

The National Republican (Washington) of Monday has the following noteworthy statement with regard to the pursuit of Booth and his fellow assassins:

"Up to this very day the city of Washington and District of Columbia, in which the horrid deeds were perpetrated, *have not yet been thoroughly searched!* We are aware that *partial* searches have been made by three or four different parties, at different times; but there has been no concert of action in making them. When we heard of the assassination of our beloved President, a few moments after it happened, on the night of the 14th of this month, we expected within the next hour to find the District under martial law, a military cordon drawn around it so closely as to make egress impossible *by land, water, or air!* We were not alone in this expectation. We were all mistaken. The night passed, and the next day (Saturday) came and went, with its ten thousand rumors, and another night slipped away and Sunday came. But martial law was not declared, and Booth was not captured, and the District of Columbia had not been searched. That day, several consultations of distinguished and well-known gentlemen were held. One of them, now a Senator, has had, in former years, large experience with great villains. He has captured many of them; he understands their habits and practices. He expressed the opinion that Booth was then secreted in this city, and gave his reasons for thinking so. Nearly all the other gentlemen present were of the same opinion. We sought for and found Superintendent Richards, of the police force, and told him what had occurred. He was of opinion that the city ought to be searched, but said he had no authority to do so. We understood him to say that the Mayor would not support him, or something to that effect.

"We saw the Mayor the same day, and urged the necessity of searching *every* house in the District, and suggested the propriety of his ordering Superintendent Richards to enter upon the work at once. Mayor Wallace informed us that Mr. Richards did not take orders from him, but from the Police Commissioners. All this happened one week ago yesterday. It is now *ten days* since the highest officer in this nation was cruelly assassinated in a public place of amusement in this city, and yet the District of Columbia *has not been thoroughly searched, as it should be.*"

—It strikes us that some of the energy displayed in arraigning the Rebel sympathizers of south-western Maryland as harborers of assassins might well have been devoted to a thorough overhauling of the Federal District. If there are meaner or more villainous "Secesh" any where than among those who have fed at the Treasury for a quarter of a century, we do not know where to look for them.

About the most impertinent bit of gossip that has lately crept into some of the journals alleged that the assassin Booth was engaged to a daughter of the Hon. John P. Hale. *The National Republican* says:

"There is not the slightest truth in the statement. Booth attempted to force his attentions upon Miss Hale, but she always manifested a decided aversion to the handsome villain."

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