert Allen died Dec. 1, 1854, and his widow, Mrs. Jane Eliza Allen, died March 18, 1857, both one mile north of the old State house in Springfield

Minutes of the Wood River Baptist Association, 1845, pp. 3 and 4, ALPL. (Hereinafter referred to as “Minutes of Wood River Baptist Association.”)

Power, pp. 405-406.

Elizabeth Jones was born on August 25, 1828.

The full text of the indenture may be found in Appendix G.

The full text of the Certificate of Freedom may be found in Appendix H.

Minutes of the Second Presbyterian Church.


Power, p. 576: Marvin B. Pond, born Nov. 3, 1807, in New York, married there twice, came to Sangamon county in 1837, and in 1839 moved to Menard county, where he died in July 1871, leaving a family. His widow’s name was Jane Beerup.


1881 History, p.375. John E. [Edward] Jackson worked for different parties and attended school until October, 1862, when he was employed as a messenger boy in the Adjutant General’s office until August 24, 1869. He then went to Chicago, Illinois, and worked for the Pittsburgh and Fort Wayne and C.C. and I.C. Railroads as porter and conductor of a Pullman Palace Sleeper. He remained in this business until 1871, when the big fire in Chicago broke out, and he lost all he had in the fire. He returned to Springfield in 1871 and was employed in L. H. Coleman’s carpet store, where he remained about three years. On November 13, 1875, he began working in the Ridgely National Bank,
ENDNOTES

where was employed in 1881. On July 9, 1874, he was married at Springfield to Matilda J. Wright, at Springfield, Illinois, and they had three children, one living, viz.: John T.C. Jackson. Mrs. Matilda (Wright) Jackson was born in Huntsville, Missouri, on February 11, 1847. She was a daughter of Thomas J. Wright, who was born in Kentucky and came to Springfield in 1856. His wife, Sarah Fortune, was born in Virginia. Both were members of the M.E. Church. Jackson, the subject of this sketch, has a common school education, and cast his first vote for U.S. Grant for President. He owns a nice residence at 608 South Ninth street, Springfield. He and wife are members of the M.E. Church. William Ray Wood.

647 Quarles, p. 31.
649 Illinois Statewide Marriage Index, 1763–1900.
650 Journal, November 27, 1845, p. 2, cl. 5.
651 Illinois Statewide Marriage Index, 1763–1900.
652 Journal, October 18, 1839, p. 3, cl. 2.
653 Sangamon County Circuit Court, Case File Box 12, F103, IRAD.
655 Illinois Statewide Marriage Index, 1763–1900.
656 Journal, May 28, 1846, p. 3, cl. 5.
657 Chapin, p. 17.
658 Illinois Statewide Marriage Index, 1763–1900.
659 1881 History, 738 and 743. Journal, January 26, 1913, Obituary, died on January 25, 1913, age 73, at his daughter’s residence at 1013 S. Spring. States he was Lincoln’s barber.
660 1860 United States Census, p. 96. According to the 1860 City Directory, the Killion family lived at the southeast corner of Thirteenth and Mason Streets.
661 1881 History, p. 740.
662 1870 United States Census.
664 1850 United States Census.
667 Lincoln Daily Courier, Lincoln, Illinois, September 3, 1900. They lived on West 8th Street at the time of Harriet’s death on March 5, 1897. At the time of Aaron’s death on September 2, 1900, he was living at the corner of 10th and Madison Streets. Their funerals were conducted from the African Methodist Episcopal Church at 910 Broadway, and they were buried in Union Cemetery, Lincoln, Illinois. Death Record, State of Illinois Department of Public Health, Springfield, Illinois.
669 Register, January 29, 1847, p. 3, cl. 3.
670 Register, February 12, 1847, p. 3, cl. 7.
671 Minutes of the Wood River Baptist Association, 1847, pp. 4 and 5.
674 1881 History, p. 736.
676 Journal, September 4, 1906.
678 The full text of the promissory note and mortgage may be found in Appendix E.
682 Winkle, p. 255.
684 Quarles, p. 32.
685 Chapin, p. 22.
686 Winkle, p. 256.

1881 History, p. 274.

Zucker, p. 311.


Liberia Report.


ALPL.


Minutes of the Second Presbyterian Church.


Minutes of the Wood River Baptist Association, 1848, p. 4.

Illinois Statewide Marriage Index, 1763-1900.


Howard, p. 190.

Illinois Statewide Marriage Index, 1763-1900.

Register, August 4, 1849, p. 3, cl. 4.


Angle, p. 105.

Jamieson Jenkins recorded his Certificate of Freedom with the Sangamon County Recorder of Deeds on March 28, 1846, in Deed Record Book 4, p. 21. IRAD.


