

THE ANNIVERSARY OF THE ASSASSINATION OF LINCOLN; A MINNEAPOLIS MAN'S STORY OF THE GREAT TRAGEDY

Ed A. Stevens, Who Witnessed It, Corrects Some Erroneous Statements Concerning the Shooting of the Beloved President—How It Happened that the Descriptions of the Alleged Assassin, Sent Out by the Government, Were Incorrect.

NEW-YORK DAILY TRIBUNE.

HIGHLY IMPORTANT!

The President Shot!

Secretary Seward Attacked.

FIRST DISPATCH.

WASHINGTON, Friday, April 14, 1865.—The President was shot in the theater to-night, and perhaps mortally wounded.

SECOND DISPATCH.

To Editors: Our Washington agent orders the dispatch about the President "stopped." Nothing is said about the truth or falsity of the dispatch.

Fourth Page of the New York Tribune.

As Union

at time that this fact was generally recognized.

The events of last night in Washington will strike with profound horror the whole American people. At this moment of writing, we have only a partial announcement of the facts, and have neither the data nor the spirit for comment.

The Change to Peace—The First Movement. Probably no act of.

Editorial from the New York Times, April 15, 1865.

ST. PAUL, SUNDAY, APRIL 16, 1865

Pioneer

THE LATEST BY TELEGRAPH.

PRESIDENT LINCOLN KILLED BY AN ASSASSIN.

Shot Through the Head at the Theatre.

the Assassin Leaps upon the Stage and Escapes in the Rear of the Theatre.

Same Hour Mr. Seward is Assassinated in his Bed.

LATEST BY TELEGRAPH

A NATION MOURNS

PRESIDENT LINCOLN ASSASSINATED.

SECRETARY SEWARD MURDERED IN HIS BED.

DEATH OF THE PRESIDENT YESTERDAY MORNING.

Frederick Seward Dangerously Wounded.

WASHINGTON CITY: SATURDAY, APRIL 15, 1865.

READING MATTER ON EVERY PAGE. SEE OUTSIDE FOR INTERESTING TELEGRAPHIC AND OTHER MATTER.

EXTRA.

THE DEATH OF THE PRESIDENT.

At 22 minutes past seven o'clock the President breathed his last, closing his eyes as if falling to sleep, and his countenance assuming an expression of perfect serenity. There were no indications of pain, and it was not known that he was dead until the gradually decreasing respiration ceased altogether.

Rev. Dr. Gurley, (of the New York Avenue Free-church), immediately on his being ascertained that life was extinct, knelt at bedside and offered an impressive prayer, which was

5, 1865.

SECOND EDITION.

DEATH OF THE PRESIDENT

ABRAHAM LINCOLN IS DEAD!

If tears had audible language, a shriek would go up from these States, which would startle the world from its propriety.

Strong men use the impressive language of women—TEARS. Women bow their heads in the dust. Children sleep troubledly.

Words are at this time weak and vain. Let the monuments speak for themselves.

"THIS GREAT SHALL HAVE A LIVING MONUMENT!"

Washington Evening Star, Second Page.

Washington Daily Morning Chronicle, First Page.



ED. A. STEVENS, In the Uniform of the Old First Minnesota, 1861.

Forty-one years ago today—April 16th, 1865—the nation was enshrouded in the deepest gloom. Abraham Lincoln, the president, now defined as "the savior of his country," and even then beloved as no other man in the United States, had been shot down by an assassin in the theater and expired at twenty-two minutes past 7 o'clock in the morning.

The day was Saturday and the people upon arising, in the eastern states, were for the most part acquainted with the terrible news. In the larger cities, in downtown districts, the news had been disseminated and there were crowds about the newspaper and telegraph offices.

The American newspaper was not then conducted as it is now. The reproductions of headings printed on this page indicate the crude facilities newspapers of that day had for obtaining news and their modest way of displaying it.

Other Assassinations.

The headlines from the Pioneer and the Press at St. Paul, since consolidated, but then separate newspapers, and the only dailies in Minnesota, did fairly well in comparison with their eastern contemporaries, telegraphic facilities considered, but what a contrast their pages offer with the pages of the papers of even twenty-six years later when President Garfield was shot on the morning of July 2, 1881.

The New York Herald bulletined his assassination in front of its office just seven minutes after Guiteau's bullet found its mark, and before President Garfield had been lifted into an ambulance. The circumstance that its Washington correspondent was standing at the telegraph office in the depot and witnessed the tragedy was responsible

for this remarkable feat of newspaper reporting.

