Abraham Lincoln was born Feb. 12, 1809, then an Illinois, now in the
new county, former county of Sangamon, Illinois. His father, Thomas, a
grandfather, Abraham, was born in Rockingham county, Virginia. The
Lincoln family has been traced no farther back than the
Gibson ancestor, who came from North Carolina. Pennsylvania. The
family was originally Scotch, though in later times they have
faded away from the peculiar habits of the people. The
grandfather, Abraham, had four brothers—Isaac, Jacob, John
and Thomas. So far as known, the descendants of Jacob and John
are settled in Virginia. Isaac went to a place near where
Virginia, North Carolina, and Tennessee join; and his descend-
ants settled in that region. Thomas came to Kentucky,
and after many years, owned there, where his descendants
went to Missouri. Abraham, grandfather of the subject
of this piece, came to Kentucky and was killed by main-
tons about the year 1784. He left a widow, three sons,
and two daughters. The eldest son, Missouri, remained
in Kentucky till late in life, when he removed to Illinois.
Cook County, Illinois, where lived after his death, and
where several of his descendants still reside. The
second son, Joseph, removed at an early age to a
place on Blue River, now within Illinois county, Illinois,
but to recent information of him or his family, has been
obtained. His eldest sister, Mary, removed to a
place near Blue River, where she remained.
and some of her descendants are now known to be in Bracken's cave, Kentucky. The second sister Nancy, married William Brumfield, and her family are not known to have left Kentucky, but there is no recent information from them. Thomas, the younger son, was fact of the present subject; by the early death of his father, and very many circumstances of his mother, even in childhood was a wandering deserting boy, and grew up literally without education. He owns and lives in this way of earning their living by digging seen in the same way. Before he was grown, his parents one year as a slave hand with his uncle, in front of Wataga, a branch of the Holston river. Getting back into Kentucky, and having reached in 1806. She also was born in Virginia, and remem-
ber of her of the name of Brumfield, son of the name, two
remains in Cole, in Macon, and on Adams County, Illi-
noi, and also in Indiana. The present subject has no
brother or sister of the whole or half blood. He
had a sister, over there himself, who was grown and
married, but drew away many years ago, leaving no chil-
ren. Also a brother, younger than himself, who died in
infancy. Before leaving Kentucky, he and his sister
was sent to for three summers, to A. B. L. schools, kept
by Zachariah Riny, and the second by Caleb Rager.
At this time his father resided on Nut Creek, on the
river from Barratt's Run, to Nashville, Tenn.; at a point
then, or there over a hilly divide, south or south-west of
Atherton's ferry, on the Rolling Fork—Then the place
he removed to what is now Spencer County, Indiana.

In the Autumn of 1816—A. then being in his eight
years, his father was on account of peace, but chiefly on account of the ineffable
year, in his settlement in an unbroken forest, and the clean
bog away of people soon was the great task
a head. A. though very young, was kept of his age, and
had an axe and put into his hands at one; and from that
time within his twelfth year, he was almost constantly hunt-
ing the most useful instrument—his, of course, in plenty
and harvesting season. At the place A. took an early
seat as a hunter, which was, now once more, his empire of
foremost. A few days before the completion of his age
year, in the absence of his father, a flock of bear and
two approach the near log-cabin, and A. with a
rifle gun, standing insinuating shot through a crack, and
killing as of them. The has never since purchased a
triper or any larger game.) In the Autumn of 1818
his (mother died.) Soon a year afterwards, his father
married Mrs. Sally Johnson, at Elizabeth. Town, N. Y.,
a widow, with three children of his her first marriage,
She moved a year or two later with her stepfather to a new home in Illinois. There were no children of this second marriage. Her father's personal circumstances at this time placed him in financial difficulty.

