

Document 1-A

Springfield, Ill. Sep. 25. 1860
J. M. Brockman, Esq
Dear Sir
Yours of the 24th asking
"the best mode of obtaining a thorough
knowledge of the law" is received. The mode is very simple,
though laborious, and tedious - it
is only to get the books, and
read, and study them carefully.
Begin with Blackstone's Commentaries,
and after reading it carefully, though, say twice, take
up Chitty's Pleading, Greenleaf's
Evidence, & Story's Equity, &c. in
succession - Work, work, work,
is the main thing -
Yours very truly
A. Lincoln

Autograph Letter Signed, Abraham Lincoln to J. M. Brockman, 25 September 1860, Henry Horner Lincoln Collection, Illinois State Historical Library, Springfield, Illinois.