Lincoln’s Springfield

JOEL JOHNSON

SPRINGFIELD HOTEL KEEPER

Spring Creek Series

Richard E. Hart

Curtis Mann, Special Contributor
Michael Kienzler, Foreword
**Front Cover Photograph**: Drawing of Revere House (Johnson’s Building) from *Illustrated Atlas Map of Sangamon County, Illinois, 1874*, p. 78.

**Back Cover Photograph**: *Souvenir of Springfield*, published by H. E. Barker, Art Dealer, Springfield, Illinois, 1890. The apparent park in the foreground has geometric walkways crisscrossing the park. Speculation is that they may have been paths for carriages to use when picking up or dropping off passengers on the railroad that adjoined the park to the west.

---

*Some traveler writes to the New York Tribune from this city: There are several hotels in this city. The City Hotel is kept by Mr. Johnson, a genuine specimen of the western landlord, enterprising, liberal and energetic in his superintendence of every department, highly intelligent, and unwearied in his endeavors to please and oblige all, even in circumstances that might justify a little neglect. The occurrence of a masonic celebration and a projected fair, had brought a large concourse of country people to the place, and at every meal, both stratagem and force were necessary to guard the quiet inmates of the house from the rush of a tumultuous crowd, every man of which scrambled in and devoured what was before him, as if life, with all its blessings, depended on his despatching the repast in two minutes and three quarters.*

*Journal*, November 4, 1852.

---

*Lincoln’s Springfield: Joel Johnson: Springfield Hotel Keeper*
Spring Creek Series.
Copyright 2020 by Richard E. Hart, Springfield, Illinois. All rights reserved.
First Printing, December 2020.

Richard E. Hart  
Suite 501, One North Old State Capitol Plaza  
Springfield, Illinois 62701-1323  
(217) 553-0055  
rhart121342@gmail.com
Joel Johnson: Springfield Hotel Keeper

Joel Johnson’s Three Springfield Hotels

While living in Springfield, Abraham Lincoln was familiar with two hotels located at the corner of Fourth and Washington streets. Joel Johnson constructed and operated both, but not at the same time. These two hotels and an additional, earlier one operated by Johnson on the west side of Springfield’s Public Square are described here.

Hotel Number One
West Side of Public Square

_Springfield Hotel_
1837-1839
Joel Johnson

Hotel Number Two
Northeast Corner of Fourth and Washington Streets

_City Hotel_
1840-1855
Joel Johnson

_Chenery House_
1855-1883
William D. Chenery
John W. Chenery

_Hotel Palace_
1883-1899
David J. Block

Hotel Number Three
Northwest Corner of Fourth and Washington Streets

_Johnson’s Building_
1856-1869
Joel Johnson

_Revere House_
1869-1877
Joel Johnson
1878-1893
Edward S. Johnson
1857 Improvements

A block of five brick stores on the corner of Fourth and Washington Streets, 92 feet front on Washington street, and 45 on Fourth street, three stories, and basement for bath house, barber shop &c., under the whole building; owned by Joel Johnson. The upper stories are finished off for private rooms and offices. Designed and drawn by T. J. Dennis; Warwick & Ball builders; brick work by George Wise; plastering by Hosford & Young; painting by Willard and Zimmerman. Cost $12,000

Journal, January 6, 1858.

President-elect Lincoln’s Office in Johnson’s Building

Late in December (1860), in anticipation of the meeting of the legislature, when the Governor would need his office for his own use, Lincoln and Nicolay moved from the State House to Johnson’s Building across the street from the Chenery House. There, and in a vacant room over the store of C.M. Smith, his brother-in-law, where he could work on his inaugural address in privacy, Lincoln spent most of his time.

Paul M. Angle, Here I Have Lived.1

From his headquarters just a block west of the State House in Number 4 of the Johnson Building at the northwest corner of Fourth and Washington, Abraham Lincoln closely observed the political actions of the Legislature.

Sunderine and Wayne C. Temple, Abraham Lincoln and Illinois’ Fifth Capitol.2

Next day was Christmas (December 25, 1860). As the weather had again turned inclement, and the holidays tended to keep people at home, the week was a quiet one. It was also the last in which the casual visitor could have easy access to the President Elect. Lincoln relinquished the Governor’s room in the State House, his office since early in the canvass, for the Illinois legislature was soon to assemble and the room would be needed. The copious letter and newspaper files managed by John Nicolay were moved to a room in Johnson’s Building, across from the Chenery House, a well-known Springfield hotel a block west of the State House. Nicolay spent all his time in the new office while Lincoln came in occasionally. Visitors were received by the President Elect at his home, a half mile southeast of the State House.

William A. Baringer, A House Dividing.3

# Table of Contents

**JOEL JOHNSON’S THREE SPRINGFIELD HOTELS** ................................................................. I

**FOREWORD** ....................................................................................................................... VII

**INTRODUCTION** .................................................................................................................. IX

**THE EARLY YEARS BEFORE SPRINGFIELD** (1806-1832) .................................................. 1

1806 1
Birth of Joel Johnson May 21, 1806 ......................................................................................... 1

1811 1
Joel Johnson’s Mother Leaves Him With Uncle ..................................................................... 1

1824 1
Joel Johnson’s Mother Moves to Rochester, Illinois ............................................................. 1

1832 1
Joel Johnson Goes West to Visit Mother in Illinois .............................................................. 1
Joel Johnson Stops in St. Louis Upon Return East ................................................................. 1
Joel Johnson Finds Work in St. Louis as Boot and Shoe Maker ............................................ 1
Joel Johnson Moves to Edwardsville, Illinois ..................................................................... 1

**THE EARLY SPRINGFIELD YEARS** (1833-1839) ................................................................ 3

1833 3
Joel Johnson Moves to Springfield, Illinois ......................................................................... 3
Joel Johnson Advertises New Boot and Shoe Shop ............................................................... 3
Possible Location of Shoe Shop ........................................................................................... 4

1834 5
Joel Johnson Marries Elizabeth “Eliza” Newman ................................................................. 5
Joel Johnson Borrows $184 and Uses Leased Lots as Collateral .......................................... 5

1835 5
Joel Johnson Advertises Boot and Shoe Shop ..................................................................... 5

1836 6
Joel Johnson Requests Payment of Accounts Due ........................................................... 6
Joel Johnson Sells Part of Lot to William Florville ............................................................. 6
William Florville Moves to Building West of Mr. Rague’s Bake Shop ............................... 7
Joel Johnson Advertises Boot and Shoe Store .................................................................... 7

1837 7
Joel Johnson Requests Payment of Accounts Due Him .................................................... 7

**THE SPRINGFIELD HOTEL YEARS (1837-1839)** ............................................................ 8

1837 8
Joel Johnson’s First Advertisement For His Springfield Hotel on the Square .................... 8
Abraham Lincoln Comes to Springfield ................................................................................ 8
Joel Johnson Advertises Seven Tenements For Rent ........................................................ 8
Abraham Lincoln Represents Joel Johnson Monday, October 9, 1837 .............................. 9
Abraham Lincoln Represents Joel Johnson Tuesday, November 7, 1837 ........................... 9

1838 9
Joel Johnson Advertises Seven Tenements For Rent ........................................................ 9
Joel Johnson Signs Note to Facilitate Financing of Move of Capitol to Springfield March 22, 1838 ................................................................. 9

1839 10
Joel Johnson Purchases the Indian Queen Hotel at the Northeast Corner of Second and Jefferson Streets ................................................................. 10
Joel Johnson Advertises Springfield Hotel on Fifth Street .................................................. 11

**THE CITY HOTEL YEARS (1840-1855)** ........................................................................... 12

1840 12
Joel Johnson Opens City Hotel at Washington and Fourth Streets .................................. 12
Large Pumpkin Displayed at Johnson’s City Hotel ............................................................ 12
Lithographs at Johnson’s City Hotel ................................................................................... 13

1841 13
Backwoodsman Pleased with Johnson’s City Hotel ......................................................... 13

1842 13
Joel Johnson improves City Hotel and Gives Rates ......................................................... 13
Joel Johnson Advertises New Additions to City Hotel ...................................................... 14

1843 14
Birth of Edward Schrader Johnson (1843-1921) ................................................................ 14

1844 15
Bathing House at Johnson’s City Hotel ............................................................................. 15
Joel Johnson: Springfield Hotel Keeper

1844

1845

1846

1847

1848

1849

1850

1851

1852

1853

1854

1855
# Table of Contents

**THE JOHNSON’S BUILDING YEARS (1856-1868)**  

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Page</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1856</td>
<td>42</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1857</td>
<td>43</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1858</td>
<td>44</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1859</td>
<td>44</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1860</td>
<td>45</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1861</td>
<td>48</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1862</td>
<td>51</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1864</td>
<td>52</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1865</td>
<td>53</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1866</td>
<td>54</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1867</td>
<td>55</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1868</td>
<td>58</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**THE REVERE HOUSE YEARS (1869-1877)**  

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Page</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1869</td>
<td>59</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1870</td>
<td>60</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1871</td>
<td>60</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

---

Joel Johnson Advertises 200,000 Bricks for Sale ................................................................. 36
Joel Johnson Advertises That He Found Thread Purse With Change ......................................... 36
William D. and John W. Chenery Purchase City Hotel From Joel Johnson Rename it Chenery House 37
Annunciator Installed in Chenery House ...................................................................................... 39
Piano Teaching at Chenery House ................................................................................................. 40
William D. Chenery Advertises Chenery House ............................................................................ 40
Joel Johnson Opens Mammoth Furniture Store in Journal Building .......................................... 40
Poem By Traveler at Chenery House ............................................................................................. 41

---

Edward S. Johnson Marries Laura Clinton ..................................................................................... 60
Description of Joel Johnson’s Revere House ................................................................................ 58
Edward S. Johnson Takes Five Month European Tour .................................................................. 58
Drs. Lord & Barrell Advertise Office in Johnson’s Building ......................................................... 45
Lincoln’s Secretary, John G. Nicolay, Writes of the Move to Johnson’s Building ......................... 47
John G. Nicolay Writes of Lincoln in Johnson’s Building January 6, 1861 ..................................... 48
Abraham Lincoln to Meet Public in His Office in Joel Johnson’s Building .................................... 48
Abraham Lincoln and Family Move to Chenery House ................................................................. 49
Civil War: Edward S. Johnson Mustered Into Company I, 7th Regiment Illinois Volunteer Infantry 50
Civil War: Edward S. Johnson Mustered Into Three Year Service in Company I, 7th Regiment Illinois Volunteer Infantry ................................................................. 51
## Table of Contents

**1872** 62  
Perspective Drawing of Springfield 62

**1873** 63  
Death of William D. Chenery 63

**1876** 64  
Description of Joel Johnson’s Revere House 64  
Attempt to Steal Lincoln Body and Reburial 64

**1877** 65  
Springfield Hotels 65  
Death and Funeral of Joel Johnson 66  
Joel Johnson Estate 67  
Elizabeth Johnson Sues Stepson Edward S. Johnson 68

**AFTERWARDS (1878-1921)** 70

**1878** 70  
The Revere House Operated by Edward S. Johnson 70

**1880** 72  
The Lincoln Guard of Honor Includes Edward S. Johnson 72

**1883** 72  
Ownership of Hotel Palace Changes 72

**1884** 72  
History of Ownership of City Hotel and Hotel Palace and Chenery House 72  
1884 Sanborn Fire Insurance Map 73

**1886** 73  
Tax Purchaser Notice: Joel Johnson Property 73

**1889** 74  
Elizabeth Johnson Sues Stepson Edward S. Johnson 74

**1890** 74  
1890 Sanborn Fire Insurance Map 74

**1892** 75  
Edward S. Johnson Entertains New Year’s at the Revere House 75

**1893** 75  
Edward S. Johnson Sells Revere House 75

**1894** 76  
Death of Elizabeth T. Johnson 76

**1893-1895** 76  
Edward S. Johnson in Chicago Managing Hotels 76

**1896** 76  
Edward S. Johnson Appointed Custodian of Lincoln Tomb 76  
Edward S. Johnson First to Live in Custodian’s House at Lincoln Tomb 77  
1896 Sanborn Fire Insurance Map 77

**1900-1901** 78  
Edward S. Johnson Supervises Reconstruction of Lincoln Tomb 78

**1901** 78  
Edward S. Johnson and Wife Present at Interment of Abraham Lincoln in Concrete Vault 78  
The Palace Hotel 79

**1903** 79  
Illinois Hotel Built 401 East Washington Street, Springfield, Illinois 79  
Edward S. Johnson Authors Leaflet *Abraham Lincoln and His Last Resting Place* 81

**1912** 82  
Death of John R. Campbell 82

**1921** 83  
Death of Edward Schrader Johnson 83

**APPENDIX** 84
Foreword

By Mike Kienzler

Thanks to the 30 years Abraham Lincoln spent there, historians have examined the past of Sangamon County, Illinois, in more detail than almost anywhere else in the U.S. Yet much more remains to be discovered, as Richard E. Hart keeps reminding us.

*Joel Johnson: Springfield Hotel Keeper* is the 37th installment in Hart’s series of monographs on Sangamon County history. Although Johnson figures in few Lincoln biographies, the two men interacted on multiple occasions during their Springfield years. Joel Johnson several times employed Lincoln as a lawyer, and Johnson borrowed money from Lincoln at least once. He also was, briefly, the President-elect’s landlord. Even after both men were dead, Joel Johnson’s son Edward served as the caretaker of the Lincoln Tomb.

The Lincoln-Johnson relationship, however, is only a minor part of *Joel Johnson: Springfield Hotel Keeper*. Hart’s research also reveals much about the growth of Springfield from a pioneer village to a comparatively cosmopolitan community – a statement that holds true for many of the other three dozen tracts in Hart’s unique body of work.

By trade, Hart is a lawyer, a partner in the firm of Hart, Southworth and Witsman. His lifelong avocation, however, has been to preserve local history, as demonstrated by the list of achievements on his resume. Among them: Springfield Preservationist of the Year, 1999; Logan Hay Medal from the Abraham Lincoln Association, 2012; Illinois State Historical Society Lifetime Achievement Award, 2014; Springfield NAACP Legal and Political Award, 2015. It’s hard to find a local historic preservation group where Hart hasn’t played a major role.

In the field of written history, Hart’s publications focus on two areas: Springfield during the Lincoln era (the Spring Creek Series) and the settlement of Ball and Cotton townships south of Springfield (the Sugar Creek Series). The addition of *Joel Johnson: Springfield Hotel Keeper* brings the Spring Creek Series to 26 books, on topics ranging from *Lincoln’s Springfield Neighborhood* (2015), co-written with Bonnie Paull, to *Circuses in Early Springfield* (2013), and *Lincoln’s Springfield: Letters of Springfield Ladies* (2020). In *Lincoln’s Springfield: The Early African-American Population* (2008), Hart’s digging determined the probable (and melancholy) identity of Springfield’s first African-American resident: “Jack,” a 5-year-old slave of the founding Kelley family.

The Sugar Creek Series encompasses another 11 tracts, mostly explorations of old family cemeteries in the two townships.

All of Hart’s books focus on the research. Aside from brief explanations, his books consist mainly of contemporaneous documents – photos, maps, legal papers, newspaper clippings, etc. – which Hart lets tell their own stories.
Joel Johnson: Springfield Hotel Keeper

The Joel Johnson paper trail shows the arrival of an ambitious shoe repairman to Springfield in 1833 and follows his subsequent careers as hotel owner, furniture dealer and real estate investor. The reader can see Springfield change via Johnson’s newspaper advertisements. When his City Hotel opened in the 1840s, important features included nearby stables and cheap rates for people traveling by stagecoach. In the 1870s, by contrast, notices for Johnson’s Revere House pointed out the hotel’s proximity to two railroad depots.

Other slices of life also peek out of the newspaper pages. Johnson’s hotels were the backdrop for club meetings, cotillions and entertainment of all sorts – a “bee palace,” a “Phrenologist and Mesmerizer” and a genius pig. When a young shoemaker slipped out of the City Hotel without paying six weeks’ board, Johnson warned the public not to trust such “an unworthy scamp.”

