

## WHEELING REGISTER.

MONDAY MORNING, APRIL 17, 1865.

## Telegraphic Summary.

The death of President Lincoln, the gold board was suspended, and the importance of our telegraphic communications was emphasized. The telegraph was used to convey the news of the assassination of President Lincoln, and the importance of our telegraphic communications was emphasized.

## The Inauguration of Johnson.

Andrew Johnson was inaugurated as President of the United States on Saturday, April 15, 1865. The ceremony took place in the Capitol building in Washington, D.C.

## The President's Coffin.

Washington, April 15.—An autopsy was held this afternoon on the body of President Lincoln by Surgeon General Barnes and Dr. Stone, assisted by other military medical men. The coffin is of mahogany, is covered with black cloth and lined with lead, the latter being placed upon the coffin over the breast bears the following inscription: "Abraham Lincoln, Sixteenth President of the United States, born July 12th, 1809; died April 15th, 1865." The remains have been removed from the President's head for the purpose of placing the remains in the coffin.

## TRAGEDY.

## DIABOLICAL PLOT.

## President Assassinated.

## Secretary Seward Stabbed.

## J. W. BOOTH THE ASSASSIN.

## THE NORTH MOURNING.

## The Inauguration of Johnson.

## Official from Stanton.

## WAR DEPARTMENT, WASHINGTON, 1:30 A. M. April 15.

## To Major General Dir:

This evening about half past 9 o'clock, at Ford's Theatre, the President, while sitting in his private box with Mrs. Lincoln, Mrs. Harrison and Major Rathbun, was shot by an assassin, who suddenly entered the box and approached behind the President. The assassin then leaped upon the stage brandishing a large dagger or knife, and made his escape in the rear of the theatre.

The pistol ball entered the back of the President's head and penetrated nearly through the head. The wound is mortal. The President has been insensible ever since it was inflicted and is now dying.

About the same hour an assassin, whether the same or not, entered Mr. Seward's apartments, and under pretense of having a prescription, was shown to the Secretary's sick chamber.

The assassin instantly rushed to the bed and inflicted two or three stabs on the throat and two on the face. It is hoped that the wound may not be mortal. The apprehension is that they will prove fatal. The nurse alarmed Mr. Fred. Seward, who was in adjoining room, and he hastened to the door of his father's room, where he met the assassin, who inflicted upon him one or more dangerous wounds.

The recovery of Mr. Seward is doubtful, and it is not probable that the President will live through the night.

WAR DEPARTMENT, 4:10 A. M. April 15, 1865.

## To Major General Dir:

The President continues insensible and sinking. Secretary Seward remains without change. Frederick Seward's skull is fractured in two places, besides a severe cut in the head. The attendant is still alive, but hopeless. Major Seward's wounds are not dangerous. It is now ascertained with reasonable certainty, that two assassins were engaged in the horrible crime. Wilkes Booth being the one that shot the President, and the other a companion of his whose name is not known, but whose description is so clear that he can hardly escape.

It appears from a letter found in Booth's trunk, that the murder was planned before the 4th of March, but fell through then, because the accomplice backed out until Richmond could be heard from. Booth and his accomplice were at the City Hotel at 6 o'clock last evening. At 10 o'clock or shortly thereafter, Booth was escorted by a lady, who had for several days been seeking their chance, but for some unknown reason it was not carried into effect until last night. One of them has evidently made his way to Baltimore, the other has not yet been traced.

[Signed.] E. M. STANTON, Secretary of War.

WASHINGTON, April 15th.

## To Maj. Gen. Dir:

ABRAHAM LINCOLN died this morning, at 22 minutes after 7 o'clock.

[Signed.] E. M. STANTON, Sec'y of War.

## Attempt of the Assassins to Escape to Canada—Vigilant Measures for their Apprehension.

[CIRCULAR.]

WAR DEPARTMENT, PROVOST MARSHAL GENERAL'S BUREAU, WASHINGTON, April 15—9:40 A. M.

It is believed that the assassins of the President and Secretary Seward are attempting to escape to Canada. You will make a careful and thorough examination of all persons attempting to cross from the United States into Canada, and will arrest all suspicious persons. The most vigilant scrutiny on your part, and the force of your disposal is demanded.

