

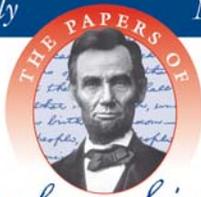
LINCOLN EDITOR

The Quarterly

Newsletter of

January - March 2011

Volume 11 Number 1



Abraham Lincoln

"a great honor and a great labor" A. Lincoln, October 26, 1863

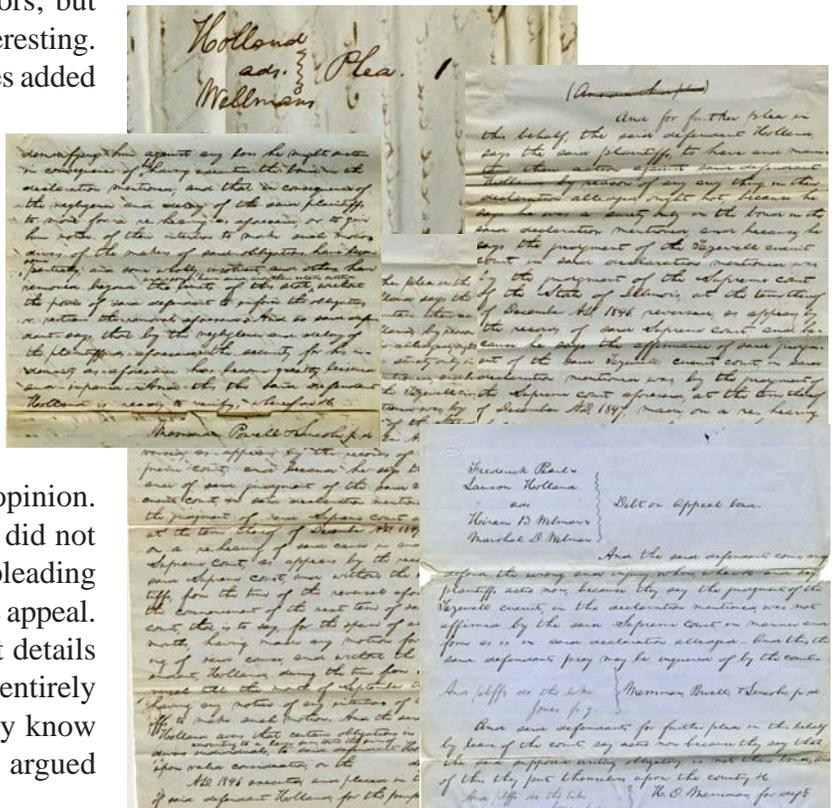
LINCOLN LEGAL DOCUMENTS CONTINUE TO SURFACE

In early March, the proprietor of Abe's Old Hat Antiques, a shop directly across the street from the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library in downtown Springfield, walked into the library with five documents from Lincoln's legal practice. Michael Naylor had obtained the documents from a Peoria-area collector who had offered the documents for sale. When Associate Editor Stacy McDermott inspected the documents, she was pleased to find that Lincoln had written most all of the text on each of them.

Since publishing the *Law Practice of Abraham Lincoln, Second Edition* online in 2009, the Papers of Abraham Lincoln has uncovered dozens of new Lincoln legal documents. The recurring discovery of such documents never ceases to amaze project editors; but this new batch of documents was particularly interesting. The five documents from Abe's Old Hat Antiques added substantive historical details to four of Lincoln's known cases from Tazewell County Circuit Court in Pekin, Illinois.

The most interesting item in this new find was a five-page document of pleas and joinders (pictured at right) in the complicated case of *Pearl and Holland v. Wellman and Wellman*, a debt case that ended up in the Illinois Supreme Court. The project knew of the case and also of Lincoln's role in it from circuit court docket books and the Illinois Supreme Court opinion. However, the case file in the Pekin courthouse did not contain documents related to a crucial round of pleading on the part of the defendant, which had fueled the appeal. The opinion briefly discussed the pleading, but details were absent. The new document, written almost entirely by Lincoln, filled in the gaps. Now we not only know that Lincoln argued the case, we know *how* he argued the case. Incidentally, Lincoln lost it on appeal.

