TUESDAY, MAY 16, 1865. The Assassination a Military

Offence. Exceptions have been taken to the methed adopted in the trial of the alleged co-conspirators of the assassin Boots. It has been urged that a military trial would not meet the requirements of the case, and that a secret session was at variance with the established customs and law of the land. The constitutional amendment has been cited in support of this opinion. The special clause so quoted says: "No person shall be held to answer for a capital. or otherwise infamous crime, unless on a passentment or indictment of a Grand Jury, except in cases arising in the land or

naval forces or in the militia, when in actual service in time of war or public danger." These words of the Constitution have been ever regarded as one of the most important safeguards of individual liberty. and as such have been jealously insisted upon. The enactment is in perfect harmony with the sacred idea of personal indepen dence, and the framers of the Constitution so appreciated it. They were constructing a Republic, endeavoring, to the best of their ability, to secure the blessings of liberty to themselves and their posterity, and yet they wisely stated one important exception to this law of universal application.

The words italicized seem evidently intended for emergencies like the present, and expressly fit the occasion and its exi-

The act of BOOTH has been held up to the world's execration as the "assassination of the President," and, as such, would, perhaps, be the subject of ordinary civil investigation if no peculiar circumstances complicated the situation. His crime has met universal condemnation on account of the position and character of the victim. and the manner in which the deed was accomplished no other terms but murder and assassination have been applied to it, and consequently many have been led to confound it with a mere civil offence. But let us consider it more closely.

The assassination of Mr. Lincoln would have been a civil offence had he not been at the moment of his death President of the United States, and by virtue of that station commander in chief of the army, navy, and militia of the whole country. The offence was committed, most undeniably, at a period fully described in the Constitution as a "time of war and public danger," and the victim was in the military service of the country as completely as if he were in the field. This cannot be denied with any shadow of justice, for it has been universally acknowledged that his representative capacity was the principal motive to the deed; he was the recognized head of the triumphant Union army, and, as such, was the especial object of fear and hatred.

The act becomes a military crime, and subject to such jurisdiction, not only by the official position of Mr. Lincoln, but by the fact that his death was everywhere and instantly considered as an event designed to benefit the rebellion, and the criminal's connection with the insurgents was universally believed before the proof could be educed. The popular opinion, both at home and abroad, was so clearly expressed in this particular, and the ince was so just and undeniable, that noted Secessionists felt compelled severally to deny all connection with the assassin. A consideration of the facts show that the act was a crime committed in a case arising in the military forces, and in time of war, as expressly as it would have been if the victim had been a commander taking his case in his tent, and the murderer the Power. Therefore, but the bostile

nature of the case, and a secret tribunal may in such instances be legitimate and proper, calling for no excuse. If excuse were needed it is not wanting. for the deed accomplished has been proved the existence of an organized conspiracy was proved at the very moment of the commission of the crime, by the contemporaneous assault upon another chief officer of the Government, by a person known to

be intimately connected with BOOTH. Conspiracy once so distinctly proved, evidently directed against the leading members of a Government in time of war, and manifestly tending to the advantage of ramifications, are properly withheld for the present from that public scrutiny which

objects of the trial. Let us approach the question from the such offenders in the city of Washington to-day. Shall the oath of allegiance be exacted upon the spot from every person who enters the door of the court-room? Shall the prisoner at the bar be allowed to challenge every loyal juryman, until chance or connivance furnish him with a confederated ally, whose Unionism is assumed with a mental reservation and leaders—a party in whose path the late President has been already ascertained that such persons have been residing within the limits of our capital during the whole period of the war. Such residence in a loyal city, and enjoyment of its immuas tacit perjury; and will those who have lived a lie for years hesitate to utter it on an occasion involving all their hopes for the future, and, perhaps, their very exist-

ence itself? How feasible then would this plan seem! and jury? And how could the end be method of securing the evidence required were displayed to the public of a city from which leads that hidden and devious route by which the secrets of our Government were carried to the enemy, by which the murderous messages, and by which the assassin made his escape, assisted by willing a probable and almost inevitable event as that the body of her citizens are loyal and patriotic men.

Authorized Contradiction. The Public Ledger of yesterday, still intent upon doing gross injustice to the Secretary of War, Mr. STANTON, and eager to place the journals in the wrong that have sustained the action of the Military Commission in the trial of the conspirators, | portant case. employs the following unequivocal lan-

"The journals which have thought military trivery slarming array of scarecrows to drive off any further public censure of unauthorized acts of power. The fact that President Johnson has used his nfluence and authority with those who authorized ilitary courts, and had them opened to the public, is the best abswer and refutation of what these journals have had to say, if not a severe

rebuke to their subserviency 12 We are enabled to announce, on the best authority, that the very deliberate statement in the italicised passage of the above paragraph, "is false in every particular." It is therefore not "a fact" that President Jounson " used his influence and autho opened to the public;" and hence THE ergies, without leaving them helplessly to Parss and the Washington Chronicle, and burden our city authorities. papers agreeing with them, have not been ! That the object is a most desirable one.

answered or refuted in what they have had and must necessarily commend itself to al to say on the trials of the conspirators, much less "severely rebuked for their subserviency." Eo that the Ledger's "facts" are fictions, if not fabrications, and its use of the President's name as the basis of a very grave assertion wholly gratuitous and inwarranted.

The Capture of Davis. When an ordinary disturbance of the peace occurs, and those industrious chroniclers, the local reporters, announce its suppression by the "ever-vigilant police." their record is never considered entirely satisfactory and complete without the addendum that "the ringleaders were arrested, and will be tried at the next term of court." This last token of the suppression of the rebellion has been furnished by the capture of its chosen chief, notwithstanding his display of a genius for eluding justice that would have done honor to