A description of the parties supposed to be implicated in the murder will be telegraphed to you to-day, but in the meantime be active in preventing the crossing of any suspicious persons.

By order of the Secretary of War. [Signed.] N. T. JEFFERS, Provost Brig. Gen., acting Prov. Marshal.

## The Assassins of the President Leaves his Hat Behind—The Hat Identified.

Secretary Stanton narrowly escapes with his life.

WASHINGTON, April 15.—The assassin of President Lincoln left behind him his hat and a spur. The hat was picked up in the President's box and has been identified by parties to whom it has been shown as the one belonging to the suspected man, and accurately described by other parties not allowed to see it before describing it. The spur was dropped upon the stage, and that also has been identified as the one procured at a stable where the same man hired a horse on the evening.

Two gentlemen who went to the Secretary of War to apprise him of the attack on Mr. Lincoln, met at the residence of the former a man muffled in a cloak, who, when accosted by them, hastened away. It had been Mr. Stanton's intention to accompany Mr. Lincoln to the theatre and occupy the same box, but the press of business prevented it. It therefore seems evident that the aim of the plotters was to paralyze the country by at once striking down the head, the heart and the arm of the country.

As soon as the dreadful events were announced in the streets, Sergeant Richards and his assistants were in a few moments the telegraph aroused the whole police force of the city. Mayor Wallace and several members of the City Government were soon on the spot and every precaution was taken to preserve order and quiet in the city. Every street in Washington was patrolled at the request of Mr. Richards. Gen. Augur sent horses to mount the police. Every road leading out of Washington was strongly picketed. Every possible avenue of escape was also thoroughly

guarded. Steamboats about to depart down the Potomac were stopped.

The Daily Commercial says as it is suspected that this conspiracy originated in Maryland.

The telegraph flashed the mournful news to Baltimore, and all the cavalry was put upon active duty. Every road was picketed and every precaution taken to prevent the escape of the assassin.

A preliminary examination was made by Sergt. Richards and his assistants. Several persons were called to testify, and the evidence as elicited before an informal tribunal and not under oath was conclusive to the point.

The murder of President Lincoln was John Wilkes Booth. His hat was found in the private box and identified by several persons who had seen him within the last two days, and the spur which he dropped by accident after he jumped to the stage, was identified as one of those which he had obtained from the stable where he hired his horse.

This man Booth has played more than once at Ford's Theatre, and is, of course, acquainted with the exits and entrances, and the facility with which he escaped behind the scenes is easily understood.

The person who attacked Secretary Seward left behind him a slouched hat and an old rusty navy revolver. The chambers were broken loose from the barrel, as if done by striking. The loads were drawn from the chambers, one being a rough piece of lead, the other balls were smaller than the chambers wrapped in paper, as if to keep them from falling out.

The death of the President—Rev. Dr. Greeley Present—Cabinet Meeting.

WASHINGTON, April 15th, 11 A. M.—The Star extra says at 7:20 o'clock the President breathed his last, closing his eyes as if falling to sleep, and his countenance assuming an expression of perfect serenity. There were no indications of pain and it was known that he was dead until the gradually decreasing respiration ceased altogether.

The Rev. Dr. Greeley, of the New York Avenue Presbyterian Church, immediately on its being ascertained that life was extinct, knelt at the bedside and offered an impressive prayer, which was responded to by all present. Dr. Greeley then proceeded to the front parlor, where Mrs. Lincoln, Capt. Robert Lincoln, Mrs. John Hay, the President's Secretary, and others were waiting, where he again offered a prayer for the consolation of the family.

Immediately after the President's death a cabinet meeting was called by Secretary Stanton and held in the room in which the corpse lay. Secretaries Stanton, Welles and Usher, Postmaster General Dennison and Attorney General Speed, were present. The result of the conference is as yet unknown.

Reports prevail that Mr. Frederick Seward, who was kindly assisting the nursing of Secretary Seward, received a stab in the back, his shoulder blade preventing the knife from doing further injury to his body. The prospects are that he will recover.

A report was circulated, and credited by almost everybody, that Booth was captured fifteen miles this side of Baltimore. If it be, as asserted, that the War Department has received such information, it will doubtless be officially promulgated.

The Government Departments are closed, and will be draped with emblems of mourning.

