

SUPPLEMENT

THE NATION'S LOSS

President Garfield's Death at Elberon.

PASSING QUIETLY AWAY

Mrs. Garfield, Her Daughter, Dr. Bliss, Dr. Agnew and a Few Personal Friends Present.

SAD SCENE AT HIS BEDSIDE.

General Arthur Takes the Oath of Office in New York.

THE MURDERED PRESIDENT'S CAREER.

Sketch of His Successor, Chester Alan Arthur.

RECORD OF THE CASE.

LONG BRANCH, September 19.—The President of the United States died tonight unexpectedly at 10:35 o'clock. Between 9 and 10 o'clock almost all the correspondents who had been closely watching the case left the Elberon and went to the West End to finish their dispatches and place them upon the wires there. The information that the President was sinking fast was sent to the West End hotel at 10:45. At once the correspondents and others hastened to Elberon. When they reached that spot no particulars could be learned. At first Warren Young had brought the news across the lawn to the hotel. At 11:05 Attorney-General MacVeagh appeared in the hotel, took possession of the Western Union wire in the name of the government and sent to Vice-President Arthur a dispatch informing him in the briefest manner that the President was dead, and saying that he would at once consult the other members of the cabinet. The members of the cabinet were at once summoned. In a few minutes, having started from the West End before the reception of the summons, they were at Elberon, and, arm in arm, they walked across the lawn in the darkness to the Franchlyn cottage, where the dead President lay.

At 11:02 Attorney-General MacVeagh came to the Elberon hotel and made the following statement: "I sent my dispatch to Minister Lowell about 10 o'clock. Just before that Dr. Bliss had seen the President, and had found that his pulse was 106, and that all his conditions promised a quiet night. He asked the President if he felt uncomfortable anywhere, and the President answered, 'Not at all.' Soon afterward the President fell asleep, and Dr. Bliss retired to his room across the hallway, while General Swain and Colonel Rockwell remained with the President. About 10:15 o'clock the President said to General Swain that he was suffering great pain, laying his hand near his heart. Dr. Bliss was immediately called for across the hall, and when he entered the room he found the President unconscious and substantially without pulse, while the action of the heart was almost indistinguishable. He said at once that the President was dying, and directed them to send for Mrs. Garfield and Drs. Agnew and Hamilton. The President remained in a dying condition until 10:35 o'clock, when life was pronounced to be extinct. He died of some affection of the heart. It was supposed that neuralgia of the heart was the cause, but, of course, that is not certainly known as yet. I have notified the Vice-President and have endeavored to notify Secretaries Blaine and Lincoln, who are on the track from Boston to New York." The other members of the cabinet were called from West End and are now in consultation.

The following persons were present when the President breathed his last: Drs. Bliss, Agnew and Hamilton; Mrs. Garfield and her daughter Mollie; Colonel Rockwell, O. C. Rockwell, General Swain, Dr. Boynton, Private Secretary J. Stanley Brown, Mrs. and Miss Rockwell, Executive Secretary Warren Young, H. L. Atchison, John Ricker, S. Lancaster, and Daniel Spriggs, attendants, the last-named colored.

Mrs. Garfield sat in a chair shaking convulsively, and with the tears pouring down her cheeks, but uttering no sound. After awhile she arose, and taking hold of her dead husband's arm, smoothed it up and down. Poor little Mollie threw herself upon her father's shoulder on the other side of the bed and sobbed as if her heart would break. Everybody else was weeping slightly. At midnight Mrs. Garfield was asked if she would like to have anything done, and whether she desired to have the body taken to Washington. She replied she could not decide until she became more com-

posed. A dispatch was sent to W. H. Crump, the custodian of the White House, announcing the sad news.

Attorney-General MacVeagh was the first member of the cabinet to get the news. He ran bareheaded through the darkness across the lawn from his cottage to the Franchlyn cottage, followed by his wife, and the first dispatch of sympathy received came from General Arthur.

The President's Last Moments.

ELBERON, September 19, 1881.

The deathbed scene of the President was a peculiarly sad and impressive one.