Register, January 17, 1850.

Register, January 18, 1850.

Journal, January 17, 1850, p. 3, cl. 1.

Journal, January 23, 1850.

Register, January 21, 1850.

Journal, January 17, 1850.

Register, January 23, 1850.

The Real Lincoln, p. 196.

Day by Day, p. 27. February 1, 1850.

Illinois Statewide Marriage Index, 1763–1900, 00001245 Sangamon. website: http://www.sos.state.il.us/departments/archives/marriage.html (Hereinafter referred to as “Illinois Statewide Marriage Index, 1763-1900.”)

Chapin, p. 22.

Van Meter, pp. 145-146.

1850 census, p. 170.

Sangamon County, Illinois Recorder of Deeds, IRAD.


Ostendorf, p. 185.

Day by Day, p. 31. April 3, 1850.

Burlingame, p. 274. Statement of Mrs. N. W. Edwards, H-W Mss, DLC.


Sangamon County, Illinois Recorder of Deeds, Book GG, pages 16-17, IRAD; 7/12th’s of Lots 5, 6, 7, Block 23, Mason’s Addition to the City of Springfield; 7/12th’s of Lot 4, Block 16, Mason’s Addition to the City of Springfield; Part of Southwest Quarter of Section 27, Township 16 North, Range 5 West, containing ½ acre Beginning at the N.W. corner of said Quarter Section running thence S 2 degrees west
three hundred and ninety six feet thence east one hundred and ten feet, thence north two degrees east three hundred and ninety six feet thence west one hundred and ten feet to the place of beginning.

736 Ball Probate


738 Quarles, pp. 48-49.

739 Illinois Statewide Marriage Index, 1763-1900.

740 Journal, September 18, 1850, p. 3, cl. 1. The full text of the pleadings may be found in Appendix E.
THE EARLY AFRICAN AMERICAN POPULATION OF SPRINGFIELD, ILLINOIS (1818-1861)

ENDNOTES

Ball Probate. Mr. Ball has visited that country, and is acquainted with all the difficulties which emigrants have to encounter. He with the Rev. A. W. Jackson, of Jacksonville, are the agents chosen by the colored people to locate this colony. As to Mr. Ball, he is too well known to the people of this State to require any thing from us in commendation of his character, and as for Mr. Jackson, we learn that he is a man of unexceptionable character, and a very intelligent Minister of the gospel.


They Knew Lincoln, p. 192.

Illinois Statewide Marriage Index, 1763-1900, 003/0060.

See William K. Donnegan: Conductor on the Underground Railroad at page 245.

Journal, November 11, 1852, p. 3, c.1.


Zucker, pp. 313-314.


Van Meter, pp. 145-146.

Zucker, pp. 313-314.

Chapin, p. 17.


Handwriting identified by Tracy McDermot, Lincoln Legal Project, Springfield, Illinois, April 1999.

Lot 7 in Block 16 of Mason’s Addition.

Lots 2 & 13 in Block 3 of Taylor & Darlings’s Addition.

½ acre of land in n.w. ¼, s.w. ¼, Sec. 27, T. 16 N.

Lot 2 in Block 16 of Mason’s Addition.

Lot 4 in Block 16 of Mason’s Addition.

Lots 5, 6 & 7 in Block 23 of Mason’s Addition.

Ball Probate.

Sangamon County Circuit Court and Recorder’s Office, Book QQ, page 637, Box 24, F. 71, IRAD.


Zucker, p. 319.

Browning Diary, v. 1, p. 124.

Session Minutes of the First Presbyterian Church, Springfield, Illinois, original in the manuscript collection of the ALPL.

Unpublished manuscript of Mary Miner Hill, Trenton, New Jersey, March 21, 1923, a copy of which may be found in the Special Collections Division of the ALPL.


Sangamon County, Illinois Recorder of Deeds, Book PP, pages 402-403, IRAD. Part of Southwest Quarter of Section 27, Township 16 North, Range 5 West, containing ¼ acre Beginning at the N.W. corner of said Quarter Section running thence S 2 degrees west three hundred and ninety six feet thence east one hundred and ten feet, thence north two degrees east three hundred and ninety six feet thence west one hundred and ten feet to the place of beginning.


Weekly Capitol Enterprise, September 9, 1854, p. 2, cl. 5.


Donald, p. 75.

Lincoln Encyclopedia, p. 61. Ichabod Coddin (1811-1866). Anti-slavery lecturer and Congregationalist minister. Coddin was born in Bristol, New York, attended Middlebury College in Vermont, and held successive pastorates in several Illinois towns in the 1840’s. He was typical of the earliest converts to the Republican party; a warmly anti-slavery man, an evangelical Protestant, and an offshoot of New England culture. He lectured widely in opposition to the Kansas-Nebraska Act and helped form the early Republican party in Illinois.