And then there was the New York visitor who described the eating habits of City Hotel patrons in 1852: “(E)very man … scrambled in and devoured what was before him, as if life, with all its blessings, depended on his despatching (sic) the repast in two minutes and three quarters.”

When Johnson died in 1877, the Illinois State Journal said, he “was the oldest landlord in Central Illinois and probably more widely known than any other now living.” Nearly 150 years later, Dick Hart’s scholarship helps bring Joel Johnson, and the community he and Abraham Lincoln inhabited, back to life.

Mike Kienzler is founding editor of SangamonLink.org, the online encyclopedia of the Sangamon County Historical Society.
Introduction

Lincoln’s Springfield was a very small town. Its population in 1840, three years after Lincoln arrived, was 2,579. Ten years later in 1850, the population had grown by 76% to 4,533. By 1860, Lincoln’s final full year of residency, the population had grown to 9,320. It was this population and these people who nurtured Abraham Lincoln and his family. They as well as the Lincolns were first generation Springfieldians and together they comprised and created the environment where Abraham Lincoln matured and thrived.

These people were diverse in ethnicity, origin, age, skills, wealth and culture. Their ancestral origins were in western Europe and Africa. Within America, they came from the south, north and east, following common patterns of emigration. They, like Springfield, were young and on the make in a very small town at the edge of the American frontier.

One of those persons was Joel Johnson who came to Springfield in 1833 at age 27 from Berkshire County, Massachusetts, via Ohio and St. Louis. Joel arrived as a shoemaker, but soon became the operator of a small hotel on the west side of the Public Square. For the next 44 years, Joel operated Springfield hotels until his death at age 70 on May 4, 1877.

Four years after Joel’s Springfield arrival, Abraham Lincoln arrived on April 15, 1837. Lincoln roomed above Joshua Speed’s store, just half a block north of Joel’s Springfield Hotel on the Public Square. In October of 1837, Abraham Lincoln acted as Joel’s attorney in a debt collection matter. Their client and attorney relationship continued and additionally evolved into one of friendship that is evidenced by a number of events in the 24 years that followed.

In 1840, Joel moved from the Public Square to the northeast corner of Fourth and Washington streets where he built and operated a hotel that he named the City Hotel. In 1855, Joel sold the City Hotel to John W. Chenery who changed the name to Chenery House. It was there that the Lincoln family lived for a brief time in early 1861, after vacating their house at 8th and Jackson.

For the next eight months or so in 1855, Joel operated a furniture store in the Journal Building at the northeast corner of the Public Square. He then acquired property west and opposite of the Chenery House at Fourth and Washington streets and constructed a three-story brick building. Like Chenery, he named it after himself—Johnson’s Building. Here he operated a hotel and leased first floor commercial space for the next 21 years.

Joel’s short brush with history came in late December 1860 when newly elected President Lincoln moved his office from the State Capitol (now the Old State Capitol) to Number 4 of “Johnson’s Building”. It was there that Lincoln’s secretary, John G. Nicolay, officed and lived and where Lincoln spent time and received callers. Indeed, Joel had become Springfield’s grand hotelier.
Joel Johnson: Springfield Hotel Keeper

Introduction

Joel’s son, Edward S. Johnson, grew up knowing Lincoln and attending school with his oldest son, Robert. Edward would succeed his father as a hotelier, but his first love was the military and Abraham Lincoln. Edward’s first military experience was in the Springfield Grays, a company of young men organized in October 1859 by Ephraim E. Ellsworth, a law student in Lincoln’s law office who later became the first Union officer to be killed in the Civil War.

Edward enlisted in the Union Army and served from July 25, 1861 to July 9, 1865, and was discharged with the rank of Brevet Lieutenant Colonel. He was a part of Sherman’s army on its victorious march to the sea.

After the war, Edward returned to Springfield and stepped into his father’s shoes, operating the Johnson’s Building/Revere House. He also became involved with another military company that was organized in Springfield known as the Springfield Zouaves, a crack military organization well known for their fancy, colorful uniforms. Governor John M. Palmer named them his Governor’s Guard and Edward was captain of his company and later President of the Guard’s Veteran Corps.

Joel Johnson died on May 4, 1877, at age 70. His funeral was conducted by Father Hale at the Second Presbyterian Church, the abolitionist church, and he was buried in Oak Ridge Cemetery, Springfield, Illinois. Edward Johnson continued to operate the Revere House for some time and then moved to Chicago for two years.

In 1895, Edward was appointed custodian of the Lincoln Tomb at Oak Ridge Cemetery in Springfield, Illinois. For the following 26 years, he oversaw the graves of his friends and early Springfieldians—the Lincoln family. He retained that position until his death at age 77, on February 15, 1921.

This is an overview of the lives of Joel Johnson and his son, Edward. They were an intricate part of Lincoln’s Springfield and to know of their otherwise unremembered lives further expands our knowledge of Lincoln’s Springfield environment.

Much of the information that I have found has been from newspaper searches that would have been difficult to find before the internet and its window on the world. I feel lucky, if not blessed, that I have lived during a time when this new-fangled research tool has been available.

However, there is no substitute for digging in the trenches of the materials in the Sangamon Valley Collection of Lincoln Library in Springfield, Illinois. Its librarian, Curtis Mann, has done so and provided me with a number of deeds and documents relating to the real estate transactions of Joel Johnson. I thank Curtis for his contribution to this story.

Finally, I thank James M. Cornelius for his proof reading the manuscript. His eyes are better than those of any eagle I know.

Richard E. Hart
December 5, 2020
The Early Years Before Springfield
(1806-1832)

1806
Birth of Joel Johnson May 21, 1806
(1806-1877)

Joel Johnson was born on May 21, 1806, in Berkshire County, Massachusetts. He was one of six children born to Abigail Carter Johnson and his father whose name is unknown. Joel’s father died when he was five months old, and Joel’s mother, Abigail, thereafter married James Gregory.

1811
Joel Johnson’s Mother Leaves Him With Uncle

In 1811, when Joel was five years of age, his mother, Abigail, left him with an uncle. Joel would not see his mother again for twenty-one years.

1824
Joel Johnson’s Mother Moves to Rochester, Illinois

James and Abigail Gregory had four children in New York, and in 1819 or 20, moved to Gallatin County, Illinois. From there they moved to Sangamon County, Illinois, arriving on December 31, 1824 in what is now Rochester Township.

1832
Joel Johnson Goes West to Visit Mother in Illinois

In 1832, Joel Johnson, age 26, left Massachusetts and visited an elder brother who lived in Salem, Ohio. From there, he traveled by steamboat down the Ohio River and up the Mississippi River to St. Louis. From there he travelled to Sangamon County, Illinois to visit his mother, arriving in July 1832.

Joel Johnson Stops in St. Louis Upon Return East

Joel was returning to his brother in Ohio when, upon reaching St. Louis, he discovered that he had only five dollars. That would pay for a deck passage on a steamboat, but he lacked a single dollar to buy food for the trip. He didn’t continue his journey, but remained in St. Louis.

Joel Johnson Finds Work in St. Louis as Boot and Shoe Maker

For a short time, Joel found work in St. Louis at his trade -- boot and shoe maker. Unfortunately, after he had saved fourteen dollars, there was no further work for him.
Joel Johnson Moves to Edwardsville, Illinois

By this time Joel had abandoned the idea of returning to Ohio, in part due to what he had heard in favor of Illinois. With his fourteen dollars, he procured leather and other materials, and left for Edwardsville, Illinois. There he opened a shop and went to work making boots and shoes.
The Early Springfield Years
(1833-1839)

1833

Joel Johnson Moves to Springfield, Illinois

In April 1833, 27-year-old Joel Johnson left Edwardsville and moved to Springfield, Illinois. He traveled with 19-year-old Alexander B. Irwin, who was hauling goods from St. Louis to Springfield. Irwin charged Joel fifty cents for the trip. In Springfield, Joel continued in the boot and shoe making business.¹

Joel Johnson Advertises New Boot and Shoe Shop

By October 1833, Joel Johnson had opened a boot and shoe shop near Springfield’s Public Square. He advertised his shop in Springfield’s Journal newspaper and added that he needed three journeymen who were good workers.

---

¹ Samuel L. Irwin was born on June 6, 1779 in Cabarras County, North Carolina. He married Rachel Hudson on September 23, 1802, and they had ten children born in North Carolina. In the fall of 1818, the family moved to Tennessee, and then to what became Sangamon County Illinois, arriving on April 20, 1820. Of their fifteen children, Alexander B. Irwin was born on February 7, 1814 in Cabarras County, North Carolina. On October 18, 1838, he married in Sangamon County to Cynthia Broadwell. They had four children. Cynthia died on August 10, 1847, and Alexander married on February 28, 1855 to Mrs. Jane S. Seaman whose maiden name was Broadwell. They had four children and resided in Cartwright Township two miles east of Pleasant Plains. Alexander served a number of years as a Justice of the Peace and also as a member of the Board of Supervisors of Sangamon County. Journal, October 30, 1852, p. 3, cl. 2. John Carroll Power and S. A. Power, History of the Early Settlers of Sangamon County, Illinois, Springfield, Illinois, Edwin A. Wilson, 1876, pp. 412-13. (Hereafter referred to as Power.)
The first thing that struck me as remarkable was the honesty of the people. Joel Johnson had a shoe shop west of the Enterprise building, with an old-fashioned bow window and one pane of glass gone, so that one could have helped himself to boots and shoes, as the window was full of them. The glass was not replaced until cool weather in the fall. It was years after I located there before I heard of a robbery.

Possible Location of Shoe Shop

Johnson leased two different sections of lot 7 in Block 10 of the Old Town Plat from the heirs of James Latham for a period of five years. One lot began 16 feet west of the southeast corner of the lot and was 30 feet by 34 feet. The second lot was located just west of the first lot and was 30 feet by 30 feet. Johnson paid a rent of 10 dollars a year for the bigger lot and $7.50 for the smaller lot. He was also given the right to remove all buildings that he might erect on the lots at the end of the lease.
1834

Joel Johnson Marries Elizabeth “Eliza” Newman

In February 1834, at Carlinville, Illinois, Joel Johnson, age 28, married Elizabeth “Eliza” Newman, age 19, who was born in 1815 in Madison County, Illinois. Their children were: Charles H. Johnson (1839–1860); Edward Shrader Johnson (1843–1921); and John W. Johnson (1846–1861).

Joel Johnson Borrows $184 and Uses Leased Lots as Collateral

Johnson used the leased property as collateral to secure a loan of $184 from the firm of Wood and Abbott of St. Louis on July 7, 1834.5

1835

Joel Johnson Advertises Boot and Shoe Shop

In early 1835, Joel Johnson again advertised his boot and shoe shop as a “new shop, opposite Mr. Rague’s bakery.” His shop could be identified by the large sign, a Big Boot.

---

1836

**Joel Johnson Requests Payment of Accounts Due**

In January 1836, Joel placed an advertisement in the *Journal* requesting that all of those who owed him money pay up as he was “much in want of Cash.” A second advertisement in April threatened those who owed him money with placing them in the hands of those whose “tender mercies are sometimes termed cruelties.”

---

**Joel Johnson Sells Part of Lot to William Florville**

On February 23, 1836, Joel Johnson sold the east 20 feet of lot 5 in block 5 OTP to William Florville for $275. Florville must have built a new barbershop there because a little over a year later on March 11, 1837, he sold the partial lot to Levi Nave for $1,500. Nave sold the partial lot back to Johnson on January 24, 1852 for $1,000.

---

**William Florville Moves to Building West of Mr. Rague’s Bake Shop**

---

---

---
Joel Johnson Advertises Boot and Shoe Store

A *Journal* newspaper advertisement dated September 25, 1835, but published on June 25, 1836, is the last newspaper advertising for Joel Johnson’s boot and shoe store. His supply of sole leather had been reduced from 10,000 pounds in September 1835 to 2,000 in June 1836.

![Boot & Shoe Store Advertisement, June 25, 1836.](image)

1837

Joel Johnson Requests Payment of Accounts Due Him

On January 23, 1837, Joel Johnson placed an advertisement in the *Journal* newspaper requesting that all of those who owed him money pay up. He had ceased his boot and shoe store business and was attempting to settle up all accounts. He was about to enter his new career as a Springfield hotel keeper.

![Hear ye--Hear ye--Hear ye!](image)

*Journal*, January 28, 1837.
The Springfield Hotel Years
(1837-1839)

1837

Joel Johnson’s First Advertisement For His Springfield Hotel on the Square

Joel Johnson’s first advertisement for his Springfield Hotel was included in the Journal of January 28, 1837. The hotel was on Fifth Street, directly across from the west side of Sangamon County Court House that then stood in the square now occupied by the Old State Capitol. Later in the year, Joel would have the perfect location to watch the destruction of the Sangamon County Court House and the construction of the Old State Capitol. The hotel had previously been kept by J. Whitney. At age 31, Joel began his life as a Springfield hotelier with beds, food and stables for the visitors to Springfield.

Journal, January 28, 1837.

Abraham Lincoln Comes to Springfield

Abraham Lincoln was 28 years old when he came to Springfield on April 15, 1837. He roomed above Joshua Speed’s store at the southwest corner of Fifth and Washington and about one-half block north of Joel Johnson’s Springfield Hotel on the west side of the Public Square. Joel was age 31, about 3 years older than Lincoln.

Joel Johnson Advertises Seven Tenements For Rent

Journal, February 24, 1838.
Abraham Lincoln Represents Joel Johnson  
Monday, October 9, 1837

Within six months of Abraham Lincoln moving to Springfield, he had acted as Joel Johnson’s attorney. Stuart & Lincoln had three cases called on the first day of the 1837 fall term of the Sangamon County Circuit Court. In Whitney v. Johnson, they represented the defendant Joel Johnson who gave Whitney three promissory notes but failed to pay. Whitney sued Johnson to recover the debt. Johnson confessed his indebtedness of $250 owed to the plaintiff and agreed to a judgment against himself. The court ruled for Whitney and awarded him a judgment of $250 against Johnson. The note must have represented some or all of the purchase price Johnson owed Whitney for the hotel.

Abraham Lincoln Represents Joel Johnson  
Tuesday, November 7, 1837

In November 1837, Abraham Lincoln again represented Joel Johnson in a forcible detainer case, Johnson v. Gray before justice of the peace Benjamin S. Clement. Lincoln took a $6 fee in board at Johnson’s hotel.11

1838

Joel Johnson Advertises Seven Tenements For Rent

Journal, February 24, 1838.

Joel Johnson Signs Note to Facilitate Financing of Move of Capital to Springfield  
March 22, 1838

Joel Johnson was one of the one hundred and one who signed a promissory note in order to bring the Illinois State Capitol to Springfield. It was thought by many to be unreasonable to require a little town of eleven hundred inhabitants, struggling with the disadvantages of a new country, to pay the $50,000 pledged. Arrangements were entered into for paying it in three instalments. The two first payments were made without any great difficulty; but the third pressed more heavily, as the financial crash that swept over the whole United States, while the new State house was in course of construction, impoverished many.

Under these circumstances, it became necessary to borrow the money to make the last payment, from the State Bank of Illinois. A note for the amount was signed by one hundred and one citizens, and deposited with the bank, the money drawn, with which internal improvement scrip or stock was purchased and paid into the State treasury, thus paying the last installment in the State’s own evidence of indebtedness. From that time, it was a matter between the State Bank and the citizens who signed the note. Soon after the note was given, the State Bank failed, and some of the payments were made in the depreciated paper of the bank, for which it had received par value when it was paid out.

1839

Joel Johnson Purchases the Indian Queen Hotel
at the Northeast Corner of Second and Jefferson Streets

On March 30, 1839, Joel Johnson purchased lot 5 and the west 35 feet of lot 6 in Block 5 of the OTP from Lewis Keeling for $4,000. These lots are located at the northeast corner of Second and Jefferson streets. The Indian Queen Hotel was once located on this site and was operated by Archer G. Herndon. Herndon sold the site to land speculator Nathaniel Ware in 1833. Ware sold it to Keeling in 1838 and Keeling sold it to Johnson the next year.


13 Sangamon County Deed Book O, p. 86, Sangamon Valley Collection, Lincoln Library, Springfield, Illinois. Provided by Curtis Mann, Librarian. Copies of the page may be seen in the Appendix.

