

THE ASSASSINATION.

PAYNE'S PRETENDED INSANITY.

The Attempt to Establish it Fails.

Secret Session and Adjournment to Friday.

Special Dispatch to The N. Y. Tribune.

WASHINGTON, Wednesday, June 14, 1865.

Payne, apparently convinced of the certainty of his conviction, is disposing of his little traps to his guard and friends as souvenirs.

To the Associated Press.

WASHINGTON, Wednesday, June 14, 1865.

The previous day's record was partly read, when the Commission took a recess until 2 o'clock in order to allow an examination of the prisoner Payne by the Commission appointed for that purpose.

The Commission reassembled at 2 o'clock. Mr. Doster stated that he had closed the defense in the case of the prisoner Payne, and did not propose to call as witnesses the medical gentlemen who had been appointed to investigate the condition of Payne as to his insanity.

Judge-Advocate Holt then stated that those gentlemen would be called for the Government.

RE-EXAMINATION OF DR. JAMES C. HALL.

By Judge-Advocate Holt.—Witness examined the prisoner Payne this morning and was assisted by Drs. Norris and Porter, and subsequently joined in the examination by Surgeon-Gen. Barnes. The prisoner was asked almost the same questions that were put to him yesterday in order to ascertain whether his answers would be similar. He answered with rather more promptness than before, and his answers were much the same.

Q. Are you now prepared to express an opinion whether or not, in your judgment, the prisoner is a sane and responsible man? A. I am now prepared to say that there is no evidence of mental insanity; the prisoner's mind is feeble and uncultivated, but I cannot discover sufficient evidence of mental incapacity.

Cross-examined by Mr. Doster.—Q. What are you prepared to state as to his moral insanity? A. We asked him the question, to-day, whether he believed in a God, and he said that he did, and that he believed He was a just God; he also acknowledged to me that at one time he had also been a member of the Baptist Church; I asked him the question whether he thought that the assassination of an enemy in time of war was justifiable and after some little hesitation he said he believed it was.

EXAMINATION OF DR. MORRIS.

Witness, in company with Surgeon-General Barnes and other medical gentlemen, made an examination this morning of the prisoner, Payne, and arrived at the opinion that he was a sane man; there was nothing in the prisoner's looks, speech or conduct to indicate that he was of unsound mind; on the contrary, his reasoning faculties appeared to be good, as also his judgment.

Cross-examined by Mr. Doster.—I am not familiar with cases of insanity; I do not think the conduct of the prisoner during the examination could have been that of a mad man; the prisoner might be a monomaniac, but if such were the case, witness would probably have had his suspicions aroused, as such persons almost invariably in conversation with strange parties refer to the subject of their insanity.

EXAMINATION OF SURGEON-GENERAL BARNES.

By Judge-Advocate Holt.—The prisoner Payne was examined by witness and other medical gentlemen, but no evidence of insanity was discovered; the coherent manner in which he narrated his story of himself, giving the places at which he had been, and his occupation, more important than his reiteration of statements made by him yesterday, were proofs of his sanity.

EXAMINATION OF DR. PORTER.

By Judge-Advocate Holt.—Having been present this morning at the examination of the prisoner Payne, witness believed he was a sane man; the prisoner had been under witness's care since his confinement in the arsenal, and from the inspections which he had made witness arrived at the conclusion that he was a sane and responsible man.

The cross-examination of this witness was mainly with reference to what constituted mental and moral insanity, and was terminated by the President of the Court objecting to the course of examination as improper.

ENTERING ON THE RECORD.

Assistant Judge-Advocate Bingham entered upon the record several papers, among which were a certified copy of the resolutions of the Senate of the United States, consenting to, and advising the appointment of William H. Seward, as Secretary of State of the United States, and the qualification of Andrew Johnson, on the 15th of April, 1865, as President of the United States.

THE REMAINING EVIDENCE.

Judge-Advocate Holt said that some additional testimony relating exclusively to the general conspiracy, and not affecting either of the prisoners particularly, would be offered on behalf of the Government. Having understood that one of the arguments for the defense had been fully prepared, he desired the Court to hear it with the understanding that it should not preclude the opening of this testimony.

REVERDY JOHNSON'S ARGUMENT.

Mr. Aiken said it was the wish of counsel that all the testimony which the Government had should be handed in before that argument was presented in Court. It had been thought possible that Mr. Johnson himself would be present to-morrow to deliver the argument in person. If he was not present, Mr. Clappitt, by agreement among the counsel, would present the argument to the Court.

Judge-Advocate Holt inquired as to which of the prisoners the argument was intended to apply.

Mr. Aiken said it was an argument subject to the jurisdiction of the Court which was prepared by Mr. Johnson, and in which all the counsel concurred. It was intended for all the prisoners.

Assistant-Judge-Advocate Bingham said Mr. Johnson was not counsel for all the prisoners.

Gen. Wallace said that if the argument on the jurisdiction of the Court was ready, it would not be improper for the Court to hear it; and, in order to consider the question, he moved that the court be cleared.

The motion was agreed to, when the Court was cleared. After some time the doors were reopened, and it was announced that the Court had adjourned until Friday morning at 11 o'clock.

Resume of Wednesday's Evidence.

WASHINGTON, Wednesday, June 14, 1865.

Doctors Hall, Stevens, Norris, Porter and Surgeon-General Barnes testified that, in consultation with one another, they had made an examination of Payne, with the view to determine the question of his sanity or insanity. They severally stated their opinion to be that the prisoner was a sane and responsible man, and that there was no evidence of either mental or moral insanity on his part.

The Court then adjourned until Friday.