

THE GREAT CALAMITY!

Improved Condition of Sec'y Seward.

NO HOPE OF HIS SON FREDERICK.

The President's Murderer Still at Large.

SIX PERSONS ENGAGED IN THE PLOT.

Only Two Performed Their Parts.

THE TERRIBLE EVENT IN CITY AND COUNTRY.

Special Dispatch to The N. Y. Tribune.

WASHINGTON, Saturday, April 15—4:50 p. m.

CONDITION OF MR. SEWARD AND HIS SON.

The two Seward remain about the same. No hopes are entertained of Frederick's life. The frightful gashings of the Secretary would not of themselves result in his death. It is the prostration his system has received from his first injuries which excites apprehension. Another fracture was yesterday discovered on the other side of his jaw, but the physicians all agree that he exhibits wonderful vitality. The hemorrhage last night was excessive, but his pulse up to this time is remarkably strong and encouraging. His instant death was prevented by his providentially turning his head after the first stab.

THE POPULAR FEELING.

By a common impulse everything was closed, and all business suspended. Every precaution has been taken by the War Department to prevent the sweeping tempest of indignation and horror from assuming any retaliatory character.

GEN. GRANT'S ARRIVAL.

Gen. Grant has this moment arrived, and is alighting from his carriage at Willards. Nothing is yet determined upon in reference to the President's obsequies.

THE GRIEF OF THE PEOPLE.

The excitement, beginning last night with the assassination of Mr. Lincoln, continues unabated this morning. Groups of people were to be seen congregated in every hotel and on every street corner, listening to the version of some one who considered himself fortunate in having been an eye-witness to the murder. For a time, the excited and exasperated mass surged rapidly from point to point, as if burning to execute their vengeance upon some one connected with the affair, and the reign of mob violence was seriously apprehended. Several were seen with rolls in their hands, signed by hundreds of citizens, requesting signatures, with the avowed purpose of moving en masse upon those who are known in town as persistent Rebels.

The feeling of the populace during the day has been one of the deepest and most intense indignation against the perpetrators of Mr. Lincoln's and Seward's assassination, and every one remarks the utter impossibility of fully realizing as yet the real magnitude of the great disaster to the Nation.

DEMONSTRATIONS OF MOURNING.

Early in the morning the city was draped in mourning, every hotel and almost every house displaying crape from the doors and windows. The newspaper offices on Fourteenth-st. were particularly conspicuous for their funeral decorations. The houses of prominent and well-known Rebels were also noticeable for the display of crape, which was hung out only to shield them from the vengeance of the embryo mob. Frequent rushes were made for every person seen on the streets under guard, but, so far as we learned, no one suffered violence.

THE REBELS IN HIDING.

It is a remarkable fact that but few lawless graybacks were seen upon the avenue to-day.

THE MURDERER'S ESCAPE.

Rumors of the capture of the murderer Booth have been in circulation frequently during the day, and although coming from the most trustworthy quarters, are yet to be confirmed. Secretary Stanton inclines to the belief that he still remains concealed in the city. Evidence has been taken all day at the headquarters of Superintendent Richards, of the Police, and evidence of a conclusive character been received of the assassins both of the President and Gov. Seward and family. Of the guilt of Booth there has, since daylight, existed not the slightest doubt. He and his accomplices, if they have left the city at all, are supposed to have escaped across the Eastern Branch.

Travel has been interrupted during the day, trains having been delayed here, in Baltimore and at the Relay House. No one is permitted, under any pretence, to leave the city.

BOOTH'S ROOM AT THE NATIONAL.

I have visited the room, No. 228, at the National Hotel, until last night occupied by Booth. With the exception that letters and several other articles necessary to the conviction of the assassin have been taken from the room, it remains undisturbed. The room is on the fourth story of the Hotel, and has a bare and desolate look. On the bureau, in a brown paper, lies half a pound of Killikinick tobacco, a clothes brush, a broken comb, and a pair of embroidered slippers. Scattered among the drawers were one shirt, two pair of drawers, several pair of stockings, a half bottle of hair oil, and an old programme of the Oxford Concert Room. On the table lay several sheets of note paper, with a number of the Hotel envelopes. A pair of black cassimere pantaloons, marked J. Wilkes Booth on the fob pocket, was the only article of clothing remaining. His trunk, which was locked, was marked with his name, and the word "theater" following the erasure of the name between the two. A large black leather valise sat on the floor near the trunk, and near it a pair of boots unpolished. The general aspect of things in the apartment was one of hasty exit. The articles mentioned are the only ones in the room.

PERSONAL CHARACTERISTICS.

Booth is described by all who knew him as quiet in his demeanor, and possessing the outside qualities of a gentleman.

THE ASSASSIN'S MOVEMENTS.

I have gathered full particulars of his movements for the greater portion of yesterday. At about 8 a. m., three men called at the office of the National Hotel, and inquired for Booth. The clerk, Mr. Henry E. Merrick, on sending to his room, informed them that he was not in, after which an earnest consultation was held between the three men, and after making inquiries as to the probable time of his return, they left. Knowing Booth's acquaintances to be persons of respectable appearance, Mr. Merrick was surprised that he should receive visits from the three men referred to, who were rather shabbily dressed, and had, so he states, the general look of Southern refugees. This circumstance

struck him as singular, and for some time afterward occupied his thoughts. Notwithstanding this, he omitted to read the cards which they finally left, but placed them in the box of the room occupied by Booth, to whom they were afterward given.