Angle, p. 213.

Lincoln Encyclopedia, p. 61.
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818 Herndon's Lincoln, II, p. 362. David Donald observes that "...this is a postwar recollection, that not one contemporary manuscript or newspaper in any way links Herndon with the abolitionist group before 1855-56....Had Herndon been an avowed abolitionist he could never have been elected mayor of Springfield in 1854." Donald, p. 74, fn. 5.
819 Journal, October 18, 1854.
820 Donald, p. 74.
821 Guardianship records of Sangamon County in re heirs of Richard Fry. IRAD. 1881 History, pp. 740 and 743.
823 Illinois Statewide Marriage Index, 1763-1900.
824 The full text of the deed may be found in Appendix E.
825 Quares, p.27.
827 Journal, April 13, 1855, p. 2, cl. 5.
829 1855 Census, p. 142.
830 1855 Census, p. 143. 1881 History, pp. 738 and 748.
832 Sangamon County, Illinois Recorder of Deeds, Book TT, pages 308-309, IRAD.
834 Illinois Statewide Marriage Index, 1763-1900.
835 Journal, April 17, 1856, p. 2, cl. 5.
836 First Methodist Church, Springfield, Illinois 125 Years, W. G. Piersel, Published by the Official Board for the 125 Anniversary Celebration, First Methodist Church, Springfield, Illinois, January 1947, p. 16.
837 Methodism in Illinois, James Learton, pastor 1858-1859, conference historian, pp. 3-4. See also, First Methodist Church, Kalb, _____, August 23, 1884, p. 24.
841 1881 History, p. 737.
842 1881 History, pp. 733, 739, and 738.
843 Sangamon County, Illinois Recorder of Deeds, Book XX, page 113, IRAD. The full text of the deed may be found in Appendix E. Lots 15 & 16, Block 16, Wells & Peck Addition.
844 Illinois Staewide Marriage Index, 1763-1900, vol. 004, p. 0553.
845 SVC.
846 Browning Diary, v. 1, p. 273.
848 Donald, pp. 103-104.
850 Journal, May 18, 1857.
851 Orville H. Browning, an influential state senator from Adams County and later Republican Senator from Illinois. On August 7, 1837, he spoke to a public meeting at the court-house in Quincy for the purpose of opposing the growing evil of abolitionism. The meeting resolved to work for African colonization as a constructive alternative to the evil doctrine of immediate abolition. Zucker, p. 253.
853 Donald, p. 166.
854 ALPL.
855 Pratt, p.166.
857 1881 History, 733, 739, 738
858 Illinois Statewide Marriage Index, 005/0007, Sangamon.
859 Journal, June 27, 1857, p. 3, cl. 2.
860 Illinois Statewide Marriage Index, 005/0007, Sangamon.
862 Angle, p. 226.
863 Donald, p. 106. Register, August 2, 1857. Herndon to Parker, August 4, 1857.
864 Journal, September 24, 1857, p. 2, cl. 3. Farmington Presbyterian Church, http://www.casscomm.com/~subcomm/history.htm Power, p. 19. Thomas Galt was born Sept. 12, 1805, in Lancaster county, Pennsylvania. He received his literary education at Jefferson college, Canonsburg, Penn., and his theological education at the Presbyterian Theological Seminary at Allegheny City, Penn. He was licensed to preach June 18, 1834, by the Presbytery of Ohio. He was married Oct. 6, 1834, in Washington county, Penn., to Sarah Happer, who was born in that county Sept. 11, 1809. They moved west in the spring of 1835, and after spending a few months in Peoria, came to

Francis Clinton, a confectioner and baker, operated a store on the north side of the public square in 1858. He bought the west half of the east half of Lot 7 in Block 11 on September 9, 1843. His three story building would have been the sixth one west from the corner of Washington and Sixth. Research of Curtis Mann, SVC.

See “Teacher Sought For ‘Colored School” at page 211 for more information on Coleman.