As soon as the doctors felt that there was no longer hope, the members of the



family assembled. The lights in the sick room were turned down. Dr. Bliss stood at the head of the bed, with his hand on the pulse of the patient, and consulted in low whispers with Dr. Agnew. The private secretary stood on the opposite side of the bed, with Mrs. Garfield at the bedside, she at times leaning on his arm. Miss Lulu Rockwell and Miss Mollie Garfield came into the room at the time the President lost consciousness, afterward they went into the hall, the door of which remained open, and waited there. What conversation was had was conducted in whispers. Those about the bed occasionally went into the corner of the room and spoke to each other. The solemnity of the occasion fully impressed itself upon them. There was no sound heard except the gasping for breath of the sufferer, whose changing color gave indication of the near approach of the end. After he had repeated "It hurts!" he passed into a state of unconsciousness, breathing heavily at times, and then giving a slight indication that the breath of life was still in his body. The only treatment that was given was hypodermic injections of brandy by Dr. Agnew, assisted by Dr. Boynton. Occasionally they spoke with Dr. Bliss, in quiet whispers. The President suffered no pain after the time he placed his hand upon his heart. He passed away almost quietly. The line between life and death was marked by no physical exhibition nor any word. There was absolutely no scene. The intervals between gaspings became longer and presently there was no sound. Every one present knew that death had come quickly without pain. When it became evident that he was dead Mrs. Rockwell placed her arm around Mrs. Garfield and led her quietly from the room. She uttered no word. One by one the spectators left the scene, the doctors only remaining in the room, and the windows were closed. Directly afterward Private Secretary Brown telegraphed the boys, James and Harry, at Williams college, Massachusetts, and Mrs. Eliza Garfield; these were the first dispatches sent after the death.

The First News of the Event.

LONG BRANCH, September 19.—At 10:35 o'clock Doctor Boynton was sitting in the office of the Elberon hotel talking with some newspaper men about the case. Suddenly a man's form appeared at the side-door and beckoned to the doctor, who sprang to his feet and went outside. He returned in a minute and said: "The President is now sinking very rapidly," at the same time throwing up his hands with an expressive motion. A dispatch was instantly sent to the West End hotel, and in less than a minute forty carriages filled with newspaper correspondents were dashing through the darkness in the direction of the Elberon. Hardly had Dr. Boynton disappeared than Captain Ingalls, the commander of the guard, ran across the lawn. He was asked whether the news was as bad as was supposed. "I think it is," was the reply; "I think the President has another rigor." "Why?" was asked. "Because," he answered, "the sergeant on duty has ordered a soldier to mount and go for some mustard in haste." A moment later Messrs. Atchison and Ricker walked over from the cottage, and seated themselves

upon the hotel porch. They were not aware of anything alarming. In another instant a bright light flashed from the President's window, showing that the gas had been suddenly turned on and they both ran toward it. In the meantime the newspaper men had swarmed into the hotel. For a short period they were compelled to remain in suspense. Then, at 10:53, Mr. Warren Young, the executive secretary, who has taken Miss Edson's place as nurse, appeared, carrying two dispatches. One was dispatched to the boys at Williams college and the other to Mrs. Eliza Garfield, the President's mother, and a formal warrant taking possession of the Elberon telegraph office in the name of the government.



He was surrounded by the eager crowd, whom he scattered like chaff by the announcement: "It's all over. He is dead!" Back at break-neck pace the carriages flew over the shockingly bad road, and in less than five minutes a hundred dispatches were flashing the news to all parts of the country and the world.

When the President died the members of the cabinet who were living at the West End—Secretaries Hunt, Windom, James and Kirkwood—were retiring for the night. A dispatch announcing the news was sent up to the West End over the single wire which connects the two places. The news was proclaimed in the West End hotel, and was heard by Assistant General Superintendent of the Railway Mail Service, John Jameson, who verified it, and then ran across the street to the cottages where the members of the cabinet and their families had rooms. He also hastily ordered carriages for them, and in a few minutes the members of the cabinet were on their way to Elberon. As soon as they reached the cottage they sent the carriages back for Mrs. James and Mrs. Hunt, who came to the cottage and went to the room where Mrs. Garfield was.