Jemmy Twitcher or Jacques Strop. We have no wish to indulge in unseemly exultation over the misery of a fallen foe. or to swell the chorus of an angry cry for vengeance, but we share in the general rejoicings over his arrest, because it completes the triumph of the Republic, and affords an opportunity to enforce the decrees of justice upon the head and front of the offenders who conspired against its life. The immediate incentive to his capture was the large reward offered on account of his supposed connection with the assassination of Abraham Lincoln. The evidence now being elicited in the trial of the sub ordinate confederates of Booth will do much to establish his guilt or innocence ofthat charge. If the belief that he thus crowned his infamy by complicity with cold blooded murder is well sustained, the public will naturally expect that he will be

put on trial for the offence, and, if found guilty, punished as the law directs. If innocent, however, let him be fully cleared of that foul stain, so that he may be tried by unbiassed minds for the crime of treason. If any one is so deeply implicated in that guilt as to be amenable to the utmost rigors of the law, without benefit of acts of capitulation or amnesty, he is that man. No power forced him to continue a contest in which the lives of many thousands of his countrymen were sacrificed-no overawing rebel compelled him to choose between armed resistance to our Government or instant death at the hands of the agents of a ruthless conscription. He sinned wilfully, knowingly, freely, and persistently. If he is not an assassin, let him be tried without malice, fear, favor, or affection, as a traitor; and not to gratify a spirit of revenge, but for the benefit of so-

ciety and as an example to all coming time, let him be adjudged by the laws of the land he tried to divide and ruin. Mason and Slidell. The names, Mason and SLIDELL, like those of Chang and Eng. of Siamese notoriety, will occupy in history a conjoint prominence that will, most likely, defy divorcement. Base in their lives, we doubt whether even in death they will be divided. ready to answer to the charge in the Presi-Twin-traitors to the country, by whose dent's proclamation offering rewards for bounty they have waxed fat, by the law of the assassins? He would have been afassociation, if by nothing else, they will be forded every facility for defence, and held to a perpetual partnership of infamy. there would have been an air of man-To call Mason a proud, puerile, puffed-up hood and daring in the act that would pretender-a blatant, blustering braggadocia-to define SLIDELL a pestilent, perni- his character for courage and candor. If cious, plotter-sly, seditious-crafty, con- it is replied that he would have been ceited, cunning—this is not to overload unjustly treated, the objection falls before these twin-dignitaries with epithets, but the fact that no really innocent man ever such, at least in their later years, they were thousands would have demanded an known at Washington. Here, with the impartial trial for him, even while deoath of fealty fresh on their lips, and their spising his treason. Was his flight more pockets filled to repletion with Uncle Sam's | honorable or more brave? Even if he had gold, they basely conspired to effect their not been taken, would his self banishment country's ruin and overthrow. In their have left him a happier or a more contented

ducted by military rules, by the very to be a part of a conspiracy. Here is no since the demise of the traitor Yancey, and to take them into its confidence in the dispensation matter of panic or surmise, but of fact, for the ruffian Brooks, it would have been of public justice, will find that in this respect, as and manifestly tending to the advantage of a belligerent in arms, offers just grounds for investigation, and a legitimate cause for the surmise that the conspiracy was ter, whose object was, if possible, to forest the National Capital? Why place men in intended to accomplish a work clearly left | stal the damaging effect which he had only unfinished, viz: The confusion and dis | too strong reason to apprehend that deed array of the enemy by the removal of all of horror would entail upon the fortunes of its principal officers and leaders. Some of the South. And what view, think you, the minor members of the conspiracy have | does the rebel would-be Ambassador take been arraigned, and a portion of the in- of this grave occurrence? The reality alvestigations which may lead to further dis- most beggars belief! By half-concealed. closures, and the ultimate discovery of half expressed inuendo, he has the hardithe scheme, with all its connections and | hood to charge the procurement of the would, undoubledly, defeat the principal other side, and imagine an open trial of of grave hindrances, in their ruinous designs

nities, cannot be construed otherwise than | tard Confederacy has not floundered in the How assure the loyalty of all the witnesses | monstrative of a deprayed heart and a perreached if the only means of inquiry and of the world, the Old or the New? More traitors moved safely to and fro with their | We almost commiserate SLIDELL. Bad as hands? It is as certain that Washington his profligate confreré. If SLIDELL, incontains a sufficiently large proportion of deed, had a grain of self-respect as big as the reward for Davis and comrades, which was traitors to render the corruption of a jury a mustard-seed, he would himself write a

bunsls were a very proper innovation upon the established institutions of peace, were as anxious a few days ago to prove that even secrecy was needs movement for the employment of our subcretary. The Order consists of one hundred and forty-two members, all of them having been wounded and honorably discharged soldiers and seamen. Most of them are already in good employment, but with a praiseworthy desire to assist their wounded brethren who are daily returning to this city, in the struggle for rity with those who authorized the secret an independent livelihood, they wish to sessions of military courts and had them organize the means of utilizing their en-

of our patriotic and more wealthy citizens is at once obvious. Our brave fellows who have shed their blood for the integrity of our empire, and given their toil so freely and spontaneously at a time when our national life was menaced by the late rebellion, deserve, at least, this care and recognition at our hands. Let us see that it i given to them as largely and readily as they offered their lives and poured forth their blood upon the altar reared by their great father-Washington-to our National In dependence.

A NEW YORK paper, yesterday evening, reiterated, in a most malignant manner, the assertion, which we have already nailed to the counter as a falsehood, respecting the action of the Military Commission in the first arrangements for the trial of the con spirators. To this, after what we have already said upon the subject, it is unnecessary for us to oppose any special argument. It only exhibits the tendency upon the part of the disloyal press to attack, in the most bitter manner, the workings of our Government. And we can have no hesitation in characterizing it as a base and most malicious attack upon the integrity of our National Authorities.

LETTER FROM "OCCASIONAL."

The tragedy has been succeeded by the

farce. The loud and dogmatic tyrant in

the one enacts the Robert Macaire in the

WASHINGTON, May 15, 1865.

other. Who will not ponder upon the contrast and the example? The subject i one that belongs to history; and, however disposed to spare a fallen foe, we dare not forget that if there is pity for the unfortunate, there is also justice for the wicked. The only time that this desperate man. Jefferson Davis, has shown that he had humanity was when he began to think of himself. He wasted thousands of precious lives without remorse, but grew exceedingly nervous when he thought of his own. A man who has been so haughty and so unrelenting should have played his part boldly to the end. Jefferson has been the preux Chevalier of the South. He had made himself a pattern of integrity and of honor. His scorn of false dealing was almost ostentatious and he he looked down upon the "vulgar herd" with a superfine disdain. That he should have proved to be so cold, cruel, and inexorable, was only another proof that he felt himself strong enough to do anything. Indeed, so bitter had his hate of the people of the free States become, that he declared to his victims: "We could no more live with them than we could live with wolves and tigers." Such a man should have made no recreant flight. To be true to his character he should have defied death. One thing he ought to have done, if he had desired to make a name among his admirers in the Old World. They claim that the bare idea of holding him as a party to the assassination of President Lincoln is a monstrous outrage; why, then, did not Jefferson Davis declare that he was have sounded in excellent harmony with