Again, at about 11, he was noticed in the office of the hotel, but nothing remarkable was visible in his appearance, except that he looked unusually pale.

At about 4 p. m. he again made his appearance at the counter of the office, and inquired of Mr. Merrick whether any letter had been left for him in his absence. On being answered in the negative, he seemed greatly disappointed, and with a nervous air called for a sheet of paper and an envelope. He was about to write, when the thought seemed to strike him that some one around him might overlook his letter, and, approaching the door of the office, he requested admittance. If should have stated that, when handed the paper and envelopes by Mr. Merrick, the latter jokingly asked him if he had made a thousand dollars to-day. With a startled look he replied, *sotto voce*, "No, but I have worked hard enough to have made ten times that amount."

On reaching the inside of the office, he immediately commenced his letter. He had written but a few words when he said earnestly, "Merrick, is this the year 1864 or '65." "You are surely joking, John," replied Mr. M., "you certainly know what year it is." "Sincerely, I do not," he rejoined, and on being told, resumed writing. It was then that Mr. M. noticed something troubled and agitated in Booth's appearance, which was entirely at variance with his usual quiet deportment. Sealing his letter, he placed it in his pocket and again left the hotel, reappearing and taking tea at about 6½ o'clock, and leaving the key at the office as he went out.

Mr. Brady of Brady's Gymnasium here, saw him on the Avenue opposite Grover's Theater, at about half past four p. m. He was at that time sitting on a small, fine-looking bay horse, and engaged in conversation with Mr. Matthews of Ford's Theater. Mr. Brady accosted him, and after a few minutes conversation on ordinary topics, passed on without having remarked anything extraordinary in his demeanor. The circumstance of his hiring a horse at a livery stable has already been published.

An old negress living near Ford's theater saw him leave his horse in the alley behind it, and subsequently saw him mount and ride away after the assassination. He had formerly kept a horse and buggy in a stable in the same alley, but had on Wednesday sold both.

CAPT. MCGOWAN'S ACCOUNT OF THE ASSASSINATION.

The following statement of Capt. Theodore McGowan, A. A. G. to Gen. Augur, may be implicitly relied on as a correct version of the assassination of Mr. Lincoln:

"WASHINGTON, D. C., April 14.—On the night of Friday, April 14, 1865, in company with a friend, I went to Ford's theater. Arriving there just after the entrance of President Lincoln and the party accompanying him, my friend, Lieut. Crawford, and I, after viewing the Presidential party from the opposite side of the dress circle, went to the right side, and took seats in the passage above the seats of the dress circle, and about five feet from the door of the box occupied by President Lincoln. During the performance, the attendant of the President came out and took the chair nearest the door. I sat, and had been sitting, about four feet to his left and rear, for some time.

I remember that a man, whose face I do not distinctly recollect, passed me and inquired of one sitting near who the President's messenger was, and learning, exhibited to him an envelope, apparently official, having a

printed heading and superscribed in a bold hand, I could not read the address, and did not try. I think now it was meant for Lieut.-Gen. Grant. That man went away.

Some time after I was disturbed in my seat by the approach of a man who desired to pass up on the aisle in which I was sitting. Giving him room by bending my chair forward, he passed me, and stepped one step down upon the level below me. Standing there, he was almost in my line of sight, and I saw him while watching the play. He stood, as I remember, one step above the messenger, and remained perhaps one minute apparently looking at the stage and orchestra below. Then he drew a number of visiting cards from his pocket, from which, with some attention he drew or selected one. These things I saw distinctly. I saw him stoop, and, I think, descend to the level with the messenger, and by his right side. He showed the card to the messenger, and as my attention was then more closely fixed upon the play, I do not know whether the card was carried in by the messenger, or his consent given to the entrance of the man who presented it.

I saw, a few moments after, the same man entering the door of the lobby leading to the box and the door closing behind him. This was seen because I could not fail from my position to observe it; the door side of the proscenium box and the stage were all within the direct and oblique lines of my sight. How long I watched the play after entering I do not know. It was, perhaps, two or three minutes, possibly four. The house was perfectly still, the large audience listening to the dialogue between "Florence Trenchard" and "May Meredith," when the sharp report of a pistol rang through the house. It was apparently fired behind the scenes, on the right of the stage. Looking toward it and behind the Presidential box, while it startled all, it was evidently accepted by everyone in the theater as an introduction to some new passage, several of which had been interpolated in the early part of the play. A moment after a man leaped from the front of the box directly down nine feet on the stage and ran rapidly across it, bare-headed, holding an unsheathed dagger in his right hand, the blade of which flashed brightly in the gaslight as he came within 10 feet of the opposite rear exit. I did not see his face as he leaped or ran, but I am convinced that he was the man I saw enter. As he leaped he cried distinctly the motto of Virginia, "Sic Semper Tyrannis." The hearing of this and the sight of the dagger explained fully to me the nature of the deed he had committed. In an instant he had disappeared behind the side-scene. Consternation seemed for a moment to rivet every one to his seat, the next moment confusion reigned supreme. I saw the features of the man distinctly before he entered the box, having surveyed him contemptuously before he entered, supposing him to be an ill-bred fellow who was pressing a selfish matter upon the President in his hours of leisure. The assassin of the President is about five feet nine and a half inches high, black hair, and I think eyes of the same color. He did not turn his face more than quarter front as artists term it. His face was smooth, as I remember, with the exception of a moustache of moderate size, but of this I am not positive. He was dressed in a black coat, approximating to a dress frock, dark pants, and wore a stiff-rimmed, flat-topped, round-crowned black hat of felt, I think. He was a gentlemanly looking person, having no decided or obtruding mark. He seemed for a moment or two to survey the house with the deliberation of an habitue of the theater.

