

## THOMAS

"With them came Dennis Hanks, an illegitimate son of another of Nancy's aunts, a cheerful and energetic waif of nineteen. . . ." p. 11

"In the late summer of 1818 a dread disease swept through southwestern Indiana. Known as the 'milk-sick'. . . ." p. 11

"Again Thomas put together a rude coffin, and again the awfulness of death afflicted the little group in the wilderness cabin. The body lay in the same room where they ate and slept." p. 11

"Twelve-year-old Sarah cooked, swept, and mended, while Thomas, Abraham, and Dennis Hanks hewed away at the forest and tended the meager crops. Their fortunes ebbed. Deprived of the influence of a woman, they sank almost into squalor." p. 11

"These were all 'blab' schools, so called because the pupils studied aloud in order that the master might measure their diligence from the volume of the babel. Both discipline and learning were promoted by the rod. These short intervals of instruction marked the end of Lincoln's formal education. All told, he attended school less than a year." p. 12

"One man recalled how he would take a book to the fields, so that at the end of each plow furrow he could read while allowing the horse to 'breathe.'" p. 14

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"With them came Dennis Hanks, illegitimate son of another of Nancy's aunts, a congenial, semiliterate youth of nineteen." p. 8

"The following summer an epidemic of the dreaded 'milk sick' swept through the area." p. 8

"While Thomas fashioned a black cherry coffin, the dead woman lay in the same room where the family ate and slept." p. 8

"Twelve-year-old Sarah tried to fill her mother's place, to make and mend clothes for the menfolk, to clean, cook, and wash for them. But it was hard without a woman, and the Lincoln homestead sank into gloom and squalor." p. 8

"All told, he accumulated about a year of formal education. These were 'blab' schools he went to, so called because pupils studied aloud so that the teacher, rod in hand, could grade their progress." p. 10

"He would bring his book to the field and would read at the end of each plow furrow while the horse was getting its breath . . ." p. 11

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"Lincoln felt the wanderlust and, at the age of nineteen, contracted with James Gentry to take a cargo to New Orleans.

"Constructing a crude flatboat, young Lincoln and Gentry's son Allen loaded it with farm produce and glided down the Ohio to the Mississippi, then on to the bustling city that was the emporium of the West. Lolling on the low deck, giving an occasional tug on the slender sweeps to avoid the snags and sandbars, gossiping with Gentry, watching the river traffic passing by, Lincoln realized how vast and magnificent was his country." p. 17

"Spanish moss festooned the trees." p. 18

"The waterfront bustled with activity. Often as many as fifteen hundred flatboats and keelboats, lashed four or five abreast, extended along the levee as far as one could see, disgorging the products of the Western country, which were then carried off by wagons, carts, and drays to the bursting warehouses to await transshipment on the square-rigged sailing vessels bound for the marts of the world." p. 17 - "The levee and the neighboring streets were piled high with bales of cotton, hogsheads of sugar and tobacco." p. 18

"Houses of white and yellow stucco, exotic with iron grillwork, enclosed courtyards, and second-story porches, crowded upon the narrow thoroughfares of the French and Spanish quarters." p. 18

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"In April, 1828, Lincoln contracted with James Gentry to take a boatload of farm produce down to New Orleans. It was a welcome opportunity to get away from Indiana, away from the memory and sorrow of Sarah's death. Sometime that month he and Allen Gentry -- one of James's sons -- shoved off from Rockport and guided their flatboat down the placid waters of the Ohio. At last they came to the Mississippi and headed southward in its tempestuous currents, tugging on their slender sweeps to avoid snags and sandbars, passing occasional flatboats and smoking steamers." p. 14

"the trees were festooned with Spanish moss." p. 14

"the wharves were teeming with activity, with over a thousand flatboats tied up there and whites and slaves alike stacking produce in carts and wagons, produce that came from Missouri, Illinois, Indiana, and Ohio and that would be loaded on square-rigged sailing ships bound for ports around the world. After selling off their own cargo, the boys made their way along the levees, piled high with cotton and sugar . . ." p. 14

"Now they were in the French Quarter, marvelling at the picturesque homes with their painted windows, iron grillwork, and second-story porches." p. 14

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"In the autumn almost all of the Lincoln family came down with fever and ague . . . . In December a raging blizzard set in. For days it showed no letup, until the snow piled three feet deep on the level, with heavy drifts. Then came rain, which froze. More snow. When the weather cleared at last, a lashing northwest wind drove the sharp crystals across the prairie in blinding, choking swirls. Tracks made one day were wiped out by the next. The crust would support a man, but cows and horses broke through. Deer became an easy prey for wolves as their sharp hoofs penetrated the icy surface and imprisoned them. Much fodder still stood in the fields, and feed for stock ran low. Day after day the temperature rose no higher than twelve below zero. For nine weeks the snow lay deep. When the spring thaw came, floods overspread the country." pp. 20-21