The control of the co

rotts? It would be difficult to get a jury here without having one of that class upon it. The

conspirators, no doubt, had their jurymen se-lected and assigned, and nothing but Stanton

and his lawless soldiers prevented them from doing their part. Something is due to the forms and tech-nicalities of courts. Something is due to the letter and text of local and State laws. But something more is due to an outraged and bereaved country. The nation insists that its rulers shall ferret this assassi-

nation to the end. We do not sek how, so that it is done. If in daylight, on the hill tops, and by publication in the newspapers, well and good. If by

prudence and secrecy, let them be prudent and se-

oret, and none will care to share their councils. The

Government will do its sad and grave duty in its

own way, and the people will sustain it.

THE ASSASSINS.

Fifth Day of Their Trial---The Bill of Indictment.

The Preparations for the Murder in February and March.

ITS PROGRESS TO CONSUMMATION

IN APRIL. TESTIMONY OF SECONDARY MINGLERS IN

THE GREAT ENTR' ACTE.

South's Conception of the Murder Almost Contemporary with the Beginning of the War.

General Assassination of Our Public Men Spoken of in Richmond in 1863.

THE NORTHERN CITIES ALSO TO BE LAID IN ASHES.

JEFF DAVIS AND HIS PELLOW-TRAITORS PRIVY TO THE PLOT.

Examination into the Antecedents of Arnold and O'Laughlin.

Their Journeys, Conversations, and

Everyday Life. THEIR CONNECTION WITH BOOTH AND THEIR

Booth's Actions Just Defore the Assassination.

SUSPICIOUS CONDUCT.

WHISKY NERVES HIM TO PERFORM THE

DREADFUL WORK.

The Mysterious Signal for the Murder-The Life of the President Told Five Minutes at a Time.

THE LEAP FROM THE BOX—THE RECOG NITION-THE ESCAPE.

WASHINGTON, May 15.—The witnesses examine this afternoon showed the intimacy between Booth Arnold, and O'Laughlin.
Mr. Coxe, for the defence, objected to the whole of this evidence, on the ground that the mere fact o ntimacy was not evidence of conspiracy.

Judge Advecate Holt said they had fally es tablished the intimacy of the party in Washington, and simply proposed to show the intimacy which The Court overruled the objection, but ordered i o be put on record. It appeared from the testimony of David Stanto that on the night of the illumination, the 18th o April, O'Laughlin was prowling in the house of the Scoretary of War, but having no business there he

The court remained in session until 7 o'clock. A number of witnesses were examined as to the

CHARGES AND SPECIFICATIONS AGAINST THE AL-The following is a copy of the charge and speci-

assistance to a rescue of the said Abraham Idncoli against the murderous assault of the said John Wilkes Booth, and did aid and abet him in making his escape after the said Abraham Lincoln have been nurdered in manner aforesaid.

And in further prosecution of said unlawful, murderous, and traiterous completency, and in pursuano thereol, and with the intent as aforesaid, the said David E. Harold, did on the night of the 14th of April, A. D. 1855, within the military department and military lines aforesaid, aid, abet, and assist the said John Wilkes Booth in the killing and murder of the said Abraham Lincoln, and did then and there aid and abet and assist him the said John Wilkes Booth in attempting to escape through the military lines aforesaid, and did accompany and essist the esaid John Wilkes Booth in attempting to conceal himself and escape from justice after killing and murdering the said Abraham Lincoln, as aforesaid; and, in further prosecution of said unlawful and traitorus conspiracy, and of the intent thereo as aforesaid, the said Lewis Payne did, on the saminght of the 14th day of April, A. D. 1885, about the same and military lites aforesaid, unlawfully and mail of our properties and bed-chamber of him, the said William H.

Seward; and there, with a large knife held in his hand, unlawfully, taitorously, and in pursuance of the said conspiracy, strike, stab, out, and attempt to kill and murder the said William H. Seward, and old, thereby, then and there, and with the intent aforesaid, with said knife, inflict upon the face and throat of the said william H. Seward divers grievous wourds; and the said conspiracy, at the same time and place last aforesaid, did attempt, with the knife aforesaid, and a pistol held in his hand, to kill and murder Frederick W. Seward, Emerick W. Hansell, and George F. Robinson, who were then striving to protect and recoue the said william H. Seward from murder by the said Lewis Payne; and did then and there, with the said knife and pistol held in his hands, inhict wounds upon the head of the said F. W. Seward and upon the persons of the said Augustus W. Seward, Emerick W. Hansell, and George F. Robinson.

And in the further prosecution of the said con-

guetus W. Seward, Emerick W. Hansell, and George F. Robinson.
And in the further prosecution of the said conspiracy, and its traitorous and murderous designs, the said George A. Azerott did, on the night of the lath of April, A. D., 1865, and about the same hour of the night aloresaid, within the military department and the military lines aforesaid, lie in walt for An drew Johnson, then Vice President of the United States aforesaid, with the intent unlawfully and maliciculy to kill and murder him, the said Andrew Johnson.
And in the further prosecution of the conspiracy storesaid, and of its murderous and treasonable purposes aforesaid on the night of the 18th and 14th of April, 1865, at Washington city, and within the military department and military lines aforesaid, the said Michael O'Lauch in did then and there lie in wait ion Unysee S. Grant.

lifery department and military lines aforesaid, the said Michael O'Lsuwhin did then and there lie in wait for Ulyses S. Grant.

