A Bicentennial Commemorative of the Prairie State
Readings from the Journal of the Illinois State Historical Society

Edited by David W. Scott
Foreword by Leah Joy Axelrod

“As Illinois celebrates its bicentennial in 2018, it is important to know our history. The Illinois State Historical Society is to be commended for putting together this selection of articles from its 110-year-old Journal to help tell the story of Illinois. This state has a great history filled with fascinating people, ideas, places, and events, and this book provides a wonderful starting point for exploring them all.”—Jesse White, Illinois secretary of state and state archivist

Celebrating the Illinois bicentennial with a trove of historical articles

Culled from the Journal of the Illinois State Historical Society’s 110-year archive of scholarship, this curated volume of more than thirty articles offers insights into the colorful episodes, meaningful events, and significant characters in the rich history of Illinois. Edited by David W. Scott and selected by committee, A Bicentennial Commemorative of the Prairie State celebrates the state’s two-hundred-year history with a broad scope of voices and perspectives.

The Illinois State Historical Society has published books since its inception and its Journal continuously since 1908. In collecting previously published articles here with attention to both scholarship and readability, this book offers a varied and nuanced look at the state’s history. It brings to light many buried treasures still relevant today.

David W. Scott is the chairman of the publications committee of the Board of the Illinois State Historical Society, which annually identifies the best article published in the Journal, and a past president of the organization. His work has appeared in several historical journals, including Illinois Heritage and the Journal of the Illinois State Historical Society.

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CONTENTS

List of Illustrations
Foreword
Leah Joy Axelrod
Preface
David W. Scott
The Illinois State Historical Society and Its Journal
David W. Scott

PART I. EARLY ILLINOIS
The Frontier in Illinois History
Ray A. Billington
Tavern Theatre in Early Chicago
Arthur W. Bloom
The Pioneer Squatter
Robert W. McCluggage
Journalism in Illinois before the Thirties
Carl R. Miller

PART II. BEYOND THE FRONTIER
The Underground Railroad in Illinois
Larry Gara
John Jones: A Study of a Black Chicagoan
Charles A. Gliozzo
Education in Illinois before 1857
Robert Gehlmann Bone
A Vanishing Frontier: The Development of a Market Economy in DuPage County
Stephen J. Buck
The Mormons in Illinois, 1838–1846: A Special Introduction
Stanley B. Kimball
Cracker Barrel Days in Old Illinois Stores
Gerald Carson
Higher Education in Transition, 1850–1870
Earnest G. Hildner

PART III. THE CIVIL WAR ERA AND LINCOLN
Murder at a Methodist Camp Meeting: The Origins of Abraham Lincoln’s Most Famous Trial
Daniel W. Stowell
Richard J. Oglesby, Lincoln’s Rail-Splitter
Mark A. Plummer
Lincoln’s Intimate Friend: Leonard Swett
Robert S. Eckley
I for One Am Ready to Do My Part: The Initial Motivations That Inspired Men from Northern Illinois to Enlist in the U.S. Army, 1861–1862
Wayne N. Duerkes
Illinois Soldiers and the Emancipation Proclamation
David Wallace Adams
The Civil War Comes to “Egypt”
Jasper W. Cross

PART IV. CHICAGO AND BEYOND IN THE LATE NINETEENTH CENTURY
Did the Cow Do It? A New Look at the Cause of the Great Chicago Fire
Richard F. Bales
Classical Music in Chicago and the Founding of the Symphony, 1850–1905
Robert McColley
Politics and Parks: Businessmen and the Recreation Movement
Michael P. McCarthy
The Sanitation Revolution in Illinois, 1870–1900
F. Garvin Davenport
Joliet’s Enterprising Universalists: The Church and the City in Late Nineteenth-Century Illinois
Timothy Dean Draper

PART V. THE EXPOSITION THROUGH THE 1920S
Illinois and the Four Progressive-Era Amendments to the United States Constitution
John D. Buenker
Hegemony and Resistance at the World’s Columbian Exposition: Simon Pokagon and the Red Man’s Rebuke
Lisa Cushing Davis
“How I Hate This Hateful War!”: An Illinois Farm Woman Faces World War I
Virginia R. Boynton
Society Annual Report, 1922–23
Jesse Palmer Weber
A Tribute to Jesse Palmer Weber
Evarts Boutell Greene

PART VI. MID-TWENTIETH CENTURY
Hell and High Water: The Flood of 1937 in Southern Illinois
Richard Lawrence Beyer
Bishop James A. Griffin and the Coal Miner’s War
Susan Karina Dickey
A Special Place: Lake Forest and the Great Depression, 1929–1940
Frederick Mercer Van Sickle
A Reinterpretation of Black Strategies for Change at the Chicago World’s Fair, 1933–1934
Christopher Robert Reed
The Transformation of Higher Education in the 1960s: Master Plans, Community Colleges, and Emerging Universities
David W. Scott
John Alexander
Using JSTOR
Contributors
Index