"When the snow went off the ground, the three men bought a large canoe. Riding the crest of the spring flood, they paddled down the Sangamon River to a point near Springfield, where they had arranged to meet Offutt." p. 21 - "The most likely place to look for him was Andrew Elliott's Buckhorn Tavern, and there they found him, regaling the customers with his large-scale plans for quick riches. But in the gush of his enthusiasm he had failed to provide a boat . . . ." p. 23

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"That autumn everybody on the Lincoln claim fell sick with the ague, a malarial fever attended by flaming temperatures and violent shakes. Then in December a blizzard came raging across the prairie, piling snow high against the Lincoln cabin. Then it rained, a freezing downpour that covered the snow with a layer of ice. Now a wind came screaming out of the northwest, driving snow and ice over the land in blinding swirls. Cows, horses, and deer sank through the crust and froze there or were eaten by wolves. For nine weeks the temperature held at about twelve below zero." p. 15 - "When the snow melted that March, rivers overflowed and floods washed across the prairie." p. 16

"With Hanks and Johnston, young Lincoln paddled a canoe down the Sangamon River and then slogged to Springfield through mud and rivulets of water. They found Offutt at Buckhorn Tavern, swigging whiskey with an arm around an acquaintance. . . . Somehow, he told Lincoln, he had failed to secure a flatboat for the New Orleans venture." p. 16

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"Then, loading their cargo of barreled pork, corn, and live hogs, they cast off downstream, fending off the overhanging branches and steering their clumsy vessel around the snags and shallows. The spring floodwater had receded and the river was low. At the little hamlet of New Salem a mill dam obstructed the stream. The water still flowed over it, however, and the boatmen believed they could force their craft across. But halfway over it stuck, shipping water at the stern. A crowd of villagers assembled on the shore, generous with advice, but the utmost efforts of the crewmen could not budge the heavy craft. Finally, under Lincoln's direction, the men carried part of the cargo to the riverbank and pushed the rest of it forward to balance the boat. Lincoln went ashore and, borrowing an auger, bored a hole in the overhanging bow to let the water out. Then, having plugged the hole, the boatmen eased their craft across the dam.

"Offutt, who had accompanied his crewmen on this first stage of their journey, was impressed with Lincoln's ingenuity . . . . Offutt planned to rent the mill and open a store, and he engaged young Lincoln to operate these enterprises when he returned." pp. 23-24

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"In late April or early May, 1831, they shoved off with a cargo of corn, live hogs, and barreled pork. Offutt was with them, forecasting a time when they would all be on easy street, eating three squares a day and swilling expensive whiskey. By now the floods had receded and the Sangamon was so low that Lincoln had to steer the flatboat carefully along the channel.

Presently, some twenty miles northwest of Springfield, they came to a small village called New Salem, where a mill dam obstructed the river. They decided to run the dam and pushed the boat on faster and faster; it hit the dam and ground across, only to stick about halfway over, filling slowly with water that poured in over the down-tilting stern. As a crowd gathered on the bank to watch, the tallest flatboatman stood on the dam and tried to pry the water-laden boat over. A villager observed that he was dressed "very rough," wearing blue-jean breeches, a buckeye-chip hat, and a cotton shirt with alternate blue and white stripes.

"When the raft would not budge, the tall flatboatman got an idea. He helped the crew move part of the cargo to the bank and shove the rest forward to balance the raft. Then he fetched a hand drill from the village, bored a hole in the bow to let water out, plugged the hole, and eased the boat across the dam.

"The spectators were amazed at his ingenuity. And so was Offutt . . . . Before he left, Offutt made arrangements to rent the mill and open a general store. He then hired Lincoln to work as his clerk . . . ." pp. 16-17

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"At the height of New Salem's prosperity, which came two years after Lincoln's arrival, the village had a population of about twenty-five families. It boasted a cooper, a cobbler, a wheelwright and cabinetmaker, a blacksmith, a hatter, two physicians, a tavern, a carding machine for wool, two stores, and two saloons. A post office handled mail, and a ferry operated across the river. It had a fluid growth, however, characterized by change and shift, as men drifted into town, then moved along to try their fortunes elsewhere. Local business enterprises changed hands frequently. Settlement in early Illinois progressed from the south northward, so that most of the residents were Southerners

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"A typical pioneer community, the place, with its surrounding farming area, was largely self-sufficient. Most persons made their living from the soil, using hand tools or crude farm implements . . . ."

p. 25

"on the appointed day an excited crowd of men and boys gathered on the bluff above the river, wagering money, knives, keepsakes, and trinkets, as the contestants stripped for combat.