The roads leading to and from the city are guarded by military and the utmost circumspection is observed as to all attempting to enter or leave the city.

WASHINGTON, April 15.—The President's body was removed from the private residence opposite Ford's Theatre to the Executive Mansion this morning at 9:30 in a hearse, and wrapped in the American flag. It was escorted by a squad of regular cavalry. General Augur and other military officers followed on foot. A dense crowd accompanied the remains to the White House, where a military guard excluded the crowd, excepting persons of the household, and personal friends of the President, and those of the premises. Senator Yates and representative Farnsworth were among the number.

The body is being embalmed with a view to its removal to Illinois.

About 19 o'clock a night two men were at Anacostia bridge, one of whom gave his name as Booth, and the other as Smith. The latter is believed to be John Surratt.

Last night a riderless horse was found, which has been identified by the proprietor of one of the stables previously mentioned as having been hired from his establishment.

Accounts are conflicting as to whether Booth crossed over the bridge over the river of the awful tragedy, in order that all possible means should be taken for the arrest of the perpetrators.

From information in possession of the authorities, it is evident that the plot was to be much more extensive than it is now. The President and other prominent members of the administration were particularly inquired for by suspicious parties, and their precise localities ascertained, but providentially in their cases the scheme miscarried.

The Post also published a dispatch to Clarence A. Seward, which says Mr. Seward's wounds are bad, but not mortal. He is composed. He has lost much blood, but no arteries are cut.

The most ample precautions have been taken, and it is not believed the conspirators will long succeed in evading the over-taking arm of the law.

## Inauguration of Andrew Johnson.

WASHINGTON, April 15.—At an early hour this morning, Hon. E. M. Stanton sent an official communication to Hon. Andrew Johnson, Vice President of the United States, stating that in consequence of the sudden and unexpected death of the Chief Magistrate, his inauguration should take place as soon as possible, and requesting him to state the place and hour at which the ceremony should be performed.

Mr. Johnson at once replied that it would be agreeable to him to have the proceedings take place at his rooms in the Kirkwood Hotel, as soon as the arrangements could be perfected.

Chief Justice Chase was informed of the fact, and repaired to the appointed place in company with Secretary McCulloch, of the Treasury Department, Attorney General Speed, J. P. Blair, Sr., Hon. Montgomery Blair, Senators Foster, of Vermont, Ramsey, of Minnesota, Yates, of Illinois, Stuart, of Nevada, Hall, of New Hampshire, and Representative Farnsworth, of Illinois.

At 11 o'clock the oath of office was administered by the Chief Justice of the United States in the usual solemn and impressive manner.

Mr. Johnson received the kind expressions of the gentlemen by whom he was surrounded.

President Johnson has a deep sense of the great responsibilities so suddenly devolved upon him, and made a brief speech, in which he said: The duties of the office are mine. I will perform them. The consequences are with God. Gentlemen, I shall lean upon you. I feel that I shall need your support. I am deeply impressed with the solemnity of the occasion and the responsibility of the duties of the office I am to assume.

Mr. Johnson appeared to be in remarkably good health, and has a high and realizing sense of the hopes that are centered upon him. His manner was solemn and dignified, and his whole bearing produced a most gratifying impression upon those who participated in the ceremonies. It is probable that during the day President Johnson will issue his first proclamation to the American people.

It is expected, though nothing definitely determined upon, that the President's funeral will take place on or about Thursday. It is supposed that his remains will be temporarily deposited in the Congressional Cemetery.

## Condition of Secretary Seward—Frederick Seward's Condition Critical.

NEW YORK, April 15.—The Post's Washington special says Mr. Seward, the messenger of the State Department, who was in attendance upon Mr. Seward, is dead. Secretary Seward is in a most precarious condition.

It is reported that Booth was captured this morning. The story is that his horse threw him and injured him so severely that he was obliged to seek relief in a house on the seventh street road.

Frederick's skull is fractured badly in two places, above the temple, and he is insensible. I fear he will die. His brother's wounds are very slight. The Governor's throat would have been cut if he had not rallied out of bed.

LATER.

The doctor says Frederick Seward's condition is highly critical, but not hopeless.