14 Indian Queen Hotel Posted on SangamonLink on October 22, 2013 by editor Mike Kienzler,
https://sangamoncountyhistory.org/wp/?p=1958
A few Springfield and Sangamon County histories mention a once-famed hostelry, now generally forgotten — the Indian Queen Hotel. Owned and operated by Archer Herndon Sr., Sr., the Indian Queen was one of the city’s best accommodations in the early 1830s. In most cases the Indian Queen is referred to as a tavern, then the common name for an establishment selling food and drink, providing beds and stabling horses. The Indian Queen’s beginnings date back to the founding of Springfield. Elijah Slator was given a license by the county to keep a tavern in the town of Springfield in 1822. Slator’s tavern was on the northeast corner of present-day Second and Jefferson streets, the town’s business center at the time. Gershom Jayne, Slator’s son-in-law, sold the tavern property to Herndon on Oct. 1, 1828 for $600. In his reminiscence of early Springfield, John Todd Stuart described the
“The deed of the sale to Johnson references this property as having the Old Tavern on the premises. I think this is the property owned by Johnson noted on page 23 as the site mistakenly associated with cholera. I found an article about the Old Tavern property being destroyed in an October 1853 fire.”

**Joel Johnson Advertises Springfield Hotel on Fifth Street**

This is the first advertisement that says that the Springfield Hotel is directly west of the “State House.” Prior ads referred to it as being west of the Court House.

*Journal, April 26, 1839.*

*Journal, December 31, 1839.*

northeast corner of Second and Jefferson as being occupied by a small log house, used by Herndon as a store and dwelling. Herndon received his license to keep a tavern in September 1829 after paying a tax of $6. The county established rates for the sale of alcohol, food, rooms and stabling. Brandy and whiskey could be purchased for 12½ cents a half-pint while “good quality” wine was 25 cents. Meals cost 25 cents as well, while lodgers paid 12½ cents per night to bed down. Little is known of Herndon’s operation. But one account, left by a traveling Englishman, does shed some light on the hotel. In his book *Three Years in North America,* James Stuart describes his brief stopover in Springfield. “Springfield is a struggling village, somewhat larger than Jacksonville, but the situation is not at all equal to it in point of beauty or interest. The hotel was nearly as bad as that at Jacksonville. (Herndon) was the name of the landlord. It was difficult to say whether he, his wife, or his daughter was the sauciest. They certainly were as rude and untutored as I have seen.” Herndon nearly lost the Indian Queen in September 1832, when the Sangamon County Circuit Court ordered the hotel sold to pay for debts he owed. He managed to redeem the property, but a year later, Herndon sold the Indian Queen, along with some other city property, to land speculator Nathaniel Ware for $7,500. It is not known if the property was ever used as a tavern again. The deed of the sale to Johnson references this property as having the Old Tavern on the premises. I think this is the property owned by Johnson noted on page 23 as the site mistakenly associated with cholera. I found an article about the Old Tavern property being destroyed in an October 1853 fire.


15 Provided by Curtis Mann.
The City Hotel Years  
(1840-1855)

1840

Joel Johnson Opens City Hotel at Washington and Fourth Streets

This *Journal* newspaper advertisement dated July 24, 1840 is the first newspaper appearance of Joel Johnson’s City Hotel at the northeast corner of Fourth and Washington streets. Joel had moved from the Public Square to his “new tavern.” The importance of a good stable as an adjunct to the Hotel is noted by reference to “faithful ostlers belonging to his house.”

![Image of a newspaper advertisement](attachment:image.png)

*Journal, September 4, 1840.*

Large Pumpkin Displayed at Johnson’s City Hotel

In the fall of 1840, a pumpkin weighing 148 pounds was on display at Johnson’s Hotel.

![Image of a newspaper clipping](attachment:image2.png)

*Journal, October 16, 1840.*
Lithographs at Johnson’s City Hotel

On December 25, 1840, Joel Johnson advertised lithographs, one of the Battle of Thames and one of Tippecanoe, on sale as Christmas presents at Johnson’s City Hotel.

"CHRISTMAS PRESENTS.

We have received two beautiful lithographs—
one a representation of the Battle of the Thames, and the other that of Tippecanoe.—

They would be pretty Christmas presents.—

These lithographs can be obtained at Johnson’s City Hotel.

Journal, December 25, 1840.

1841

Backwoodsman Pleased with Johnson’s City Hotel

"I would ask the privilege of recommending through the medium of your paper the City Hotel of Springfield kept by J. Johnson, Esq. Among the many public houses of that city there are none at which I would sooner call than that. I recently stayed two weeks at that hotel and would earnestly recommend it to those who visit the capital town of Illinois. His accommodations are all in the best possible style and every attention is paid by the landlord to promote the comfort of his guests, and what will not be regarded as unimportant in these hard times, his charges are extremely low.

Journal, August 6, 1841.

1842

Joel Johnson Improves City Hotel and Gives Rates

In 1841-1842, Joel Johnson built a large addition to the City Hotel. In January 1842, advertised the terms for borders per week, per day and horse keeping per day.
Joel Johnson Advertises New Additions to City Hotel

On November 1st and 25th, 1842, Joel Johnson placed advertisements for his City Hotel with new additions offering furnished pleasant rooms to families and individuals who wish to remain at the seat of government during the winter. Members of the Legislature were invited to call and examine the accommodations.

1843

Birth of Edward Schrader Johnson
(1843-1921)

On August 9, 1843 in Springfield, Illinois, Joel and Eliza Johnson had a son born to them. He was named Edward Schrader Johnson. Edward attended Springfield schools, and grew up with and was a classmate of Robert Lincoln, Mary and Abraham’s oldest son.
1844

Bathing House at Johnson’s City Hotel

On April 25, 1844, Joel Johnson advertised a bathing House at his City Hotel. He hoped that he would receive the necessary patronage to enable him to keep the House constantly in order for visitors.

*Journal*, April 25, 1844.

William Flourville Moves Two Doors East From Johnson’s City Hotel

*Journal*, May 23, 1844.

Rates at Johnson’s City Hotel

On June 20, 1844, Joel Johnson placed an advertisement for his City Hotel in the *Journal* newspaper. He states the rates for one day and a single meal at the Hotel. There were also private rooms for Stage Passengers who could secure seats in all the stages through Johnson.

*Journal*, June 20, 1844.
1845

Rates at Johnson’s City Hotel

Again, on October 16, 1845, Joel Johnson placed an advertisement for his City Hotel in the Journal newspaper. He stated the Hotel rates for one day and a single meal. There were private rooms for Stage Passengers who could secure seats in all the stages through Johnson.

![Image of City Hotel advertisement]

Journal, October 16, 1845.

Joel Johnson Insurance on His Residence

The image below is a letter rejecting Joel Johnson’s application for insurance on his Springfield property.16

![Image of insurance letter]

1846

Joel Johnson Advertises City Hotel – Temperance House

Temperance, according to the dictionary, means restraint in the use of, or abstinence from, alcoholic liquors. In this case, it would be safe to say it was total abstinence.

Journal, November 5. 1846.

Warm Baths at Johnson’s City Hotel

On June 11 and July 16, 1846, Joel Johnson advertised a bathing House at his City Hotel.


1847

Joel Johnson’s City Hotel Burns

On January 28, 1847, Joel Johnson’s City Hotel burned.
Abraham Lincoln Loans Joel Johnson $10

On Friday, April 30, 1847, Abraham Lincoln withdrew $10 from his bank account and loaned it Joel Johnson.  

Joel Johnson Erects New Building for City Hotel

Journal, June 3, 1847.

17 Irwin Ledger. http://www.thelincolnlog.org/Results.aspx?type=CalendarDay&day=1847-04-30&cr=L0NhGvZGFyWVhc5hc3B4P3JlYXJoZGt0NyZyPUwwTmhiR1ZlWk9GeUxRnpgc9
Joel Johnson Opens New Building for City Hotel For Convention Attendees

Journal, June 15, 1847.

Journal, September 23, 1847.

Son of Temperance Thanksgiving Celebration Held at City Hotel

Journal, November 25, 1847.
1848

**Corn-sheller Exhibited at City Hotel**

> A most valuable little machine, called a Patient Corn-sheller, is now being exhibited at the City Hotel, in this city. Its cost, $2 50, places it within the reach of every farmer. A man can shell with it fifty bushels of corn a day. The proprietor will sell State rights on fair terms. Farmers and mechanics are invited to examine it. Mr. Watson, the proprietor, will remain here but a few days.

*Journal, January 13, 1848.*

**Joel Johnson’s Loss From Tenant “An Unworthy Scamp”**

> CAUTION.—Left my house on Sunday night last, a young man named L. COBBS, a Shoemaker, about 5 feet ten inches high, dark and sallow complexion,—(altogether a bilious looking case)—indebted to me for six weeks board; and bills to sundry other persons—Barbers, Washerwomen, &c. This is to caution the public against harboring or trusting him, as he has proved himself an unworthy scamp.

*Journal, May 18, 1848.*

**Joel Johnson Advertises City Hotel**

> City Hotel.—JOEL JOHNSON informs the public that he is ready at all times to receive and provide for travelers and boarders. His terms, as usual, will be reasonable; and every pains will be taken to promote their comfort while they sojourn with him. Good stabling for Horses.

*Journal, Saturday, November 11, 1848.*
1849

City Hotel Register: December 30, 1848-January 1, 1849

Journal, January 3, 1849.

Cotillion Party Held at City Hotel

Journal, January 23, 1849.
Entertainment at City Hotel

Journal, March 27, 1849.

Joel Johnson Advertises Property For Rent

Journal, April 12, 1849.

Bee Palace Exhibited at City Hotel

Journal, April 27, 1849.

Death of Eliza Newman Johnson
(1815-1849)

Joel Johnson’s wife, Eliza Newman Johnson, died on May 17, 1849. They had one child, Edward S. Johnson, who was born in 1843.
Journal, Thursday, May 17, 1849.

City Hotel Guest Not Down With Cholera

Journal, May 26, 1849.

Joel Johnson Advertises City Hotel

Journal, Tuesday, June 5, 1849.  Journal, Tuesday, August 21, 1849.
Warm and Cold Baths at Johnson’s City Hotel

Journal, June 11, 1849.

Learned Pig Entertainment at City Hotel

Journal, August 6, 1849.

African American Spencer Donegan Advertises Move of Barber Shop to City Hotel

Journal, October 23, 1849.
Joel Johnson Receives Flooring For Sale

Joe Johnson continued with a construction supply business as is evidenced by this advertisement for 1600 feet of flooring.

*Receipts by the Cars:*  
Tuesday, October 23.  
Joel Johnson, 1600 feet flooring. C. Freeman & Co.

*Journal,* Wednesday, October 24, 1849.

1850

In the 1850 Federal Census, Joel Johnson was said to be a shoemaker. This must have been an error as he had not engaged in this business for several years.

Joel Johnson Property Sold to Pay $88 to City For Removing Nuisance

On Monday, March 18, 1850, the City of Springfield was to sell lots owned by Joel in order to pay for an assessment for removing the nuisance declared to exist on the lots.

*Sale of Lots.*

NOTICE is hereby given, that lots five (5) and six (6) in block number nine (9) of old town plat, belonging to Joel Johnson, will be sold by the city marshal, on Monday the 18th inst., at the Mayor’s office in the city of Springfield, between the hours of 9 A.M. and 4 P.M. of said day, for the sum of eighty-eight dollars; or so much of said lots as will bring the sum of eighty-eight dollars and all costs of sale. The said sum of eighty-eight dollars being the amount assessed by the city council for removing the nuisance declared to exist on said lots by filling them up at the expense and under the direction of the city.

J. CALHOUN, Mayor.
Springfield, March 2, 1850.

*Journal,* Thursday, March 7, 1850.

Masonic Procession Catered at City Hotel

---

18 U.S. Census Office, Seventh Census of the United States (1850), Sangamon County, Illinois, p. 87.
19 Lots 5 and 6, Block 9, Old Town Plat.
Joel Johnson’s City Hotel Wins Praises of Customer

"We clip the following from the Journal of yesterday. We fully endorse it."

AMERICAN HOUSE.—A gentleman who has spent much of his time in traveling, now stopping at the American, tells us that he has seldom met with a better spread table anywhere—that every day its appearance displays the fact that no pains or expense are spared in promoting the first of all the rarities and delicacies of the season.

The same may be said of our friend "Mr. C." of the City Hotel, who, during the short time he has been in charge of the "City," has won "golden opinions" from all who have rested under his roof.

The above is taken from the Register of this morning. We say ditto, ditto!—and "nothing shorter!"

Journal, June 12, 1850.

Mail Stage Office at City Hotel to Salem, Illinois

Mail Stage from Springfield to Salem, Ill.

This subscriber will run this stage three times a week between these points.

The stage will leave Springfield at 8 o'clock A.M. on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays, and will leave Salem on the same days at the same hour.

Stage office at the City Hotel.

Books kept by J. Burnap.

Springfield, July 1, 1850.

THOS. H. COREY.

Journal, July 3, 1850.

Joel Johnson Holds Public Sale of 80 Acres of Land Near Petersburg

The undersigned will sell at public sale on Saturday the 22d inst., as soon as the Bank property is sold, the following described land, to wit:

Lots No. two and three, being the north west quarter of the north east quarter, and the north east quarter of the north west quarter of section No. sixteen, in township 18 north, range 7 west of the 3d principal meridian, containing 80 acres.

Terms—One half in hand and the balance on the 1st of January next.

JOEL JOHNSON.

Journal, Friday September 13, 1850.
Joel Johnson: Springfield Hotel Keeper                    The City Hotel Years (1840-1855)

Joel Johnson Advertises Two Tenements to Rent

TO RENT.--Two tenements to rent by the JOEL JOHNSON.
Sept. 13, 1850.

Journal, Wednesday, June 19, 1850.

Joel Johnson Manager of American House in St. Louis

In the fall of 1850, Joel Johnson surprisingly left Springfield and went to St. Louis where he worked in the newly refurbished American Hotel. But his stay there did not last long.

Journal, Friday, September 20, 1850.

Dr. Hays Takes Rooms in City Hotel

Journal, December 3, 1850.
Curtis Mann: “It appears that Joel Johnson might have been involved in bringing the Alton and Sangamon (later Chicago and Alton) Railroad to downtown Springfield. The *Register* newspaper article is from March 15, 1851 and describes how a depot for the railroad will likely be located on the Third Street Tracks between the First Presbyterian Church and Jefferson. The land was going to be offered to the railroad for free. The depot was going to be built on lots 3 and 4 of Block 9 OTP.”

*Register*, March 15, 1851.
Joel Johnson’s Old Tavern Mistakenly Said to be Site of Cholera

This article refers to Joel Johnson as the owner of the “Old Tavern” that is in perfect order and not the seat of the cholera disease in Old Town, Madison to Monroe and First to Seventh streets. This is most likely the old Indian Queen Hotel that Johnson owned for a brief time.

Journal, Friday, May 30, 1851.

Joel Johnson Purchases Lots From Samuel Stover

Curtis Mann reports, “On May 31, 1851, Joel Johnson purchased lots 5 & 6 in Block 9 OTP from a man named Samuel Stover for $1,000. On June 9, 1851, he borrowed $650 from Stover and used lot 6 and 11 3/4 feet off the east end of lot 5 as collateral. On June 12, Johnson purchased lot 4 in Block 9 OTP from a man named Rhodes Lloyd for $625. With these two purchases he owned all of the property on the north side of Washington between 3rd and 4th streets.”

Joel Johnson Deeds Land to Alton and Springfield Railroad for Depot

Curtis Mann reports, “On June 12, 1851, Johnson deeded lot 4 and 70 feet of the west side of lot 5 to the Alton and Springfield Railroad for $1. One of the covenants of the deed said that the railroad was required to build a depot on lots 2, 3, 4 and 5 in Block 9 and use the rest of the lots for railroad purposes. If the railroad breached the contract, then Johnson was entitled to get lot 4 back. The 70 feet in lot 5 was to go to the following men who had paid $1,050 to Johnson for that part of the lot.