1830 - While her A. went to A. N. E. school,
by little, kept successor by Andrew Brown, Sweeney, and Agee M. Loney. He does not remember any other. The family of Mr. Loney
now resides in Schuyler Co. Illinois. A. can
think that the aggregate of all his schooling amount to one year. He was never in a College or
Academy as a student, and never wished to be. He learned a trade in the building trade, and has had a law
license. What he has in the way of education, he has
picked up. After he was twenty-three, and was preparing
to enter his father's store, he studied English grammar, ethics,
feeling of words, and so on. To speak such words as well
as his own - the phrases and terms (mastered
the seven books of Euclid, etc.) he was a member
of Congress. He regrets his want of education, especially
what he can to supply this want. In his tenth year
he was killed by a horse, and apparently killed
for a time. When he was nineteen, still residing in
Indiana, he made his first trip upon a flat boat to
New Orleans. He was a keen business man, and he
March 1st 1830 - A having just completed his 21st year, his father and family, with the families of the two daughters and sons-in-law, of his step mother, left the old homestead in Indiana, and came to Illinois. Their means of conveyance was wagons, drawn by ox teams, or A. drove one of the teams. They reached the County of Macon, and stopped there some time within the same month of March. Their father and family settled a new place on the North side of the Sugar Creek river, at the junction of the timberland and prairie, about ten miles Northwest from Decatur. There they built a log cabin, into which they removed, and made sufficient of rails to fence ten acres of ground. Fenced one half the ground, and raised a crop of corn corn upon it the same year. There are, or was supposed to be, the rails about which so much is being said just now, though they are far
from being the first, or any part, ever seen by it.

The poor once born, were temporarily settled at other places in the County. In this season all hands were greatly affected with Angina and fever, to which they had not been used, and by which they were greatly discouraged to much so that they determined on leaving the County. They remained, however, through the succeeding winter, which was the winter of the very celebrated deep "frost" of Illinois. During that winter, A., together with his step-mother, John, John, John, and John, and others, in Macon County, moved themselves to one Norton Offutt, to take a flat boat from Beardstown Illinois, to New Orleans, and for that purpose, went to join him. Offutt, at Springfield, so soon as the snow showed go off. Then it came go off which was about the 1st of March 1831. The County was so frozen as to make travel by land impracticable, to obtain which difficulty, the purchased a large canoe and came across the Sangamon river in it. This is the time over the manner of A.'s first entrance into Sangamon County. They found Offutt at Springfield, but learned from him that he had failed in getting a boat at Beardstown. The lead to them hiring themselves to him at $10 per week each, and getting the lumber out of the tree,
and building a boat at old Sangamon town on the Sangamon river, seven miles N. W. of Springfield, which boat they took to New Orleans, on their return, upon the lot contract. It was in connection with this boat that occurred the incident, which of poung up the boy's eyes. Offutt bought the boy, who lay for two boys, but found difficulty in denying them from when purchased them to the boat, and therefore concealed the thing that he concealed up the boy's eyes and drew them when he pleased.

No sooner thought of their decision, he put his hand, reaching A. at the job, which they completed the last of the driving. In their blind condition they could not by chance out of the lot or follow this route. The expense failing, they were left and knew a cat to the boat. It was near the Sangamon River, within what is now Menard County.

During this boat entertains by events with Offutt, who was previously acquainted, he concealed a letter for A. and believing his concealment him to account, he continued until him to set as clerk for him, as his return from New Orleans, in charge of a plan and policy at New Salem, then in Sangamon, now in Menard County. How he had not gone to New Orleans, but having a family, one being half,
to his duties from longer than at first expected. 

from St. Louis—this is the place

John Knots, who now occupies the "prime entering" at 

heavily, and is a first cousin to A. Jordan.