And in the forther prosecution of the said conspiracy, the said Samuel annold did, within the military department and military lines aforesaid, on or before the 6th day of March, A. D. 1865, and cn divers other days and times between that day and the 16th of April, A. D. 1865, combine, conspire with and aid, counsel and abst, comfort and support the said John Wilkes Booth, Lewis Payne, George A. Atzerott, Michael O'Laughlin, and their confederates in the said unlawful, murderous, and traitorous conspiracy, and in the farther prosecution of the said conspiracy, Mary E. Suratt did at Washington Ulty, and within the military department and military lines aforesaid, on or betore the 6th day of March, A. D. 1865, and on divers other days and times between that day and the 20th day of April, A. D., 1865, receive, entertain, harber, and conceal, aid and assist the said John Wilkes Booth, David E. Harold, Lewis Payne, John R. Suratt, Michael O'Laughlin, George A. Alzerott, Samuel Arn. 16, and their confederates, with a knowledge of the murderous and traitorous conspiracy aforesaid, and with intent to aid, abet, and assist them in the execution thereof, and in escaping from justice after the murder of the said Abraham Lincoln, as aforesaid, with intent to aid, abet, and assist them in the execution thereof, and in escaping from justice after the murder of the said Abraham Lincoln, in purtuance of the said conspiracy in the manner aforesaid.

By order of the President of the United States.

J. HOLT, Judge Advocate General.

manner aforesaid.

By order of the President of the United States.

J. Holt, Judge Advocate General.

PROCEEDINGS OF MONDAY, MAY 15. WASHINGTON, May 15 .- On Saturday it was noved that if the record created no objection on the part of the Judges Advocate, or of the counsel for any or all of the accused, the presence of the seve-ral witnesses need not be considered of material necessity. Mr. Alken, assistant counsel for Mrs. Suratt, ex-

pressed his willingness to accede to such an arrangeent, except in the case of Weichman, whom he desired present, not, however, that the witness might hear the record of his testimony read, but that he might reexamine him on new ground, which, as he alleges, had been brought forth in the examination of the subsequent witnesses.

It was decided by the court that the reason so ated did not justify the delay that the finding and recalling of Weichman would occasion, and the reading of the record was proceeded with.

After a time Mr. Weichman entered and heard the reading of the portion of his cross-examination conducted by Mr. Ewing, and several other corrections made.

conducted by Mr. Ewing, and several other corrections made.

Mr. Johnson, the senior counsel of Mrs. Stratt, when the whole of the festimony rendered by Mr. Weichman had been read from the record, applied to be termitted to sik of him some questions before be retired. This was objected to by Major General Wallace. The president then remarked that the witners had been already examined by the counsel, and a fair opportunity shorded. The judge advocate general then asked whether it was to be a croser-tramination, and being told by the counsel that it was, the court, unser the advocate's suggestion, determined that as he could call up the witness bereatter of the defence, it would be an economy of time. General Wallace withdrew his objection, adding, however, that he did so only for this time. He said: "I placed my objection on the ground that these objections wind prove interminable, unless stopped by some rule, after counsel have once had a full opportunity for cross-szamination." TESTIMONY OF MR. WEICHMAN.

Examination by Hon. Reverdy Johnson.
Q. I understood you to say on Saturday that you went with Mrs. Suratt the first time, on Tuesday before the assassination, in a buggy with her; do you recollect whether you stopped on the way to Suratteville? A. Yes, sir. Q. Where?

A. We stepped on two or three occasions.
Q. Did you stop at Uniontown?
A. I do not know the particular point, whether i was at Uniontown or not. was at Uniontown of not.

Q. Did you stop at a village?

A. We stopped on the road at no particular village that I remember.
Q. How do you know Mr. Floyd?

A. I have met him three times.

O. Tid you know him as the known of the hotel?

Q. Do you recollect seeing him buy a buggy on the way from Washington to Surattsville, on Tues-

cay?
A Yes, sir; we met his carriage; it drove past ne; Mrs. Suratt called to Mr. Floyd; Mr. Floyd got out and approached the burgy; Mrs. Suratt put her head out and had a conversation with him.
Q. Did you hear anything about shooting froms?
Question objected to by Assistant Judge Advocate
Birgham, The question was then withdrawn.
Witness. I heard nothing montloared about shooting froms; Mrs. Suratt spoke to Mrs. Offet about having this man, Howell, take the outh of allegiance and get released, and said she was going to apply to General Augur or Judge Turner for that purpose.

ne morning. Q. Do you know his name? A. I would know him if I saw him; he was wha I would call a respectable looking mechanic—not what you would call a gentleman.
Q. Could you describe him at all?
A. Not very minutely; his skin was hard, as if it had been exposed to the weather.
Q. Do you recognize him as among the prisoners at the bar?

A. No. Q. Did these prisoners seem to have any busines transactions with Booth, and it so, of what the ranssorious with Boots, and any racter?
A. They said they were in the oil trade.
Q. Did they seem to have an extensive correspondence? Did many letters come to them?
A. Not a great many.
Q. Where did they generally come from?
A. I never noticed; they were brought in and

Q. They were addressed to the names of O'Laughlin and Arnold, were they?

A. Yes; sometimes to one and sometimes to the A. Yes; sometimes to one saw sometimes by day and other.
Q. You say Booth came sometimes by day and sometimes at night?
A. Not frequently at night; I do not know as ever I saw him at night; he might have eque there without my seeing him; I slept in the back part of the house, and persons might come into the front part of the house without my seeing them;
Q. You do not know whether, when they went out and staid late at night, they were with Booth or not?

A. No.
Q. You have not seen them since the time they
est your house? A. No.
Q. Which was about the 20th of March?
A. I think so; it was the Monday after the Saturday on which Booth played,
Q. Did you ever see Booth ride out in the evening with these men?

n these men ! .. No; I do not think I ever did; I could not po-vely say whether I did or not; he frequently ane to my house in a carriage and inquired for hem; I never saw them that I recollect ride out egeiner. Cross-examined by Mr. Cox. Q. Did these prisoners say they were or had been by the oil business? A. They said they were in it.
Q. Was that during the first or latter part of the

eeks.
Q. Did they say suything when they went away
cm your house, where they were going? A. To Pennsylvania, Q. Did they say anything about having aban-hed the oil business? A. No, not that I recollect, Q. Were they much in their rooms, or were they Q. Were they hatch in their rooms, or were they moving a bout?

A. They were not in their rooms a great deal.
Q. I'd they occupy it regularly at night?
A. They were not, sometimes.
Q. Do you fix the twentieth of March as the day they left?
A. If you can ascertain what night Booth played, I can tell you; it was the Manday following.
Q. Was Peacara the play?
A. Yes.
Q. You cannot speak with certainty of anybody being with them besides Booth?
A. No; not anybody that I know; others may have gone into their rooms; I could not say in regard to that.
Q. I ask you whether Booth's visits were most

gard to that.
Q. I ask you whether Booth's visits were most frequest in February or the latter part of the time they were there in March?
A. I think they were pretty much the same all through the time they were there. He was a pretty constant visitor. Q. Were you present at any conversations be-ween them? A. No; I was not. Q. You never heard any of their conversations? Q. Did they room up stairs?
A. No; in the back parior.