"The two men circled cautiously, came to grips, broke, pawed for a hold again. They closed, twisted, wrenched, and tugged . . . . Lincoln freed himself and backed against a wall, voicing defiance as he offered to fight, race, or wrestle any or all of them singly. None saw fit to take him on . . . ." p. 26

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"New Salem was a roaring pioneer settlement when Lincoln came there, with two saloons, a tavern, and a couple of general stores that sold everything from gunpowder to whiskey. Drunken ruffraff often hung around the saloons, and speculators like Denton Offutt came and went in search of easy fortunes. At its zenith, New Salem had a population of about a hundred people, most of them Southern in background, and boasted of a justice of the peace and two physicians. In the surrounding area, farmers worked the land with crude plows . . . ." p. 17

"On the prescribed day, with a large and happy crowd gathered on the bluff to watch, the two fighters stripped to their waists and approached one another on the riverbank below. They grabbed, grunted, wrenched, and struggled while the spectators cheered them on. . . . Lincoln, blazing with defiance, offered to take them all on - one at a time." p. 18

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"The popular young store clerk might easily have won a local office, but he aimed high, announcing himself as a candidate for the State Legislature." p. 28

"With the demise of the Federalist Party, old political alignments had broken down, and politics, especially of the frontier sort, was in a state of flux, men grouping themselves behind individual leaders like Andrew Jackson, Henry Clay, and John Quincy Adams." p. 28

"the little steamer chugged triumphantly upstream, tooting its whistle as it passed the settlements . . . ." p. 30

"In later years Lincoln made light of this, his only military experience." p. 33

"He learned the elements of handling men. . . . William H. Herndon, his law partner of later years, believed he was rather proud of it after all." p. 34

"He exchanged quips with the loungers at the country stores or joined them at pitching horseshoes." p. 34

"Lincoln lost the election, running eighth among thirteen candidates. He remembered it as the only time he was defeated on a direct vote of the people. But defeat did not discourage him, for in the New Salem precinct he received 277 of the 300 votes . . . ." p. 35

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"Anybody else might have sought a local position, but not Lincoln. At the age of twenty-three, he announced himself a candidate for nothing less than the state legislature." p. 22

"In 1832 national politics was in a state of flux and party lines were vague. The old Federalist party of Washington and Hamilton had died out years before . . . . so that in 1832 voters identified themselves by the leaders they supported -- they were either Jackson, Calhoun, or Clay men." p. 20-21

"a small steamer actually chugged up the treacherous Sangamon, blowing its whistle as it went . . . ." p. 21

"In later years Lincoln joked about his follies in what turned out to be his first and only military experience." p. 23

"Lincoln's friends thought he was actually rather proud of his service -- after all, it had given him his first experience in leading and handling men . . . ." p. 23

"He spun yarns in country stores, pitched horseshoes with voters, and declaimed his sentiments from boxes and tree stumps." p. 24

"Yet he lost the election, running eighth in a field of thirteen candidates. In the New Salem precinct, though, he polled 227 [sic] out of 300 votes cast." p. 24

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"He thought of becoming a blacksmith, but saw no future in it. He thought of studying law, but decided that was impossible with his meager preparation." p. 35 - "he bought a book of legal forms from which he drew up deeds, mortgages, and other legal instruments for his neighbors." p. 42

"But he never liked liquor. It always left him 'flabby and undone,' he said . . . . Whatever Lincoln's experiences were in Indiana, however, by the time he came to New Salem he was a confirmed teetotaler . . . ." p. 37

"William F. Berry died on January 10, 1835 . . . . Lincoln, unable to collect whatever Berry owed him in the termination of their joint venture, now became solely liable for all obligations contracted by the partnership. These, together with his own liabilities, put him in debt about \$1,100, a burden so enormous for one of his small resources that he called it 'the National Debt'. . . . That Lincoln paid his debt at all attests his character. Many men in similar circumstances would simply have moved away, left their debts unpaid, and blamed the town for their failure. But Lincoln not only had no intention of evading his obligations; he believed that if he could succeed anywhere, he could do so at New Salem, where he had made so many friends. His straightforward conduct in this and other dealings earned him the nickname 'Honest Abe.'" pp. 37-38

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"He thought about learning the blacksmith trade. He thought about studying law -- and even bought a book on legal forms so he could draw up deeds and mortgages for his neighbors. But wouldn't he need a better education to become a professional attorney?" p. 24

"the newcomer was a confirmed teetotaler. He used to drink some back in Indiana, but whiskey, he said, left him 'flabby and undone' . . . ." p. 19

"In January, 1835, Berry died, leaving Lincoln solely responsible for the rest of their debts -- which amounted to some \$1,100. It was such a huge sum for Lincoln's modest means that he called it the National Debt. Of course he could have reneged on his creditors and left the county as a lot of other bankrupts had done. But he vowed to pay every dollar he owed and spent the next decade and a half doing so. As a consequence, he earned a reputation as a man of unimpeachable honesty." p. 25