George Pasfield - 6 shares
John Williams - 6 shares

22 Sangamon County Deed Book I, p. 304, Sangamon Valley Collection, Lincoln Library, Springfield, Illinois. Provided by Curtis Mann, Librarian. Copies of the page may be seen in the Appendix.
Thomas Condell - 2 shares  
Erastus Wright and Roswell P. Abell - 2 shares  
Jacob Bunn - 2 shares  
Stephen T. Logan - 2 shares  
John G. Bergen - 1 share

Curtis Mann said, “I think these men were stockholders in the railroad and had an interest in making sure the railroad came through the downtown and not somewhere further away. In the end Johnson kept lot 6 and the 11 3/4 feet of lot 5 that became the site of the Revere House. I would think having the railroad station close to his hotel was the incentive for Johnson to get involved and donate lot 4 to the cause.”

City Hotel Reopened by Joel Johnson and Daniel M. Jackson

In October of 1851, Joel Johnson and his partner, Daniel M. Jackson, reopened the newly refitted and furnished City Hotel. Jackson was an experienced Hotel Keeper from Ohio.

Journal, October 23, 1851.

New England Supper Held at City Hotel

Journal, December 25, 1851.

---

23 Sangamon County Deed Book I, p. 304, Sangamon Valley Collection, Lincoln Library, Springfield, Illinois. Provided by Curtis Mann, Librarian. Copies of the page may be seen in the Appendix.
1852

Joel Johnson Stockholder in the Mechanics and Farmers Bank

In 1852, Joel Johnson was a stockholder in the Mechanics and Farmers Bank in Springfield, Illinois.

Abraham Lincoln Represents Joel Johnson

On March 3, 1852, Abraham Lincoln wrote and signed a declaration in Joel Johnson v. John McMullen, a Sangamon County Circuit Court case.²⁴

Kilmiste Family to Perform Vocal Concert at City Hotel

*The Kilmiste Family will give a Concert on Wednesday night next at the City Hotel. It will be remembered by our friends that this troupe of vocalists visited our city some two years ago; and the bare fact of their favoring us with another, will secure crowded houses.*

*Journal, May 24, 1852.*

Joel Johnson and Daniel M. Jackson Dissolve Partnership as Keepers of the City Hotel

Joel Johnson’s partnership with Daniel M. Jackson lasted only nine months. A dissolution notice was published in the *Journal* on July 16, 1852.

*NEW ADVERTISEMENTS.*

Dissolution Notice.

NOTICE is hereby given that the partnership business heretofore existing in the name and firm of Johnson & Jackson, as hotel keepers, at the City Hotel in Springfield, Ills, is this day dissolved by mutual consent; therefore, all persons indebted to said firm are required to make payment to Joel Johnson, and all persons having claims against said firm are required to present the same to Joel Johnson for payment.

J. JOHNSON,
Springfield, July 16, 1852.

DANIEL M. JACKSON.

*Journal, Friday, July 16, 1852.*
Daniel M. Jackson Leaves City Hotel and Returns to Logan County

Journal, September 14, 1852.

New York Traveler Describes Springfield Hotels

Journal, November 4, 1852.

1853

Marriage of Joel Johnson and Elizabeth T. Campbell

On January 5, 1853, Joel Johnson, age 45, married Elizabeth T. Campbell, age 31, of Decatur. Elizabeth had been married once before as had Joel. Elizabeth had a son by her prior marriage, John R. Campbell. Joel also had a son by his prior marriage, Edward S. Johnson.

Joel Johnson Advertises City Hotel For Rent

Eight months after his marriage, Joel Johnson advertised the City Hotel for rent stating that it would accommodate one hundred travelers.

*Journal, Tuesday, August 16, 1853.*

Joel Johnson Advertises 200,000 Brick For Sale

Joel Johnson was a real entrepreneur. This advertisement dated August 8, 1853, indicates that he was selling 200,000 brick. He also placed other ads for building materials.

*Journal, August 11, 1853.*

Pekin and Decatur Railroad Corporate Meeting Held at City Hotel

*Journal, October 14, 1853.*

Dr. Lafayette Yeates at City Hotel to Treat Eye Diseases

*Journal, November 30, 1853.*
Joel Johnson: Springfield Hotel Keeper

Temperance Association Has Supper at City Hotel

Journal, December 29, 1853.

Joel Johnson Purchases the Indian Queen Hotel at the Northeast Corner of Second and Jefferson Streets

“The deed of the sale to Johnson references this property as having the Old Tavern on the premises. I think this is the property owned by Johnson noted on page 23 as the site mistakenly associated with cholera. I found an article about the Old Tavern property being destroyed in an October 1853 fire.” Curtis Mann.25

Journal, October 6, 1853.

25 Provided by Curtis Mann.
1854

Joel Johnson Enlarges City Hotel

In 1854, Joel Johnson made a large addition to his City Hotel on the northeast corner of Washington and Fourth Streets.

Our friend Johnson, of the City Hotel, has commenced making demonstrations towards enlarging his house. If he carries out his plans, and we have no doubt he will, the City Hotel will be the most commodious public house in the city.

*Journal*, March 25, 1854.

Theft at City Hotel

NEW ADVERTISEMENTS.

Stolen from the Subscriber

On the night of the 31st March, at the City Hotel, in Springfield, Ill., three hundred dollars in bank notes; one one hundred dollar note on the bank of Missouri; one ten dollar Indiana bill, and the remainder in five dollar notes of the banks of Connecticut. A reward of one hundred and fifty dollars will be given for the recovery of the money and detection of the thief or fifty dollars for the detection and conviction of the thief.

A.B. PARKER.

New Lebanon, St. Clair Co., Ill., April 3, 1854.

*Journal*, April 3, 1854.

Joel Johnson Makes Addition to City Hotel

As noted above, in the spring of 1854, Joel made an addition to the City Hotel. It extended back 129 feet, four stories above basement. The dining hall was 80 feet long and there were 70 rooms in three stories above.

Holloway's brick stable, Mr. Joel Johnson is laying the foundation for an addition to his hotel. The new building will extend back 120, and be carried four stories above the basement. It will afford a dining hall 80 feet in length, with 70 rooms in the three stories above. Mr. Johnson designs having his building ready for the state fair, to be held in our city, the first of September. We need not intimate that "old fogey" stock is rapidly on the decline in Springfield.

*Journal*, April 17, 1854.
1855

William H. Herndon Sues Joel Johnson to Collect on Note

In June of 1855, William H. Herndon filed suit in the Sangamon County Circuit Court against Joel Johnson. He asked the court to find judgment against Joel Johnson on his $186 note to T. G. Gaylord and Co. T. G. Gaylord and Co. assigned the note to Gaylord, Son and Company, who assigned the note to William Herndon as attorney and collector on the note. Johnson failed to appear and the court found in Herndon’s favor. Herndon was represented by his partner Abraham Lincoln.

Joel Johnson Advertises 200,000 Bricks for Sale

This advertisement is the same as that dated August 8, 1853. Joel Johnson was still trying to sell 200,000 brick.

Journal, Wednesday, December 19, 1855.

Joel Johnson Advertises That He Found Thread Purse With Change

Journal, Tuesday, May 8, 1855.

26 Case Name: Herndon v. Johnson File ID: L03525.
William D. and John W. Chenery Purchase City Hotel From Joel Johnson
Rename it Chenery House

In 1855, Joel Johnson sold the City Hotel property to William D. and John W. Chenery, who had been managing the American House at Sixth and Adams Streets. The new proprietors improved the front of the building, added an ornamental doorway, rearranged the interior, bought new furniture and bestowed his own name upon it. When the Chenery House opened for business, each of its 130 rooms was lighted with gas and equipped with a bell for summoning servants—the latest improvements in public comforts. The following newspaper story tells of the sale and transfer as well as the change in name from City Hotel to Chenery House.

William D. Chenery

When Springfield became the capital of Illinois in 1837, Elijah Iles built a hotel to accommodate legislature members, on the southeast corner of Adams and Sixth streets, which he called the American House. The hotel was at the time the finest in the entire state. William D. Chenery and his eldest son, John William, operated the American House from 1852 to 1855, when they purchased the City Hotel, located on the northeast corner of Fourth and Washington streets. They added additional stories and named it Chenery House. They operated the Chenery House until 1877.

The Chenery House.

This hotel, which is one of the largest and certainly one of the best in the West, is now open for the reception of visitors. The old “City Hotel,” in the hands of the new proprietors, presents a different appearance from what it did formerly, and is “winning golden opinions from all sorts of people.” The front has been altered and improved; a handsome ornamental doorway having been erected at the main entrance. The interior has also been rearranged, and much new furniture added. The building is five stories high, 80 feet front by 118 feet deep, exclusive of a large wing of the same height of the main building, contains eighty single rooms for gentlemen, numerous parlors, reception rooms, and suites for families, besides the usual reading rooms, dining room, &c. of a first-class house. One hundred and thirty rooms are appropriated to the use of guests, in addition to which is a fine basement story, for barber shops, store rooms, pantries, servants’ rooms, &c. Five hundred persons have been accommodated at one time on the premises, and still there was “room for more.”

The Messrs. Chenery have shown much taste in the selection of their new furniture—there are two parlors costing over five hundred dollars. The furniture in the bed rooms was all purchased new by the late proprietor, and is in the same style as that of the Burnett House in Cincinnati. Every room is lit by gas.

27 http://sites.rootsweb.com/~ilmaga/newspapers/cheneryhouse.html
28 William Dodd Chenery came from Massachusetts in the summer of 1830 and located on a farm near Jacksonville, Illinois. He returned to Massachusetts for his family during the winter of the Deep Snow (1830-1831), going on horseback via Chicago with four companions, all wearing leather suits to protect them from the abnormally cold weather of that winter.
29 N.W. corner of Third and Vine Sts., Cincinnati, Ohio, the site of the Burnet House, which the Illustrated London News called “the finest hotel in the world.” The big, domed structure was formally opened on May 3, 1850. Abraham Lincoln stopped here in February 1861 while on his way to Washington. Around mid-March of 1864 Generals Grant and Sherman met in Parlor A of the Burnet House, spread out their big war maps, and discussed the campaign that soon resulted in Sherman’s historic devastation of Georgia and South Carolina. Cincinnati: A Guide to the Queen City and Its Neighbors, 1943, Tour 2, pp. 156-157.
and furnished with a bell, by which servants can be summoned at a moment’s warning. The proprietors are well known to the traveling public, and already the “Chenery House” is obtaining a reputation abroad which will insure “full houses,” so long as it bears its present cognomen. We refer to the advertisement in another column.

Hotel Deed from Joel Johnson to William D. and John W. Chenery, August 1855.30

---

30 Sangamon County Deed Book TT, p. 163, Sangamon Valley Collection, Lincoln Library, Springfield, Illinois. Provided by Curtis Mann, Librarian.
Annunciator Installed in Chenery House

BELL HANGING.—Mr. Charles W. Colson, Bell Hanger and Silver Plater in Chicago, is now engaged in putting up an annunciator in the Chenery House in this city. When completed he will offer his services to any of our citizens who may wish house bells hung. A friend has let us know that Mr. Colson is an adept in his business, and the present opportunity should be embraced by all who wish bells hung. Orders left with Mr. B. F. Fox will meet with prompt attention.

Journal, October 3, 1855.

Journal, November 17, 1855.

The Chenery House Hotel at the northeast corner of Fourth and Washington Streets.
Piano Teaching at Chenery House

Journal, October 26, 1855.

William D. Chenery Advertises Chenery House

Journal, November 19, 1855.

Joel Johnson Opens Mammoth Furniture Store in Journal Building

As said earlier, Joel Johnson was an entrepreneur. After selling the City Hotel to the Chenerys, he quickly took up a new business as a furniture store proprietor.

Journal, Wednesday, December 19, 1855.
Poem By Traveler at Chenery House

Farewell to Springfield

'Tis night, and through the window gleams the moon,
Shadowing weird figures on the walls, that seem
Half visible yet indistinct, and throws
Strange feelings o'er the soul, like those we feel,
In youth's sweet noontide; and a chime of bells,
Sweet, silver bells, that have a tongue of joy
Rolling on every heart a calm repose,
Comes wafted on the night wind, as it sweeps
Loughing across the heavens. Winter's breath
Is breath'd upon us, and his icy hand
Has bound the murmuring waters like a slave;
But then it cannot cool the heart! When joy
Like some winged messenger of heaven comes down,
When hope like morning dews upon the flowers,
When love that weaves a woof of silver dreams,
Centers on things of earth, there is a rush
Of Passionate waves, that roll across the breast,
And the bleak breath of winter fails to freeze
The ever flowing waters.

Thus I stand,
Looking upon thy spires, upon thy homes,
Homes where all hearts are happy, and the glow
Of fond, young animation, for the thee,
When spring tide breathes upon the world; those homes
That spring tide breathes upon the world; those homes
That never knew a sorrow, where the flowers

Journal, December 27, 1855.

Chenery House, Dec. 23. J. M. LESLEY.
The Johnson’s Building Years
(1856-1868)

1856

Joel Johnson Builds Three-Story Brick Building Across From Chenery House
at Northwest Corner of Washington and Fourth Streets

Joel Johnson didn’t stay in the furniture business for long. In 1856, he began
construction of five business houses at the northwest corner of Fourth and Washington
Streets, west across the street from the Chenery House. This was to become the hotel that
he operated for 21 years.

Journal, August 29, 1856.

Springfield Hotels Described

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Hotel</th>
<th>Price per Day</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Chenery</td>
<td>$1.50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>National</td>
<td>$1.25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Brown’s</td>
<td>$1.50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>St. Nicholas</td>
<td>$1.00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Journal, December 31, 1856.
**1857**

**Joel Johnson Builds Three-Story Brick Building**

Five brick stores on corner of Washington and Fourth streets. Size, 45 by 90, three stories; with sliding or recess fronts of a new pattern; Joel Johnson, owner; cost $12,000; Warnick & Ball, architects and builders; Geo. Wise, bricklayer; Hosford & Young, plasterers; Willard & Zimmerman, painters; Donald’s patent composition roof by C. A. Smith.

*Journal, Tuesday, January 6, 1857.*

**1857 Improvements**

A block of five brick stores on the corner of Fourth and Washington Streets, 92 feet front on Washington street, and 45 on Fourth street, three stories, and basement for bath house, barber shop &c., under the whole building; owned by Joel Johnson. The upper stories are finished off for private rooms and offices. Designed and drawn by T. J. Dennis; Warwick & Ball builders; brick work by George Wise; plastering by Hosford & Young; painting by Willard and Zimmerman. Cost $12,000

*Journal, January 6, 1858.*

**Joel Johnson Advertises Rooms to Rent in New Block of Buildings**

By February 17, 1857, Joel Johnson had completed construction of his new building and advertised rooms for rent.

*Journal, February 17, 1857*
Joel Johnson Real Estate to be Sold at Sheriff’s Sale

Journal, April 4, 1857.

1858

Creditors Public Sale of Joel Johnson Property

Theodore Lorence obtained judgement against and put up for public sale property owned by Joel Johnson. (Lot 6 and the east eleven and a half feet of lot 5 in Block 9 and lots 5 and 6 in Block 5 Old Town plat)

Journal, Tuesday, May 20, 1858.
Journal, Thursday, May 20, 1858.

1859

Edward S. Johnson Joins Springfield Grays

Joel Johnson’s son, Edward S. Johnson, was 16 years old when he participated his first military experience. He became a part of the Springfield Grays, a company of young men organized in October 1859 by Ephraim E. Ellsworth who had come to Springfield to read law in Mr. Lincoln’s law office.
1860

Joel Johnson Listed in 1860 Census

In the 1860 census, Joel Johnson was listed as a 54-year-old who was born in New York and who was a real estate dealer. He owned real estate valued at $25,000 and personal property valued at $2,000. The census also listed his 35-year-old wife, Elizabeth, who was born in Kentucky, and two children: Edward (Ill.) (16), and John (Ill.) (15).  

Joel Johnson Advertises “Tinsley Property” at Fifth and Madison for Sale or Rent

Journal, Wednesday, February 29, 1860.

Joel Johnson’s Testimonial for Ague Bitters

Journal, Monday, May 7, 1860.

President-Elect Abraham Lincoln Moves Office to Johnson’s Building

Journal, Saturday, December 29, 1860.