TESTIMONY OF BENEY WILLIAMS, COLORED. Q. State to the o'unt whether you are acquainted with the prisoners, O'Lamghlin and Arnold. Look and see it you remember to have seen them before, A I know Mr. O'Laughlin, but not Mr. Arnold. Q. Did you ever meet Mr. O'Laughlin's if so, . In Baltimore. When was that !

When was that !
In March last; I carried a letter to him.
From whom did you carry the letter to him?
From Mr. Booth.
Join Wilkes Booth, the actor? Yes, sir. Did you carry the letter to him alone, or to in and Arnold?

A. I carried one to Arnold and gave it to a lady, and the said she would give it to him.

Mr. Coxe here said that unless this question was to be followed up he would object to it.

The objection of the counsal was overruled and the examination proceeded.

Q. So you delivered it at the boarding house of O'Laughlin. Did he tell you where O'Laughlin lived?

lived?
A. He said on Exeter street.
Q. But, did you carry a letter to Arnold?
A. No sir, I carried one up there to the house;
I did not know who it was for, myself.
Q. Who from?
A. Mr. Booth gave it to me; he first called me ard asked me if I would take a letter down there;
I didn't know for whom it was; he just told me to carry it to the rumber that was on the letter.
Q. You carried more than one?
A. Two.

Q. You carried moto than the ...
A. Two.
A. Two.
Q. To whom did you deliver the second?
A. To Mr. O'Laughlin.
Q. Do you know for whom it was?
A. He told me it was for Mr. O'Laughlin; I knew Mr. O'Laughlin, and was glad whom I saw him, the theatre, because it saved one night's walking.
Q. For whom old O'Laughlin say the letter was?
A. Well, I said here is a letter Booth gave me for u, and that was all. Q. Booth told you, then, this letter was for "Laughin! Mr. Cox, here remarked again: I must object to its evidence, as it is not followed up as to what he

Mr. Cox, here remarked again: I must object to thie evidence, as it is not followed up as to what he did after the receipt.

The Judge Advocate General remarked that the object was simply to show the intimacy of these men by their correspondence.

Mr. Cox, said be objected to any evidence of Booth's rending a letter to any individual. It was simply an act of Booth's own, to which the defendant was not privy.

The Judge Advocate General then said that they did not effer the letter in evidence at all, but simply their correspondence with each other.

The objection was finally entered upon the record, but was everywhed by the court. out was overruled by the court.

Q. When did I understand you to say this letter was carried?
A. It was in March.
Q. Are you sure?

A. Yes, sir. in. March last.
Q. Late or early in March?
A. About the middle of the month; I was coming along there, near the mineral water store, and he said. "Couldn't I take a note for him?" I said I sould; I had to go in front; he said for me to take the rote, and he would pay me; I asked him where,

theatre?
A. The Holliday street Theatre.
Q. You say you found O'Laughlin in the theatre;
what part of the theatre?
A. In the dress circle, in the afternoon.
Q. How did you find him—
A. I west up with Pitch and found him there.
Q. All you know about it is that you just gave the nore to him and came away?
A. Yes, sir.

Q. Do you know Sterns' clothing store?
A. Yes, sir.
Q. Was it over that?
A. No, sir; I think it was further up the avenue.
Q. What time did you get through dinner?
A. It took us over an hour.
Q. Where did you go after dinner?
A. Around town again, and we went on a visit.
Q. Was O'Laughlin with you all the time?
A. I can't say he was after dinner; but I recollect that between four and five o'clock he went with me to a retend's house.

that between four and five o'clock he went with me to a friend's house.
Q. To pay a visit?
A. Yes, sir; and we had dimer a second time.
Q. That was on Friday?
A. Yes, sir.
Q. How soon did you leave there?
A. We left there about six o'clock.
Q. You are not certain that O'Laughlin was with you all the afternoon; you don't suppose he was with you between the first and second dinner?
A. I am not positive; I think we separated.
O'Laughlin and Henderson going one way, and 'Mi-ohan's myself another.

has and myself another.
Q. You are not certain?
A. No, air.
Q. After five o'clock where did you go?

A. After we came up from the place near the Baltimore depot, where we had paid the visit, we returned to the Lee Shore House, and then were ed by the other two.
. How late was that? Q. How sate was that; A. I don't exactly recollect; we stald around there until between I and 8 o'clock, and then went back to Welch's and had supper; we were there at the time the procession passed up the avenue to the

avy yard.
Q. Wrat time was that?
A. Between 8 and 9 o'clock.
Q. How late did you stay there?
A. Until our supper was ready; we then went to be Lee Shore House. Did you stay there till you went to bed?

1 did, sir. Do I understand you to say you were there af-

or the assassimation?
A. Yes, sir.
Q. Where is the house?
A. Between Third and Four-and-a-half streets, lear the Globe office; the second door, I believe, from he Globe office.
Q. Did you speak to O'Laughlin when he was in the party with Fowler? . Yes, sir. . Was not that after you received the news o I am not certain.
Were you all there? Yes, sir. Where did you stay that night?

I'ld O'Laughlin?
Not that I know of.
Had you been drinking? A. Yes, sir.

Q. Now charge your memory whether it was after the news of the assassination reached you or I should judge it was about 10 o'clock. . Where was Murphy?
. He had lett us in the avenue.
. He was not with you at that time?

A. No, sir.
Q. Where was Henderson?
A. In the bar-room, I believe.
Q. Now I will ask you, when you came down, on hursday, whether the whole party had not areaged to go back on Friday?
A. Yes, that was the intention; at least I undertood to. dio. During this visit did you see anything in aughlin, anything desperate, which could lead u to suppose— Dijected to by the Assistant Judge Advocate tham.

How was his conduct?

The same as I ever saw; he was rather joyial.

Was he in good spirits?

Very much so soming down to the cars.