At the time of his own family's "transition," he, in 

pursuant of their direction, removed from 

cow to Holmes County. John D. Johnson, the stepson, 

this son, went to them, and A. stopped indefinitely, 

and, for the first time, as it were, by himself, at New 

Salem, before (mention—This was in July 1831—then 

his relatives made acquaintance once more. In less 

than a year, Offutt's business was failing—a hand 

failed. When the Black Hawk War of 1832— 

broke out. A junior a volunteer Company, going to 

his own rights, was elected Captain of it. The pay 

he has not since been any success in life which gives 

him so much satisfaction. He went the campaign, served 

near three months, met with the ordinary hardships of 

such an expedition, but was in no better. The rain 

one, in alone, the sun upon which his own wants for 

the period, was great. Retiring from the Campaign, 

and encouraged by his great popularity among his immediate 

neighbors, in the same year, ran for the Legislature and 

was beaten—his own precinct. However, carrying its vote 377 for
away against him. And this too while he was an
aroused Clay man, and the precinct the center of
temperance, giving a majority of 115 to Jesse Jackson and
Mr. Clay. He was the only time a man ever beaten was a
direct vote of the people. He was now within reach,
and out of business, but was anxious to remain with
his friends who had beaten him with so much gener-
osity, especially as he had nothing else where to go to. He
thought what he should do, thought of leaving the
black amount there, thought of trying to pursue his
father thought he could not succeed at that without a
better education. Before long, strange enough, a new
officer to seize one and sell, to A. a man much of
now a sheriff, an old stock of goods, very care-
ful. They opened as merchant, and he says, that was
the store. Of course they, and nothing but get
deeper and deeper in debt. The was appointed Post
Master at New Salem— the office being too insigni-
ficant, to make his politics an objection. The store
opened out. The Surveyor of Champaign offered
to resign to A. boy friend of his, who, while in the
part of the County. The accepted, procured a com-
an and clan, studied Hotel, and Gibson a little, and
went at it. The procured bread, and kept some one
lively together. The election of 1834 came, and he was
this election to the Legislature by the highest est
cant for any candidate. Major John V. Smith, thin
in full practice of the law, was also elected. During
the ensuing, in a private conversation he expressed
his strong love. After the election he commenced
his practice. He studied with Holmes—
the judge—now in his country to pay board
and clothing bills. When the Legislature met, the
law books were dropped, but were taken up again
at the end of the session. He was re-elected in
1836, 1838, and 1840. In the Autumn of 1836,
he was licensed as a law. Licensed, and on April
15, 1837, removed to Springfield, and commenced
the practice, his law practice, Shriver taking him into
partnership. March 31, 1837, by a petition entered
upon the Illinois Journal of that date, at pages 817, 818.
A. with Dan Stone, another representative of Sangamon, 
being his position on the plan, this question, and so far as it
goes, it is, then the same that it is now. The future is
as follows: (Here insert it.) In 1838, & 1840
Mr. S's party in the Legislature voted for him as
Speaker, but being in the minority, he was rejected.
After 1840 he declined a re-election to
the Legislature. He was on the Illinois electorate.
lived in 1840, and a clerk of Clerk in 1844. 
and spent much time and labor in both 
their houses. In Nov. 1842 he married 
much to Mary, daughter of Robert S. Tozer, of 
Lexington, Kentucky. They had their only child, 
all born and born in 1843, one in 1850, and 
one in 1853. They lost one, who was born in 1846. 
In 1846, he was elected to the lower house of Con- 
gress, and served one term only, commencing in 
Dec. 1847, and again with the inauguration of 
Gov. Taylor, in March 1849. In 1852 all the bat- 
tles of the Mexican war had been fought before Mr. S. 
took his seat in Congress, but the American army 
was still in Mexico, and the treaty of peace 
was not freely and formally ratified till the 
year afterward. Much has been said of his com- 
ments in Congress in regard to this war. A careful exami- 
ation of the Journal, the House Congressional Globe shows 
that he voted for all the money measures, which 
came up, except those, and for all the measures 
in any way favorable to the Officers, soldiers, and 
their families, who conducted the war through, with 
the exception that some of these measures passed with 
out year and day, leaving no record as to how far they 
had gone before. The Journal, since Globe also shows.
Now, noting that the war was unnecessary and unconstitutional. It is by the President of the United States. This is the language of Mr. Ashman's amendment, for which Mr. S. and nearly, or quite all, other Whigs of the R. R. motion—

Mr. L.'s reason, for the opinion expressed by the vote was briefly that the President had sent Genl. Taylor into an inhabited part of the country belonging to Mexico, and paid to the U. S. over there, heads; when the first act of hostility in fact the commencement of the war; that the plea, being the country coming on the East bank of the Rio Grande, was inhabited by native Mexican, from then under the Mexican government, and had never submitted to have been conquered by Texas, or the U. S. have transferred to gather by treaty—had, although Texas claimed the Rio Grandes in her boundary, Mexico had never recognized it; the people on the ground had never recognized it, and neither Texas, nor the U. S. have ever recognized it—that there was a bona fide desert between that, and the country on which Texas had actual control—that the country, where Fort Davis, Command, having an alley to Mexico, must remain to, until it was formally legally transferred, which has never been done.
Mr. S. thought the act of sending the troops an armed force to the among the Mexicans, was unnecessary, assuming as Mexico was in no way menac
ing, or menacing the U. S. or the people they, and that it was unconstitutional, because the power of firing war is vested in Congress and not in the President. He thought the principal cause for the act was to divert public attention from the succession of "Fifty
four, forty, or fight" to Great Britain or the Oregon boundary question.

