

CENTURY MAGAZINE

February 1913

A New Story of Lincoln's Assassination.

By Jesse W. Weik

(Pages 559 to 562)

Says, that years afterward, Atty. Frederick Stone, the lawyer who defended Booth's accomplice, David Herold, related an incident, communicated by his client, which may throw some light on the question as to when the assassination was determined upon by Booth.

Herold said that he and Booth were standing side by side in front of the White House on the evening of April 11, and heard Mr. Lincoln deliver his last public address. The building and grounds were brilliantly illuminated and everybody was more or less jubilant over the evacuation of Petersburg and Richmond and the surrender at Appomattox. When the President, after reciting the recent victories of the Union Arms, indicated that he favored the elective franchise for the colored man, "especially the very intelligent and those who have served our cause as soldiers in the field," Booth grasped Herold's arm and exclaimed in a stage-whisper "That means nigger citizenship. Now by -- I'll put him through."

Also the story of Miss Porterfield (Mrs. William A. Brown) who with her mother was staying at the National Hotel the week of the assassination and details a conversation of Thursday, A. M. the day before at which time he asked her whether tyrannis was spelled with two n's or two r's.

*also told
in Herndon
Vol III*