I will ask you whether you were near Willard's Hotel during Friday or Friday evening?
A. We were not as far up as Willard's, I think;
I don't recollect passing there.
Q. What induced you to stay later than you in-A. Well, it was the liquor.
Q. Didn't Licutenant Henderson press you to

stay?
The question was objected to by Assistant Judge Advocate Bingham, on the ground that it was a cross-examination as to Henderson, whose name was not on the record yet.

Major General Lew Wallace remarked that Mr. Henderson himself could be brought into Oburt. The court asked Mr. Coxe if the question was withdrawn, to which Mr. Coxe replied—No, sir.

The objection, however; was sustained by the court. onrt.
Q. You stated that probably the liquor kept you are; now I will sak you if anything else did?
A. I cannot say.
Q. State what time you went up to the depot in

Q. State what time you went up so the account the morning.

A. We did start to go at eleven on Saturday morning, and went as far as the depot, and Henderson went and got the tickets, but Henderson finally concluded to stay over the afternoon; O'Langhim was Wanting to go up to Baltimore, and says I to Henderson, if you press him to stay he will, and so we all concluded to stay until three in the evening.

Q. Then you went up at 3 in the evening?

A. Yes, sir.

Q. Then you went up at S in the evening?

A. Yes, sir.
Q. You say you met his brother, and that he said perties had been looking for him?
A. Yes, I remember the remark he made that he would not like to be arrested in his house; that it would be the death of his mether; his brother-in law went with us to the corner of Fayette and Exeter streets; we stopped there, and had a conversation, and 1 told him he had better stay at home, and that these parties would probably come again; he said, "No that it would be the death of his mother," and saked me to go up town with him, and I went up, but I do not recollect the name of the sirect; we got into the cars, and when we got out we returned home. EXAMINATION IN CHIEF BESUMED.

By Judge Holt. Q. Do you know the hour that D'Laughlin joined you on Thursday?
A. We all (cur went into the hotel together.
Q. At what hour?
A. About one or two o'clock.
Q. On Friday morning?
A. Yes.
Q. Where had you been the previous part of the bleth?

olght?

A. After supper we went to see the illuminations, and went a considerable distance up the avenue, and then turned back, and, at the invitation of Mr. Henderson, went into the Canterbury Music Hall.

Q. All of you? A. All of us,

2. Did you all continue together?

1. Yes, sir. Yes, sir. Did you go anywhere else?

A. No, sir.
Q. Didn't you on K street or L street?
A. No, sir; I can't say; I don't know where that street is myself.
Q. Can you state where you were besides at the Canterbury? Q. No; before that
A. We had supper previous to that, and took a
walk up the avenue.

TESTIMONY OF LIEUT. RENDERSON. Q. State whether you are acquainted with the prisoner, O'Laughlin. A. Yes, sir.
Q. Did you see him in this city on Friday, April A. Yes, sir; on Thursday and Friday.
Q. Do you know whether on either of those days ne visited Booth?

A. He fold me on Friday that he was to see him n the morning.

Cross examination by Mr. Coxe.

Q. Did he tell you he was to see him, or that he

ed. In the sea him?

A. He said he was to see him on Friday.

Q. Asif he had an engagement to see him?

A. He only said he was to see him; I can't say whether he had an engagement or not.

Q. Did he tell you what for?

A. No, sir.

Q. That is all, sir. A. That is all, sir.

TESTIMONY OF SAML. R. J. STREEG.

Q. Explain to the court how long you have known
O'Laughin?

A. I have known him for years.

Q. Did you see him in the month of April last,
sfore the assassination?

before the assassination?
A. I can't be positive about its being April, but it was well on the first of April.
Q. Did you see him with Booth?
A. I did.
Q. Did the association between them seem to be if an intimate fabture?
A. I'did.
Q. Did you see them converse in an intimate manier?

ner?...A. I did.
Q. Where was that?
A. I don't know the house; it was on the right hand side of the avenue as you go up to the Treasury Department.
Q. Inside? A. No, outside.
Q. Were they alone by themselves?
A. There were three of the party.
Q. Did the third party take any part in the con-

A. I think Booth was the speaker and the other party the listener.

Q. Did they suspend their conversation when you approached? said Booth was busy with his friend taking privately.
Q. Do you know this man?
A. No. sir.
Q. Describe him?
A. He was about my height, with ourly hair; he
was in a steeping position, as if taking to Booth; I
state the limenars to go too mean them.

"On Do you recognize any of the prisoners as being
the farm?
The witness continued the prisoners in the dock
and anwered:

and answered: A. Yes, sir. Q. Also with Atzerott? The question was objected to, and the objection was distanced.

(i) Habe you any opinion as to whether either of these is the man, but it is a delicate hughter; No, sir; I will not swear that the man, and the man, but it is a delicate hughter; No, sir; I will not swear that the man, but it is a delicate hughter; No, sir; I will not swear that the delicate questions: Ro, sir; 1 with however, the hardest whither you are the person reported to have seen Boothame Harold on the night of the assasshation.

1. I con't know Harold, and I heyer saw Booth but once after that.

but one after that.

Orose examination by Mr. Coxe.

Q. You say, you saw this conference at the house on the avenue. Can you talk where the house is?

A. I paid no attention to the locality; it is between Ninth and Eleventh streats, to the best of my recollection; I knew I was going up to Eleventh streats. recollection; I knew I was going up to Eleventh street.
Q. Can you speak with any certainty as to the date?
A. I could if I had tre passes that I obtained, then I could come nigh to it, but I can't now say positively as to the date.
Q. Might it not have been that you asked o'Laughlin to take a drink, and he have replied that Booth was busy with a friend?
A. Well, I am in no ways stingy, I might have done so. A. Well, I am to done so.

Q. And what was his answer in reply to your invitation to take a drink?

A. Robott known

A. Testimown of L. S. Spraeur.

By Judge Holt. Q. You have been clerk at the Kirkwood House,

A. Yes. sir.

Kirkwood House,
A. Yes, sir.
Q. Were you present when the room was broken open after the assassination?
A. Yes, sir.
Q. State what was found there.
A. All I saw was a revolver.
Q. Do you recollect that in the course of the day gome men called to inquire for Atzerott?
A. No, sir, I do not.
Qross-examination by Mr. Doster.
Q. When were you at the desk?
A. I came off duty at 12 in the morning.
Q. Did you observe anybody calling and asking for Atzerott?
A. No, sir.