On December 29, 1860, in anticipation of the meeting of the legislature, when the Governor would need his office for his own use, Abraham Lincoln and John George Nicolay, his 28-year-old German-born secretary, moved from the State House to Number 4 of the Johnson Building at the northwest corner of Fourth and Washington streets, across the street from the Chenery House. It was a double parlor on the second floor.

There, and in a vacant room over the store of C. M. Smith, Lincoln’s brother-in-law, Lincoln closely observed the political actions of the Legislature. The copious letter and newspaper files managed by John Nicolay were moved to the Johnson Building. Nicolay spent all his time in the new office while Lincoln came in occasionally. Visitors were received by the President-Elect at his home, a half mile southeast of the State House.

This view of Washington Street shows the southwest corner of Johnson’s Block.

*Journal, Thursday, February 13, 1919.*

Late in December (1860), in anticipation of the meeting of the legislature, when the Governor would need his office for his own use, Lincoln and Nicolay moved from the State House to Johnson’s Building across the street from the Chenery House. There, and in a vacant room over the store of C.M. Smith, his brother-in-law, where he could work on his inaugural address in privacy, Lincoln spent most of his time.

Paul M. Angle, *Here I Have Lived.*

---

32 *Angle,* p. 259.
From his headquarters just a block west of the State House in Number 4 of the Johnson Building at the northwest corner of Fourth and Washington, Abraham Lincoln closely observed the political actions of the Legislature.

Sunderine and Wayne C. Temple, Abraham Lincoln and Illinois’ Fifth Capitol.\(^{33}\)

Next day was Christmas (December 25, 1860). As the weather had again turned inclement, and the holidays tended to keep people at home, the week was a quiet one. It was also the last in which the casual visitor could have easy access to the President Elect. Lincoln relinquished the Governor’s room in the State House, his office since early in the canvass, for the Illinois legislature was soon to assemble and the room would be needed. The copious letter and newspaper files managed by John Nicolay were moved to a room in Johnson’s Building, across from the Chenery House, a well-known Springfield hotel a block west of the State House. Nicolay spent all his time in the new office while Lincoln came in occasionally. Visitors were received by the President Elect at his home, a half mile southeast of the State House.

William A. Baringer, A House Dividing.\(^{34}\)

On January 7, 1861, the Twenty-Second General Assembly opened its First Session. The members still lacked adequate space for committee meeting. As a result, they had to rent outside accommodation. Joel Johnson leased a room to the Judiciary Committee, probably in his building on the northwest corner of Fourth and Washington. That cost $35.

Wayne C. Temple, Abraham Lincoln and Illinois’ Fifth Capitol.\(^{35}\)

Lincoln’s Secretary, John G. Nicolay, Writes of the Move to Johnson’s Building

Mr. Lincoln and I moved out of our room at the State House yesterday. He went down to his own house where he will stay most of the time to receive visitors, and I have come to a room in what is called Johnson’s Building just across the street from the Chenery House. It is quite a good room, about twenty feet square nicely furnished. This I shall occupy both as a bedroom and office. I shall be here all the time at work, and Mr. Lincoln will come over occasionally when I need his advice or he my immediate assistance. It is a very comfortable place if I can keep the crowd out during the session.

John G. Nicolay\(^{36}\)

\(^{33}\) Capitol, p. 171.
\(^{34}\) Baringer, p. 124.
\(^{35}\) Capitol, p. 171.
\(^{36}\) This was a letter to Nicolay’s finance Therena Bates who lived in Pittsfield, Illinois. Image 55 of John G. Nicolay Papers: General Correspondence, 1811-1943; 1860, Nov. 11-Dec. 30, 1860. Image provided by: Library of Congress, Washington, D. C. Link to the full image: https://www.loc.gov/resource/mss34736.00205/?sp=55
1861

John G. Nicolay Writes of Lincoln in Johnson’s Building
January 6, 1861

Mr. Lincoln brought in seventy-five letters yesterday — an increase that doesn’t specially gratify me as I am yet some days behind since I moved down here.

John G. Nicolay

Abraham Lincoln to Meet Public in His Office in Joel Johnson’s Building

The Journal of February 6, 1861 announced that during Abraham Lincoln’s last week in Springfield, Lincoln would see visitors only at his office, No. 4 Johnson’s building from 3:30 to 5:00 p.m. each day.

---

37 Image 7 of John G. Nicolay Papers: General Correspondence, 1811-1943; 1861, Jan.-Feb.
Image provided by: Library of Congress, Washington, D. C.
Link to the full image: https://www.loc.gov/resource/mss34736.00206/?sp=7
Journal, Wednesday, February 6, 1861.

Abraham Lincoln and Family Move to Chenery House

A few days before leaving for Washington, Lincoln and his family removed to the Chenery House, then the leading hotel of Springfield. On the morning of his departure, he came down to the hotel office, and declining the proffered help of the attendants, roped his trunks with his own hands. Then, taking some of the hotel cards, he wrote on the backs this simple address:

A. Lincoln
White House
Washington, D. C.\(^{38}\)

\(^{38}\) https://archive.org/stream/lincolnspringfie00sons/lincolnspringfie00sons_djvu.txt
Civil War: Edward S. Johnson Mustered
Into Company I, 7th Regiment Illinois Volunteer Infantry

The Battle of Fort Sumter prompted President Abraham Lincoln’s call for 75,000 volunteers to serve for 3 months (the longest time allowed by the Constitution without Congressional approval). The Sangamon County recruits included several militia companies that were already uniformed and partially trained. Notably the “Springfield Grays” offered its services to Governor Richard Yates on April 16, 1861 and was mustered

in as the 7th Regiment Illinois Volunteer Infantry, Company I. The recruits were organized at Camp Yates on the outskirts of Springfield and mustered into Federal service by Captain John Pope on April 25th, 1861. The Springfield Grays served 3 months in the Union Army between April 25 – July 25, 1861.\(^{40}\)

As sergeant of his company, E. S. Johnson, then a lad of eighteen, had the honor of leading the first squad of armed men into Camp Yates a few days after the firing upon Fort Sumter. Camp Yates was located at the old Illinois State Fairgrounds site (currently the site of Dubois Elementary School). Throughout their training the men lived in the state fair’s stables, which provided considerable comfort and relief from the elements. Despite being the first troops raised in Illinois, the regiment was numbered the 7th Illinois, paying homage to the six Illinois infantry volunteer regiments that were raised to fight in the Mexican–American War fourteen years earlier. During their service part of the regiment wore gray zouave uniforms with orange piping.

In May 1861, they departed Camp Yates, and went on duty at Alton, Cairo, Mound City, Illinois and then at St. Louis, Missouri until July, 1861.

**Civil War: Edward S. Johnson Mustered Into Three Year Service in Company I, 7th Regiment Illinois Volunteer Infantry**

At the end of the initial three-month enlistment, on July 25, 1861, Edward was mustered into the three-year service as First Lieutenant of the 7th Infantry.

On April 22, 1864, he was promoted to the rank of Major. He was honorably discharged on July 9, 1865 with the rank of Brevet Lieutenant Colonel. He participated with his regiment in the battles of Shiloh and Altoona Pass and was a part of Sherman’s army on its victorious march to the sea.

**1862**

**Joel Johnson Selling Lumber Business Inventory**

Joel Johnson, in addition to being a hotel keeper, conducted a lumber and supply business. Here he advertises the sale of his stock as he was discontinuing the lumber business.

---

\(^{40}\) https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/7th_Illinois_Infantry_Regiment_(3_Months)
1864

Letter From Capt. Edward Schrader Johnson

Edward Schrader Johnson’s letter to his father Joel was reported in the *Journal* on January 11, 1864. He reported that his regiment had reenlisted for the war. They would probably start for the North about January 1, 1864. He gave detail of the service rendered by the 7th for seven days beginning on December 11.

*Journal*, Monday, January 11, 1864.

William Todd Falls Into Cistern in Joel Johnson Lumber Yard

Joel Johnson was still operating a lumber yard in January 1864, when William Todd fell into a cistern on Johnson’s property.

*Journal*, Tuesday, January 19, 1864.
John Johnson Mistakenly Identified as Person in Police Court

EXPLANATION.—The John Johnson, whose name appeared in the proceedings of the police court, on Thursday last, was not the son of Joel Johnson, Esq., of this city, as some may have supposed from the names being the same.

Journal, Monday, February 1, 1864.

1865

Letter From Major Edward S. Johnson, Joel’s Son

Through the courtesy of Mr. Joel Johnson, of this city, we have been permitted to see a private letter from him to Mr. Edward S. Johnson, of the 7th Illinois Infantry, dated at Pottsville, Pa., March 18th, two days after the occupation of that place by General Sherman.

Major Johnson reports the army much in want of shoes, clothing, &c., and much fatigued, but otherwise in excellent condition and the best of spirits. The casualties in the 7th regiment amounted to only two between Savannah and Pottsville—one man killed in action and one drowned in crossing the Schuylkill. Six companies of the regiment were mounted and on duty at Gen. Logan’s headquarters, the remaining four were on foot. The whole regiment is armed with the Henry repeating rifles, and are prepared to do most effective service.

In their march from Savannah General Sherman’s forces found forage abundant, but the roads were generally bad. They had no general battle, though skirmishing was kept up nearly the whole distance from Sister’s Ferry on the Savannah, to Pottsville.

Journal, Friday, March 31, 1865.

Assassination of President Abraham Lincoln and Return of His Body to Springfield

This is a photo of the south side of the Chicago & Alton Railroad Depot on the morning of May 3, 1865, the day Abraham Lincoln’s body was returned to Springfield for burial.
Major Edward S. Johnson Returns to Springfield at End of Civil War

After Colonel Edward S. Johnson returned home at the close of the Civil War, another military company was organized in Springfield known as the Springfield Zouaves. This was a crack military organization which gave exhibitions of drilling and entered competitions in neighboring cities and states. It was prominent in the social life of Springfield and its dances and dinners are well remembered by the older inhabitants.41

By an executive order of Governor William Henry Bissell on January 23, 1860, the Springfield Zouaves became the Governor’s Guard. Colonel Johnson was elected captain of this company at its organization and remained its leader until 1878, when he resigned. In later years it became the Governor’s Guard Veteran Corps and Colonel Johnson was elected its president and held this office until his death.

1866

Joel Johnson Joins Second Presbyterian Church

On May 6, 1866, Joel Johnson joined the Second Presbyterian Church, known as the abolitionist church. The church was located on the west side of Fourth Street between Adams and Monroe streets and its minister was Rev. Albert Hale.

Edward S. Johnson Advertises Building Materials

In a Journal newspaper advertisement dated January 1, 1866, Edward S. Johnson, Joel’s son, advertised that he was the successor to his father, Joel, in the lumber business.

41 Memorials of Deceased Companions of the Commandery of the State of Illinois, by Military Order of the Loyal Legion of the United States. Commandery of the State of Illinois, pp.632-636. https://books.google.com/books?pg=PA634&lpg=PA634&dq=springfield+illinois+hotels+joe&sig=ACfU3U2R3j54aHNERRJROY0e9mm967gL1A/id=bagNAQAAIAAJ&ots=a96OJRuzk&output=text
Joel Johnson Advertises Johnson’s Block for Sale or Lease

In a Journal newspaper advertisement printed on December 5, 1866, Joel Johnson advertised the building known as the Johnson’s Block, which had been enlarged, renovated and arranged for a hotel with upwards of 100 rooms. It was to open during December 1866.

Gas Fixtures Advertised For Sale at Joel Johnson’s New Building

Journal, Thursday, January 17, 1867.
Drs. Lord & Barrell Advertise Office in Johnson’s Building

Journal, Thursday, February 21, 1867.

Joel Johnson Granted Permit to Run Hand Cart
From Hotel to Depot

Journal, Tuesday, April 2, 1867.
1867 Springfield Perspective Drawing by Albert Ruger\textsuperscript{42}

\textsuperscript{42} Albert Ruger’s map can be seen on the Library of Congress web site at https://www.loc.gov/item/73693374/.
1868

Edward S. Johnson Takes Five Month European Tour
(March 30, 1868-September 1868)

Major Edward S. Johnson was engaged in business in Springfield from the close of the rebellion for more than two years. In consequence of impaired health, and for observation, he planned a European tour, and in company with Dr. Rufus S. Lord, left Springfield on March 30, 1868. They went by steamer from New York to Liverpool, thence to London, and from there to Paris. Thence to Nice on the Mediterranean; entered Italy at Genoa, thence to Pisa, Leghorn and Naples. They visited Herculaneum, Pompei, Vesuvius, etc. From Naples to Rome, Florence and Verona. In Austria, they visited Trieste and Vienna, thence to Dresden in Prussia. From there to Berlin, Potsdam, Cologne, down the Rhine to Coblentz and Mayence, where they left the Rhine, and visited Baden-Baden, Heidelberg and Strasbourg, entered Switzerland at Basle, thence to Berne, Luzerne, Mount Rigi, Martigny, and by the mountain pass Tete Noir to Chamonix, in the midst of the mountain region, including Mont Blanc. Thence to Geneva, by Diligence, and from there to Paris, where he met Dr. Lord, whom he had previously left at Strasbourg. They proceeded to London, thence to Edinburgh, Scotland, and back to Liverpool, where they took steamer for New York. From the latter city they proceeded to Saratoga, Ticonderoga, on Lake George, Plattsburg, Ogdensburg, Prescott, Montreal, Quebec, Toronto, Niagara Falls, Buffalo and Sarnia, where they took steamer on the lakes for Chicago, reaching Springfield early in September.43

While Edward S. Johnson was on his five-month European tour, his step brother, John R. Campbell, was helping his step father, Joel Johnson, at the Revere House.
1869

Description of Joel Johnson’s Revere House

Joel Johnson and his “courteous and truly gentlemanly assistant, Major E. S. Johnson, has assumed control. The House has undergone thorough repairs…There are larger hotels than the Revere, but none more comfortable and pleasant to stop at.”

Journal, Saturday, July 10, 1869.
Edward S. Johnson Marries Laura Clinton

On August 10, 1869, Edward Johnson was married to Laura Clinton of Springfield, Illinois.

1870

Joel Johnson Advertises Revere House

![Revere House Advertisement](image)

Journal, Thursday, April 14, 1870.

1871

Second Presbyterian Church Constructed at Fourth and Monroe Streets

Joel Johnson was a Trustee and member of the Building Committee for the construction of a new church for the Second Presbyterian Church at the northwest corner of Fourth and Monroe Streets.

Journal, Monday, January 2, 1871.
Joel Johnson Advertises for Good Dining Room Girls at Revere House

*WANTED.—Good dining-room girls at Revere House. Also, good store rooms to rent in same building, lately occupied by T. & S. E. R. R. Juendift.*

*Journal, Monday, June 5, 1871.*

Joel Johnson Advertises Revere House

*REVERE HOUSE,
SPRINGFIELD, ILL.*

The undersigned having assumed the active management of this spacious hotel, so well known as the “Revere House,” respectfully solicits for it the patronage of the traveling public.

The house is situated on the corner of Washington and Fourth streets, in close proximity to the Chicago & Alton Railroad Passenger Depot, and within one block of the Capitol Building.

It has undergone thorough repairs, and is, in all its appointments, one of the most comfortable and convenient hotels in the State.

Commercial men with samples will find it to their interest to call.

*Journal, Wednesday, November 15, 1871.*

Description of Joel Johnson’s Revere House

*REVERE HOUSE.—This house is now under the personal management of Mr. Joel Johnson, long and favorably known to the traveling public as one who knows how to keep a good hotel. The house is situated near the depots of the Chicago & Alton and Springfield & Southeastern railroads, and within one block of the public square. The house has been put in thorough repair, and is in all its appointments a comfortable and desirable hotel. See card in another column of today’s paper.*

*Journal, Wednesday, November 15, 1871.*
1872

Perspective Drawing of Springfield

The *Bird’s Eye View of Springfield* shown below was drawn in 1872 by artist Augustus Koch. I have identified several of the places and streets associated with Joel’s Springfield life.
1873

Death of William D. Chenery
(1790-1873)

Mr. Chenery's death was rather sudden, though being in his seventy-eighth year, and of age in declining health, could not be altogether unexpected. On Thursday night he was attacked with a violent illness, the force of which was instant on his brain. He was delirious during the greater portion of his illness, but at times when the fever seemed to be passing away, his mind cleared and, seeming to anticipate over all earthly trials.