FURTHER DETAILS.

For hours after the removal of the President's body from the house opposite Ford's, the building was regarded by thousands with the greatest curiosity.

Later in the day a little boy was discovered rubbing bits of white paper on the steps, and afterwards carefully placing them in his pocket.

On being asked to explain the reason for this singular proceeding, he said, with childish simplicity, "Don't you see those dark stains on the board? it is the blood of the President, and I want to save it." In years to come how priceless will be those scraps of paper, darkened by the heart's blood of the great emancipator.

Booth had left the stage, having made his last appearance in the character of Romeo, at the benefit of Miss Avonia Jones, which occurred some three months since at Grover's Theater.

The assassin of Gov. Seward and family is believed, from information received at police headquarters, to be a man named Sattuck, a well-known Maryland Rebel.

At least six persons were engaged in the conspiracy, four of whom neglected to perform their part in the bloody business assigned them by their chief.

The report that they effected their escape across the Potomac to Mosby is probably correct.

At this time (11:30) Gov. Seward is considerably better, and the case of his son Frederick is regarded by his physicians to be not altogether hopeless.

An autopsy was held at 11 o'clock this morning of the President's body by Surgeon-Gen. Barnes, aided by a number of assistants. On examination, the ball, which, as has been stated, entered the back of the head, near the base of the brain, was found to have taken a direct course toward the right eye, the orbital bone of which it struck, and rebounding lodged several inches from the surface.

The ball was found to have been flattened, and resembled in shape the canteen commonly carried by the soldiers. The orifice in the back of the head is perfectly round and the skull unfractured, so close was the murderer when he fired the fatal shot. The circular piece of skull was taken from the head one and a half inches from the orifice.

The piece, together with the Deringer pistol left behind by the assassin, and the bullet, were duly sealed and deposited in the War Department.

The Effect of the President's Death.

Special Dispatch to the N. Y. Tribune.

WASHINGTON, April 16, 1865.

The death of Mr. Lincoln will in no wise endanger the safety of the country, or arrest the train of events now in progress. Confidence may be felt that everything will go on as before. There is not the slightest occasion for uneasiness as to the future. President Johnson communicates to all who have access to him mainly hopefulness which he himself entertains.

The boorish, greedy and selfish, who clamor for office and puff their deserts, will they not take notice that they are not wanted here this week nor next. Office seekers are at this moment deemed the scum and trouble of creation. There is no time for them. There will be no hearing for them. Just now there is a country to be saved. When the new Administration want any man's help in the North, East, or West, Andy Johnson will write him a note and request him to come on. Till that billet-doux is received, will not patriots forbear to pack their trunks for Washington and to gather and manufacture certificates of talents and public service? These are dog-cheap in Washington, and can be bought here second-hand by the ream. Deserving men assuredly can abide their time.

The Assassin in the Bedchamber of the Secretary of State.

Special Dispatch to the N. Y. Tribune.

WASHINGTON, D. C., Saturday, April 15—3:15 p. m.

Visitors at Washington last June and July, may recall the reckless-looking young man who paraded himself at evening in front of Willard's, on Pennsylvania-ave., and up and down Fourteenth-st., on a seemingly wild and furious sorrel horse. His riding was pronounced execrable by good horsemen. The animal seemed ready to destroy the man. A good horse that

wanted to go, was simply curbed in by a reckless rider, who made him traverse from one side of the street to the other by a change of rein, while he searched every open window for the face of an admiring woman, and impudently rode and rode without making headway for female admiration wherever it was vulgarly bestowed. The man was a Portuguese slave-trader, and Rebel spy, and ex-blockade runner. He stayed last year at Willard's five months. His blockade-running had come to grief. He had a vessel. He sought by every appliance known to attorneys without conscience, and to the more infamous members of the Washington lobby, to save himself from loss, and failed. He charged Secretary Seward, in his account current, with the anti-Slavery North, with his misfortunes. This beauty, the full-blown product of a slave-labor community, came here three days ago, and took room No. 212 at Willard's. The acquaintance of a gentleman, a refugee from the South, staying at the same hotel, had been cultivated by him politically and socially, under the impression that he was with him. Day before yesterday, in conversation, this gentleman said, "We shall have peace soon. No, we won't have peace, answered the slave-trader; do you wait for two or three days, and you will see things that will make your hair stand on end."

The fellow disappeared that day from the hotel, leaving his bill unpaid. He was dressed in cloth of the color and fashion that describes his appearance when last at Willard's. This man is claimed by a considerable party of newsmongers here to be the assassin of the Seward's. Shrewder heads reject him, and instance evidence of his cowardice and want of nerve, and point straight to the home of Booth in Maryland as the center of a conspiracy which supplied pro-Slavery assassins for every member of the Cabinet, and for Vice-President Johnson, which was designed to involve the North in the inextricable confusion of an unofficered Government, and the perils, and perhaps pro-Slavery successes, of a new Presidential election. This place, of course, is named Hogtown. The wild boars of the slave barons that are fed there are being hunted this afternoon by foresters that never miss their game.

Attempt on the Vice-President.

Special Dispatch to The N. Y. Tribune.

WASHINGTON, April 16, 1865.

We have been shown the card sent to Vice-President Johnson's room at the Kirkwood House the afternoon of the day Mr. Lincoln was assassinated. It bears in legible pencil writing the following:

"I do not wish to disturb you, but would be glad to have an interview. J. WILKES BOOTH."