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"Settlers crowding into the Sangamo country created heavy demand for running boundary lines on farms, for locating roads and surveying townsites. John Calhoun, the county surveyor and a prominent Jacksonian politician, finding himself encumbered with more work than he could attend to, offered to appoint Lincoln his deputy . . . . To carry on his surveying duties he bought a horse, saddle, and bridle on credit for \$57.86." p. 40

"When this debt fell due and he was unable to pay, his creditor sued and levied on his personal possessions to satisfy the judgment. To be deprived of his horse and his surveying instruments meant loss of his means of livelihood, but friends came to his aid. Bill Greene, a young, enterprising New Salem businessman, turned in a horse against the judgment, and a friendly farmer, 'Uncle Jimmy' Short, bid in Lincoln's other possessions when they were sold on execution, and returned them to him." pp. 40-41

"In the spring of 1834, with another election for state legislators impending, Lincoln determined to run again. Party lines had become more definite now, and the Whig and Democratic organizations were beginning to take form. Support of or opposition to President Jackson and his policies determined political alignments . . . No presidential election occurred in 1834, however, and with national issues subordinated, personal popularity and factional maneuvering were most likely to determine the outcome of the contest for the Legislature.

"In Lincoln's own community he enjoyed bipartisan support . . . . Probably

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"Thanks to the rapid influx of settlers into the Sangamon country, the county surveyor had more work than he could handle and appointed Lincoln as deputy. Lincoln knew nothing at all about surveying, so he borrowed a couple of books on the subject and put himself through a crash course. Then he bought some surveying instruments and a horse and bridle -- all on credit -- and set about laying off roads, school sections, and town sites." p. 25

"When he failed to pay his notes, some of his creditors sued him and the sheriff had to levy on his personal possessions, including his horse, bridle, and surveying instruments, which were to be auctioned off. Lincoln was in a black mood, but his friends helped all they could. One put up a horse against the judgment. And a farmer named Jimmy Short bought Lincoln's other possessions at the auction and returned them to him." p. 25

"In 1834 he ran for the legislature again, which cheered him considerably. By now party lines had solidified . . . In Illinois, Democratic and Whig organizations had begun to form, with alignments depending in large part on what men thought about Jackson and his crusade to demolish the U.S. Bank. . . . Since 1834 was not a Presidential election year, personal magnetism and tactical maneuvering were apt to determine who would win. This was certainly true in New Salem, where Lincoln, though a Clay man, enjoyed bipartisan support. In his campaign, Lincoln gave few speeches and offered no platform as he had in 1832. He simply



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because of Lincoln's bipartisan candidacy, he issued no declaration of principles and made few speeches, but campaigned quietly at the post office and on surveying trips. His friend Rowan Herndon remembered that Lincoln came to his house at harvest time, when some thirty men were working in the fields, and after eating his dinner went out and won their unanimous vote by surpassing them all at cradling wheat." pp 41-42

"During this campaign Stuart, who had taken a great liking to Lincoln, encouraged him to study law. Kentucky-born, a graduate of Centre College, at Danville, Stuart had enjoyed all the advantages denied to Lincoln. His father, a Presbyterian minister, was professor of classical languages at Transylvania College . . . . Only two years older than Lincoln, he had won election to the Legislature in 1832 . . . ." p. 42

"He even argued minor cases before Squire Bowling Green [justice of the peace in New Salem], taking no pay for any of these services, since that would have violated the law.

"Lincoln's election to the Legislature and Stuart's faith in his ability buttressed his self-confidence, and now he applied himself in grim earnest to becoming a lawyer. Borrowing books from Stuart, he took them to New Salem . . ." pp. 42-43 - "Stuart and Dummer had built up the largest business of any law firm in Springfield . . . ." p. 67

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chatted with folks around the county and drew on his reputation as a postmaster and surveyor. On one occasion he won the votes of thirty farm hands by cradling more wheat than any of them." p. 25-26

"During the campaign, Stuart bumped into Lincoln, took a liking to him, and advised 'A' to become a lawyer . . ." p. 26 - "A fellow Kentuckian, Stuart was two years older than Lincoln and enjoyed advantages Lincoln had never had. Stuart's father was a Presbyterian minister and a professor of classical languages at Kentucky's Transylvania College . . . ." p. 27

"It appears that he'd argued a few cases before New Salem's justice of the peace, though as an amateur he received no compensation for his work. . . . Now, fresh from his first political triumph and encouraged by young Stuart, Lincoln decided to take up the law. . . . So he borrowed lawbooks from the firm of Stuart & Drummond [sic], one of the busiest in Springfield, and walked home to New Salem, where he 'went at it in good earnest' . . . ." p. 26-27

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"Then, as the opening of the legislative session drew near, he borrowed two hundred dollars from his friend Coleman Smoot, and in keeping with his new eminence spent sixty dollars for a tailor-made suit of clothes." p. 43