The documents from Naylor also included a circuit court transcript from *Pearl and Holland v. Wellman and Wellman*, a plea in *Smith v. Parmelee* (1853 debt-related case), a decree in *Prickett v. Opdycke et al.* (1850 partition case), and a notice with evidence in *Tromly for use of Knott v. Woodrow and Woodrow* (1843 debt and appeal case). Totalling sixteen pages, these documents represent a nice little treasure from right across the street. The project appreciates Michael Naylor's willingness to make the documents available for scanning. The Papers of Abraham Lincoln relies on the support of collectors and dealers to make us aware of Lincoln documents in the private sector and make them available to us for digitization.



STAFF AND PROJECT NEWS

Assistant Editor Ed Bradley published an article entitled “An Ex-President Views the Civil War: Franklin Pierce and the Lincoln Administration” in the Summer 2010 issue of the *Lincoln Herald*.

In December...

Assistant Editors David Gerleman and Christian McWhirter scanned nine documents at two repositories of naval records in Washington, D.C. The project appreciates the assistance of Frank Thompson, Allison Russell, and Karen France at the Naval History and Heritage Command; and Glenn E. Helm and MacKenzie Duffield at the Navy Department Library.

Two units of the National Museum of American History provided images of four commissions, an endorsement, and a check signed by Abraham Lincoln. The project thanks Kay Peterson of the Archives Center and Richard Doty of the National Numismatic Collection for their assistance. The project also appreciates the efforts of Kathleen Williams, the Executive Director of the National Historical Publications and Records Commission, for facilitating the acquisition of these images.

In January...

Seth Kaller Inc. provided the project with digital images of seventeen documents in their possession. The

staff appreciates the efforts of Marc Cheshire to assist us.

Indiana Historical Society provided the project with high resolution images of their Lincoln documents. The project thanks Steve Haller, Senior Director of Collections, and Susan Sutton, Coordinator of Visual Reference Services, for their assistance.

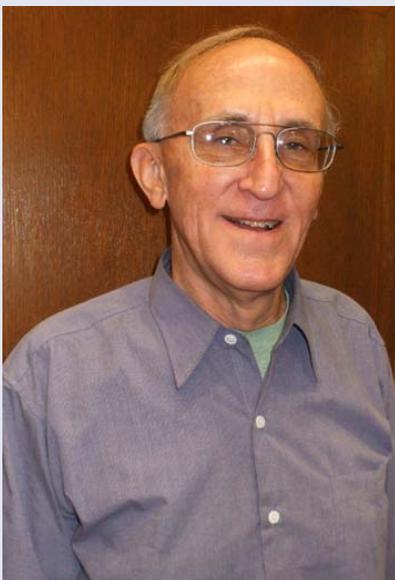
Editor Daniel Stowell visited a dealer, a repository, and a private collector in Tennessee on a recent trip. The project thanks Mike Cotter of Yeoman’s in the Fork bookshop in Franklin; Deyse Bravo Rivera and Sara Mirucki of Southern Adventist University in Collegedale; and collectors John and Mary Viarengo for their assistance in making these documents available.

In February...

Christian McWhirter, David Gerleman, and Daniel Stowell presented a session at the Alabama Association of Historians annual meeting in Gulf Shores, Alabama. McWhirter’s paper was entitled, “The Confederacy’s Troubled Anthem: The Inauguration of Jefferson Davis, ‘Dixie,’ and Confederate Nationalism.” Gerleman spoke on “‘These Loyal Alabamians’: A Portrait of the First Alabama Union Cavalry Drawn from the Records of the National Archives and Pension Files.” Stowell gave a presentation entitled, “Forgery and Fraud

ON THE KINDNESS OF RESEARCHERS

Serendipity, good luck, or pure accident can sometimes lead to the greatest document discoveries; and every documentary editing project owes debts of gratitude to members of the public who uncover documents that otherwise would remain hidden. The Papers of Abraham Lincoln would like to thank Norman R. Peters (pictured below), one such sharp-eyed member of the research community, for bringing to our attention a previously unknown letter penned by Abraham Lincoln to John T. Stuart on April 3, 1840. Peters, an independent



researcher at the National Archives and the staff genealogist for The Children of the American Revolution located in Washington, D.C, was investigating his own ancestors when he ran across a letter signed “A. Lincoln” in a large stack of correspondence in the pension file of War of 1812 veteran James Lynn. Excited by the find but uncertain what to do about it, Peters was concerned that such a rare letter would “disappear” and be lost forever. Therefore, he periodically rechecked the file to see if it was still there. An accidental meeting with a Papers of Abraham Lincoln editor in the National Archives microfilm room finally gave Peters the chance to put his concerns to rest, saying “I am most pleased that the Papers of Abraham Lincoln has scanned this letter and documented its source. Now, thanks to your work it will be available to all.” Many thanks to Norman for helping the Papers of Abraham Lincoln fill in another piece of the puzzle as we seek to document the life of America’s sixteenth president.