He then fully appreciated his situation and all its surroundings. Peacefully and with sweet astonished resignation he received the summons from his Maker.

In conversation with the Rev. Mr. Shem and the Rev. W. Kellogg, he expressed his perfect confidence and willingness to die, trusting in the truth and grace of his Redeemer for his salvation and immortal life.

During the last few days of his life, though very weak and often delirious, he was especially thoughtful and considerate of all his friends; and members of his own family, who visited him in his sickness, and ministered to all his wants, with much watchful care and ready hands, nicely tending to postpone the last hour.

Subsequently resigned to death, he calmly passed away supported by Christian faith.

Four men in Central Illinois were so well and favorably known in its temporal population that the entire public of the city and the country were broken-hearted. We have already paid the respects of so many late in the City of Illinois, in the city of the state, and during the canvass of Abraham Lincoln for the presidency, of many of the most eminent men of the Union, all of whom will remember him with kindness and regret for his valued services and strict attention to their concerns.

During the disruption of the Whig party and during the political civil war on the slavery question, which resulted in the formation of the Republican party, he became a member of the Republican party, naturally carrying with him his love of liberty, hatred of oppression, and moral and religious convictions. During the war, he was associated with the most influential Whig and abolitionists of the state.

He was always a man of decided opinions, but he never allowed his political views and sentiments to interrupt his personal relationships with his friends, who might hold different political ideas.

He was a man of too enlarged intelligence and true and broad views of humanity, not relying on others what he would most strenuously claim for himself, and independently maintained his opinions on all questions of a political or religious nature.

As a man he was endowed with varied talents and many social gifts. His personal qualities and integrity were widely known and respected, and the purity of his whole life was held up as a most splendid character.

Journal, Thursday, October 23, 1873.
1876

Description of Joel Johnson’s Revere House

The *Journal* newspaper of January 1, 1876, described the Revere House. It had between 60 and 70 large and airy sleeping rooms, well ventilated, and handsomely furnished with clean beds, beautiful carpets, mirrors and one of the best tables in the city. Col. Edward S. Johnson, an accomplished gentleman, is superintendent of the hotel and does everything possible for the comfort and pleasure of the guests. A news depot is connected to the office and a wagon yard is opposite for teams.

![Revere House](image)

*Journal, Saturday, January 1, 1876.*

Attempt to Steal Lincoln Body and Reburial

On November 7, 1876, after the unsuccessful attempt to steal the body of President Lincoln from its resting place in the marble sarcophagus in the north room of the monument, fears were entertained by the trustees of the Lincoln Monument Association as
to its future safety. It was decided to select a few men whose honor was beyond question to be entrusted with the burial of the casket containing the President’s body within the confines of the monument known only to themselves. Those chosen were John C. Power, who was at that time custodian of the monument, Major Gustavus S. Dana, Gen. Jasper T. Reece, Colonel Edward S. Johnson, Joseph P. Lindley and James F. McNeill.

1877

Springfield Hotels

Springfield has always been noted for its excellent hotel accommodations. Even in the early days, when a little cluster of houses was all that existed on the present site of the city, people from far and near sounded the praises of the hotels. It is impossible to state with a degree of certainty who carried on the first hotel and when it was opened to the public. The National House stood on Adams street, between Third and Fourth, at a very early day. It was a long, low frame building, and has had the honor of sheltering, in its day, men whose names have gone into history. The building, long ago, fell into decay, and has been removed. At a very early day, Joel Johnson built a hotel on what is now West Jefferson street. He had in the larger portion of his furniture, when the building caught fire and burned down. Nearly everything was destroyed. Mr. Johnson was not dismayed, however, and soon after built the City Hotel, now a part of the Hotel Palace. The American House was built about the year 1837, and was considered a wonder for those days. Its praises were sounded far and near, and people who lodged within its walls were as proud as the man from the back district who is permitted to occupy a room and sit at the Leland dining-table. The old American has gone, has literally disappeared from the earth, and we now have to do with the hotels of to-day, and it will be seen that in that respect we are as well off as cities of twice our population and wealth.
Death and Funeral of Joel Johnson  
(1806-1877)

Joel Johnson died on May 4, 1877, at age 70 at Springfield, Illinois. His funeral was held at the Second Presbyterian Church and he was buried in Oak Ridge Cemetery, Springfield, Illinois.

Joel Johnson was born in Berkshire, Mass, in 1806, and removed to Springfield in 1823, and for a year or two was engaged in the boot and shoe business. He then opened a hotel, and has been engaged in that line of business ever since. He built the present Chenery House—then known as the Revere—and after disposing of that built the present Revere House. He was the oldest landlord in Central Illinois, and probably more widely known than any other now living.

His funeral will take place at the Second Presbyterian church, at 3 o'clock, Sunday afternoon, Revs. G. H. Fullerton and Father Hale officiating.

Journal, Saturday, May 5, 1877.

Journal, Monday, May 7, 1877.
This is the Joel Johnson Family grave marker in Oak Ridge Cemetery, Springfield, Illinois. In addition to Joel’s name, the marker also contains the following names: Elizabeth Newman, his wife 1815-1850; Charles, his son, 1839-1860; John W., his son 1845-1864; and Elizabeth Campbell, his second wife, 1822-1894.

**Joel Johnson Estate**

Joel Johnson had a simple will leaving his wife, Elizabeth Johnson, half of his property after payment of debts and expenses. He left his son Edward the balance. He named Lucian Adams as his executor. Joel’s will failed to meet the formal, legal requirements for a valid will. It was not admitted by the court and instead, Joel’s estate was treated as if he had no will and his wife was appointed Administratrix, the person with the legal authority to settle Joel’s estate.

*Journal, Friday, June 15, 1877.*

The probate court file for Joel’s estate is archived at the Illinois Regional Archives at the University of Illinois Springfield and is quite large. The documents can be sorted into three categories. The first category contains the standard documents one would find.

44 *Journal, Friday, June 15, 1877, p. 4.*
in most estates: admission of the will, appointment of person in charge of estate, inventory of the estate, authorization for payment of debts and finally receipts of those receiving property from the estate and a discharge of the person in charge. The other category contains documents pertaining to a contentious fight between Edward and his stepmother over property and payments to be made from the estate. The third and final category is claims for unpaid debts against Joel, and there were many.

On June 14, 1877, Elizabeth Johnson, Joel’s widow, published his estate adjustment notice. She was the admintratrix of Joel’s estate.

Journal, Thursday, June 14, 1877.

Elizabeth Johnson Sues Stepson Edward S. Johnson

It seems that at Joel’s death, Edward continued the management of the Revere House—paying employees and suppliers and welcoming guests. This was not suitable for Elizabeth, and objections and court affidavits tell a story of disagreement and accusations that last for a number of years. Finally, Edward bought Elizabeth’s interest, but then defaulted on payment of the purchase price.

In October 1877, Elizabeth Johnson, Joel’s widow, sold her dower interest in property that Joel had owned in Springfield for $6,000 to her stepson Edward S. Johnson.
Elizabeth Johnson has commenced an assumpsit suit against her son, Major Edward S. Johnson. Mrs. Johnson is the widow of Joel Johnson, who died May 4, 1877. In October, 1877, according to the papers filed yesterday, Major Johnson bought out his mother’s dower interest in certain property in this city agreeing to pay her the sum of $6,000. She alleges that he has not made payment of that sum, and therefore sues him for its recovery.

Journal, Saturday, December 28, 1889.
Afterwards
(1878-1921)

1878

The Revere House Operated by Edward S. Johnson

At Joel Johnson’s death in 1877, his son, Edward S. Johnson, acquired his father’s Revere House property at the northwest corner of Fourth and Washington streets. He remained the hotel proprietor until 1893, when he sold the business and spent two years in Chicago.

Journal, Tuesday, May 10, 1878.
The photograph above is of west or back side of the then Revere House, previously known as Johnson’s Building, at the northwest corner of Fourth and Washington streets. It was taken from an upper floor of the mill just west of the railroad, at the northwest corner of Third and Washington streets, so the view is looking east. The Chenery House is east across the street and the Old State Capitol in the upper right corner. The name of the photographer is unknown. This photograph was printed in *Souvenir of Springfield*, published by H. E. Barker, Art Dealer, Springfield, Illinois, 1890. In the foreground is an

---

open landscaped parcel, perhaps a park, with geometric walkways crisscrossing the park. These paths may have been for carriages to use when picking up or dropping off passengers at the Chicago and Alton railroad station that adjoined the park to the north. The number of street side trees surprised me.

1880

The Lincoln Guard of Honor Includes Edward S. Johnson

On February 12, 1880, the 71st anniversary of the birth of Lincoln, the six men appointed to protect the body of Abraham Lincoln were formally incorporated into the organization known as the Lincoln Guard of Honor whose object was to purchase the former home of the President in Springfield and open it to the public; to be in charge of memorial services upon anniversary occasions and to collect and preserve mementoes of Lincoln’s life and death.

The photo to the right is of the Lincoln Guard of Honor and those pictured from 12:00 o’clock clockwise are H. C. Chapin, N. B. Wiggins, J. C. Power, E. S. Johnson, J. N. Reece, C. L. Conkling, J. P. Lindley, G. S. Dana, and J. F. McNeill.

1883

Ownership of Hotel Palace Changes

On January 1, 1883, ownership of the Hotel Palace passed to David J. Block.

1884

History of Ownership of City Hotel and Hotel Palace and Chenery House

The Revere Hotel was at the northwest corner and the Hotel Palace was at the northeast corner of Fourth and Washington streets.
Joel Johnson: Springfield Hotel Keeper

Afterwards (1878-1921)

Journal, Saturday, January 5, 1884.

1884 Sanborn Fire Insurance Map

The map below is from the 1884 Sanborn Fire Insurance Map showing the footprint of what had been Joel Johnson’s Revere House.

1886

Tax Purchaser Notice: Joel Johnson Property

A sheriff’s sale of property owned by the estate of Joel Johnson was held at the Court House on June 18, 1884. C. McLane purchased the west part, north ½, south ½

southeast ¼, northwest ¼, Section 12, Township 15 North, Range 8. Containing 6 acres. Redemption rights expired on June 1, 1886.

Journal, Thursday, March 11, 1886.

1889

Elizabeth Johnson Sues Stepson Edward S. Johnson

In October 1877, Edward acquired his mother-in-law’s interest in her inheritance from Joel. The acquisition price of $6,000 was to be paid over time with interest. Edward failed to pay, and Elizabeth sued him in 1889 to have paid notes for the $6,000 obligation and Elizabeth sued him to recover.

Journal, Saturday, December 28, 1889.

1890

1890 Sanborn Fire Insurance Map

The map below is from the 1890 Sanborn Fire Insurance Map and shows the footprint of what had been Joel Johnson’s Revere House.

---

47 Illinois, Sanborn Map Company, July 1890, Library of Congress Geography and Map Division Washington, D.C. 20540-4650 http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.gmd/g4104sm.g021631890
1892

Edward S. Johnson Entertains New Year’s at the Revere House

NEW YEAR’S AT THE REVERE.

Major and Mrs. Edward S. Johnson of the Revere House observed New Year’s day in a most appropriate manner. The table was laden with all of the delicacies of the season and each guest present was presented with a souvenir in the shape of a very handsomely embossed menu card, with a beautiful picture of a sprig of May flowers and bearing a pretty verse in gilt letters. Among the guests were a number of the local newspaper men and their ladies.

Journal, Saturday, January 2, 1892.48

1893

Edward S. Johnson Sells Revere House

Edward S. Johnson acquired the Revere House property at the northwest corner of Fourth and Washington streets from his father Joel. He remained its proprietor until 1893, when he sold the business and spent the following two years in Chicago.

48 Journal, Saturday, January 2, 1892, p. 4.
1894

Death of Elizabeth T. Johnson
(1824-1894)

Joel Johnson’s widow, Elizabeth T. Johnson, died in Springfield on November 11, 1894. The funeral took place at the Second Presbyterian Church at the northwest corner of Fourth and Monroe streets.

1893-1895

Edward S. Johnson in Chicago Managing Hotels

From 1893 until 1895, Edward S. Johnson lived in Chicago where he managed hotels.

1896

Edward S. Johnson Appointed Custodian of Lincoln Tomb

When ownership of the Lincoln Tomb was transferred to the State of Illinois, Governor Altgeld appointed 53-year-old Major Edward S. Johnson as custodian. Edward returned to Springfield from Chicago and assumed his duties on July 9, 1896, during the period of reconstruction of the tomb.

49 Register, Tuesday, November 13, 1894, p. 8.
50 Journal, Monday, November 12, 1894, p. 5.
Edward S. Johnson First to Live in Custodian’s House at Lincoln Tomb

Edward S. Johnson was the first custodian to live in the Lincoln Tomb Custodian’s Home, which was built next to the tomb in 1896. Joel spent the next twenty-five years in loving service to the memory of the friend and hero of his youth, Abraham Lincoln. He died at age 77, on February 15, 1921.51

1896 Sanborn Fire Insurance Map52

The map below is from the 1896 Sanborn Fire Insurance Map showing the footprint of what had been Joel Johnson’s Revere House.

---

52 Library of Congress Geography and Map Division Washington, D.C. 20540-4650 http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.gmd/g4104sm.g021631896
1900-1901

Edward S. Johnson Supervises Reconstruction of Lincoln Tomb

Edward S. Johnson oversaw the complete reconstruction of the Lincoln Tomb in 1900-01.

1901

Edward S. Johnson and Wife Present at
Interment of Abraham Lincoln in Concrete Vault

Edward and his wife Laura were among those present when President Lincoln’s body was permanently interred in a concrete vault below the burial chamber on September 26, 1901. Edward remained custodian for another 20 years, until his death in 1921.53

Photograph of Revere House and Chenery House

The early 1900s photograph below looks west on Washington Street from the southwest corner of Fifth Street. It shows the two hotels—Revere and Chenery—at the north corners of Fourth and Washington streets. Further west beyond Third Street it shows the ____ Mill. It would be interesting to know the occasion that brought together the well-dressed group of Springfield folks.

---

The Palace Hotel

In the late 1800s, Springfield’s Palace Hotel had a great location at Fourth and Washington streets, a half-block from the Chicago & Alton railroad station (today’s Amtrak station). For a while, the Palace was one of the city’s premier hostelries.

But the place deteriorated considerably by the time its owner, Col. David Block, decided to sell out in 1899. Here’s how Illinois State Journal columnist A.L. Bowen described his first memories of the Palace in 1945.

“It was flourishing when I came to Springfield under the direction of David Block, his wife, son Dave Jr. and daughter Sally, as fine publicity as any house could have, since all of them were jovial and well fed. Will, another son, was prominent in New York theatricals.

“The Palace was purely ironical. It was dreary to look at and sad and dark inside, built of wood and tinder. How much its guests owe to the sheltering hand of Providence, I doubt that any of them ever stopped to consider, but a fire once started would have exceeded in speed Springfield’s pony express squirt gun fire department of that day.

“The Palace was famous for its rodents, some as large as cats and as ferocious as hyenas. Guests used to tell of their sleepless nights as these travelers raced about through the hollow walls and floors raising a tremendous racket, like a flour mill in full action.”

Bowen remembered the Palace because of a chat he had had with a state official on that corner the night Bowen arrived in Springfield in 1899.

The Palace was sold a couple of times after Block unloaded the property. Most of the furniture and fixtures were disposed of in a series of auctions in 1901. Finally, in 1904, new owners built another hotel, the Illinois, on the site at the northeast corner of Fourth and Washington streets. That building, somewhat remodeled, has been in recent years the offices of the Illinois Sheriffs’ Association.

1903

Illinois Hotel Built
401 East Washington Street, Springfield, Illinois

The Illinois Hotel was constructed in 1903 on the site of the former Chenery House Hotel at the northeast corner of Fourth and Washington streets. Its 71 rooms provided permanent and transient accommodations and was described in a 1912 promotional publication as having a “modern fine popular priced café” on the premises. The hotel operated until 1947 when it was converted to offices. The picture shows the building’s distinctive, curved bay windows on the second and third floors that were removed later. Subsequently the original glass storefronts and Classical Revival cornice were removed.