Mr. S. was not a candidate for re-election. This was determined upon, and declared beforehand he went to Washington, in accordance with an understanding by which both beaver and beavers
both had each previously served a single term in the same district.

Upon his return from Congress he went to the practice of the law with greater earnestness than ever before. In 1852 he was upon the ballot and was ticketed, and did something in the way of canvassing, but owing to the peacefulness of the campaign in Illinois, he either lost or was sur
posed, presidential canvassing.

In 1854 his profession had almost superseded the thought of politics in his mind, when the repeal of the Mexican Compromise aroused him as he had never been before.
In 1848, during his term in Congress, to assure Gen. Taylor's nomination for the Presidency, he opposed to all others, and also took an active part for his election, after his nomination—speaking a few times in Maryland, near Washington, several times in Massachusetts, and canvassing quite fully his own district in Illinois, which was followed by a majority in the district of over 1500 for Gen. Taylor.
In the autumn of that year he took the stump with no broader practical aim or object than to
secure, if possible, the re-election of Van Buren to Congress. His speech, at one
attracted a more marked attention than
they had ever before seen. At the con
vention succeeding, he was drawn to different
part of the plan, criticism of Mr.
Gate, exchanged. He did not abandon the
law, but gave his attention by turning to
that and politics. The Stes agri cul-
tural fair was at Springfield that year,
and Douglas was announce to
speak there.
In the course of 1856, Mr. S. made one fifty speeches, no one of which, so far as he remembered, was put in print. One or two were made at Galena, but Mr. S. has no recollection of any part of it being printed, nor does he remember whether in that speech he said anything about the Supreme Court case. The newspapers probably copied that speech; and some of the newspapers may have reported him as saying what is now erroneously to him, but he thinks he cannot now remember having, or representing...
Abraham Lincoln was born Oct 12, 1809, near Boonesboro, now in the
now named, former County of Nelson, Kentucky. His father, Thomas, a
grandfather, Abraham was born in Rockingham County, Virginia. The
family has been traced no further back than them.
John's ancestors have come from Bucks County, Pennsylvania. The
family was originally Quaker, though in later times they have
fallen away from the peculiar habits of that people. The
grandfather, Abraham, had four brothers—James, Jacob, John, and
Thomas. So far as known, the descendants of Jacob and John
are stated to be in Virginia. Isaac went to a place near that
Virginia, North Carolina, and Tennessee, from which descen-
dancy, so on that region. Thomas came to Kentucky,
only after many years, over there, where his ancestors
went to Missouri. Abraham, grandfather of the subject
of this sketch, came to Kentucky, and was killed by mar-
on about the year 1784. He left a widow, three sons,
and two daughters. The oldest son, Missouri, remained
in Kentucky till late in life, when he removed to Illinois.
Cook County, Illinois, where soon after he died, and
when several of his descendants still remain. The
second son, Jacob, removed at an early age to a
place on the Blue River, now within Harrison County, Indiana,
but no recent information of him, or his family, has been
obtained. The oldest sister, Mary, married Ralph Sim-

and some of her descendants, are now known to be in Breckinridge County, Kentucky. The second sister, Nancy, married William Humphrey, and her family are not known to have left Kentucky, but there is no recent information from them. Thomas, the youngest son, one of the present subject, by the early death of his father and very narrow circumstances of his mother, even in childhood, was a pendant laboring boy, and grew up lettered without education. He never did move in this way of entering to employ, sign his own name. Before he was grown, he passed one year as a farm hand with his uncle, whom on Matagul, a branch of the Holstein River. Getting back into Kentucky, and having reached his 25th year, he married Nancy Banks, mother of the present subject, in the year 1806. She also was born in Virginia, an example of how of the race of Banks, one of the many families in York, in Macon, and in Adams County, Illinois, and also in town. The present subject has no brothers or sisters of this whole or half blood. He had a sister, dead than himself, who was, grown and married, but died many years ago, leaving no children. Also a brother, younger than himself, who died in infancy. Before leaving Kentucky, his and his sister were sent to for that purpose, to A.B.C. schools, but kept by Zachariah Perry, own the second of Caleb Bayes.