"Lincoln swung stiffly to the ground . . . . Looking about, Lincoln saw an overgrown prairie village of eight or nine hundred inhabitants built around a spacious public square, its wide streets, now rutted and muddy from autumn rains, dotted with frame houses and log cabins. Across the street from the square, the two-story brick State Capitol and another brick building used for state offices rose above the business buildings." p. 44

"With the opening of the legislative session, Stuart and Lincoln entered the State Capitol, only ten years old, but already in such disrepair that flights of frontier eloquence were sometimes interrupted by the crash of falling plaster. The hall of the House of Representatives occupied most of the first floor; upstairs were the Senate chamber and rooms for offices. Members sat in movable chairs at long tables, each accommodating three men. The Speaker, on a small platform, also sat behind a table. On each table stood a cork inkstand. Sandboxes, distributed about the room, not only furnished sand for blotting but also served as cuspidors. A fireplace and a stove provided warmth. Over the water pail hung three tin dippers. Candles in tall holders shed dim light on evening sessions.

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"When at last it was time to go, Lincoln borrowed two hundred dollars from a friend to pay his more pressing debts and buy a tailor-made, sixty-dollar suit." p. 27

"When Lincoln swung down from the stage at Vandalia, he found a muddy prairie village of some eight hundred souls, with smoking cabins clustered about a public square. Across the street from the square was the statehouse, a two-story brick structure that was falling apart." p. 27

"When the session began that December, Lincoln took his place among the other representatives in the first floor of the statehouse; they sat at long tables with sandboxes on the floor which served as spittoons. A stove and a roaring fireplace heated the hall, and candles furnished light on cloudy days and in the evenings. Most of the legislators were professional men, all were young, few were natives of Illinois. As they debated the issues of the day, falling plaster often punctuated their orations." p. 28

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"More than half the members were farmers, about a fourth were lawyers, and the remainder was made up of merchants, mechanics, doctors, and men of miscellaneous callings. Almost all of them were young. Very few had been born in Illinois." p. 46

"As Lincoln left for home at the end of the session, he pocketed \$258 for his services and traveling expenses . . . . Back in New Salem after a bitter ride in sub-zero weather, Lincoln . . . . resumed his law studies . . . ." p. 48

Ann Rutledge is described as "A pretty, unaffected girl of twenty-two, with blue eyes and auburn hair . . . ." p. 49

"After the Rutledges moved to a farm on Sand Ridge, seven miles north of the village, Lincoln often visited them on his surveying trips." p. 49

"In December 1835 Lincoln returned to Vandalia for a special session of the Legislature . . . . Lincoln himself had a pet project that he guided through the Legislature: the incorporation of the Beardstown and Sangamon Canal, with its eastern terminus at Huron, a townsite at Miller's Ferry, near New Salem. Several of his friends had financial interests in the paper town of Huron, and the young legislator himself owned several lots, acquired as payment for surveying it. He also purchased a forty-seven-acre tract of

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"When the legislature adjourned in February, 1835, Lincoln pocketed \$258 for his labors, rode back to New Salem in subzero weather, and resumed his legal studies." p. 28

Ann Rutledge is described as "pretty and unaffected, with auburn hair and blue eyes." p. 19

"And when in time the Rutledges moved to a farm over on Sand Creek [sic], seven miles from New Salem, Lincoln often visited them because he cherished Ann's friendship and respected her father." p. 19

"He owned several lots in nearby Huron, acquired as remuneration for surveying the townsite. In hopes of making money and retiring some of his debts, he bought an additional forty-seven acres near Huron, plus a couple of lots down in Springfield, and promoted a pet canal project that might precipitate an economic boom in his neighborhood, whereupon he could sell his property for a profit.

"In December, 1835, Lincoln was back in Vandalia, attending a special session of the legislature." p. 30

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land close by the projected town, and in a speech at Petersburg he urged the people to subscribe for stock in the canal, a few shares of which he may have purchased himself. This was one of the few times when he speculated in either land or stock, and his ability to do so, even in a modest way, indicates that he was paying off his debts -- an assumption that is further supported by his purchase of two town lots in Springfield." p. 52

"Nevertheless, the Democratic leaders forced their program through, and on the first day of the legislative session a Democratic state convention met at Vandalia and endorsed Van Buren. Two days later the Whigs countered with a resolution in the House condemning the convention system as undemocratic and dictatorial. All through the session the rival parties skirmished, with Lincoln in the forefront of the battle, and even serving as Whig floorleader when Stuart was otherwise engaged." p. 53

"the whole Whig county ticket swept to victory, with Lincoln leading all the candidates. The reapportionment act passed by the last Legislature gave Sangamon County seven representatives in the lower house, an increase of three and the largest number awarded to any county. Elected to the House of Representatives with Lincoln were six other Whigs. A seventh Whig won election to the Senate, and since the holdover senator also belonged to that party, Sangamon County would be represented in the Legislature by a solid phalanx of Whigs. The average

