

S T A T E M E N T

Of

Sargeant A. W. Boggs

Chicago, Ill.

During the Civil War, 1861 - 1865, I was a Sargeant, Signal Corps, U.S.A. Near the end of the war I was wounded at Raleigh, N. C, by being knocked off my horse. I was then sent to a hospital in Washington, D. C. When about well my cousin, General Thomas M. Vincent, the then Assistant Adjutant General of the U. S. Army invited me to accompany him to the play, "Our American Cousin", at Ford's Theatre the evening of April 14, 1865. My cousin had procured tickets for the main floor, park A, a little lower down than the center. In the third act, although not looking at the Presidential box, I saw a flash and heard a pistol report which drew my attention to the box. I saw a man jump from the box, get his foot tangled in the draped flag and fall to the stage. He jumped up and yelled "sic semper tyrannis", crossed the stage to the left and disappeared behind the scenery. No one attempted to stop the assassin as he crossed the stage, as the crowd did not understand at first what had happened and thought it was possibly part of the play. My family was from Ohio and my mother was a very good friend of Judge Bingham, the special Judge Advocate at the Conspiracy Trial, who was also a Congressman from Ohio. I talked with both Judge Bingham and Surgeon General Barns about Booth, and was told by both of them that a committee went on board the boat where the body of Booth was lying and identified it. The various stories given out to the public after the disposal of Booth's body were to prevent any attempt on the part of the friends of Booth, many of whom were supposed to be in Washington at that time, to steal the body for a Southern Triumphant march. Judge Bingham gave me a special pass to attend the trial of the conspirators and I attended practically every session of the trial; also the execution. Later through the aid of Judge Bingham, I became a special post office clerk for the House of Representatives.

Signed

*Albert W. Boggs.*

*Signal Corps U.S.A. 1861-1865-*

Residence *360 East Garfield Blvd*

*Chicago, Ill*

