

...a body in the measurements there was to me no resemblance. The man I had known in life. My surprise was so great, I at once said to General Barnes, 'There is no resemblance in that corpse to Booth nor can I believe it to be that of him.' After looking at it for a few moments I asked, 'Is there a scar upon the back of its neck?'

"He replied, 'There is.'

"I then said, 'If that is the body of Booth, let me describe the scar before it is seen by me,' and did so as to its position, its size and general appearance so accurately as to cause him to say, 'You have described the scar as well as if you were looking at it.'

"The body being then turned, the back of the neck was examined and my mark was unmistakably found by me upon it."

After a considerable time, Dr. May was at last able to recognize the features of the assassin.

"But never in a human being had a greater change taken place from the man whom I had seen in the vigor of life and health as in that of the haggard corpse which was before me in its yellow and discolored skin, its unkempt and matted hair and its whole facial expression sunken and sharpened by the exposure and starvation it had undergone. The doubt expressed need cause no surprise, for on the body produced by his captors nearly every vestige of resemblance to the living man had disappeared.

"But the mark made by the scalpel during life remained indelible in death and settled beyond all question at the time and all cavil in the future the identity of the man who had assassinated the President."

...papers of the time carried this simple notice:
...ally identified