## Capture of the Assassin Not Confirmed.

WASHINGTON, April 15.—There is no confirmation of the report that the murderer of the President has been arrested. Among the circumstances tending to fix a participation in the crime on Booth were letters found in his trunk, one of which, apparently from a lady, supplied him with the means for the deed in which he was about to embark.

The extra Intelligence says from the evidence obtained, it is rendered highly probable that the man who stabbed Mr. Seward and his sons is John Surratt, of Prince George county, Maryland. The horse he rode was hired at Naylor's stables on 14th street.

Surratt is a young man with light hair and goatee. His father is said to have been postmaster of Prince George county.

## Proceedings in New York Over the Death of the President.

NEW YORK, April 15.—All places of business are rapidly closing, and the streets are assuming a sombre hue. The various hotels, post-office, custom house, and other public places are being draped. The gold room of brokers adjourned after passing appropriate resolutions. All the banks of the city are closed.

An immense meeting of merchants and citizens is being held in Wall street, presided over by Mr. Draper. Speeches were made by Messrs. Butler, Dickinson, and others. The crowd there was immense. Appropriate resolutions were submitted to the meeting and adopted, and a committee of thirteen eminent merchants and citizens appointed to go to Washington to attend the funeral of the President.

## Andrew Johnson Sworn into Office.

WASHINGTON, April 15, 12 M.—Andrew Johnson was sworn into office as President of the United States, by Chief Justice Chase to-day, at 11 o'clock. Secretary McCulloch and Attorney General Speed and others were present. He remarked: The duties are mine. I will perform them trusting in God.

## Resolutions in Cincinnati on the Death of the President.

INDIANAPOLIS, April 15.—The announcement of President Lincoln's death created the most profound sensation. Business was entirely suspended, and the streets were draped in mourning. Every business house and public of place as if by common consent, closed their doors. The whole city is draped in mourning. Flags on all public buildings are displayed at half mast and appropriately draped. At a public meeting held in Capitol Square, at twelve o'clock, after prayer and singing, addresses were made by Gov. Morton, Ex-Gov. Jos. A. Wright, Senator Hendricks and others, and recommending the closing of the churches in mourning.

In Brooklyn Mayor Wood issued a proclamation closing all public places of the municipality, directing all the flags to be half masted and bells tolled. The firemen of Williamsburg refused to toll their bells. All the courts of this city and Brooklyn promptly adjourned this morning.

New York, April 15, 3 P. M.—The city is pre-occupied with almost a Sabbath quietness. Stores and shops are closed and craps is rapidly appearing at all points. Broadway is hung in gloom and blackened by the principal avenues the same. Wall street, Broad, William, South and other strictly business streets, are covered with mourning emblems. The shipping in the harbor has flags at half mast, and many are in drapery. All the newspaper buildings are shrouded and great crowds of sorrow stricken people are gathered in front of their bulletin boards. The great meeting of merchants in Wall street was the most impressive ever held here. Prayer was offered by the Rev. Dr. Vermilyen. Ex-Gov. King and Judge Pierpont addressed the meeting, counselling the utmost support to the new President under the trying circumstances under which he assumes his new duties. Mr. Butler addressed the meeting, saying a great and good man had gone to join the great and patriotic of the Revolution. He drove out the life and strength of the rebellion. We must now crush out the spirit of treason. We must crush out the spirit of the rebellion, so that our cities will not be in danger of the torch of the rebellion, therefore let every man take part in a spirit of revenge against the traitor who has dared to bring great wrong, retribution must be brought against the perpetrator of the terrible crime. His remarks received unanimous response from the masses present.

Daniel S. Dickinson addressed the meeting, saying all that remained for slavery to do, was to show its villainous and horrible nature by this atrocious as-

mac, is engaged in taking testimony to-day, all of which fixes the assassination on J. Wilkes Booth. Judge Olin, of the Supreme Court of the District of Columbia, and Justice Miller, are also engaged to-day at the police headquarters on Tenth street in taking the testimony of large numbers of witnesses.