Mr. Johnson, happening to be out at the time, did not discover till this morning that so suggestive a card had been lying on his table for these memorable two days.

Not long since a gentleman came from Canada to the State Department and gave full particulars of a plot for a general massacre of the chiefs of our Government in Washington, which had been divulged in Canada. It was given with such particularity as to establish belief in its existence, and it was undoubtedly thwarted by the extra vigilance at that time adopted. Whether this is part of that conspiracy does not yet appear. It is stated that there have been as many as three distinct plots to assassinate Mr. Lincoln known to the Government.

There is no truth in the rumor that a letter was received on Friday night at the State Department giving warning of the assassinations committed that night.

A noted guerrilla named Paine was brought into the city this evening, escorted by a large squad of cavalry. Instantly the populace took it for granted that he was one of the assassins, and the wildest confusion and excitement followed, with cries of "Hang him, hang him," filling the air. He was finely dressed in a new suit of anglo-Confederate grey and after examination at the Provost-Marshal's, sent up to the Old Capitol.

The vitality, physical and mental endurance of the

aged and suffering Prime Minister are truly wonderful. His pulse has improved to-day. The terrible news of Mr. Lincoln's death was broken to him last night, but he bore up under the depressing announcement with remarkable fortitude. The very critical condition of his son Frederick has not yet been revealed to him, although informed that he was also seriously hurt. A physiological fact as curious as gratifying is stated by his attending physicians. They say that one of the gashes made down the side of the face has greatly reduced the inflammation and the patient's suffering caused by the fractured bones. They also express the opinion that the simple contrivance of adjusting his jaws in strong wires, which had just been applied, undoubtedly prevented the assassin's blade from severing the artery. Gashes were left on the surface of these wires where the edge of the dagger had struck them.

The painful statement comes to-night that the possibility of Mr. Frederick Seward's recovery is beginning to be despaired of. He still remains in an unconscious state, and is evidently sinking, though he may not expire for some days.

The New Vice-President.

Special Dispatch to The N. Y. Tribune.

WASHINGTON, April 16, 1865.

The Governors of several States are in town, and a large number of United States Senators. Senator Foster of Connecticut, now Vice-President, arrived this morning. He is pronounced by our ablest public debaters the most accomplished Parliamentarian in the country.

A venerable Cabinet Minister, under a former Administration, who has recently returned from abroad, says that the quiet and harmonious movements of our Republican form of Government, under our appalling calamity, will be the greatest marvel among foreign nations.

The Messrs. Blairs have been indefatigable in their efforts to assist the Government in its hour of sublime trial. They have also the credit of having done much to temper the overwhelming grief of the President's stricken household.

Mrs. Montgomery Blair has delicately extended to Mrs. Lincoln an earnest and feeling invitation to make her private residence her home so long as she may remain in Washington.

Official.

WAR DEPARTMENT, }
WASHINGTON, Saturday, April 15, 1865—3 p.m. }

Major-Gen. DIX, New-York: Official notice of the late President, Abraham Lincoln, was given by the heads of Departments this morning to Andrew Johnson, Vice-President, upon whom the Constitution devolved the office of President. Mr. Johnson upon receiving this notice, appeared before the Hon. Salmon P. Chase, Chief Justice of the United States, and assumed its duties and functions. At 12 o'clock the President met the heads of Departments in Cabinet, meeting at the Treasury building, and among other business the following was transacted:

First—The arrangements for the funeral of the late President were referred to the several Secretaries, as far as relates to their respective departments.

Second—William Hunter, esq., was appointed Acting Secretary of State during the disability of Mr. Seward and his son Frederick Seward, the Assistant Secretary.

Third—The President formally announced that he desired to retain the present Secretaries of Departments of his Cabinet, and they should go on and discharge their respective duties in the same manner as before the deplorable event that had changed the head of the Government.

All business in the Departments was suspended during the day.

The surgeons report that the condition of Mr. Seward remains unchanged. He is doing well.

No improvement in Mr. Frederick Seward.
The murderers have not yet been apprehended.

EDWIN M. STANTON, Secretary of War.

Inauguration of President Johnson.

WASHINGTON, April 16, 1865.

Yesterday morning Attorney-General Speed waited upon the Hon. Andrew Johnson, Vice-President of the United States, and officially informed him of the sudden and unexpected decease of President Lincoln, and stated that an early hour might be appointed for the inauguration of his successor. The following is a copy of the communication referred to:

WASHINGTON CITY, April 15, 1865.

SIR: Abraham Lincoln, President of the United States, was shot by an assassin last evening at Ford's Theater, in this city, and died at the hour of 7:22 o'clock. About the same time at which the President was shot, an assassin entered the sick chamber of the Hon. W. H. Seward, Secretary of State, and stabbed him in several places in the throat, neck and face, severely if not mortally wounding him. Other members of the Secretary's family were dangerously wounded by the assassin while making his escape. By the death of President Lincoln the office of President has devolved under the Constitution upon you. The emergency of the Government demands that you should immediately qualify according to the requirements of the Constitution and enter upon the duties of President of the United States. If you will please make known your pleasure such arrangements as you deem proper will be made. Your obedient servants,

HUGH McCULLOCH, Secretary of the Treasury.

EDWIN M. STANTON, Secretary of War.

GIDEON WELLES, Secretary of the Navy.

WILLIAM DENNISON, Postmaster-General.

J. P. USHER, Secretary of the Interior.

JAMES SPEED, Attorney-General.

