War Department,
Washington
June 4th, 1884,

Dear Sir:

I beg to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of May 29th, respecting the proposition to have an act passed by the Legislature of Illinois to purchase my father's old residence in Springfield, to be preserved by the State. In reply, I have to say to you that, a little more than a year ago, I had occasion to write a letter to Governor Hamilton on the same subject, of which I enclose to you a copy. If I should think it proper to part with the property to the State, there would need to be no appropriation for its purchase from me. I would derive no other considerations than the
assumption by the State of proper care, with conditions of reversion if this assumption were not carried out. I am not entirely prepared to say that I will do this; but I will consider it. And if you think it worth while, I would suggest your drafting a bill to effect such a purpose. I will, no doubt, be in Springfield, within a few months, and can then confer with you personally about the matter.

I am

Very Truly Yours,

Ras. T. Lincoln

Hon. James M. Carter:
Attorney General
Springfield, Ills.
War Department, Washington.
April 9th, 1863.

Sir,

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your communication transmitting a copy of the resolution of the General Assembly of the State of Illinois, requesting you to correspond with me and ascertain for what price the State of Illinois can purchase the Old Homestead of Abraham Lincoln in Springfield.

I appreciate highly the motives which caused the adoption of the resolution, and have given careful consideration to the suggestions of your letter. I regret very much to appear to stand in the way of the accomplishment of...
The purposes expressed in the preamble of the resolution; and it is only after much reflection that, for reasons not of public interest, I have determined not to part with the ownership of the property.

I am
very respectfully,

Your obedient servant,

[Signature]

Robert E. Lincoln

Hon. John M. Hamilton
Governor,
Springfield, Ills.