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"In the opening day of the special session, the Democrats held the first political convention in Illinois. . . . Since 1836 was a Presidential election year, the Democrats also endorsed Martin Van Buren for President . . . . The Whigs, for their part, emphatically opposed the new convention system, disparaging it as a menace to liberty and republican government. Young Lincoln was in the forefront of the anticonvention fight, often serving as floor leader when Stuart was politicking in the halls or out in the taverns." p. 31

"In the state elections, the Whigs swept Sangamon County, where Lincoln led a list of seven victorious Whigs elected to the state house of representatives. A Whig also won a senate seat and another was a holdover there, so that the Whigs controlled the entire Sangamon delegation. Because the average height of the Whig delegates was six feet, they became known as the Long Nine, with Lincoln, at six feet four, ranking as the longest of them all.

"Elsewhere, though, the Whigs suffered disastrous losses, as a Democrat whipped Stuart in his bid for Congress. . . ." p. 31

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height of this delegation was slightly over six feet, and at the next session they would become celebrated as the 'Long Nine.' The only Whig disappointment was Stuart's defeat for Congress." p. 54

"At last Lincoln mustered courage for his bar examination. It proved easier than he expected. After answering some more or less perfunctory questions, he followed the practice of treating his examiners to dinner. On September 9, 1836 he received his license . . . . "  
p. 54

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"At last he got up his courage and took the exams, sailed through without mishap, then treated his examiners to dinner according to the custom of the day. On September 9, 1833, he received his law license . . . . "  
p. 31

After page 32 of With Malice Toward None, Oates's text no longer follows Thomas's closely. But there are occasional examples of borrowing in later pages, including the following descriptions of Lincoln's relations with his law partners:

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"Lincoln formed a new partnership with Stephen T. Logan . . . Methodical, industrious, painstaking, and precise, he had not only grounded himself in precedents and method, but was a student of the philosophy of the law as well. Ten years older than Lincoln, a Kentuckian of Scotch-Irish ancestry, he was small, thin, and wiry, with thick, frizzy red hair. Utterly careless in his dress, he wore an unbleached cotton shirt, an oversized, rumpled coat, and baggy pants. He was never known to don a tie. In winter he made his way to court or office in a shabby fur cap; his summer headgear was a fifty-cent straw hat. Handicapped by a thin, shrill voice, he was no orator, but he argued with convincing power. He had come to Springfield in 1833 with a reputation already established through ten years of practice in his native state, and from 1835 to 1837 had served as judge of the First Circuit. Now he stood as undisputed head of the Sangamon bar." pp. 95-96

"Springfield people were surprised when Lincoln chose Herndon for a partner -- any number of experienced lawyers would have welcomed such an alliance. But Lincoln regarded Herndon as a promising young man." p. 97

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"Lincoln formed a new partnership with Stephen T. Logan, a fellow member of the Whig Junto.

"Logan was a shriveled little man with frizzled red hair and a shrill voice. He scarcely ever varied his dress, which consisted of a twenty-five cent straw hat, baggy pants, and an oversize coat. Because he was a compulsive whittler, the sheriff kindly provided him with white plank shingles and a wool sack when court day began. Though bizarre and cantankerous, Logan proved an excellent partner for a lawyer on the climb. As an attorney, he was precise and meticulous, with a broad command of both the practical and philosophical sides of the law. He'd practiced ten years in Kentucky, come to Springfield in 1833, served a couple of years as a circuit court judge, and become the undisputed leader of the Sangamon bar." p. 59

"He surprised his colleagues, though, when he took young William H. Herndon as his junior associate. . . . Some wondered why Lincoln should choose a tyro like him when he could have formed a partnership with any number of older and more accomplished attorneys, but Lincoln knew what he was doing." pp. 71-72

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"Herndon was something of a dandy in his younger years, affecting a tall silk hat, kid gloves, and patent-leather shoes. Five feet nine inches in height, thin, angular, erect, he moved and walked quickly with a superabundance of nervous energy. Dark-skinned, with raven hair, he had sharp black eyes set deep in crater-like circles. His nature was contradictory; a good lawyer, he never acquired any fondness for the law; a temperance advocate, he frequently got drunk . . . . An amateur psychologist, Herndon prided himself on a 'mud instinct' or 'dog-sagacity,' which he credited with enabling him to fathom men's secret thoughts and purposes."  
pp. 97-98

"The junior partner read a great deal and tried to interest Lincoln in good books, but usually, after glancing through a page or two, Lincoln tossed them aside and asked Herndon to brief him on their contents."  
p. 99