Dr. Bliss's Last Diagnosis.

LONG BRANCH, September 19.—The cabinet, who were all here this morning with the exception of the secretary of state and the secretary of war, asked the physicians this morning for an honest prognosis of the case. They were told that the case was almost hopeless, that a person who had less vitality than the President has, would be pronounced beyond hope. Dr. Agnew said that the President's condition was as bad as could be, but that he was not yet quite prepared to say that there was absolutely no hope. At the same time the cabinet heard that which satisfied them that the President was suffering from acute pyemia, and had not long to live.

During the morning the following diagnosis of the President's case was dictated by Dr. Bliss: "After he was wounded the limited area of traumatic trouble in the lower portion of the lobe of the right lung was found due to hypostatic congestion. This was caused by proximity to the inflamed diaphragm perforated by the bullet, the inflammation being aggravated by nearness to the fractured rib. This congestion increased in intensity, though not in area, owing to the long-continued recumbent position of the patient. There was no difficulty in breathing, and no cough at that time, nor until the parotid trouble. When the latter became aggravated the pus from the gland found its way into the mouth, and the coughing efforts to throw it off being difficult and continuous, induced an inflammation of the mucous membrane of the mouth. The pus continuing to cause this cough, the inflammation extended to the throat, then to the larynx, and thence to the bronchial tubes downward. This inflammation naturally extended to the right, because the patient nearly all the time lay on that side, and when it reached the neighborhood of the affected lung was naturally invited in that direction. During all this time the septic condition of the blood was doing its work, and when the lung and the bronchial affection at last met they found a deranged and enfeebled system at a very low grade. Still the lesions were all repairing at this

time. The conjunction of the two inflammations came at the best opportunity for the dissemination of the combined activities of each, and there was a spreading of the united troubles. The healing of the lesions was stopped at about this time, and the repairing process was arrested. We do not know yet if the result has been a deposit of pus in the lungs. If any pus is now in the right lung it is not indicated, and the deposit must have occurred within the past three or four days, and the amount would be extremely small. If there was not in nutrition the patient would be able to resist the successful operation of all these causes even yet, but there is in nutrition. The healing process is stopped. The blood cannot



furnish the constituents of repair, and there is nothing to build on, nor even to support what vitality is still left, and that is being continually drawn on and diminished."

Secretary Blaine was notified by telegraph, and Secretary Lincoln, who is at Rye Beach, was also informed, and the secretary of war replied that he would leave by the first train, and be at Long Branch on Tuesday morning. Secretary Blaine did not respond to the telegram, and the cabinet surmised that he probably was on his way from Augusta to Long Branch. All through the morning there were very few about the President's cottage who had any hope. The morning bulletin read like a death knell. One incident at the private secretary's cottage which may have meant nothing in itself, added to the alarm. Boxes were being prepared for shipment. Some were marked "Mentor," some "Washington." It seemed as if the end was coming.

The following are the official bulletins to-day:

9 A. M.—The condition of the President this morning continues unfavorable. Shortly after the issue of the evening bulletin he had a chill lasting fifteen minutes. The febrile rise following continued until 12 o'clock, midnight, during which time the pulse ranged from 112 to 130. The sweating that followed was quite profuse. The cough, which was troublesome during the chill, gave but little annoyance during the remainder of the night. This morning at 8 o'clock the temperature was 99.8; pulse, 106; and febrile respiration, 22. At 8 1/2 A. M. another chill came on, on account of which the dressing was temporarily postponed.

12:30 P. M.—The chill from which the President was suffering at the time the morning bulletin was issued lasted about fifteen minutes, and was followed by a febrile rise of temperature and sweating. He has slept much of the time, but his condition has not materially changed since. Temperature, 99.2; pulse, 104, and respiration, 20.