TESTIMONY OF DAYID STANTON.
Q. Look upon the prisoner O'Laughlin and state to the court whether you ever saw him before; and if so, when and where?
A. I have seen him.
Q. Whigh is he?
A. That is him; he sits there between two soldiers diers.

Q. State when and where you saw him?

A. The night before the assassination, at the house
of the Secretary of War; I simply saw him there;
be remained some moments till I requested him to go out.
Q. Did you have any conversation with him in the house? d. Did you have any conversation with him in the house?

A. I asked him what his business was, and he asked where the Secretary was; I said he was standing on the stoop.

Q. Did he ask for anybody else but the Secretary?

A. No.

Q. Did he ask for any explanation while there?

A. No; at first I thought he was intradicated, but found afterwards that he was not.

Q. Was General Grant there that night?

A. Yes, in the room.

Q. Did he ask in regard to him?

A. Don't recollect that he did.

Q. Did he go when you told him?

A. Yes, sir.

was there are time you saw this man
A. Yes.
Yes.
Have you never saw him since?
I. Yes; on the Montauk as a prisoner.
How long after was that?
I. I don't remember the date; but it was the day y took Booth's body away from the vessel.
Was it dark or light?
Not very dark.
Mooblight?
No, sir; dark.
How was he dressed?
In black. In black. What kind of a hat had hat A slouched hat. Did he have a whole suit of black? Yes, sir. What kind of a coat?

A. A dress coat.
Q. Was bit yest black?
A. Yas, sir.
Q. Where does the Secretary ive?

A. On the corner of Fourteenth and K rom the corner of For Q. What peculiarity about the man election of identify num. . A. The hall was well lit up, and I was do t of him.

How far inside the door was you?

About ten feet, next to the library doo

What did you suppose his size was. in the hall?

A. About my height—five feet five, or dr. lenvel say.

Q. When you saw him on the Monitor, it standing or sitting?

A. He stood up; I had an indistinct view of the Monitor, it was so dark.

Q. You first thought that he was intoxicated that he was not?

A. Yea sir. Yes, sir. There were a good many people in

Yes, sir. Was there any one else about the ball No. sir. Who was on the doorsteps? The Secretary and another gentle oorsteps. He had got behind them? Yes, sir. Was General Grant in the parlor t

Yes, sir. Was that lit up? A. Yes, sir.
Q. Did he have the same beard as he has
A. I see no change, except from the shaving Testimony of ME. D. C. Read,
Q. State whether you were acquainted with John N. Surett in this city?
A. I had no persons acquaintance with him Q. Do you know him when you see him!

Yes, sir. When did you last see him? On the 14th of April, the night of the gination. Q. In this city? A. Yes, sir.
Q. where did you see him then?
A. I was standing on the street, below the strend, when he passed; it was about half page O'clock.
Q. Was he slone?

Q. Was he stone?

A. Yes, str.
Q. Do you remember how he was dressed?
A. Yes, sir; in a country cloth sqit, ver,
texture and appearance; it was renteedly to
be had a round crowned hat; I noticed his spi
te passed me particularly; he had on a pair of
bress-plated spurs, with a very large rowel.
Q. He was on foot, was he?

* Yes etc.

Q. He was on foot, was he?
A. Yes, sir.
Q. What did you say was the color of his sight.
A. They were drab.
Q. Did you speak to him?
A. I howed to him as he passed.
Q. You stated you knew him quite a while?
A. I knew him when a entid ine had graphety much out of my recollection; still I within when I saw him.
Q. You have no doubt you saw him on that the A. I sm very positive I saw him.
Q. How long have you known Suratt?
A. I could not state positively the langth of the Q. Have you been in the habit of seeing him is quently during the past year?
A. I could not ray positively; I think I saw is me time last fall; I think in October.
Q. Describe his appearance.
A. He was a light-complected man; his half wrather singly; it was out round, so as to lay it down on his collar.
O. Did he wear any whickers when you less. on his collar. Did he wear any whiskers when you last im!
A. I don't recollect seeing any bair on his fact.
I); if he had any it was very light.
Q. Did you see anything of a goatse or mousta in him?
A. No, I did not notice his face so much; I

on him?

A. No, I did not notice his face so much; I was more attracted by the clothes he had on.

Q. What do you mean by drab of gray clothes:

A. I mean regular country cloth.

Q. Do I understand you to say you were standly on the steps of the National Hotel?

A. No, as it was two doors below.

Q. You had no talk with him?

A. No, sir.

Q. Can you swear positively it was Suratt!

A. I may be mistaken, but I am as certain it was he as that I am standing here.

Q. What is the state of his forehead?

A. I could not say; he had his hat on; my attrition was attracted to his clothes and his spur.

Q. You observed the clothes and the rowel my than his face?

A. I can't say my attention dwelt upon his face?

A. I can't say my attention dwelt upon his face? at all.

Q. How large a man is he! I don't mean

storped.
Q. How long did you have your eyesupon him
A. I saw him as he passed, and I turned Q. Did you see him again during the day ! A. No, sir.
By Judge Holt. Q. Did Suratt recognize you!
A. He bowed to me as he passed. Q. You say you gave a particular attention to be lething. Are you in the habit of judging them things?
A. Yes, sir; I make them myself. Q. You reside in Washington? Q. What is your business i A. I keep a livery slable.

I keep a livery slable. Are you acquainted with Booth I was, sir. Do you remember to have seen him on Frida A. Yes, sir; he came to my stable about 12, sgain at 4; he said he wanted a horse at 4 oc

on that day; he wanted a sorrel that he used to discount of could not let him have it, and I gave him a bay more, about 13 or 14 hands high.

Q. Was it returned to you?

A. I have never seen her since.

Q. Describe the mare.

A. She was a small mare; a little rubbed behind: she was a blood bay, black tail, with a little star of her forehead. she was a blood bay, black tail, with a little star of her forehead.

Q. Was he in the habit of hiring horses from you.

A. Yes; he first came in company with Surakhe saked me it I was the proprietor, and I saw yes; he wanted a horse; says I, "You we either have to give mereforence ersourity; I bon know you;" "Well," says he, "you have resabout me;" "Well," says he, "you have resabout ne;" "Well," says he, "you have resabout ne;" who have resabout ne;" which is sound surakt spoke up and said, "I'm is John Wilkes Booth;" and I let him have thorse.