To ANDREW JOHNSON, Vice-President of the United States.

Mr. Johnson requested that the ceremonies take place at his rooms at the Kirkwood House, in this city, at 10 o'clock in the morning.

The Hon. Salmon P. Chase, Chief Justice of the United States, was notified of the fact, and desired to be in attendance to administer the oath of office.

At the above-named hour the following gentlemen assembled in the Vice-President's room to participate in the ceremony: The Hon. Salmon P. Chase; the Hon. Hugh McCulloch, Secretary of the Treasury; Mr. Attorney-General Speed, F. P. Blair, sr., the Hon. Montgomery Blair; Senators Foot of Vermont, Yates of Illinois, Ramsay of Minnesota, Stewart of Nevada, Hale of New-Hampshire, and Gen. Farnsworth of Illinois.

After the presentation of the above letter, the Chief Justice administered the following oath to Mr. Johnson: "I do solemnly swear that I will faithfully execute the office of President of the United States, and will, to the best of my ability, preserve, protect and defend the Constitution of the United States."

After receiving the oath and being declared President of the United States, Mr. Johnson remarked:

"GENTLEMEN: I must be permitted to say that I have been almost overwhelmed by the announcement of the sad event which has so recently occurred. I feel incompetent to perform duties so important and responsible as those which have been so unexpectedly thrown upon me. As to an indication of any policy which may be pursued by me in the administration of the Government, I have to say that that must be left for development as the Administration progresses. The message or declaration must be made by the acts as they transpire. The only assurance that I can now give of the future is reference to the past. The course which I have taken in the past in connection with this Rebellion must be regarded as a guarantee of the future. My past public life, which has been long and laborious, has been founded, as I in good conscience believe upon a great principle of right, which lies at the basis of all things. The best energies of my life have been spent in endeavoring to establish and perpetuate the principles of free government, and I believe that the Government, in passing through its present perils, will settle down upon principles consonant with popular rights, more permanent and enduring than heretofore. I must be permitted to say, if I understand the feelings of my own heart, I have long labored to ameliorate and elevate the condition of the great mass of the American people. Toil and an honest advocacy of the great principles of free government have been my lot. The duties have been mine—the consequences are God's."

This has been the foundation of my political creed. I feel that in the end the Government will triumph, and that these great principles will be permanently established. In conclusion, gentlemen, let me say that I want your encouragement and countenance. I shall ask and rely upon you and others in carrying the Government through its present perils. I feel in making this request that it will be heartily responded to by you and all other patriots and lovers of the rights and interests of a free people."

At the conclusion of the above remarks the President received the kind wishes of the friends by whom he was surrounded.

A few moments were devoted to conversation. All were deeply impressed with the solemnity of the occasion, and the recent sad occurrence that caused the necessity for the speedy inauguration of the President was gravely discussed.

Mr. Johnson is in fine health, and has an earnest sense of the important trust that has been confided to him.

William Hunter, esq., the chief clerk of the State Department has been appointed Acting Secretary of State.

A special meeting of the Cabinet was held at the Treasury Department at 10 o'clock this morning.

Additional Particulars.

WASHINGTON, Saturday, April 15, 1865.

There is no confirmation of the report that the murderer of the President has been arrested.

Among the circumstances tending to fix a participation in the crime on Booth were letters found in his trunk, one of which, apparently from a lady, supplicated him to desist from the perilous undertaking in which he was about to embark, as the time was inauspicious, the mine not yet being ready to be sprung.

The Extra Intelligencer says: From the evidence obtained it is rendered highly probable that the man who stabbed Mr. Seward and his son is John Surratt, of Prince George County, Maryland. The horse he rode was hired at Naylor's stable on Fourteenth-st. Surratt is a young man with light hair and goatee. His father is said to have been Postmaster of Prince George County.

About 11 o'clock last night two men crossed the Anacostia Bridge, one of whom gave his name as Booth and the other as Smith. The latter is believed to be John Surratt.

Last night a riderless horse was found, which has been identified by the proprietor of one of the stables previously mentioned as having been hired from his establishment.

Accounts are conflicting as to whether Booth crossed the bridge on horseback or on foot. But as it is believed that he rode across it, and it is presumed that he had exchanged his horse.

From information in the possession of the authorities it is evident that the scope of the plot was intended to be much more comprehensive.

The Vice-President and other prominent members of the Administration were particularly inquired for by suspected parties, and their precise locality accurately obtained; but providentially in their cases the scheme miscarried.

A boat was at once sent down the Potomac to notify the gunboats on the river of the awful crime, in order that all possible means should be taken for the arrest of the perpetrators.

The most ample precautions have been taken, and it is not believed the culprits will long succeed in evading the overtaking arm of Justice.

WASHINGTON, Saturday, April 15—3½ p. m.
To day no one is allowed to leave the city by rail conveyance or on foot, and the issuing of passes from the headquarters of the Department of Washington has been suspended by Gen. Anger.

It was ascertained, some weeks ago, from personal friends of the late President, that he had received several private letters warning him that an attempt would probably be made upon his life. But to this he did not seem to attach much if any importance. It has always been thought that he was not sufficiently careful of his individual safety on his last visit to Virginia.

It is known that on frequent occasions he would start from the Executive Mansion for his Summer country residence at the Soldiers' Home without the usual cavalry escort, which often hurried and overtook him before he had proceeded far. It has always been understood that this escort was accepted by him only on the impetuosity of his friends as a matter of precaution.

