

THE  
**LINCOLN LOG**  
*ON THIS DAY,*

OCTOBER 25, 1842

In the Coles County Circuit Court, located in Charleston, Illinois, State's Attorney Aaron Shaw asks the Court to remove from "the Docket" the case of *People v. Patterson*. A grand jury indicted Lincoln's client, Allen Patterson, for assault with intent to murder. Patterson allegedly used an axe to "make an assault ... towards and against ... John Patterson." Lincoln argued that at the time of the incident Allen Patterson "was laboring under a degree of mental alienation, which would be likely to affect him greatly when excited in any way."



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