By David J. Gerleman



Presentation of the David Warren Bowen Award from the Alabama Association of Historians

(from left: David J. Gerleman, Christian L. McWhirter, presenter R. Volney Riser of the University of West Alabama, and Daniel W. Stowell.

in Nineteenth-Century Alabama: ‘Improving’ the Loyalty of W. R. W. Cobb.” Collectively, the three papers received the David Warren Bowen Award for the best paper presented at the annual meeting of the Alabama Association of Historians.

Associate Editor Stacy McDermott and Research Assistant Sam Wheeler gave presentations to fifth graders at Iles Elementary School in Springfield, Illinois. Each year, the school sponsors a living history program in which the students learn about Illinois history and present a spring program on what they have learned. McDermott discussed women in Lincoln’s Springfield, and Wheeler talked about the Fugitive Slave Act.

Mears Online Auctions provided images of two previously unknown Lincoln endorsements. The first (pictured at right) requested more information on Major James Lane, a white officer in the 31st Regiment of United States Colored Troops (USCT). Lincoln ultimately pardoned Lane. The second endorsement pardoned Sergeant Major Adam Laws, a black soldier in the 19th Regiment of USCT. The project thanks Troy R. Kinunen for his assistance in making these images available.

In March...

Christian McWhirter presented a paper entitled “The War’s Other Victor: The Civil War and Popular Music,” at the Annual Meeting of the International Association for the Study of Popular Music in Cincinnati.

The project received images of documents from the University of California, Berkeley. The project thanks Steven Rothman, Susan Snyder, Tom Leonard, and Charles Faulhaber for their assistance in obtaining these images.

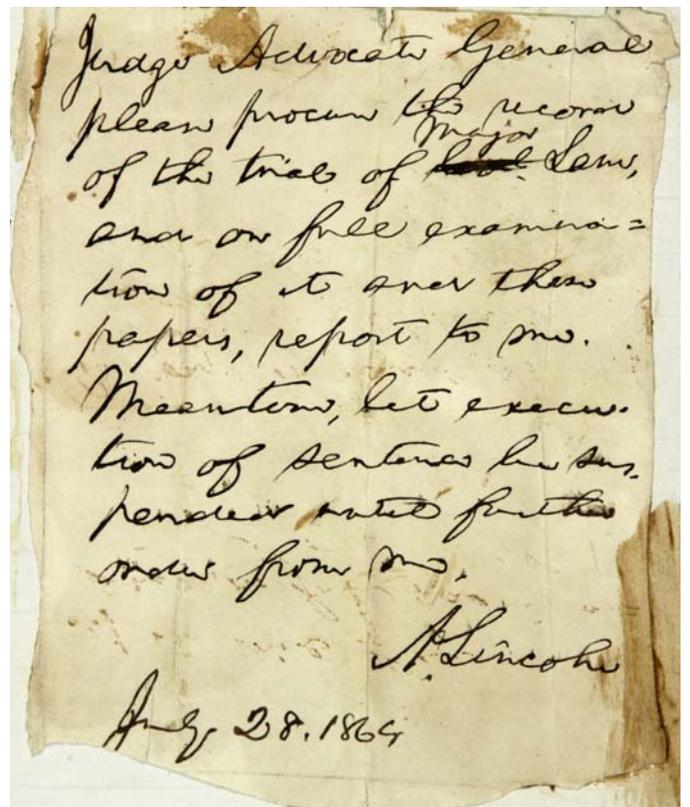
Editors scanned a new Lincoln document that is owned by Western Illinois University. The project appreciates the assistance of Roger E. Kent, Associate Director for Television at Western Illinois University, who brought the document to Springfield for scanning.

Daniel Stowell visited the Sioux City Public Museum in Sioux City, Iowa, to scan one document. The project thanks Grace E. Linden and Tom Munson for their assistance. The project also thanks Richard and Marydel Phillis for allowing Stowell to scan a facsimile of a Lincoln document they own. The project has so far been unable to locate the original document, which is a letter Lincoln wrote to Surgeon General William A. Hammond in 1862.