6 P. M.—Though the gravity of the President's condition continues, there has been no aggravation of symptoms since the noon bulletin was issued. He has slept most of the time, coughing but little, and with ease. The sputa remains unchanged. A sufficient amount of nourishment has been taken and retained. Temperature, 98.4; pulse, 102; respiration, 18.

Mr. MacVeagh sent the following dispatch to Minister Lowell at 10 P. M.:

The President had another chill of considerable severity this morning which, following so soon after the chill of last evening, left him very weak and feeble than at any time since he recovered from the immediate shock of the wound, and his general condition was more alarming during the day. His system has reacted to some extent, and he passed the afternoon and evening comfortably. At this hour he is resting quietly, and no disturbance is expected during the night. There has been no gain whatever in strength, and there is therefore no decrease of anxiety.

The Last Official Bulletin.

ELBERON, N. J., Sept. 19.—11:30 P. M. The President died at thirty-five minutes past 10 P. M. After the bulletin was issued at half-past 5 this evening the President continued in much

the same condition as during the afternoon, the pulse varying from 102 to 106 with rather increased force and volume. After taking nourishment he fell into a quiet sleep about thirty-five minutes before his death, and while asleep his pulse ran to 120, and was somewhat more feeble. At ten minutes after 10 o'clock he awoke complaining of severe pain over the region of the heart, and almost immediately became unconscious, and ceased to breathe at twenty-five minutes to eleven.

D. W. BLISS.

FRANK H. HAMILTON.

D. HAYES AGNEW.

The Summons to General Arthur.

LONG BRANCH, Sept. 19.—The follow-



ing dispatch was sent to General Arthur at 11:50 o'clock:

The Hon. Chester A. Arthur, No. 123 Lexington Avenue, New York:

It becomes our painful duty to inform you of the death of President Garfield and to advise you to take the oath of office as President of the United States without delay. If it occurs with your judgment we will be very glad if you will come here on the earliest train to-morrow morning.

WILLIAM WINDOM, Secretary of the Treasury.
WILLIAM H. HUNT, Secretary of the Navy.
THOMAS L. JAMES, Postmaster-General.
WALTER MACVEAGH, Attorney-General.
S. J. KIRKWOOD, Secretary of the Interior.

How General Arthur Received the News.

General Arthur spent the day and evening in his house, No. 123 Lexington Avenue, New York, where he received his first intelligence of the President's death. The news was brought by a messenger boy and was confirmed by a number of telegraphic messages which poured in from Elberon within the next half-hour. With General Arthur at the time were Commissioner of Police Stephen B. French, District Attorney Daniel G. Rollins, Elihu Root and John C. Reed, his private secretary. The colored door-keeper was asked if the general would give the press any information as to his probable movements.

"I don't ask him," was the reply. "He is sitting alone in his room sobbing like a child, with his head on his desk and his face buried in his hands. I dare not disturb him."

The general's son, who had heard the news, came driving furiously up to the house in a coupe about midnight, and shortly afterward Barney Biglin and P. C. VanWyck walked up the avenue. Mr. Biglin stood on the sidewalk and awaited the reappearance of his companion, who had been admitted to the house. Half a dozen uniformed messengers sped up the street within the next half-hour and disappeared for a moment within the vestibule door. At 12:23 came the formal notification of the President's death, dated Elberon, and signed by the members of the cabinet.

Although declining to see members of the press, General Arthur was not altogether oblivious of the anxiety which they manifested in his movements. He authorized the statement that he had received a number of dispatches in relation to the death of President Garfield, all of which, however, he considered confidential, save the formal message from the cabinet. A few minutes before 1 o'clock General Arthur's friends retired, and soon after Commissioner French disappeared around the corner of Twenty-eighth Street, and a roundsman, accompanied by a patrolman, appeared and stationed themselves in front of No. 123.

General Arthur Sworn In.

Ten minutes before 2 o'clock District Attorney Rollins and Mr. Root returned accompanied by Judge John R. Brady, of the supreme court, and twenty minutes afterward Commissioner French appeared with Judge Donohue, also

of the supreme court. The entire party proceeded to General Arthur's front parlor, where the new President was found. Judge Brady greeted the general very warmly, and after a short conversation the judge took from a table nearby a book containing the oath of fealty to the government, and administered it to the successor of General Garfield as follows:

"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."

