

~~Statement N~~

Mrs Harper

Statement

made to F. F. Bates -

Enid, Oklahoma,

Jan 23rd 1903.

On the eve, of January 13th I was startled, and surprised, by reading in the "Enid Daily News", the suicide of David E. George, of El Reno. (Of whom I first became acquainted with in March 1900, in El Reno, at the home of Mr & Mrs J. W. Simmons.) Mr Harper went down on Wednesday morning the 14th of Jan - and recognizing him, told the Embalmers of a "confession" that David E. George had made to myself, and that they had better investigate, I went to the morgue with Mr Harper on the fifteenth, and identified the corpse as David E. George.

Receipts & Disbursement

Receipts -

2.

In April, 1900, David, C. Gorge, took a Dose, (supposedly Morphine,) with suicidal intent, and I being at the time a visitor, in the home of L. M. Simmons was called upon to help attend him, and watch by his bed side, while said Mrs Simmons, was necessarily, absent part of the time assisting in the care of the patient. With the promise from me, that I should sacredly keep the secret he was about to divulge, till after his death, He voluntarily told me that he had killed "one of the best men that had ever lived Abraham Lincoln." That he was John Wilkes Booth. He asked me to

3.

procured a pencil, and paper, and he wrote upon it, "I am going to die, before the sun goes down. J. Wilkes, Booth," and handed to me, I proposed sending for a Doctor, but he vehemently protested, and proceeded with the details of the confession, finally becoming unconscious. Mrs. Simmons sent for Dr. Arnold.

His subsequent manner impressed me with the conviction that he was whom he had confessed to be, as he thought, on his dying bed, "J. Wilkes Booth."

As brevity has been enjoined upon me, I will close by simply stating, that I have merely

1896.

20 outlined, "his confession."

appe
and
the

Mrs E. C. Harper,
Territory of Oklahoma } ss.
County of Garfield }

Mrs. E. C. Harper first being duly sworn upon her oath says; that the facts were written above by herself; that she knows the facts she has written and that the same are true.

Mrs E. C. Harper,
Subscribed and sworn to before me
this 24th day of January, 1903.

R. A. Stratford
notary public

my commission expires Nov. 18th / 1906

MAY BE LINCOLN'S SLAYER.

Story of Suicide Booth at Enid,
Okla., Given Credence by a
Houston Citizen.

HOUSTON, Tex., March 8.—(Special.)—
Capt. R. C. Gillespie, of this city, is strong-

ly inclined to believe the story of the man who recently committed suicide at Enid, Okla., claiming to be J. Wilkes Booth, the man who killed Abraham Lincoln.

Gillespie's wife is a great niece by marriage of the actor. Capt. Gillespie has always stoutly maintained that Booth was not killed by Boston Corbett in April, 1867, as history has it recorded. Gillespie was in the Confederate army and was captured after being wounded at the battle of Gettysburg.

When he was released, after the war, he went to the oil regions looking for an opportunity to mend his shattered fortunes. While at Oil City he became intimately acquainted with Caspar Eddy, of the National Bank. Eddy told Gillespie that Booth has several thousand dollars at the bank. This balance was drawn by a check, date June 27, 1867.