Daniel Stowell spoke to the Marshall-Putnam Retired Teachers Association in Henry, Illinois. Stowell spoke about Lincoln’s legal and political connections to residents of Marshall and Putnam Counties.

The project acknowledges the generosity of the following donors:

- Peoria County Bar Association
- Marshall-Putnam Retired Teachers Association
- David B. Miller in memory of:
- Robert E. Miller Sr. and Robert E. Miller Jr., and
- Oliver Keller Sr. and Oliver Keller Jr.
- Daniel W. Stowell



**Endorsement of Abraham Lincoln to Joseph Holt
28 July 1864**

Image courtesy of Mears Online.

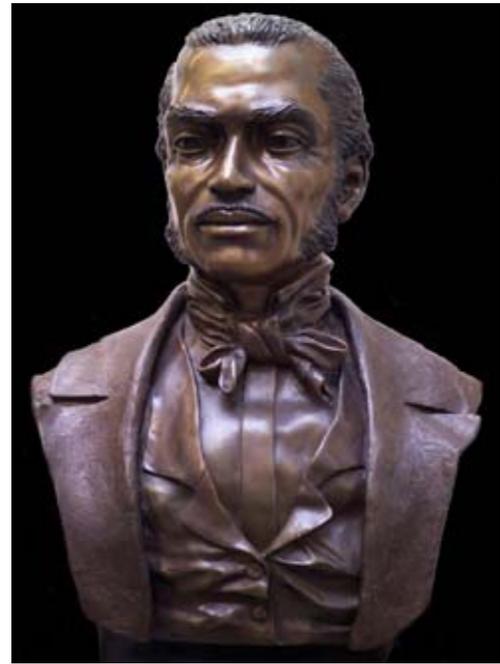
WHAT'S IN A NAME?: THE LEGISLATIVE ODYSSEY OF FREE FRANK

Abraham Lincoln served four terms as a member of the House of Representatives in the Illinois General Assembly, from 1834 to 1841. Most of the five hundred bills that were considered by the Tenth General Assembly, which met from December 1836 to July 1837, reflect the typical activities of the state legislature at the time. They include bills creating or altering state roads, canals, and railroads; establishing corporations and schools; creating counties, changing county boundaries, and relocating county seats; even permanently relocating the state capital from Vandalia to Springfield. One of the lesser-known functions of the Illinois legislature in the mid-1830s was to effect legal name changes. Most of these acts stemmed from the adoption of a child by an adult. One notable exception was “An Act to Change the Name of Free Frank,” which concerned a free, adult black man living in Pike County, Illinois.¹

Free Frank, as he was known from 1820 to 1837, was born into slavery in Union County, South Carolina, in 1777. Frank and his mother were owned by George McWhorter, a farmer who owned five slaves by 1790. In 1795, McWhorter purchased land in Pulaski County, Kentucky, and sent Frank there to develop the new farm on the Kentucky frontier. In 1799, Frank married a woman named Lucy, who was owned by Obediah Denham of Pulaski County. Together, Frank and Lucy had thirteen children.²

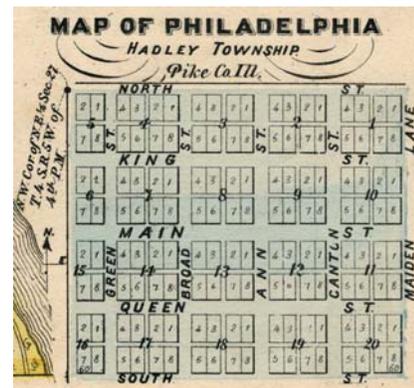
Between 1800 and 1810, George McWhorter began allowing Frank to hire himself out as a farm laborer. This was a common, albeit controversial, arrangement, which allowed slaves some measure of control over their lives and generally allowed them to save a percentage of their earnings. Kentucky was a leading producer of saltpeter, the principal ingredient in gunpowder, and the War of 1812 provided a new and expanded market. By 1815, Frank had established his own saltpeter manufactory in Pulaski County. By 1817, he had managed to save enough money to buy his wife Lucy's freedom, for \$800. In 1819, he bought his own freedom, again for \$800. In the 1820 census—his first census as a free man—he asserted his new status by giving his name as “Free Frank.”³

After his own manumission, Frank continued his business enterprises in Pulaski County until 1829, when he sold the saltpeter manufactory in return for freedom for his son Frank. In 1830, Frank moved his family to Hadley Township in Pike County, Illinois, where they began farming, eventually purchasing 800 acres of land.