The President before retiring to bed would, when important military events were progressing, visit the War Department, generally alone, passing over the dark intervening ground even at late hours on repeated occasions; and after the warning letters had been received, several close and intimate friends, armed for any emergency, were careful that he should not continue his visits without their company. For himself the President seemed to have no fears.

The above facts have heretofore been known to the writer of this telegram, but for prudential reasons he has not stated them until now.

THE LAST HOURS OF THE PRESIDENT.

As everything pertaining to the last hours of the late President must be interesting to the public, the following incidents of the last day of his life have been obtained from several sources:

His son, Captain Lincoln, breakfasted with him on Friday morning, having just returned from the capitulation of Lee, and the President passed a happy hour listening to all the details. While at breakfast he heard that Speaker Colfax was in the house, and sent word that he wished to see him immediately in the reception room. He conversed with him nearly an hour about his future policy as to the Rebellion, which he was about to submit to the Cabinet. Afterward he had an interview with Mr. Hale, Minister to Spain, and several Senators and Representatives.

At 11 o'clock the Cabinet and Gen. Grant met with him, and in one of the most satisfactory and important Cabinet meetings held since his first inauguration, the future policy of the Administration was harmoniously and unanimously agreed on. When it adjourned Secretary Stanton said he felt that the Government was stronger than at any previous period since the Rebellion commenced.

In the afternoon the President had a long and pleasant interview with Gen. Oglesby, Senator Yates and other leading citizens of his State. In the evening Mr. Colfax called again at his request, and Mr. Ashmun of Massachusetts, who presided over the Chicago Convention in 1860, was present. To them he spoke of his visit to Richmond, and when they stated that there was much uneasiness at the North while he was at the Rebel capital for fear that some traitor might shoot him, he replied jocularly that he would have been alarmed himself, if any other person had been President and gone there, but that he did not feel any danger whatever. Conversing on a matter of business with Mr. Ashmun, he made a remark that he saw Mr. Ashmun was surprised at, and immediately, with his well-known kindness of heart, said, "You did not understand me, Ashmun; I did not mean what you inferred, and I will take it all back and apologize for it. He afterward gave Mr. Ashmun a card to admit himself and friend early the next morning to converse further about it.

Turning to Mr. Colfax he said: "You are going with Mrs. Lincoln and me to the theater this evening, I hope." But Mr. Colfax had other engagements, expecting to leave the city the next morning.

He then said to Mr. Colfax: "Mr. Sumner has the grave of the Confederate Congress which he got at Richmond to hand to the Secretary of War. But I insisted then that he must give it to you, and you told him for me to hand it over." Mr. Ashmun alluded to the grave which he still had, and which he had used at the Chicago Convention; and the President and Mrs. Lincoln, who was also in the parlor, rose to go to the theater. It was half an hour after the time they had intended to start, and they spoke about waiting half an hour longer, for the President went with reluctance; as Gen. Grant had gone North, and he did not wish the people to be disappointed, as they had both been advertised to be there. At the door he stopped and said: "Colfax, do not forget to tell the people in the mining regions as you pass through there what I told you this morning about the development when peace comes, and I will telegraph you at San Francisco." He shook hands with both gentlemen with a pleasant goodbye, and left the Executive Mansion never to return to it alive.

The President and Cabinet at the meeting to-day, intrusted to Assistant-Secretary of the Treasury Harrington, the general arrangement of the programme for the funeral of the late President. Major French, the Commissioner of Public Buildings, will attend to the carrying out of so much of it as directly appertains to the corpse, and Major-Gen. Augur, in charge of the defenses of Washington, will be in charge of the military part of the procession. Assistant-Secretary Harrington has been in consultation to-night relative to the arrangements with Gov. Oglesby, Senator Yates and ex-Representative Arnold of Illinois, and Gens. Grant, Halleck and Augur, and Col. Nichols, and Admirals Farragut and Shubrick.

The funeral ceremonies of the late President will take place on Wednesday. The time for the remains to leave the city, as well as the route by which they will be taken to Springfield, is as yet undetermined.

The procession will form at 11 o'clock, and the religious services will commence at noon, at which hour, throughout the whole land, the various religious societies have been requested to assemble in their respective places of worship for prayer. The procession will move at 2 p. m. Details will be made known as soon as perfected.

The Acting Secretary of State has issued the following address:

TO THE PEOPLE OF THE UNITED STATES: The undersigned is directed to announce that the funeral ceremonies of the lamented Chief Magistrate will take place at the Executive Mansion, in this city, at 12 o'clock noon on Wednesday, the 19th inst. The various religious denominations throughout the country are invited to meet in their respective places of worship at that hour, for the purpose of solemnizing the occasion with appropriate ceremonies.

W. LUTHER, Acting Secretary of State.
Department of State, Washington, April 17, 1865.

The Secretary of the Navy has issued the following general order:

NAVY DEPARTMENT, WASHINGTON, April 15, 1865.
The Department announces with profound sorrow to the officers and men of the Navy and Marine Corps the death of Abraham Lincoln, late President of the United States—stricken down by the hand of an assassin on the evening of the 14th inst., when surrounded by his family and friends. He lingered a few hours after receiving the fatal bullet, and died at 7:22 o'clock this morning.

A grateful people had given their willing confidence to the patriot and statesman, under whose wise and successful Administration the nation was just emerging from the civil strife which for four years has afflicted the land, when the terrible calamity fell upon the country. To him our gratitude was justly due, for to him, under God, more than any other person, are we indebted for the successful vindication of the integrity of the Union and the maintenance of the power of the Republic.