Whire Booth, and Surett spoke up and said, "Phils is John Wilkes Booth," and I let him have the horse.

Q. How long was this before the assassination to an one month or six weeks.

Q. Look at that photograph; do you recognize it!

A. That is the man, sir.

Q. Did he ask for anything besides!

A. Only a neven; i took him not to hitch her by the bridle, but to get a boy to hold her; if he should happen to stop; he said he was going to Grover's Treatre to write a letter, and he would put her in a stable back of that; I told him if he couldn't get a boy, he could get a boot-black; he said he was going to take a pleasure ride, and seked "how is thrystal Springs" I told him it was a good place, but rather airy to go to.

Q. That was between four and dive o'clock?

A. Yes; I have never seen Booth since.

Q. Do you know any of them at all.

Cross-examination by Mr. Alken:

Q. Was Suratt with Booth?

A. Yes, sir; the first time I saw him; he never came with anybody eise.

Q. When was that?

A. Six weeks before the assassination.

Q. He was not with him on the Friday?

A. No; Mr. Hooth was always alone after that.

Q. What kind of a looking man was Suratt?

A. He was about five feet ten or eleven notes; and sandy hair and a light goatee; his eyes were sunken; he was thin in feature.

Q. How was he dressed?

A. He had on a gray suit, I think; I am not cortain.

Q. All the remarks he made was that one in refer-

Q. All the remarks he made was that one in refer-

A. Not at all, sir. A. IQUE BE BILL BIT.

TESTIMONY OF RUPUS STAPLES.

Q. Do you live in Washington City!

A. Yes, Sir.
Q. What is your business?
A. I keep a livery stable on G street.
Q. State whether you were acquainted with Booth Yes, sir. Also with Suratt?

Q. Also with Attentit :
A. Yes, sir.
Q. Did you see them together at your stable?
A. Yes, frequently.
Q. During what month?
A. Down to about the 31st or 29th of April.
Q. March, you mean?
A. Yes, sir; March.
Q. Were they unusually intimate?
A. They would come together three or four times per day sometimes.

A. They would come together three or four times per day sometimes.
Q. Tild they keep horses there?
A. Suratt kept two.
Q. Did the allow Atseroit to use his horses?
A. No, sir; he rode out occasionally with him.
Q. Did you ever see this note; "Mr. Howard will please let Atzeroit have my horses, and also my gloves, whenever he wishes to ride?" Who is Mr. Howard?
A. He is the proprietor of the stable.
Q. Do you know, whether under that order he rode Suratt's horse?
A. Several times, but after that date, I think, the order was rescanded. der was recoinded. Q. Look at that paper and see if you can identify it in any way.

A. I know this note; it came through my hand;
Q. How did the note reach the hands of Howard.
A. I know this note; it came through my hand;
Q. How did the note reach the hands of Howard.
A. I know and the horse go accordingly?
A. Yes, sir.
Q. Did you let the horse go accordingly?
A. Yes, sir.
Q. Do you remember what Atzerott said in regard to Surative visit to Richmond? did he speak to you of his having been there, or of any trouble he was involved in in conbequence?
A. He told me he had been to Eldhmond, and coming back got into difficulty, and that the detectives were after him.
Q. Do you rememember what time that was in April?
A. In the early part.

In the early part.
Did Atzerott himself hire horses of you? Q. Did Atzerott himsen mite nates of you.
A. No, sir; I think not, at that stable.
Q. Did he or old he not take away a horse blind of

one eye; under the owner's orders.
Q. Who was the owner!
A. Suratt.
Q. When did he take that horse away!
A. On the 31st; it was paid for on the 29th.
Q. Describe the animals taken!
A. They were both bay; one was larger than the other; the one that was blind of one eye was the smallest horse.

other; the one that was blind of one eye was the smallest horse.

Q. Were you paid for keeping them?

A. Hooth paid for their keep.

Q. Did you see the horse afterwards?

A. Yes, at the stable; he took him there to self him to Mr. Howard.

Q. Who; Atzerott?

A. Yes, and he took him away.

Q. Who claimed the horse?

A. Suratt; Suratt claimed them, Booth paid for their keeping, and Atzerott took them away; there was another gentleman who came and rode with one of hom away.

Q. Who was he?

A. I don't know.

Q. Do you think you would recognize the horse that was blind of one eye if you were to see him?

A. Yes, sir. A. Yes, sir.
The Assistant Judge Advocate then ordered that

the witness betaken in an ambilance to see the horse at Nineteenth and I streets, thus Judge Advocate Caperal remarking that they whished to examine him further when he returned.

THETHEMY OF PETER PLATTERVUEL.

By Judge Holt. Q. Please state to the court whether you knew J. Wilkes Booth?

A. Yes. A. Yes, sir.

Q. At what hour was that?

A. About 10½ o'clock; there was a crowd there and a band serenating General Grant and the Secretary of War.

Q. Do you know anything of a man being seen lunking about the premises?

A. No, sir; it was 11 o'clock before I got there; its inquiry was simply where the Secretary of War was; I then pointed him out to him, but he did not go to see him, nor did he tell what his business was.

Cross examined by Mr. Coxe;

Q. was that the first time you saw this man A, Yes.

Q. Have jou asver saw him sines?

A. Ves. of the was a crowd there whether, nor not you saw Booth in you'restaurant on the evening of the 14th of April?

A. Yes, was there just about 10, or a little after, that night'.

Q. State wh at occurred, and under what circumstances you sow him!

A. He just was was into the bar and called for same whisty and a tump. Jer; I did not give him water at occe, he is usual; he called for water, and I gave it to him; he put so me money on the counter, and want wight.

Q. Was your restaurant under Ford's Pheatre! A. It is on this side of Ford's Theatre, adjoining A. Lonly observe where he went from the par.
Q. Was he alone?

Q. Was he alone?
A. Yes, sir.
Q. Was he there in the afternoon?
A. I did not see him.
Q. How many minutes was it after he went out
bufors you heard the report of a pistol?
A. I did not hear the report of a pistol?
Q. How long before you heard the President was
canadinated? Seasonated?
A. I think from 8 to 10 minutes, as near as I can Are you acquainted with the prisoner Harold! Q. Are you acquainted was A. Yes, sir.
Q. When did you see him?
A. I saw him either the night of the murder of