Verify dates etc

LINCOLN IN FULTON COUNTY.

Fulton County, in pioneer times, was one of the important sections of the state of Illinois. Lincoln's personality was familiar to many of the early settlers. The county seat is Lewiston.

Major Newton Walker is living at Lewiston, at the great age of ninety-two years. He remembers Lincoln well, whom he loved as a brother. When asked when he first met Lincoln, the Major said it was at the old state capitol, at Vandalia, in 1838. Lincoln and Walker were both members of the same legislature, and Lincoln was a candidate for speaker of the house.

"We were both Whigs," to speak in the Major's own language, "and I became a warm supporter of Lincoln for Speaker. The vote was a tie, half Democratic, half Whig. I don't recollect the exact number of members then in that body. The night before the vote was taken I was in Lincoln's room until a late hour. I told him then that Gen. Ewing, the Democratic candidate, would beat him, because one of the Whig members, Holmes, of Cass County, was going to vote for Ewing. Sure enough, he did, the following day, and Lincoln was defeated."

"Lincoln did not seem to be seriously disappointed, not any more than some of his friends."

"At that time, I never expected to see Lincoln president.. I loved him as a brother, but I thought Colonel Baker and W. F.

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Thornton were both abler men than he was. But, even at that time, Lincoln used to surprise us all by saying just the right thing at the right time. It was my colleague, Jonas Rawalt, of Fulton County, who said Lincoln was the best debater in the legislature at that time. It was Rawalt who first said that Lincoln could 'hew truer to the line' than any man he ever knew. Years afterwards some one else made that same remark, and received the credit for it, I believe.

"I attended two sessions of the legislature with Lincoln, the first one at Vandalia. The next year the state capitol was removed to Springfield. One of the important measures before the legislature at that time was known as the Illinois Revenue Laws. Lincoln spoke often, and knew more about these measures than any other member, at least, I thought he did. The scheme to build the Illinois Central Railroad was also before the legislature at these sessions. I know I was bitterly opposed to it. I thought it would bankrupt the state. Lincoln took the other side of this question. He could see years ahead; I couldn't. He saw how it would help make this state one of the greatest in the Union."

"At that time, I heard Lincoln express himself twice on the Slavery Question. He said to me once that he thought Slavery was a great wrong, and, again, he predicted it would cause trouble sometime. There were not many anti-slavery men in the legislature

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then."

The Major here began to talk of Lincoln as he knew him, ... tenderest and most loving man he ever knew: "How Rawalt and

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