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LINCOLN IN THE TELEGRAPH OFFICE.

BY

DAVID HOMER BATES

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While John Wilkes Booth may not have had previous knowledge of the plot to burn New York it is certain that his associate, Lewis Powell - or Payne, as he was called - was acquainted with the diabolical scheme, for after his arrest in April, 1865, he confessed that he had been selected to set fire to one of the hotels on that November night, but had refused on principle to act, his reason being that while he was willing to take the life of a high official of the Government for the good of the cause, he would not join in anything that would tend to the needless destruction of property and the sacrifice of innocent lives.