

(Note)

*House Journal 1840-41 (copy) 9*

Lincoln's Attendance at the Session of 1840-41.

The Journal of the House of Representatives of the Illinois General Assembly for the session of 1840-41 discredits the story of ~~Mr. Herndon's~~ Lincoln's protracted illness immediately following ~~his death~~ Jan. 1, 1841, when, as related by Mr. Herndon and one or two other biographers, he was to have been married to ~~Miss Todd~~ Mary Todd, but failed to appear for the wedding. Mr. Herndon says that "for a time he was ~~not~~ <sup>unable</sup> able to attend", but that "towards the close of the session he resumed his seat", and that "he took little, if any, part in the proceedings. . . . His illness and consequent incapacity for duty in the legislature continued for almost three weeks. On the 19th of January, 1841, John J. Hardin announced his illness in the House." The Journal shows that on Jan. 1 ~~the~~ <sup>he is asserted</sup> the very "fatal first of January" when ~~Mr. Lincoln~~ was supposed to have been groping in the shadow of madness ~~Mr. Lincoln~~ was in his seat in the House, and that he was also there on the following day. The third of January was Sunday. On Monday, the 4th, he appears not to have been present--that is, he did not vote, which, of course, is by no means conclusive evidence that he was not there. On the 5th, and on every succeeding day until the 13th, he was in his seat. From the 15th to the 18th, inclusive, he is not recorded on any of the roll-calls, ~~though~~ and probably was not present. But on the 19th, when "John J. Hardin announced his illness to the House" *as Mr. Herndon says* (which announcement seems not to have gotten into the Journal), Lincoln was again in his place, and voted. On the 20th he is not recorded;