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"A nervous, windy fellow, Herndon stepped about in fancy clothes, a big silk hat, kid gloves, and patent leather shoes. He was thin, stood about five feet nine, and had raven hair and black eyes. . . . He regarded himself as an expert psychologist and bragged about his 'dog' sagacity' and 'mud instinct,' which enabled him to divine other men's inner secrets. Yet Herndon's knowledge of people derived almost entirely from books, and he was a man of striking contradictions. Though he considered himself an intellectual, he often consorted with rowdies and hooligans in Springfield's saloons. A man of causes and a leader in the local temperance movement, he was still a hard drinker and his later years became an alcoholic. And though he chose the law for a career and worked hard at it, he felt out of place in the legal world."  
p. 72

"A voracious reader himself, Herndon would foist his current volume on Lincoln, insisting that he study it because it had 'all the answers,' the ultimate truth. Lincoln would glance through a couple of pages, toss the book aside, and tell Herndon to summarize it for him." p. 73-74

**SUPPLEMENT TO THE EARLIER COMPILATION OF PARALLEL PASSAGES IN  
STEPHEN B. OATES, WITH MALICE TOWARD NONE: THE LIFE OF ABRAHAM  
LINCOLN AND BENJAMIN P. THOMAS, ABRAHAM LINCOLN: A BIOGRAPHY**

**THOMAS**

"In Louisville, Union recruits marching up one side of a street passed Confederate volunteers on the other." p. 260.

"Here is something material,' said the President as he unfurled the battle flags, 'something I can see, feel, and understand. This means victory. This is victory.' In the cabin of the River Queen, Lincoln had Cadwallader repeat the reports from Grant and asked the correspondent to relate what he had personally witnessed at the front. . . Every table in the cabin was covered with large maps on which Lincoln had marked the lines of armies with red- and black-headed pins.

"Hundreds of guns opened all along Grant's front at quarter of five next morning." p. 510.

**OATES**

"In Louisville, Union volunteers marched along one side of the street and passed rebel recruits on the other." p. 237.

"Here is something material,' Lincoln rejoiced, 'something I can see, feel, and understand. This means victory. This is victory.' Inside the cabin, Lincoln asked the correspondent to relate everything he'd seen at the front. The man observed that every table was covered with huge military maps dotted with red and black pins.

"Before dawn the next morning, hundreds of guns opened up all across Grant's front . . . ." p. 420.



## THOMAS

"Captain Robert Lincoln arrived next morning in time for breakfast. . . . Captain Lincoln reported a brisk fight that morning in the frosty dawn. Lee had tried to break through the Union lines at Fort Stedman . . . . but a counterattack threw him back. . . . The President rode in a jolting coach behind a slow-moving locomotive over rough tracks behind the lines." pp. 507-508.

"Sherman's boys hit South Carolina like a horde of avenging Goths." p. 505.

"All day on February 27, 1860 Lincoln was entertained at the Astor House as a visiting celebrity. That night, despite a snowstorm, fifteen hundred persons filed into Cooper Union . . . ." p. 202.

"On March 14, for the first time, he held a cabinet meeting in his bedroom, so utterly worn physically and mentally that he must have a day of rest." p. 500.

## OATES

"Captain Robert Lincoln, a member of Grant's staff, joined his father for breakfast and reported 'a little rumpus up the line this morning.' In the chill dawn, Lee had attempted to break Union lines at Fort Stedman, just northeast of Petersburg, but Union troops had counterattacked. Eager to see the battle site, Lincoln left City Point and set out for the front on a slow, jolting military train . . . ." p. 418.

"In February, Sherman's army stormed into South Carolina like a horde of avenging angels . . . ." p. 415.

"anti-Seward forces treated him like a celebrity and lavishly entertained him at the Astor House. . . . That night, as a snowstorm raged outside, fifteen hundred shivering people gathered in the Cooper Institute . . . ." p. 171.

"On March 14 he felt so ill that he had to conduct a Cabinet meeting in his bedroom." p. 417.

## THOMAS

"But the losses were appalling. All day the mournful whistles hooted as steamers landed at the Sixth Street wharf in Washington. . . . Ambulances rumbled over the Long Bridge. Hearses rolled through the streets. . . . At twilight Lincoln's carriage took him slowly toward the Soldiers' Home. As he stopped at a street corner for a word with Congressman Isaac N. Arnold, a line of wounded men filed by. The President caught his breath. 'Look yonder at those poor fellows,' he said. 'I cannot bear it. This suffering, this loss of life is dreadful.'

"Not only had Grant's advance been checked; his plan of concerted movement had broken down. Butler had been defeated at Drewry's Bluff and sealed up between the Appomattox and the James 'as in a bottle tightly corked'; Sigel had been roughly handled in the Shenandoah Valley; Banks had narrowly escaped disaster on the Red River and was in no condition to assail Mobile. Sherman was still moving toward Atlanta, but his progress seemed discouragingly slow.

