

(Note for Simeon Francis.)

Simeon Francis.

From a photograph taken at Portland, Oregon, during the war, and now owned by Mrs. H. R. Taylor, Springfield, Ill. Simeon Francis was born at Wethersfield, Conn., May 14, 1796. He learned the printers' trade at New Haven; published a paper at New London; later, was part proprietor of the Buffalo (N. Y.) "Emporium" which, because Mr. Francis was a Mason, was forced to suspend publication in 1828 during the excitement over the abduction of Morgan. Mr. Francis removed to Springfield, Ill., in 1831 and in November of that year founded the "Sangamo Journal", which subsequently became and is now the "Illinois State Journal", and conducted the paper for about twenty-five years. Lincoln, at the outset of his political career, found a loyal friend in Simeon Francis. The "Sangamo Journal" encouraged and supported Lincoln, and he always had the freest access to its columns, sometimes writing editorials and occasionally signed communications. In 1859 Mr. Francis removed to Portland, Oregon, and engaged in the publishing business there. In 1861 Lincoln appointed him paymaster in the United States Army, and he held this position until 1870. He died at Portland Oct. 25, 1872. --J. McCan Davis.