ENDNOTES

903 Herndon to “Gentlemen,” February 11, 1860, Special Collections Division, ALPL.
904 Donald, p. 134. Journal, February 10 and 13, 1860
905 Journal, April 21, 1860, p. 3, cl. 1.
906 Journal, May 18, 1860, p. 3, cl. 2.
907 Quarles, p. 39.
908 Quarles, p. 40.
909 Quarles, p. 28.
910 ALPL.
911 ALPL.
912 They Knew Lincoln, p. 129.
915 This photograph was taken by Springfield photographer Frederick W. Ingmire and is from the collection of Lance Ingmire, Pittsford, New York.
917 Sangamon County Probate Records.
918 Sangamon County Probate Record, 294/01 Probate Record, p. 32.
919 Sangamon County Probate Record.
920 Sangamon County Probate Record.
921 Sangamon County Probate Record.
922 Sangamon County Probate Record.
923 Sangamon County Probate Record.
924 Sangamon County Probate Record.
925 Sangamon County Probate Record.
926 Sangamon County Probate Record.
927 Sangamon County, Illinois Recorder of Deeds, IRAD.
928 Sangamon County Circuit Clerk and Recorders Office, IRAD.
929 Sangamon County Circuit Clerk and Recorders Office, IRAD.
930 The name varies in the documents between “John” and “Jehu.”
931 John York Sawyer. 1881 History, pp. 70-71 and 78: William Mendel, a lawyer: He once appeared before Judge Sawyer and behaved himself in an unbecoming manner. The judge sentenced him to jail for the night. The next morning on going to the court house a calf was discovered in the judge’s stand and lot of geese in the jury-box, with Mendal addressing them in an impassioned manner. The judge took no notice of the indignity. 1881 History, p. 83: Reminiscence by Judge William Thomas, of Jacksonville: “My Illinois license is dated October, 1826. The first court that I attended in Illinois was held in this place, November, 1826; Judge Sawyer was Circuit Judge...and the next and last judge held by Judge Sawyer was in Springfield in the same month. 1883 History, p. 174: George Brunk reminiscence “...when Judge Sawyer came to the mines, he was called “King of the Suckers” relating the origin of the term Suckers to describe those from Illinois.”
933 James L. Kirkpatrick.
934 Power, p. 707.
937 Asa S. Shaw, Esq.
938 James Crawford McNabb, born December 27, 1800, in Green County, Kentucky and married in Sangamon County, Illinois on November 8, 1825 to Ann R. Watson. He died in January 1835 near Springfield. He was the son of William and Mary Crawford McNabb who came to Sangamon County in 1820 and settled at a point which in 1876 was three miles west of Springfield. Power, p. 508.
939 John Young.
940 1881 History, pp. 79, 87, 114, 303, 72, 37, 38, 71 and 283.
941 South side of Madison, between Seventh and Eighth Streets.
942 Sangamo Journal, November 17, 1831, p. 3, cl. 4.
943 ALPL.
944 Special Collections Division, ALPL.
945 Jane Cox was the mother of Thomas Cox.
946 Asa S. Shaw, Esq.
947 “Nance, a colored girl” Manuscript, Special Collections Division, ALPL.
948 Miscellaneous Cases, IRAD.
949 The original of the documents pertaining to this matter may be found in the records of the Sangamon County Circuit Clerk now housed at IRAD.
950 Miscellaneous Cases, IRAD.
951 1881 History, p. 402.
ENDNOTES

953. Sangamon County Commissioners Records, 3rd Vol. C (1828-1832), IRAD.
954. Frank could not write his name.
955. Hostick Collection.
956. Hostick Collection.
957. Hostick Collection.
958. Hostick Collection.
959. IRAD.
960. IRAD.
963. Ball Probate.
964. Ball Probate.
966. Ball Probate.
969. Ball Probate.
970. Ball Probate.
971. Ball Probate.
972. Ball Probate.
973. 1855-56 Springfield, Illinois City Directory, p. 27.
974. Ball Probate.
975. Ball Probate.
976. Ball Probate.
977. Ball Probate.
978. Ball Probate.
979. Ball Probate.
981. Ball Probate.
982. Ball Probate.
984. Ball Probate.
985. Ball Probate.
991. 1881 History, pp. 50 (County Commissioner in 1836), 281. 13th General Assembly-Representative), 401 (Civil War: Private in Company B, 125th Infantry).
992. 1881 History, p. 647.
994. IRAD.
995. Sangamon County, Illinois Recorder of Deeds, IRAD.
996. 1893 History, p. 913.
997. Sangamon County Circuit Court and Recorders Office, IRAD.
998. Sangamon County Circuit Court and Recorders Office, IRAD.
999. Sangamon County Circuit Court and Recorders Office, IRAD.
1000. Sangamon County Commissioners Records, 4th Vol. (1833-40) Vo. D 655 p.443-444, IRAD.
1001. 1881 History, pp. 409 and 369.
1002. Erastus Wright Manuscript File, Special Collections Division, ALPL.
1003. Sangamon County Recorder of Deeds, IRAD.
1005. 1912 History, p. 483.
1006. Chapin, p. 22.
1007. Mu. = mulatto.
1008. Minutes of the Second Presbyterian Church.
1009. 226 by the count of Richard E. Hart.
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**Washington**

Mary

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