Artist's Rendering of Frank McWorter by Shirley McWorter Moss on display at the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library, Springfield, Illinois.

In order to settle in Illinois, Frank and his family members were required to produce certificates of freedom and security bonds of \$1,000 each, filing them with the clerk of the county commissioner's court. According to a county history, Frank was the first non-native settler in Hadley Township. Frank also established the town of New Philadelphia in 1836, making him the only black town founder during this period of rapid development in Illinois. In fact, New Philadelphia may have been the first distinct town founded by a black person in antebellum America. By 1850, Frank had managed to purchase freedom for twelve other family members, eventually freeing all his children and grandchildren who had been born into slavery.⁴



Map of New Philadelphia, 1836

Image courtesy of D. W. Ensign, *Atlas Map of Pike County, Illinois* (Davenport, IA: Andreas, Lyter & Co., 1872), p. 84.

In the 1830 census, while still living in Kentucky, Frank gave his name as “Free Frank Denham,” using the surname of his wife’s former owner. At this time, several of Frank’s grandchildren were still owned by Obediah Denham, and taking his surname may have been a way of encouraging Denham not to sell the remaining family members until Frank had accumulated enough funds to purchase them. Regardless of the reasoning, by 1836 Frank had decided to take McWhorter as his surname. The process of choosing a surname was important to ex-slaves: it was a way of creating an independent social identity and often a way of asserting kinship. There is speculation that his former master George McWhorter was Frank’s biological father; in the 1850 census, Frank is listed as a mulatto. However, Frank’s father may have been a McWhorter slave. Taking a variant spelling of the McWhorter surname could have been Frank’s way of simultaneously asserting kinship and independence, regardless of whether his father was a master or a slave.⁵

In 1836, Frank petitioned the Illinois General Assembly to establish his surname legally as McWorter. Ironically (given his staunch racial positions expressed twenty-two years later in the Lincoln-Douglas debates), Representative Stephen A. Douglas introduced the bill from the Committee on Petitions on December 17, 1836, and the House of Representatives approved it on December 31. The Senate amended the bill by adding the second half of the first section, and the House approved the amendment on January 13, 1837. Governor Joseph Duncan signed the bill into law on January 19, 1837, officially changing Free Frank’s name to Frank McWorter.⁶

“An Act to Change the Name of ‘Free Frank’”⁷ 19 January 1839

AN ACT to change the name of Free Frank.

SEC. 1. *Be it enacted by the people of the State of Illinois represented in the General Assembly, That the name of Free Frank, of the county of Pike and State of Illinois, be and is hereby changed to that of Frank McWorter, by which latter name he shall hereafter be called and known, and sue and be sued, plead and be impleaded, purchase and convey both real and personal property in said last mentioned name, and the children of said Free Frank shall hereafter take the name of their father, as changed and provided for by this act.*

SEC. 2. *This act to be in force from and after its passage.*

APPROVED 19th January, 1837.

Unfortunately, there was no roll-call vote on this bill or any other on December 31, so how or even whether Abraham Lincoln voted on the bill remains unknown. Lincoln’s name does not appear in the proceedings of the House of Representatives on December 31, but he was present on January 13, when the House considered and approved the Senate’s amendments to this bill.⁸ Although Lincoln’s personal reaction to this bill is unknown, the legislature of which he was a member approved the bill, allowing Frank McWorter to choose his own name and acknowledging his basic rights as a citizen of antebellum Illinois to buy and sell, to sue and be sued, and to pass his name on to his descendants.

Kelley B. Clausing, Research Associate

Notes:

¹ “An Act to Change the Name of Free Frank,” *Laws of the State of Illinois, Passed by the Tenth General Assembly* (Vandalia, IL: William Walters, 1837), 175.

² Juliet E. K. Walker, *Free Frank: A Black Pioneer on the Antebellum Frontier* (Lexington: University Press of Kentucky, 1983), 7-32, passim; U.S. Census Office, *First Census of the United States (1790)*, Union County, SC, 44.

³ Eugene D. Genovese, *Roll, Jordan, Roll: The World the Slaves Made* (New York: Pantheon, 1974), 390-93; Philip S. Foner and Ronald L. Lewis, eds., *The Black Worker: A Documentary History from Colonial Times to the Present* (Philadelphia: Temple University Press, 1978), 29-31; Walker, *Free Frank*, 28-46, passim; U.S. Census Office, *Fourth Census of the United States (1820)*, Pulaski County, KY, [232-33].