"With Lee's position at Spotsylvania too strong to attack again, Grant moved once more by the left flank . . . . On June 1 the

## OATES

"Yet Grant's casualties were staggering. Every day now whistling steamers crowded the Sixth Street wharves in Washington and unloaded their cargo of dead and wounded. Ambulances and hearses clattered endlessly through the city, and wounded men marched forlornly to the depot bound for home. Lincoln saw them in the twilight as he rode out to the Soldiers' Home, muttering about 'those poor fellows,' 'this suffering,' 'this loss of life.' And the news grew ominous as the days passed, until it seemed that the whole grand plan might go awry. In Louisiana, Banks had mounted an expedition up the Red River, which ended in failure. And Sherman had punched across into Georgia, only to encounter stiff resistance from the rebels so that his progress was distressingly slow. In the East, Butler's army had advanced up the James River, then stumbled back into a trap between the James and Appomattox rivers, where the rebels sealed him like 'a bottle tightly corked.' And then came the worse [SIC] report of all: on June 1, in a final attempt to destroy Lee, Grant launched a massive attack at Cold Harbor, but failed to break

armies faced each other at Cold Harbor, a road hub north of the Chickahominy. Grant recognized the strength of Lee's position, but determined on a final effort to destroy him.

". . . Grant lost ten thousand men . . . .

". . . Welles recorded: 'There is intense anxiety in relation to the Army of the Potomac. . . . The immense slaughter of our brave men chills and sickens us all.' . . . After a month of horrible carnage Grant was no closer to Richmond than McClellan had been in 1862. Resentment centered on Lincoln for putting a stolid butcher in command." pp. 423-424.

"Meanwhile, as Lincoln sought to hold the border states, panic seized Washington." p. 262.

"Defiant Southerners flaunted secession badges on the streets." p. 263.

## OATES

through the rebels' earthworks and lost ten thousand men in the effort.

. . . .  
"And so after a month of fighting Grant was stalled nine miles northeast of Richmond . . . 'The immense slaughter of our brave men,' Welles recorded, 'chills and sickens us all.' From all corners of the Union came waves of indignation against Lincoln, that he could sanction such senseless carnage, that he could put a butcher like Grant in command." p. 387.

"Meanwhile Washington, D.C., was in a state of panic." p. 233.

"Right here in Washington Southern sympathizers wore secession badges in the streets . . . ." p. 233.

## THOMAS

"at noon on Thursday, April 25, the shrill whistle of a locomotive broke the stillness of the city. People rushing to the station saw the crack Seventh New York Regiment issuing from the cars. . . . they marched briskly up the Avenue, flags flying and band in full performance." p. 263

"Under international law, Wilkes had the right to search the Trent and, upon the discovery of contraband, to take her into port for adjudication. But he was not permitted to remove Mason and Slidell from the deck of a neutral vessel; at least, the United States had always resisted such action, even to the point of war with England in 1812." p. 282.

"But the cabinet unanimously disapproved this generous gesture, and Lincoln regretfully abandoned the idea." p. 503.

## OATES

"At noon, April 25, the Seventh New York filed off a train in Washington and marched up Pennsylvania Avenue with snapping flags and a blaring band." p. 234.

"By international law, he had the right to search the Trent and confiscate rebel war supplies, but not to impress people from the decks of a neutral ship. In fact, in the years that led to the War of 1812, the United States had vehemently protested similar tactics on the part of the British navy." p. 271.

"Afterward the cabinet unanimously rejected Lincoln's compensation proposal, . . . and Lincoln abandoned the plan." p. 415.

## THOMAS

"Next evening after sundown it tied up in the James River at City Point. To the north lay the flats of Bermuda Hundred, with a light flashing from a lookout tower. . . . Giant warehouses loomed like great shadows in the night." pp. 506-507.

"Nine days later came news of the death of Douglas at Chicago." p. 270.

"On April 19 word came to Lincoln that the Sixth Massachusetts Infantry had been mobbed in Baltimore." p. 260.

"Word came that Secretary Seward had fallen from his carriage and suffered severe injuries." p. 513.

"The sign should have read John Hanks . . . ." p. 206n.

## OATES

"The following night they anchored at City Point, with the lights of Grant's headquarters flickering on a nearby bluff and shadows of warehouses looming along the shoreline." pp. 417-418.

"A week or so later came news of another death. Out in Illinois, . . . Stephen A. Douglas had died . . . ." pp. 240-241.

"On April 19 came news of a riot in Baltimore. The Sixth Massachusetts had been fired on . . . ." p. 232.

"Word came from Washington that Seward had been severely injured in a carriage accident there." p. 421.

"The banner should have read John Hanks." p. 176n.

**THOMAS**

**"By April 27 ten thousand soldiers had arrived, and more were on the way." p. 263.**

**OATES**

**"by April 27 some ten thousand were dug in along the Potomac and thousands more were on the way." p. 234.**