

. 1830 .

F.....\*LINCOLN BROWNE KNOWLTON.

Born 1805, at Shrewsbury, Mass.; Died June 8, 1854, at Peoria, Ill.  
Entered from Shrewsbury, Mass....A. B. 1832;  $\Phi$  B K.

Counsellor at Law. Admitted to the Bar at Worcester, Mass.; practiced there and at Athol, Mass., until 1838; removed to Peoria, Ill., continuing his profession and "travelling the circuit," as was then the custom, until his death.

Declined the office of Circuit Judge, tendered him by the Governor of Illinois, and also the command of a Regiment of Illinois Volunteers for the Mexican War, 1848; Delegate to Whig Nat'l Convention, Baltimore, 1844; Member Illinois Constitutional Convention 1847; elected Representative XXXIV U. S. Congress, but died before taking his seat.

Edited a newspaper at Peoria for some time.

Author of Lectures before "The Whig Club," and of various articles contributed to periodicals.

$\Sigma \phi$   
Oct. 1891

Knowlton, "Linc" 1832

10/11/1854

"If he did not die a dissipated man; the early promise of his college life must have dissipated his acquaintances as a result."

Pearson Diaries V.4,p.693

Knowlton, Lincoln B.

7/31/1835

"Linc Knowlton was a friend and equal of "Bull" (see: Barnard, W. F. 1833) lazy, viscious, and wicked..occasionally he would show the power of his strong mind in extemporaray debates, and then it was that hardly any contemporary could cope with him."

Pearson Diaries V.2,p.165

Was a man of great ability. He had been a member of the constitutional convention which framed the constitution of 1848. I remember him as a stalwart man, above medium height, broad-shouldered and raw-boned. He was then in the last stages of consumption. With a shaggy overcoat thrown loosely over his shoulders, he walked down the middle aisle of the court-house with great d<sup>o</sup>gnity, and took his seat in a hair-cloth rocker which had been provided especially for his use. He died within a month of that time. The following tribute was paid to his memory by the Peoria bar on the occasion of his death: "Resolved, That we pay but a just tribute of respect to the deceased when we declare that his character as a faithful, eloquent and successful adv<sup>o</sup>cate in our courts, as a man in whom were united the fidelity and honorable conduct of a good lawyer, as well as the most expanded liberality, kindness and generosity of man, commands our most unfeigned respect; that the poor, oppressed and unprotected have occasion long to remember and to appreciate his generous efforts, gratuitous labor and professional exertions, so often and so faithfully put forth in their behalf, they having ever found in him the poor man's and the widow's advocate and friend."

Lincoln Brown Knowlton was born in Shrewsbury, Massachusetts, in 1804, his paternal ancestors having come to America from Knowlton Manor, in Kent, England, in 1642. Lieutenant Daniel Knowlton and Colonel Thomas Knowlton, famed in early Indian wars and the Revolution, were lineal ancestors. Nathaniel Lyon was his own cousin, through a Knowlton mother. The three Knowlton brothers settled in Ipswich, Massachusetts. Lincoln B. Knowlton was very gifted in an intellectual way, and at an early age was sent to Union College, at Schenectady, New York, whose president was then the famous educator, Eliphalet Nott, D. D., LL.D. After graduating at Union College Mr. Knowlton studied law with the governor of Massachusetts, "Honest John Davis," as he was called. Mr. Knowlton came to Peoria at a very early period in its history, and was one of the most brilliant and prominent lawyers of his day, being known as the Henry Clay of the Illinois bar. He loved his profession, refusing a judgeship and being practically pushed into politics. He was nominated for congress the year he died (August, 1854),

and knowing that he could not live to fill the office, asked the privilege of naming his successor, James Knox, who was elected. He was sent as a delegate to the last Whig convention, which met at Baltimore and nominated his idol, Henry Clay, for the presidency. The last speech ever delivered by Mr. Knowlton, when he was almost too weak to stand, and the glory of his rich, magnetic voice had gone, was in advocacy of the election of Clay to the presidency. He was an intimate friend of Abraham Lincoln, David Davis, Stephen A. Douglas and other eminent men who lent dignity to the early bar of Illinois.

Bench and Bar of Illinois  
 Vol. 1 p. 293  
 John M. Palmer, Editor,  
 The Lewis Pub. Co.  
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 1899.

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LINCOLN B. KNOWLTON, 1832, of Shrewsbury, Mass., was a member of the Philomathean  
Society.

Philomathean Catalogue 1830

Lincoln Browne Knowlton A.B.  
1832

1832  
P.B.  
Lincolne Brawne Knowlton