---

54 Original content copyright Sangamon County Historical Society. Posted on March 21, 2020 by editor Mike Kienzler https://sangamoncountyhistory.org/wp/?p=11965

The 2019 photograph below is of the Illinois Hotel, the Chenery House site at the northeast corner of Fourth and Washington streets, after a 1990s remodeling and as it appeared in 2020.
Edward S. Johnson Authors Leaflet
Abraham Lincoln and His Last Resting Place

The first edition of Edward S. Johnson’s writings was a leaflet printed in 1903. There were 5 more editions by 1924 and the leaflet had by then expanded into a full grown oak tree.\(^{56}\)

1912

Death of John R. Campbell
(1845-1912)

John R. Campbell was Joel Johnson’s stepson. John’s mother was Elizabeth T. Campbell Johnson.

Aged Veteran Passes Away - Died, at 8:25 o’clock Saturday morning, Jan. 20, 1912, at the residence of his son, Dr. R. K. Campbell, 630 South Eleventh street, John R. Campbell, aged 67 years, a veteran of the civil war and a well-known resident of this city. Mr. Campbell’s health had been failing for more than a year, but his death followed an acute illness of one week.

The deceased was born near Burlington, Iowa, April 28, 1845, and removed with his mother to this city in 1863, following a second marriage of his mother to Joel Johnson, proprietor at that time of the Revere House in this city. Leaving college to enlist in the Seventh Illinois Infantry at the outbreak of the civil war, Mr. Campbell served throughout the war and was discharged from the service June 16, 1865. He was a prisoner in [a Confederate] prison at … for ten months in the course of the conflict.

At the close of hostilities he returned to this city and engaged in various businesses, including the management of the Revere House, the grocery, grain and hardware businesses. Going to Lawrence, Kan., in 1869, he was for a time engaged in the real estate business there. He had traveled extensively, having visited all but two of the states of the union. He was also active in political affairs.

As a member of Stephenson Post No. 30, G. A. R., Mr. Campbell was chosen commander of the post, which position he held throughout the year 1907. He had also been connected with the Illinois National Guard in the capacity of sutler for twenty-one years.

Mr. Campbell was united in marriage with the widow of Lieut. Busby, a daughter of Captain Caleb Hopkins of this city, in 1871. Following her death in 1877, he married Mrs. Clark of Scottsville, Ill, who survives him. He is also survived by his son, Dr. R. K. Campbell.

Funeral services will be held at 10 o’clock Monday morning at the residence of Dr. Campbell, 630 South Eleventh street. Interment will be made in Oak Ridge cemetery, the G. A. R. having charge of the services at the grave.\[57\]

Colonel Edward Schrader Johnson died suddenly of heart failure at sunrise on the morning of February 15, 1921. He had not been in his usual vigorous health for more than a year, but had been able to perform his duties in connection with the monument and at no time had been confined to his bed. On February 12, three days previous, he had arranged and conducted the exercises held in commemoration of Lincoln’s birth.
Appendix

[Image of handwritten text]

Samuel Stevens, Judge
To the said
Joel Johnson

The undersigned, on the part and interest in this 31st day of May, 1795, between Samuel Stevens and Elizabeth Store, the wife of Joel Johnson of the County of King and State of Virginia, of the First Part, and Joel Johnson of the county of King and State of Virginia, the Second Part, the transfer and surrender that the said party of the First Part for and in consideration of the sum of one thousand dollars, in lawful money, paid by the said party of the Second Part, do hereby acknowledge have granted, bargained, and sold unto the said party of the Second Part.
Remnant of Revere House, looking northwest from the intersection of Fourth and Washington Streets

Remnant of Revere House, looking north, just west of the intersection of Fourth and Washington Streets
Richard E. Hart was born in Ottawa, Illinois, and attended school and was raised in Springfield, Illinois. He attended the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign where he received his B.A. in 1964 and his J.D. in 1967. He was admitted to practice law in 1967 and has been a practicing attorney in Springfield for the last fifty-three years. He is a partner in the firm of Hart, Southworth & Witsman. Hart is married to Ann and they have three children and seven grandchildren.

Hart is a past President of The Abraham Lincoln Association and member of the Illinois Abraham Lincoln Bicentennial Commission. He is a past President and board member of the Sangamon County Historical Society, past Chairman of the Advisory Board of The Lincoln Legal Papers, and past President and member of the Board of Directors of the Elijah Iles House Foundation. Hart was largely responsible for raising the funds and managing the day-to-day restoration of the Elijah Iles House and the Strawbridge-Shepherd House, two circa 1840 Greek Revival residences.

Hart is also past President of Springfield Preservation, Ltd., a for-profit corporation that has restored and leased five Lincoln-era houses in Springfield’s German Settlers Row.

Hart suggested the format for the Looking for Lincoln project in Springfield and donated his personal historical research and ideas that were used for that project.

Hart and his wife Ann were also responsible for proposing the design for the City of Springfield’s streetscape. Their design proposal and advocacy were adopted in lieu of another proposal for a contemporary design. As a part of their advocacy, the Harts purchased and donated the first period lights for Springfield’s streetscape. Since that first donation, the use of the design has spread throughout downtown Springfield and is now moving into several neighborhoods, including the Iles Park Neighborhood.

In 1999, Hart was given the City of Springfield’s Preservationist of the Year award.

In 2012, Hart was presented with the Logan Hay Medal. The bronze medal is awarded infrequently and is the highest honor given by The Abraham Lincoln Association to recognize individuals who have made noteworthy contributions to the mission of the Association.

In 2014, Hart was awarded the Illinois State Historical Society’s Lifetime Achievement Award for his outstanding contributions over the decades to promoting the
history of the Prairie State. In 2015, Hart was awarded the Springfield NAACP Chapter’s 2015 Legal and Political Award.

From 2003 until 2015, Hart served on the Board of Managers of Oak Ridge Cemetery and was Chairman of the Board of Managers of Oak Ridge Cemetery. He is a founding member of the Board of Directors of Springfield Illinois African American History Foundation Museum. Hart remains a member of the Board of Directors of The Abraham Lincoln Association and of the Elijah Iles House Foundation.

For ten years Hart was the editor of *For The People*, a newsletter of The Abraham Lincoln Association, and the *Iles Files*, a newsletter of the Elijah Iles House Foundation.

Hart’s personal interest has been in the history of Springfield during the time that Abraham Lincoln lived there and in particular in the presence there of African-Americans. He is also interested in particular areas of Sangamon County during the period of early settlement. He has divided his published research on these two areas into the Spring Creek Series focusing on Lincoln’s Springfield, and the Sugar Creek Series focusing on the early settlement of Cotton Hill and Ball Townships in Sangamon County.

**Spring Creek Series**

*Early Sangamon County Antiques – The Barringer Exhibit* (2005) (Editor)
*The Early Court Houses of Sangamon County, Illinois (1821-1837)* (2008)
*Abel W. Estabrook: Robert Todd Lincoln’s Abolitionist Teacher* (2009)
*Lincoln’s Springfield – Springfield’s Early Schools* (2009)
*The Colored Section, Oak Ridge Cemetery* (2009)
*Lincoln’s Springfield – Greek Revival Architecture on the Prairie* (2011)
*Circuses in Lincoln’s Springfield (1833-1860)* (2013)
*Preston Butler: Photographer in Lincoln’s Springfield* (2014)
*Jameson Jenkins and James Blanks, African Americans in Lincoln’s Springfield* (2014)
*Lincoln’s Springfield Neighborhood* (2015)
*Lincoln’s Springfield: Entertainment in Lincoln’s Springfield (1834-1860)* (2017)
*Lincoln’s Springfield–Chair and Cabinet Makers (1831-1860)* (2017)
*The Collected Works of Thomas Lincoln Carpenter and Cabinetmaker* (2019)
*Lincoln’s Springfield: Letters From California and Oregon 1845-1852* (2020)
*Lincoln’s Springfield: The Todd Brothers* (2020)
Sugar Creek Series

Jones Cemetery Tour: Ball, Cotton Hill & Woodside Township, Sangamon County, Illinois (2002)
Philemon Stout Cemetery: Ball Township, Sangamon County, Illinois (2006)
Christopher Newcomer Cemetery: Woodside Township, Sangamon County, Illinois (2009)
Sugar Creek Cemetery: Ball Township, Sangamon County, Illinois (2010)
David Brunk Cemetery: Ball Township, Sangamon County, Illinois (2010)
Cumberland Sugar Creek Cemetery, The Old Burying Ground (2012)
George Brunk Cemetery, Cotton Hill Township, Sangamon County, Illinois (2012)
The Strawbridge – Shepherd Farm Site
Thomas Royal: Revolutionary War Soldier and Early Sangamon County Settler (2016)
1806
Johnson, Joel birth May 21, 1806 ................................. 1

1811
Johnson, Joel mother leaves him with uncle .................. 1

1824
Gregory, Abigail moves to Rochester, Illinois-December 31, 1824 ................................................ 1
Johnson, Joel mother moves to Rochester, Illinois ........... 1

1832
Johnson, Joel boot and shoemaker in St. Louis ............. 1
Johnson, Joel goes West to Ohio and Rochester, Illinois- 1832 1
Johnson, Joel moves to Edwardsville, Illinois and opens  boot and shoemaker shop.............................. 2
Johnson, Joel stops in St. Louis on way back east .......... 1

1833
Johnson, Joel moves to Springfield, Illinois-April -1833.3
Johnson, Joel opens boot and shoe shop in Springfield,  Illinois-October-1833 ................................. 3

1834
Johnson, Joel borrows money-July 7, 1834 ................. 5
Johnson, Joel marries Elizabeth Newman-February 1834
Newman, Elizabeth marries Johnson-June-February 1834
5

1835
Johnson, Joel advertises boot and shoe shop-early 1835..5

1836
Florville, William
moves barber shop west of Rague’s Bake Shop-April 1836.............................................................. 6
Florville, William
Johnson, Joel sells part of lot to -February 23, 1836..6
Johnson, Joel advertises requesting payment of monies owed him-January 1836................................. 6
Johnson, Joel final advertisement of boot and shoe shop- June 25,1836.............................................. 7
Johnson, Joel sells part of lot to William Florville-  February 23, 1836................................................... 6

1837
Johnson, Joel advertises requesting payment of monies owed him-January 23, 1837............................ 7
Johnson, Joel opens Springfield Hotel on Square in Springfield, Illinois-January 1837............................ 8

1838
Johnson, Joel advertises seven tenements for rent-June 28, 1837 9

1839
Johnson, Joel advertises Springfield Hotel west of State House-April 26, 1839 ...................................... 11
Johnson, Joel advertises Springfield Hotel-December 31, 1839 11
Johnson, Joel buys Indian Queen Hotel-March 30, 1839 10

1840
Johnson, Joel opens City Hotel at 4th and Washington-July 24, 1840 ...................................................... 12
Johnson, Joel’s City Hotel advertises 148 pound pumpkin- October 16, 1840 ........................................... 12
Johnson, Joel’s City Hotel advertises lithographs- December 25, 1840 ................................................ 13

1842
Johnson, Joel adds new addition to City Hotel and advertises rates – May 20, 1842............................. 14
Johnson, Joel advertises new addition to City Hotel -  November 1, 1842 ............................................. 14

1843
Johnson, Edward Schrader born – August 9, 1843 ...... 14

1844
Florville, William moves barber shop east of Johnson’s  City Hotel - May 23, 1844 ................................. 16
Johnson City Hotel advertises Bathing House - April 25, 1844 16

1845
Johnson, Joe advertises rates at City Hotel – October 16, 1845 17

1846
Johnson City Hotel advertises Bathing House – June 11, 1846 18
Johnson, Joe advertises City Hotel Temperance House – November 6, 1846 ............................... 18

1847
City Hotel hosts meeting of Sons of Temperance Thanksgiving Exercises – November 25, 1847 ............. 20
City Hotel hosts meeting of Sons of Temperance Thanksgiving Exercises – November 25, 1847 ...... 20
Johnson, Joel builds new building for City Hotel – June 3, 1847 19
Johnson’s City Hotel burns – January 28, 1847 ......... 18

1848
City Hotel tenant leaves owing six week board – May 16, 1848 21
Johnson, Joel advertises City Hotel – November 11, 1848 21

1849
City Hotel advertisement for model of the Bee Palace for raising bees – April 27, 1849 ...................... 23
City Hotel advertisement of site of Spencer Donegan new barber shop-October 23, 1849 ..................... 25
City Hotel entertainment – March 27, 1849 ................ 23
City Hotel learned pig advertisement-August 6, 1849... 25
City Hotel register-December 30, 1948- January 1, 1849 22

City Hotel warm and cold baths advertisement-June 11, 1849 ........................................................... 25
Donegan, Spencer advertises new barber shop at City Hotel - October 23, 1849................................. 25
Johnson, Eliza Newman death – May 17, 1849.......... 23
Johnson, Joel advertises 1600 feet of flooring -October 24, 1849 26

1850
City Hotel is office for mail stage – July 3, 1850 ......... 27
City Hotel site of Dr. Hays rooms - December 3, 1850.28
Johnson, Joel holds public sale of 80 acres near Petersburg – September 13, 1850............................... 27
Johnson, Joel lots to be sold to pay for removal of nuisance from lots -March 7, 1850 ............................ 26
Johnson, Joel manager of American House in St. Louis - September, 1850 ........................................ 28
Johnson, Joel said to be shoemaker in 1850 census ..... 26

1851
City Hotel hosts New England Supper – December 25, 1851 31
City Hotel operators Joel Johnson and Daniel M. Jackson dissolve partnership – July 16, 1852 .......... 32
City Hotel reopened by Joel Johnson an Daniel M. Jackson – October 23, 1851 ................................. 31
Johnson, Joel and Daniel M. Jackson reopen City Hotel- October 23, 1851 ................................. 31
Johnson, Joel deeds land for Railroad Depot on Third Street tracks – June 12, 1851 .......................... 30
Johnson, Joel purchases Indian Queen Hotel – May 31, 1850 35

89
1852

Jackson, Daniel M. returns to Logan County – September 14, 1852.................................33
Joel Johnson and Daniel M. Jackson dissolve City Hotel partnership – July 16, 1852................32
Johnson, Joel represented by Abraham Lincoln – March 3, 1852 32
Kilmiste Family performs vocal concert at City Hotel – May 24, 1852.................................32
Lincoln, Abraham represents Joel Johnson – March 3, 1852 32

1853

Campbell, Elizabeth T. marries Johnson, Joel – January 5, 1853 33
City Hotel site of Pekin and Decatur Railroad Corporation meeting – October 13, 1853...............34
Johnson, Joel advertises 200,000 bricks – August 11, 1853 34
Johnson, Joel advertises City Hotel for rent with accommodations for 100 travelers – August 16, 1853 34
Johnson, Joel marries Elizabeth T. Campbell – January 5, 1853 33
Matheny, James H. attends Temperance Association supper at City Hotel – December 29, 1853.........35
Temperance Association has supper at City Hotel – December 29, 1853.................................35
Yeates, Lafayette, Dr. oculists at City Hotel – November 30, 1853........................................34

1854

City Hotel addition described.................................................................36
City Hotel theft – April 3, 1854.................................................................36
Johnson, Joel enlarges City Hotel..........................................................36
Springfield map ..................................................................................37

1855

Chenery House annunciate installed – October 3, 1855 40
Chenery, John W. buys City Hotel from Johnson, Joel – August 1855........................................38
Johnson, Joel advertises furniture store in Journal Building – December 19, 1855.....................41
Johnson, Joel advertises he found purse with change – May 8, 1855 37
Johnson, Joel selling 200,000 bricks – December 19, 1855 .....................................................37
Johnson, Joel sells City Hotel to John W. Chenery – August 1855............................................38

1856

Johnson, Joel builds three story brick hotel across from Chenery House – August 29, 1856.............43
Springfield Hotels described – December 31, 1856..............................................................43

1857

Johnson, Joel advertises rooms for rent in new block of buildings – February 17, 1857.................44
Johnson, Joel builds three story brick hotel across from Chenery House – January 29, 1857...........44
Johnson, Joel sheriff sale of real property – April 4, 1857 45

