

photos of Cook and Glover)

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It is probable that no two men in Northern Illinois and, possibly, in the State, enjoyed the confidence of Lincoln to a greater extent than did Burton C. Cook and J. O. Glover, both of whom spent most of the active period of their careers in Ottawa. Both men came from New York State and located at Ottawa in 1835. A law partnership was formed between them, about 1840, that continued for over thirty years and only terminated when, in 1870, each removed to Chicago to accept distinguished legal posts, J. O. Glover having been appointed by Pres. Grant United States Attorney for the Northern District of Illinois, Burton C. Cook, General Solicitor for the Chicago and Northwestern R. R., and George C. Campbell, who had been a member of the firm of Glover, Cook & Campbell for some years, was made General Solicitor for the Chicago, Rock Island and Pacific R.R.

¶ It was in November, 1852, that Mr Cook was elected a State Senator and soon after word began his acquaintance and subsequent friendship and association with Lincoln. He served as a Senator until 1860. In 1864, he was elected to Congress and served until 1869 when he resigned, preparatory to going to Chicago. He was appointed by Pres. Lincoln to represent Illinois at the "Peace Congress" which met at Washington in 1861. He died August 18, 1894, aged seventy-five. J. O. Glover died Dec. 10, 1891, aged eighty one. ¶

¶ In an interview, for McClure's Magazine, Hon. Henry T. Glover, of Chicago, a son of J. O. Glover and nephew of Burton C. Cook, says:

"My Uncle, Burton C. Cook, was a member of the combination which, in 1855, kept Lincoln out of the United States Senate and I will quote, to show how it happened, from the Chicago Tribune of August 19, 1894, which contained this item concerning the death of Mr Cook. 'The incident of Mr Cook's public career which will be longest

remembered occurred while he was in the State
 Senate, in 1855. He had been elected as a Dem-
 ocrat but the Kansas and Nebraska bill of 1854
 had disgusted him with Democracy. Always oppo-
 sed to slavery, he could not stand this last evi-
 dence of party subservience. The Legislature had to
 elect a successor to General Shields. Lincoln was
 the Whig nominee, and he was as good an anti-
 slavery man as Cook was. But neither he nor
 John M. Palmer, and Norman B. Judd, who were in
 the Senate, would vote for the old Henry Clay Whig,
 Lincoln. They called themselves 'Anti-Nebraska'
 Democrats and, with two House members (Baker and
 Allen) who thought as they did, they held the balance
 of power. They selected as their candidate, Judge
 Lyman Trumbull, also an 'Anti-Nebraska' Dem-
 ocrat and forced his election. If Lincoln had per-
 sisted in remaining in the field, instead of ad-
 vising his friends to support Trumbull, ex-Gov
 Matteson would have been elected. "

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If the Lincoln - Douglass Debates were chiefly arranged through the instrumentality of Norman B. Judd of Chicago who was then Chairman of the State Republican Committee, Burton C. Cook who was a member of the Committee, J. O. Glover, and Col. W. H. W. Cushman, who represented Douglass' interests. Judd and Cook from their intimate knowledge of Lincoln at Springfield were particularly strong in urging that the only man who could meet Douglass in debate was Lincoln and so it was, finally, decided. In a confidential talk with my father, Douglass said: ^{He} "I do not feel, between you and me, that I want to go into this debate. The whole country knows me and has me measured. Lincoln, as regards myself, is comparatively unknown, and if he gets the best of this debate, - and I want to say he is the ablest man the Republicans have got, - I shall lose every thing and Lincoln will gain every thing. Should I win, I shall

gain but little. I do not want to go into a debate with Abe." 

"The day of the debate in Ottawa, Douglass was introduced to the crowd by Col. W. H. W. Cushman. It was Miss Rodney, later wife of Col. Cushman, who was one of the bridesmaids at the Lincoln-Todd wedding in Springfield. She was a Kentuckian and a lineal descendant of Caesar Rodney, one of the signers of the Declaration of Independence. Lincoln was introduced by my father who was mayor of the town at the time. In the debate, there were several personal shots that were exchanged which were never spoken of by the papers or referred to in histories. One was this: Douglass, in his opening speech, said Lincoln used to keep a saloon down in Southern Illinois and that he ^{was} not much better ^{any way} than he ought to be. Lincoln, when it came his turn to speak, replied that the charge that he had had once kept saloon was true. He then went

on to explain that the room in which liquor was dispensed was a small shed at the end of a grocery store he was keeping and it was merely an accommodation according to the custom of the locality. And, he said, 'if I recollect aright, one of the best customers we had was Stephen A. Dougless.' //

// "In the evening after the debate had closed and the reception to Lincoln at my father's house was over, Lincoln lay down on a couch in the front parlor to try to get a little rest. There were gathered in the room a number of the leaders of the Republican party, among them Norman B. Judd, Dial Yates, later was Governor, W. H. L. Wallace, Owen Lovejoy, Dr. Chester Hard, now of Los Angeles, California, Mr Cook, and my father. I was a small boy then and sat over in a corner, listening to the story telling and political talk. During the evening, a short hand reporter came in and submitted to Mr Lincoln his report of the afternoon's speech. Lincoln read it

carefully and as he finished, was asked if the report was correct. His answer was: "I shall have to say as my grandfather did when ~~so~~ he was shown," his first daguerreotype, "It is horritly like me!"

"Burton C. Cook made the nominating speech at the Baltimore Convention when Lincoln was, for the second time, placed before the country for the Presidency. I once had Mr Cook write down his exact words used. They were these:

'Illinois again presents for the suffrages of the nation the name of her honored son, Abraham Lincoln, God bless him!'

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