In the room at the time were Judge Donohue, Commissioner French, Elihu Root and Colonel Reed. The ceremony was simple, but not impressive. President Arthur's manly form towered above all, and he was evidently deeply affected. Several times he left the room, being unable to control his emotion. Judge Brady and Judge Donohue were almost overcome by sympathy with both the deceased and living Presidents.

The room in which the President took the oath of office is shrouded with books. In the center is a table, and the carpet is rich and dark. Paintings by old Italian masters, in Florentine frames, adorn the walls, and a bust of Henry Clay is in the corner, nearest one of the windows. The furniture is covered with white cretonne, and easy chairs and sofas abound.

Immediately after taking the oath President Arthur sank into one of the chairs in the room and buried his face in his hands. He was thoroughly overcome.

After a few minutes he rose and went up to the second floor. It was announced that he would not leave the city until some time during the next day.

The visitors at the house departed at about 3 A. M.

The presence of two supreme court judges at the general's residence was a cause for wonder to many. The fact was, however, that when General Arthur decided to be sworn in word was immediately sent through Messrs. Rollins, French and Root to Judge Brady. Shortly after, thinking that perhaps Judge Brady might not be at home, General Arthur sent for Judge Donohue. The first-named judge having arrived first was chosen to administer the oath.

No. 123 Lexington Avenue, which becomes historic, is one of a row of plain brick dwellings, three stories in height, with a veneering of brown stone for its front. Save the presence of half a dozen carriages and a group of reporters, there was nothing unusual in the street outside that would indicate that an event of historical importance was occurring behind the closed green blinds of the Arthur residence.

The following telegram was sent to Attorney-General MacVeagh:

New York, September 19.

Hon. Wayne MacVeagh, Attorney-General, Long Branch:

I have your telegram, and the intelligence fills me with profound sorrow. Express to Mrs. Garfield my sympathies.

Signed, CHESTER A. ARTHUR.

Guiteau Hears the News.

Guiteau was not informed of the President's death until the afternoon following that sad event. Warden Crocker visited the prisoner for this purpose, and was asked immediately how the President was. The warden replied that he was dead. Guiteau displayed little emotion on learning the fact, and only remarked: "Is that so?" then, after a slight pause, he continued: "When did he die?" On being told he heeded: "Well, the whole matter was in the Lord's hands. I was sorry to have the President suffer so long, and I am glad it is all over. I hope that God has saved his soul. As for me, I have simply carried out the Lord's will." After this conversation he resumed his correspondence, which is apparently voluminous, and appeared to suffer under no excitement or emotion whatever. Whether this apathy is real or assumed for a purpose is a matter for conjecture. If assumed it is doubtless a part of his plan to make out a case of mild insanity.

President Garfield's Will.

A Washington dispatch says: In the early part of August it is said, the President signed a will which leaves all the property to his widow. On the same day, finding that he could write so well, he insisted on writing a letter to his mother, which he did. This letter found its way into the newspapers a few days afterward. From the same source it is learned that General Garfield owned real estate amounting to about \$25,000. This estimate includes the house he occupied in this city as a private residence during the last eight years he was in the House of Representatives.

General Garfield had his life insured for \$50,000 in two companies in New York. He took out a policy of \$10,000 in the Equitable Assurance society soon after his nomination to the presidency. The premium fell due and was paid at Long Branch in June, a few days before he was shot. The society sent its check to its agent in Philadelphia on the day after the President's death, with instructions to pay the amount of the policy to Mrs. Garfield at once. In May last General Garfield was insured for \$25,000 in the New York Life Insurance company. The policy was written out in the White House.

When he entered Williams college, in 1854, General Garfield insured his life for \$200 in the Mutual Life Insurance company of New York. He used this policy as security for a loan of \$500. He repaid the loan after graduation with money earned in teaching school.