Lieutenant Trepell, of Colonel Ingraham's staff, last night proceeded to the National Hotel, where Booth had been stopping, and took possession of his trunk, in which was found a Colonel's military dress coat, two pairs of hand gloves, two boxes of cartridges and a package of letters, all of which are now in the hands of the military authorities. One of these letters, bearing the date of Hookestown, Md., seems to implicate Booth. The writer speaks of the mysterious affair in which he was engaged, and urges him to proceed to Richmond and ascertain the views of the authorities there upon the subject. The writer of the letter endeavors to persuade Booth from carrying his design into execution at that time, for the reason, as the writer alleges, that the Government had its suspicions aroused. The writer of the letter seems to have been implicated with Booth in the mysterious affair referred to, as he informs Booth in the letter that he would prefer to express his views verbally, and then goes on to say that he was out of money, had no clothes, and would be compelled to leave home, as his family were desirous that he should dissolve his connection with Booth. This letter is written on note paper, in a small, neat hand, and simply bears the signature of "Sam."

At the Cabinet meeting yesterday, which lasted over two hours, the future policy of the Government towards Virginia was discussed, the best feeling prevailing. It is stated that it was determined to adopt a very liberal policy, as was recommended by the President. It is stated that this meeting was the most harmonious held for two years, the President exhibiting throughout that magnanimity and kindness of heart which has ever characterized his treatment of the rebellious States, and which has been so fully requited on their part. One of the members of Cabinet remarked to a friend that he met at noon that the Government was to-day stronger than it has been for three years past.

## Report of Booth's Arrest Not Confirmed—Condition of Secretary Seward—Frederick Out of Danger—Dispatches to Foreign Ministers.

NEW YORK, April 15.—The Commercial says: We have ascertained from a source perfectly reliable that during conversation yesterday among the members of a Spanish firm in this city it was stated that on to-day the greatest news would be received that had yet been made known to the public. The fact of the statement was communicated to Gen. Peck this morning by the clerk of the establishment.

Special to the Tribune says J. Wilkes Booth was arrested about 9 o'clock this morning near Fort Hastings, on Bladensburg road. He boldly approached our pickets, was arrested and brought to the city.

[This is not confirmed by any official dispatches from Washington up to nine o'clock this (Saturday) evening.]

(Signed) REPORTER.

The same special states that Secretary Seward has given a detailed description of the assassin. It is evident he was a different person from the President's murderer.

Frederick Seward is in a most critical condition, and surgeons are removing the broken fragments of his skull. A private dispatch to Mr. Seward's nephew in this city, from a member of the family says: I have just left Mr. Seward's house. His wounds are not mortal. He has lost much blood, but no arteries are cut.

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Another private dispatch states that Frederick Seward is out of danger.

Major Seward is not dangerously wounded.

Several impromptu street meetings have been held to-day, addressed by prominent gentlemen, the unanimous expression being to hold the rebel leaders to a just account for their crimes, and to drive out of a newspaper counting room and hunted by the crowd, they seeking refuge in flight.

The steamship Etna sailed at 5:30 this afternoon with official dispatches to our Ministers at foreign ports from Washington. An official dispatch was also sent by the Nova Scotia from Portland.

Bishop Potter has issued an address to all clergymen, appointing appropriate prayers to be read to-morrow, and recommending the closing of the churches in mourning.

In Brooklyn Mayor Wood issued a proclamation closing all public places of the municipality, directing all the flags to be half masted and bells tolled. The firemen of Williamsburg refused to toll their bells. All the courts of this city and Brooklyn promptly adjourned this morning.

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Lieutenant Trepell, of Colonel Ingraham's staff, last night proceeded to the National Hotel, where Booth had been stopping, and took possession of his trunk, in which was found a Colonel's military dress coat, two pairs of hand gloves, two boxes of cartridges and a package of letters, all of which are now in the hands of the military authorities. One of these letters, bearing the date of Hookestown, Md., seems to implicate Booth. The writer speaks of the mysterious affair in which he was engaged, and urges him to proceed to Richmond and ascertain the views of the authorities there upon the subject. The writer of the letter endeavors to persuade Booth from carrying his design into execution at that time, for the reason, as the writer alleges, that the Government had its suspicions aroused. The writer of the letter seems to have been implicated with Booth in the mysterious affair referred to, as he informs Booth in the letter that he would prefer to express his views verbally, and then goes on to say that he was out of money, had no clothes, and would be compelled to leave home, as his family were desirous that he should dissolve his connection with Booth. This letter is written on note paper, in a small, neat hand, and simply bears the signature of "Sam."

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