⁴ Walker, *Free Frank*, 49-168, passim, 195n77; “An Act respecting Free Negroes and Mulattoes, Servants, and Slaves,” *Revised Laws of Illinois* (Vandalia, IL: Greiner & Sherman, 1833), 463-65; *History*

of Pike County, Illinois (Chicago: Charles C. Chapman & Co., 1880), 217, 739.

⁵ U.S. Census Office, *Fifth Census of the United States (1830)*, Pulaski County, KY, 51; U.S. Census Office, *Seventh Census of the United States (1850)*, Pike County, IL, 161; Walker, 7, 11, 19; Genovese, *Roll, Jordan, Roll*, 446; Herbert G. Gutman, *The Black Family in Slavery and Freedom, 1750-1925* (New York: Pantheon, 1976), 230-32, 245, 247; Leon F. Litwack, *Been in the Storm So Long: The Aftermath of Slavery* (New York: Alfred A. Knopf, 1979), 249-51.

⁶ *Journal of the House of Representatives of the Tenth General Assembly of the State of Illinois* (Vandalia, IL: William Walters, 1836), 66, 153, 223, 254.

⁷ “An Act to Change the Name of Free Frank,” *Laws of the State of Illinois, Passed by the Tenth General Assembly* (Vandalia, IL: William Walters, 1837), 175.

⁸ *House Journal*, 148-54, 247-55.

THWARTING “DESPERATE REBELS”: JOSEPH C. G. KENNEDY OFFERS ABRAHAM LINCOLN A SANCTUARY

Perhaps more than any other president, Abraham Lincoln lived under the dark cloud of assassination. Letters threatening bodily harm began arriving at Lincoln’s Springfield home shortly after he won the Republican nomination in June 1860. The volume of such correspondence only increased after the election. Lincoln laughed off rumors of conspiracies and plots, but Ward Hill Lamon and other advisors were less sanguine.¹

Quick action thwarted the conspirators awaiting Lincoln in Baltimore during his inauguration trip, but he was hardly safe in Washington, D.C. With a local population sympathetic to the South and Confederate Virginia in close proximity, the nation’s capital was a dangerous place for the new president. Protecting Lincoln would not be easy; besides the inherent danger, Lincoln adopted a cavalier and relaxed attitude toward the threats and security. Initially worried for his life, Lincoln became resigned to the prospect of sudden death, convinced that

no matter how many precautions taken, a determined assassin could not be deterred. He walked the streets of Washington alone or with a single companion and made his nightly jaunts from the White House to the War Department on foot without police protection or military escort. Lincoln’s White House also boasted little or lax security. Security improved in 1862, but the White House remained notoriously accessible to friend or foe.²

Fears over the president’s safety increased when Lincoln began riding back and forth from the White House to the Old Soldier’s Home. Lincoln’s route through Washington and over open countryside and the grounds around the cottage, offered would-be kidnappers or sharpshooters ample opportunity to waylay the exposed and vulnerable chief executive. In August 1862, matters seemingly came to a head when someone fired a shot at Lincoln while in route to the cottage, but the president labeled the incident “probably an accident,” and did not change his routine or enlist additional security.³

By 1863, the danger to Lincoln had become so acute that members of his administration began insisting that the president take precautions to ensure his safety, particularly on his rides to and from the Old Soldier’s Home. One of those concerned was Joseph C. G. Kennedy, supervising clerk of the Seventh (1850) and Eighth (1860) Censuses. Born in Meadville, Pennsylvania, and educated at Allegheny College, Kennedy was a former Whig who had begun his position under Zachary Taylor and retained it during subsequent Democratic administrations thanks to his innovations in census taking and statistical analysis. A staunch Unionist, Kennedy worked tirelessly during the Secession Winter of 1860-61 to quell secessionist sentiment in the Upper South. Once Lincoln assumed office, Kennedy became a loyal defender of the Union cause, supplying the administration with statistics for use in defeating the Confederacy.⁴

Between 1861 and 1865, Kennedy wrote Lincoln at least two dozen letters. Most were in response to Lincoln’s requests for statistics on subjects considered vital to the military and political conduct of the war.⁵ While most of Kennedy’s correspondence with the President was official in nature, several of the letters had a personal tinge, revealing Kennedy’s admiration for Lincoln and concern for his safety. On February 21, 1862, Kennedy wrote John G. Nicolay, Lincoln’s secretary,