1858

Johnson, Joel creditors sale of real property – May 20, 1858 45

1859

Johnson, Joel purchases lots from Samuel Stover – May 31, 1850.............................................30
Johnson, Joel is mistakenly said to be site of cholera – May 30, 1851........................................30
Railroad Depot on Third street tracks – May 15, 1851 29

1860

Johnson, Joel advertises Tinsley Property for sale or rent – February 29, 1860.................................46
Johnson, Joel advertises Tinsley Property for sale or rent – December 29, 1860............................46
Niclay, John G. writes of move of Lincoln offices to Johnson’s Building – December 29, 1860........48

1861

Johnson, Edward S., Major mustered into Illinois Volunteer Infantry – July 25, 1861.........................52
Lincoln, Abraham and family move to Chenery House – September 9, 1861.................................50
Lincoln, Abraham to meet public in office in Joel Johnson’s Building – February 6, 1861...............49
Niclay, John G. writes of move of Lincoln offices to Johnson’s Building – December 29, 1860........49

1862

Johnson, Joel advertises discontinuation of lumber and supply business – July 22, 1862...................52

1864

Johnson, Edward S., Major letter to father Joel Johnson – January 11, 1864...................................53
Johnson, Joel mistakenly identified as person in police court – February 1, 1864............................54

1865

Johnson, Edward S. returns to Springfield after Civil War – May 55
Johnson, Edward S., Major letter to father Joel Johnson – March 13, 1865.................................54

1866

Johnson, Edward S. advertises building materials – July 21, 1866 55
Johnson, Joel advertises block for sale – December 5, 1866....................................................56
Johnson, Joel joins Second Presbyterian Church – May 6, 1866 55

1867

Dr. Lord & Barrell advertise offices in Johnson’s building – February 21, 1867...............................57
Johnson, Joel allowed to run hand cart from his hotel to C. & A. depot – April 2, 1867.....................57
Ruger, Albert perspective drawing of Springfield.............58

1868

Campbell, John R. helps Joel Johnson at Revere House while Edward S. Johnson was on European Tour - March 30, 1868-September 1868...............................59
Johnson, Edward S. takes five month European Tour - March 30, 1868-September 1868..............59

1869

Clinton, Laura marries Johnson, Edward S. – August 10, 1869 61
Johnson, Edward S. marries Laura Clinton – August 10, 1869 61
Revere House described July 10, 1869..............................................................60

1870

Johnson, Joel advertises Revere House – April 14, 1870 61

1871

Johnson, Joel advertises for good dining girls at Revere House – June 5, 1871...............................62
Johnson, Joel advertises Revere House – November 15, 1871 62

1872

Johnson, Edward S. joins Springfield Grays – October 1859 45
Bird’s Eye View of Springfield ........................................ 63  
Koch, Augustus perspective drawing of Springfield ....... 63  
1873  
Chenery, William D. death-October 21, 1873.............. 64  
1876  
Revere House described-January 1, 1876 ................. 65  
1877  
Hotels in Springfield history of .................................. 66  
Johnson, Edward S. sued by stepmother Elizabeth Johnson 69  
Johnson, Elizabeth sued stepson Edward S. Johnson ....69  
Johnson, Joel  
death-May 4, 1877.................................................... 67  
1878  
Johnson, Edward S. operates the Revere House-May 10, 1878 71  
1880  
Johnson, Edward S. member of Lincoln Guard of Honor- 
February 12, 1880.................................................... 73  
1883  
Block, David J. purchases Hotel Palace-January 1, 1883 73  
1884  
Sanborn Fire Insurance Map......................................... 74  
The Palace Hotel and Chenery Hotel history of ownership 73  
1886  
Johnson, Edward S. property notice of sale for unpaid 
taxes 74  
1889  
Johnson, Edward S. sued by stepmother Elizabeth Johnson 75  
Johnson, Elizabeth sued stepson Edward S. Johnson ....75  
1890  
Sanborn Fire Insurance Map......................................... 75  
1892  
Johnson, Edward S. entertains New Year’s at Revere 
House 76  
1893  
Johnson, Edward S. sells Revere House ................. 76  
1893-1895  
Johnson, Edward S.  
managed hotels in Chicago ........................................ 77  
1894  
Johnson, Elizabeth T. death-November 11, 1894......... 77  
1896  
Johnson, Edward S.  
appointed custodian of Abraham Lincoln Tomb .....77  
appointed first custodian of Lincoln Tomb ............77  
first custodian to live at Lincoln Tomb residence ....78  
Sanborn Fire Insurance Map......................................... 78  
1900-1901  
Johnson, Edward S.  
oversaw reconstruction of Abraham Lincoln Tomb 79  
1901  
Abraham Lincoln Intermont Observer  
Edward S. Johnson-September 26, 1901................. 79  
Laura Johnson-September 26, 1901......................... 79  
1903  
Illinois Hotel  
built 80  
1912  
Campbell, John R.  
death 83  
1921  
Johnson, Edward Schrader death - February 15, 1921... 84  
Bathing House  
Johnson City Hotel advertises - April 25, 1844 ........... 16  
Johnson City Hotel advertises – June 11, 1846.......... 18  
Block  
Bathing House  
Johnson City Hotel advertises - April 25, 1844 ........... 16  
Johnson City Hotel advertises – June 11, 1846.......... 18  
David J.  
purchases Hotel Palace-January 1, 1883 ............. 73  
Campbell  
Elizabeth T.  
maries Johnson, Joel – January 5, 1853 ............... 33  
John R.  
death-January 20, 1912 .......................................... 83  
helps Joel Johnson at Revere House while Edward S. 
Johnson was on European Tour - March 30, 1868-
September 1868 ............................................... 59  
Chenery  
John W.  
buys City Hotel from Johnson, Joel- August 1855.. 38  
changes name of City Hotel to Chenery House – 
August 1855...................................................... 38  
William D.  
advertises Chenery House – November, 1855...... 41  
death-October 21, 1873.......................................... 64  
Chenery Hotel  
history of ownership .............................................. 73  
Chenery House  
annunciator installed – October 3, 1855............... 40  
Chenery, John W. changes name of City Hotel to Chenery 
House – August 1855.......................................... 38  
piano teaching at – October 26, 1855..................... 41  
1855 41  
City Hotel  
addition described - 1854........................................ 36  
advertisement for model of the Bee Palace for raising 
bees – April 27, 1849.......................................... 23  
advertisement of site of Spencer Donegan new barber 
shop-October 23, 1849.......................................... 25  
extertainment – March 27, 1849.................................. 23  
hosts New England Supper – December 25, 1851..... 31  
learned pig advertisement-August 6, 1849............. 25  
office for mail stage – July 3, 1850............................ 27  
operators Joel Johnson and Daniel M. Jackson dissolve 
partnership – July 16, 1852................................. 32  
register-December 30, 1848-January 1, 1849........... 22  
reopened by Joel Johnson and Daniel M. Jackson – 
October 23, 1851.................................................. 31  
site of Dr. Hays rooms - December 3, 1850............ 28  
site of Pekin and Decatur Railroad Corporation meeting – 
October 13, 1853................................................. 34  
tenant leaves owing six week board – May 16, 1848 ... 21  
thief – April 3, 1854.............................................. 26  
warm and cold baths advertisement-June 11, 1849 . 25  
Clinton  
Laura  
maries Johnson, Edward S. – August 10, 1869 ..... 61  
Donegan  
Spencer  
advertisises new barber shop at City Hotel - October 23, 
1849................................................................. 25  
Florville  
William  
Johnson, Joel sells part of lot to -February 23, 1836 . 6  
moves barber shop west of Rague’s Bake Shop-April 
1836................................................................. 6  
Gregory  
Abigail  
moves to Rochester, Illinois-December 31, 1824...... 1  
Hotels  
Springfield history of-1877...................................... 66  
Illinois Hotel  
built-1903 80  
Jackson  
Daniel M. returns to Logan County – September 14, 1852 
33  
Johnson
Edward S.
Abraham Lincoln Interment Observer-September 26, 1842..........................79
advertisises building materials - July 21, 1866..............55
appointed custodian of Abraham Lincoln Tomb-1896
77
entertains New Year’s Eve at Revere House-January 1, 1892..........................76
first custodian of Lincoln Tomb-July 9, 1896............77
first custodian to live at Lincoln Tomb-residence-1896
78
joins Springfield Grays-October 1859 ...............45
managed hotels in Chicago-1893-1895...............77
marries Laura Clinton – August 10, 1869.............61
member of Lincoln Guard of Honor-February 12, 1880
73
operates the Revere House-May 10, 1878...........71
overs the reconstruction of Abraham Lincoln Tomb-
1900-1901..........................................................79
property notice of sale for unpaid taxes-June 1, 1886
74
returns to Springfield after Civil War-1865 ...........55
sells Revere House - 1893........................................76
son of Joel Johnson..................................................46
suies by stepmother Elizabeth Johnson...........75
suies by stepmother Elizabeth S. Johnson-1877 ....69
takes five month European Tour - March 30, 1868-
September 1868..................................................59
Edward S., Major
letter to father Joel Johnson – January 11, 1864 ....53
letter to father Joel Johnson – March 13, 1865 ....54
mustered into Illinois Volunteer Infantry – July 25, 1861
52
Edward Schrader
born – August 9, 1843...........................................14
death - February 15, 1921.................................84
Eliza Newman
death – May 17, 1849.............................................23
Elizabeth
sued stepson Edward S. Johnson-1887.................69
sued stepson Edward S. Johnson-1889...............75
wife of Joel Johnson-1860......................................46
Elizabeth T.
death-November 11, 1894.................................77
Joel
adds new addition to City Hotel and advertises rates –
May 20, 1842.........................................................14
advertisises 1600 feet of flooring – October 24, 1849...26
advertisises 200,000 bricks – August 11, 1853........76
advertisises block for sale – December 5, 1866.......56
advertisises boot and shoe shop-early 1835...........5
advertisises City Hotel – November 11, 1848.........21
advertisises City Hotel for rent with accommodations for
100 travelers – August 16, 1853...........................34
advertisises City Hotel Temperance House – November
6, 1846.................................................................18
advertisises discontinuation of lumber and supply
business – July 22, 1862.....................................52
advertisises for good dining girls at Revere House-June
5, 1871..................62
advertisises furniture store in Journal Building –
December 19, 1855............................................41
advertisises gas fixtures for sale in his new building –
January 17, 1867................................................56
advertisises he found purse with change - May 8, 1855
37
advertisises new addition to City Hotel -November 1, 1842..........................14
advertisises rates at City Hotel – October 16, 1845....17
advertisises requesting payment of monies owed him-
January 1836.......................................................6
advertisises requesting payment of monies owed him-
January 23, 1837................................................7
advertisises Revere House- April 14, 1870.............61
advertisises Revere House-November 15, 1871........62
advertisises rooms for rent in new block of buildings –
February 17, 1857.............................................44
advertisises seven tenements for rent-June 28, 1837....9
advertisises Springfield Hotel west of State house- April
26, 1839..............................................................11
advertisises Springfield Hotel-December 31, 1839....11
advertisises Tinsley Property for sale or rent – February
29, 1860..............................................................46
allowed to run hand cart from his hotel to C. & A. depot
– April 2, 1867.....................................................57
and Daniel M. Jackson dissolve City Hotel
partnership – July 16, 1852..................................32
and Daniel M. Jackson reopen City Hotel- October 23,
1851.................................................................31
birth May 21, 1806..................................................1
boot and shoemaker in St. Louis-1852....................1
borrows money-July 7, 1834.....................................5
buies new building for City Hotel – June 3, 1845..19
buies three story brick hotel across from Chenery
House – August 29, 1856.....................................43
buies three story brick hotel across from Chenery
House – January 29, 1857.................................44
buies Indian Queen Hotel-March 30, 1839...........10
City Hotel advertisies 148 pound pumpkin-October 16,
1840.................................................................12
City Hotel advertisies lithographs-December 25, 1840
13
creditors sale of real property – May 20, 1858.......45
death-May 4, 1877..............................................67
deeds land for Railroad Depot on Third Street tracks –
June 12, 1851.....................................................30
dimmers ague bitters – May 7, 1860......................46
dlarges City Hotel - 1854..........................................54
final advertisemen of boot and shoe shop-January
25,1836..............................................................7
goes West to Ohio and Rochester, Illinois-1832....1
holds 27
insurance correspondence – 1845..........................17
joins Second Presbyterian Church – May 6, 1866...55
lots to be sold to pay for removal of lumber lots
-March 7, 1850...................................................26
manager of American House in St. Louis -September,
1850.................................................................28
marries Elizabeth Newman-February 1834............5
mistakenly identified as person in police court –
February 1, 1864................................................54
mother leaves him with uncle-1811.........................1
mother moves to Rochester, Illinois-December 31,
1824.................................................................1
moves to Edwardsville, Illinois and opens boot and
shoemaker shop-1832.................................2
moves to Springfield, Illinois-April -1833.............3
Old Tavern mistakenly said to be site of cholera – May
5, 1871, 30, 1851..........................62
opens boot and shoe shop in Springfield, Illinois-
October-1833.....................................................3
opens City Hotel at 4th and Washington-July 24, 1840
12
opens Springfield Hotel on Square in Springfield,
Illinois-January 1837..........................................8
proprieter City Hotel-1860, 46
purchases lots from Samuel Stover – May 31, 1850 30
said to be shoemaker in 1850 census....................26
selling 200,000 bricks - December 19, 1855........37
sells City Hotel to John W. Chenery – August 1855

selling part of lot to William Florville -February 23, 1836

sheriff sale of real property – April 4, 1857........45

stops in St. Louis on way back east-1832 ............1

trustee of building committee for Second Presbyterian church – January 1871 .......................61

William Todd falls into cistern on Joel’s property – January 1864...........................53

Joel marries Elizabeth T. Campbell – January 5, 1853 ..33

Joel represented by Abraham Lincoln- March 3, 1852 ..32

John

son of Joel Johnson...............................46

Laura

Abraham Lincoln Interment Observer-September 26, 1901................................................79

Johnson’s City Hotel

burns – January 28, 1847.............................18

Kilmiste Family

performs vocal concert at City Hotel – May 24, 1852 ...32

Koch

Augustus

takes perspective drawing of Springfield-1872........63

Lincoln

Abraham

and family move to Chenery House – February 9, 1861

50

moves office to Johnson’s Building – December 29, 1860..........................46

represents Joel Johnson - March 3, 1852 ............32

to meet public in office in Joel Johnson’s Building – February 6, 1861..........................49

Lord & Barrell, Drs.

advertise offices in Johnson’s building – February 21, 1867 57

Matheny

James H.

attends Temperance Association supper at City Hotel – December 29, 1853.....................35

Newman

Elizabeth

marries Johnson, Joel-February 1834...............5

Nicolay

John G.

writes of Lincoln offices in Johnson’s Building – January 6, 1861.................................49

writes of move of Lincoln offices to Johnson’s Building – December 29, 1860...............48

Origin of Adults

Illinois

Johnson, Edward S...............................46

Kentucky

Johnson, Elizabeth...............................46

Palace Hotel

describes history ..................................70

describes history of ownership ......................73

purchased by Block, David J-January 1, 1883 ........73

Railroad Depot

don Third Street tracks – May 15, 1851............29

Revere House

advertised-November 15, 1871.........................62

described July 10, 1869...............................60

described-January 1, 1876............................65

described-November 15, 1871.........................62

Ruger

Albert

takes perspective drawing of Springfield-1867........58

Sanborn Fire Insurance Map-1884......................74

Sanborn Fire Insurance Map-1890....................75

Sanborn Fire Insurance Map-1896.....................78

Springfield Drawing

1872 Augustus Koch Bird’s Eye View of Springfield ....63

Springfield Hotels

describes – December 31, 1856........................43

described by traveler to New York Tribune – November 4, 1852 ....33

Springfield map-1854 ..................................37

Temperance Association

has supper at City Hotel – December 29, 1853........35

Yeates

Lafayette, Dr.

takes oculists at City Hotel – November 30, 1853........34
Lincoln’s Springfield

JOEL JOHNSON

SPRINGFIELD HOTEL KEEPER

Spring Creek Series.

Richard E. Hart

Curtis Mann, Special Contributor
Michael Kienzler, Foreword