

THE REMAINS OF MRS SURRETT

The Washington Star of ~~yesterday~~ ¹⁵ ~~afternoon~~ says; (Feb. 8, 1869) ^{Both?}

By order of the President, the remains of Mrs. Surratt will today be disinterred at the Arsenal and delivered to her friends. The understanding is that there shall be no public demonstration over the remains and whatever funeral service takes place shall be private. ~~She was, it will be recollected, convicted by the Military Commission of which General Hunter was President at the Arsenal, in the summer of 1865, of being one of the conspirators for the assassination of President Lincoln, on the 14th of April of that year, and suffered death by hanging, in accordance with the sentence of the commission, in the Arsenal grounds, on the 6th of July following. Immediately after the execution, her remains, with those of Payne, Herold and Atzerodt, executed at the same time, were placed in common boxes and interred in graves near the scaffold, her body being at the north end of the row, and the others adjoining her remains in the order named above. In the box with each body there was also placed the name of the party, enclosed in a bottle. The body of Booth was also buried near there; that is, inside the old Penitentiary building, near the main door of the Warden's residence. The burial of Booth was quietly made, in the presence of Secretary Stanton, General Lafayette C Baker, and two of his officers, and Colonel Benton, Commandant of the Arsenal; and after the grave had been filled and a portion of the bricks had been relaid over it, the windows of the wareroom were boarded up and the door locked, Secretary Stanton taking the key. The body of Wirz, the Andersonville jailer, was placed in the yard adjoining the body of Atzerodt. For some time the bodies were allowed to remain in this position. A wooden fence was erected around the graves, and a wooden headboard, with the name of the person buried below, placed at each grave. In the fall of 1867, when the demolition of the Penitentiary building was determined on, it became necessary to remove the bodies, and they were buried in the warehouse known as No. 1 (the second building below the principal office), the bodies being placed under the flagging. Mrs. Surratt's was laid next to the north wall of the building and the others adjoining in the following order: Payne, Herold, Atzerodt, Wirz and Booth. There the bodies of all have remained until today. Since the interment of the remains in this house it has not been used, being kept closed at all times. The locality of the last place of burial has been carefully concealed.~~

The remains of Mrs. Surratt are to be interred near this city, but, as above stated, there will be no demonstration whatever. Miss Annie Surratt, in anticipation of the body being delivered to the family, arrived here last evening to be present at the reinterment. Her brother Isaac will probably be here at thereinterment, but John H. Surratt is not expected to arrive from a voyage to South America, taken with a view of regaining his health, until about the 1st of March, and consequently will not be present.

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