Joseph C. G. Kennedy
(photo by Matthew Brady, c. 1857)
*Image courtesy of the Gilman Collection,
Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York.*

offering his condolences to the Lincolns and his services during “these moments of sadness” after the death of their son Willie.⁶

It was in this same vein that Kennedy wrote Nicolay on June 30, 1863, expressing concern for Lincoln’s safety. Convinced that the city’s defenses were deficient, Kennedy feared that a “few desperate rebels” might sail a boat up the Potomac River, land near the White House, and spirit Lincoln away or do him bodily harm. Perhaps they might also attempt to snatch him from the Old Soldier’s Home. Knowing that Lincoln eschewed guards and military escorts and aware that he had enemies in the capital, Kennedy thought “his greatest security consists not in being where he would naturally be expected to sojourn.”⁷ In a letter to the President accompanying that to Nicolay, Kennedy offered his home, twelve blocks from the Executive Mansion, as a sanctuary.⁸

Joseph C. G. Kennedy to Abraham Lincoln⁹
30 June 1863

380 H St Washington.
June 30 1863.

will the President permit me to suggest, inasmuch as it does not appear but that there seem to be possible contingencies rendering it at least doubtful whether he may with entire safety occupy at night his usual resting place, that my house is at the service of the President.

It is not to be presumed that he would be sought for at the residence of so humble an individual, in any case of emergency; and his Excellency may be assured of a cordial welcome where he may enjoy quiet and all immunity from intrusion.

I have the honor to be
with unaffected respect
his Excellency’s humble and
Obedient Servant.
Jos. C G Kennedy

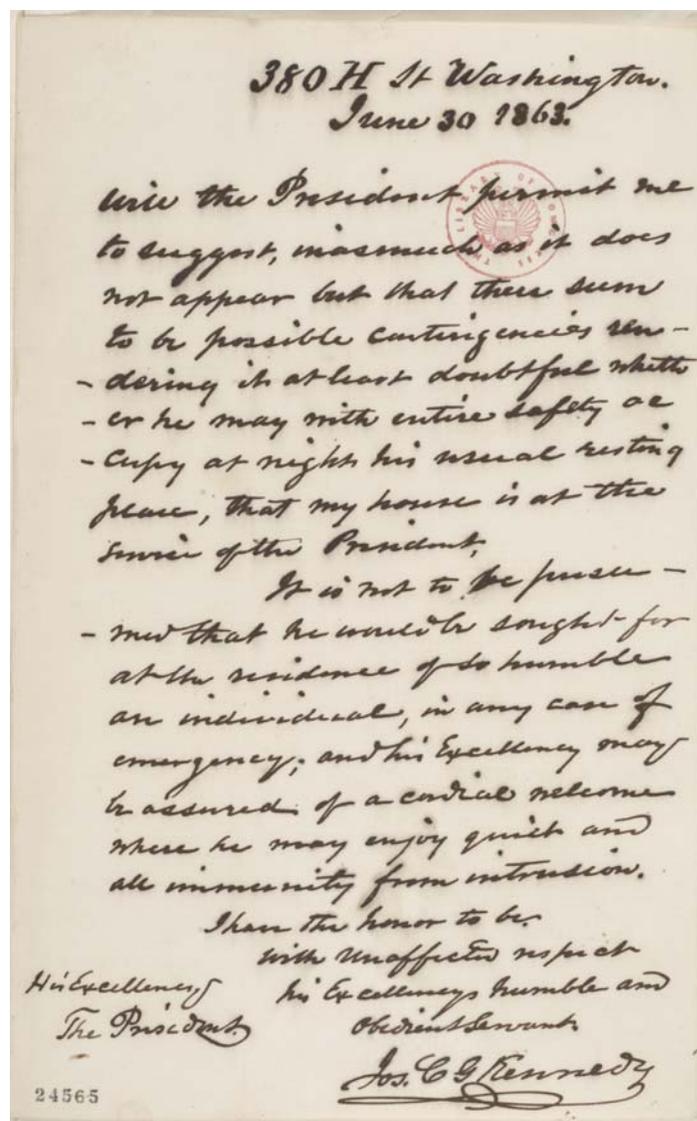
His Excellency
The President.

