

ELIJAH PARISH LOVEJOY

Born: November 9, 1802 Albion, Maine

Died: November 7, 1837 Alton, Illinois

Buried: City Cemetery, Alton, Illinois

Even that very flag of freedom that waves over their heads is formed from materials cultivated by slaves, on a soil moistened with their blood.

Elijah P. Lovejoy graduated from Colby College in Maine and from the Princeton Theological Seminary in New Jersey. He was an ordained Presbyterian minister and edited religious newspapers in several Midwestern cities. He was murdered by a pro-slavery mob in Alton, Illinois for continually speaking and writing in support of the abolition of slavery in the United States.

Because of the relatively early date of Lovejoy's work and death in the abolition struggle, his experience was widely publicized in the United States. He was called "abolition's martyr" and "champion of freedom - for the African American and the press." Abraham Lincoln, a fellow Illinois citizen wrote to a friend in 1857 that "Lovejoy's tragic death for freedom in every sense marked his sad ending as the most important single event that ever happened in the new world."

Portraits by Joseph Flores, Rochester NY

Sponsors of the Banners:

Colby College, Waterville Maine
Lovejoy's *alma mater*.

Ary J. Lamme III: Gainesville, Florida & Cazenovia, New York
Nominator of Elijah Parish Lovejoy

Sandra M. Lamme: Gainesville, Florida & Cazenovia, New York
Principia College alumna where Lovejoy was honored

Paul E. Lovejoy, PhD History, U of Wisconsin 1973 and son Henry B. Lovejoy PhD History, UCLA 2012
Great grandfather and Elijah Parish's father were first cousins

Maryann Winters, Treasurer Cabinet of Freedom for the National Abolition Hall Fame & Museum
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