The officers of the Navy and the Marine Corps, will, as a manifestation of their respect for the exalted character, eminent position, and estimable public services of the late President, and as an indication of their sympathy of the calamity which the country has sustained, wear the usual badge of mourning for six months.

The Department further directs that upon the day following the receipt of this order, the commanders of squadrons, Navy-Yards and Stations will direct the ensign of every vessel in their several commands to be hoisted at half-mast, and a gun to be fired every half hour, beginning at sunrise and ending at sunset. The flags of the several Navy-Yards and Marine-Barracks will also be hoisted at half-mast.

GIDEON WELLES, Secretary of Navy.
Senators Foote and Yates, and ex-Representative Arnold, of Illinois, have issued a notice requesting the members of the Senate and House of Representatives, who are in Washington, to meet at the reception room of the Senate to-morrow, with a view to consider what action they will take in relation to the funeral ceremonies of the late President of the United States.

Gov. Oglesby, of Illinois, to-day received by telegraph the proceedings of the meeting at Springfield on Saturday, without distinction of party, and the names of the gentlemen composing the committee to escort the remains of the late President to the capital of that State.

Last night a meeting of citizens of Iowa to the number of about 60 was held in this city, Gov. Stone of that State presiding. He delivered a short address with reference to the recent events, and remarks were also made by other gentlemen.

Resolutions were adopted expressive of their sorrow for the death of the President and their sympathy for Secretary Seward in his afflictions, and their confidence in the patriotism, courage and ability of President Johnson, for the faithful discharge of the duties now devolving upon him.

Gov. Stone during these proceedings stated that he had just had a long conversation with President Johnson in regard to his policy as Chief Magistrate, in which the latter said that while he would deal kindly and leniently with the mass of the people of the South and rank and file of their armies, regarding them, as he did, merely as the victims and sufferers of the Rebellion; he nevertheless would be careful not to pursue any policy which would prevent the Government from visiting condign punishment on the guilty authors of the Rebellion.

The President regarded as due to the loyal people of the country, and to the memory of the thousands of brave men who had fallen in the defense of the Union during this struggle, and to the claims of justice and freedom throughout the world, that treason should still be regarded as the highest crime under our Constitution and flag, and that treason should be rendered infamous for all time to come. While he entertained those views he should endeavor to gain the confidence of the deceived and betrayed masses of the Southern people, regarding them as the proper material for reconstructing the insurgent States and to restore them to their proper relations to the Government. He would neither recognize nor hold official communication with those who

had occupied official stations, or acknowledged the sovereignty of the Rebel Government. For four years he had fought the Rebel Government with all the energy of his character. He well knew the horrible outrages to which loyal citizens in the South had been subjected; and it was his determination to act in such manner as would best protect individual rights and vindicate the character of the Government. He expressed deep sympathy with the betrayed and deluded masses of the South, earnestly desiring their return to their allegiance to the Government and the restoration of their former peace and prosperity.

Gov. Howe expressed himself highly gratified with the views of the President, and predicted that the expectations of the true friends of the country would be fully realized in the wisdom, firmness and patriotism which will characterize President Johnson's Administration, and that the statements uttered by him will find an earnest response in the people of the great West.

Gen. Paine, a Rebel officer, and his two Adjutants, and an orderly were captured in Virginia, yesterday, and this afternoon brought to Washington. As they passed through the city, thousands of excited men and boys followed them, evidently supposing that they were in some way connected with the late assassination. Many exclaimed, "Hang them; hang them!"

They were conducted to the office of the Provost-Marshal, and after the necessary examination ordered to be committed to the Old Capitol. They were brought out the back way, and several companies of Reserve Corps were ordered to the scene as a precaution against a riot.

The excitement soon after subsided, an announcement having been officially made that those in custody were prisoners of war.

Nearly all the pastors of this city to-day appropriately alluded to the death of the President.

The hospital-steamers Connecticut arrived at Washington this afternoon with 400 wounded, including 150 officers.

THE CORPSE.

The corpse of the late President has been laid out in the room known as the "gossamer room," north-west wing of the White House. It is dressed in the suit of black clothes worn by him at his late inauguration. A placid smile rests upon his features, and the deceased seems to be in a calm sleep. White flowers have been placed upon the pillow and over the breast.

The corpse of the President will be laid out in state in the east room on Tuesday, in order to give the public an opportunity to see once more the features of him they loved so well. The preparations are being made to that end, under the supervision of the upholsterer.

The catafalque upon which the body will rest is to be placed in the south part of the east room, and is somewhat similar in style to that used on the occasion of the death of President Harrison. Steps will be placed at the side to enable the public to mount to a position to get a perfect view of the face. The catafalque will be lined with fluted white satin, and on the outside it will be covered with black cloth and black velvet.

THE FUNERAL.

It is understood that the funeral of President Lincoln will take place on Thursday next. The Rev. Dr. Gurley of the New-York-ave. Presbyterian Church, where the President and his family have been accustomed to worship, will doubtless be the officiating clergyman. The remains will be temporarily deposited in the vault of the Congressional Cemetery, and hereafter taken to Mr. Lincoln's home at Springfield, Illinois.

THE FUNERAL CAR.

The funeral car, which is being prepared for the occasion, is to be a magnificent affair. It is to be built on a hearse body. Its extreme length will be 14 feet. The body of the car will be covered with black cloth, from which will hang large festoons of cloth on the sides and ends, gathered and fastened by large rosettes of white and black satin over bows of white and black velvet. The bed of the car on which the coffin will rest will be eight feet from the ground, in order to give a full view of the coffin, and over this will rise a canopy, the supports of which will be draped with black cloth and velvet. The top of the car will be decorated with plumes. The car will be drawn by six or eight horses, each led by a groom.