Kennedy left it to the discretion of Nicolay whether to tender this offer. Whether Lincoln read Kennedy’s letter or not, he did not avail himself of Kennedy’s hospitality. At the urging of Secretary of War Edwin M. Stanton and Lamon, he did finally accede to a military escort on his trips to and from the Old Soldier’s Home. As the volume of letters threatening abduction or assassination increased in 1864, administration officials

convinced Lincoln to allow officers from the Washington Metropolitan Police to accompany him on his excursions around Washington. But Lincoln’s initial attitude toward the threats would prove prescient: as events on April 14, 1865, would so tragically show, little could be done to stop a determined assassin. And in an ironic twist, Kennedy would also become a murder victim in the nation’s capital. On July 13, 1887, John Daily, a laborer who believed Kennedy had swindled his father in a real estate transaction, stabbed and killed Kennedy outside his office at the corner of 15th Street and Pennsylvania Avenue.¹⁰

Daniel E. Worthington, Assistant Editor

Notes on page 8...



Joseph C. G. Kennedy to Abraham Lincoln
Image courtesy of the Abraham Lincoln Papers, Library of Congress, Washington, DC.

Notes:

¹ William Hanchett, *The Lincoln Murder Conspiracies* (Urbana: University of Illinois Press, 1983), 21, 23; Anthony S. Pitch, "They Have Killed Papa Dead!": *The Road to Ford's Theatre, Abraham Lincoln's Murder, and the Rage for Vengeance* (Hanover, NH: Steerforth Press, 2008): 27-28.

² Hanchett, *Lincoln Murder Conspiracies*, 23-24; Pitch, "They Have Killed Papa Dead!", 27-28; David Herbert Donald, *Lincoln* (New York: Simon and Schuster, 1995), 547-48. For a full account of the Baltimore plot, see Michael J. Kline, *The Baltimore Plot: The First Conspiracy to Assassinate Abraham Lincoln* (Yardley, PA: Westholme, 2008).

³ Hanchett, *Lincoln Murder Conspiracies*, 24; Ward Hill Lamon, *Recollections of Abraham Lincoln, 1847-1865* (Chicago: A. C. McClurg, 1895), 265-68. For Lincoln's route, see Matthew Pinsker, *Lincoln's Sanctuary: Abraham Lincoln and the Soldier's Home* (New York: Oxford University Press, 2003), 6-7.

⁴ Joseph Camp Griffith Kennedy, b. 1 April 1813, in Meadville, PA, d. 13 July 1887, Washington, DC. For detailed biographical information on Kennedy, see the *Dictionary of American Biography*, (New York: Scribner, 1946-58), 5:335-36. For Kennedy's activities during the Secession Crisis, see Daniel W. Crofts, *Reluctant Confederates: Upper South Unionists in the Secession Crisis*

(Chapel Hill: University of North Carolina Press, 1989), 142-43; Margo Anderson, *The American Census: A Social History* (New Haven, CT: Yale University Press, 1988): 63-70.

⁵ See Joseph C. G. Kennedy to Abraham Lincoln, 15 March 1862, Abraham Lincoln Papers, Library of Congress, Washington, DC; Joseph C. G. Kennedy to Abraham Lincoln, 14 April 1865, Bidwell Family Papers, Part II, Box 1, BANC MSS C-B 468, University of California, Berkeley. To date, researchers have found no correspondence from Lincoln to Kennedy.

⁶ Joseph C. G. Kennedy to John G. Nicolay, 21 February 1862, Abraham Lincoln Papers, Library of Congress, Washington, DC.

⁷ Joseph C. G. Kennedy to John G. Nicolay, 30 June 30 1863, Abraham Lincoln Papers, Library of Congress, Washington, DC.

⁸ 380 H. Street today sits across from the United States Government Accountability Office.

⁹ Joseph C. G. Kennedy to Abraham Lincoln, 30 June 1863.

¹⁰ On the night of Lincoln's assassination, John F. Parker, an officer with the Washington Metropolitan Police, was assigned to protect the president. However, he left his post during the play, leaving the door to the presidential box unguarded. See Donald, *Lincoln*, 597. For more on Kennedy's murder, see the *New York Times*, 14 July 1887, 1:6.

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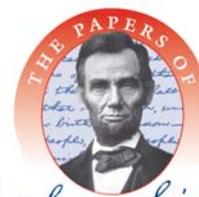
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- By making a tax-deductible donation to the Papers of Abraham Lincoln in support of the project. Such gifts provide crucial support in furtherance of the project's objectives.



Abraham Lincoln

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