BOOTH NOT ARRESTED.

Up to this time it has not been ascertained that the assassin of the President has been captured.

THE PRESIDENT'S PLACE OF WORSHIP.

This morning at the New-York-ave. Presbyterian church, which Mr. Lincoln formerly attended, a large crowd of persons attended in anticipation that the pastor, the Rev. P. D. Gurley, D. D., would make some allusion to the nation's great calamity. The pulpit and the choir, and the President's pew were draped in mourning.

THE ASSASSINATION A CONSPIRACY.

The Star (Extra) has the following: "Developments have been made within the past 24 hours showing conclusively the existence of a deep-laid plot on the part of a gang of conspirators, including members of the order of the Knights of the Golden Circle, to murder President Lincoln and his Cabinet. We have reason to believe that Secretary Seward received several months since an intimation from Europe that something of a very desperate character was to transpire at Washington; and it is more than probable that the intimation had reference to the plot of assassination."

THE CONSPIRACY.

The pickets encircling this city on Friday night to prevent the escape of the parties who murdered President Lincoln and attempted the assassination of Secretary Seward and his sons were fired upon at several points by concealed foes. Arrests of the parties charged with the offense will be promptly made.

REBEL OFFICERS.

A number of Rebel officers, who arrived here this morning by the mail boat from City Point, asked permission to take the oath of allegiance, which request was not granted for the present, and they were committed to the Old Capitol.

Mr. Seward's Condition.

The following dispatch has been received by Col. E. S. Sanford:

WASHINGTON, April 16, 1865.

Uncle is as well this morning as the circumstances will permit. He retains his mental vigor and resolution. The surgeon speaks very favorably. Poor Fred is still unconscious. He has never opened his eyes since 12 o'clock Friday night. The Major will get along nicely.

CLARENCE A. SEWARD.

Newspaper Accounts.

From The Washington Intelligencer of Saturday.

The President was received with great furor on entering the theater; his reception was, indeed, extraordinary. One of the actors (Mr. Hawk) had made the remark (as "Dundreary"), this "reminds me of a story, as Mr. Lincoln says," and was telling the story as the President entered. The enthusiasm of the audience interrupted the story for several minutes. After the President was seated the actor was forced by the people to tell the "story" over again.

As to the awful catastrophe, the drift of trustworthy information is, that when a pistol-shot was heard in the second box of the right hand side of the stage of Ford's Theater, persons in the theater imagined that it was part of the play. Hence the confusion of the audience. Meantime the assassin appeared on the edge of the box, crying, "Sic semper tyrannis," and flourishing a dagger, leaped on the stage. He crossed the stage sud-

ly, exclaiming "No shot!" and again flourishing his dagger disappeared, saying, "I have done it!"

All started to their feet, and there being cries that the President was shot (the first intimation of danger was a call for a surgeon), the crowd exclaimed, "Secure the assassin!" "Hang him!" etc., etc.

Miss Laura Keene appeared on the stage, and with great self-possession implored the audience to be silent.

The President was seen to turn to his seat, and persons leaped upon the stage and clambered up to the box. His clothes were stripped from his shoulders, but no wound was at first found. He was entirely insensible. Further search revealed the fact that he had been shot in the head, as is described elsewhere. Major Potter, Paymaster in the Army, and Major Rathbone (the latter having been in the box), assisted by others, carried the President from the theater, the blood from the death-wound falling upon the floor, stairway, and sidewalks as he was borne to the nearest house opposite, which was that of Mr. Ulke. Mrs. Lincoln was assisted in crossing the street with the President in a frantic condition, at the same time uttering heart-rending shrieks. She was attended by Miss Laura Keene and others. At the house, an army surgeon being at hand called for a small quantity of brandy, which was administered, and it was thereupon announced to the pressing and excited crowd that he was alive, and not dead, as Mrs. Lincoln, in her agony, insisted. It was then found that Major Rathbone had received a wound in the arm, which he had intentionally concealed to prevent excitement. He then fainted. The Surgeon-General was sent for, and Drs. Hall and Stone also arrived.

An immense crowd had now assembled, but a strong military force arrived and guarded the entire locality.

Crowds now gathered in all parts of the city. Nothing was talked of but the murder of the President, of Mr. Seward, and of the members of Mr. Seward's family. Intense excitement was added to the already nearly wild masses by a rumor that Gen. Grant had been assassinated in the cars, en route for Philadelphia, and that Mr. Stanton had barely escaped with his life by being warned in time to exclude the conspirators from his house. (This is discredited.) It may be added that a person who was passing Mr. Seward's house saw the murderer mount his horse, pass up Fifteen-and-a-half-st., where Mr. Seward resides, and thence rapidly to H-st., where he disappeared.

The alarm of murder from Mr. Seward's house was frightful as the assassin passed out, and much space of time elapsed before pursuit was had. We forbear to give the name of one of the supposed murderers, about whom great suspicion gathers.

The long-roll was beaten all over the city, and every avenue was at once guarded. Such a night of horror has seldom darkened any community. The indefinite dread which conspiracy inspires seized on the public mind, and suspicion, apprehension, and agony pervaded the people.

At the police headquarters it is understood that Mr. Hawk, of Laura Keene's troupe, has been held to bail to testify to the identity of the suspected assassin of the President, whom he is said to have recognized as a person well known to him.