The Minneapolis Journal Sept. 6, 1891, issued an extra announcing the assassination of President McKinley at the Pan-American exposition, just fifteen minutes after the event occurred, difference in time considered, and had four extras out within the succeeding hour and a half. Its bulletin reached the state fair grounds, where an enormous crowd was viewing an exciting race, even before the extra was issued, but was not read to the people until after the conclusion of the race, and was then held for some time for confirmation as to whether the president had been fatally wounded. The next regular edition of The Journal devoted twenty-seven columns to the assassination, a review of the life of McKinley and comment.

Witnessed by a Minneapolis Man.

There is living in Minneapolis today a former newspaper man who was at Ford's theater, who heard the fatal shot and saw John Wilkes Booth, the assassin leap upon the stage after firing it. He is Ed A. Stevens, a member of the old First Minnesota, then in Washington on detached duty at the headquarters of the

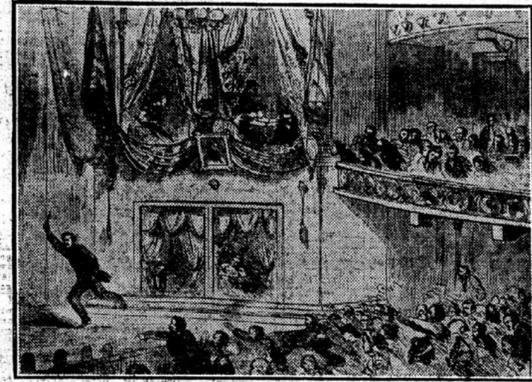
Army of the Potomac under Generals McClellan, Burnside, Hooker and Meade. He had been mustered out of the volunteer service and placed in charge of an army printing office, nominally connected with the surgeon general's office, but for a time the secret printing office of the war department.

He has a vivid recollection of the scene at the theater and the circumstances of the tragedy and says that he has never met anyone who was there at the time who saw and heard things just as he did, and that furthermore, he has never met any two eye-witnesses who agreed as to details—a contradiction due, he thinks, to the intense excitement occasioned by the sound of the shooting. He says:

Ed Stevens' Story.

The play presented that evening was "Our American Cousin," by the Laura Keane company, and the management had announced that in view of the fact that President Lincoln and his cabinet, accompanied by General Grant and other notables, were to attend, the play would be presented in its entirety and not as usually witnessed in America.

The advent of the presidential party created some applause, but nothing like as much as might have been properly expected; perhaps owing to the fact that Laura Keane was then on the stage and the center of attraction, it being her "benefit night." The play proceeded



HARPER'S WEEKLY DRAWING OF THE SCENE OF THE ASSASSINATION.

to the second scene of the third act, occupying little more stage space than was in front of the curtain line, when Mrs. Mount Cherrington said to Ann Trenchard, so-called the American cousin: "You don't understand the manners of good society," and left him alone on the stage as he responded, "I guess I know enough to turn you inside out." The audience laughed and applauded.

At this moment, when the stage was clear save for the one man about to leave it, two pistol shots were fired in quick succession, apparently without causing much uneasiness. Personally I thought: "There is one of the changes I have been looking for."

A second or two later, the draperies being thrust aside, a form crouched on the low rail of the box nearest the audience as the ready to spring, fell back, called again, jumped to the stage, and shouting "See semper tyrannus" in a stilted, staccato stride, walked rapidly across the stage and disappeared.

Laura Keane reappeared, and with John Drew, I think it was—stood just under the corner of the box farthest from the audience holding conversation with the occupants of the box, little of which was heard by the audience.

Then Laura Keane fairly shouted: "The president is shot. It's John Wilkes Booth." Still as the hush that follows a prayer in the chamber of the dying, the audience sat spellbound for a few seconds—they seemed minutes—then a voice here and there shouted: "Hang him!"

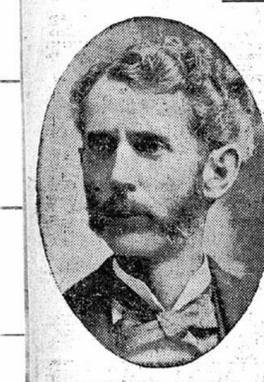
The crowd took up the cry and pandemonium broke loose. I doubt if a half minute expired

between the time of the first explosion of the pistol and the time when a score of men had reached the stage in pursuit of the assassin.

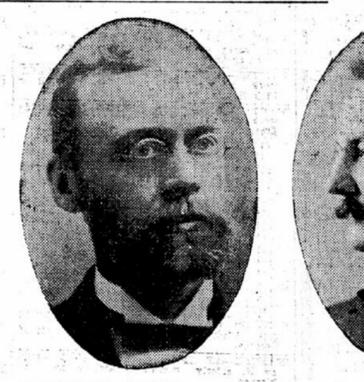
On my way home—it was before the days of the telephone—I was impressed with the rapidity with which the news had traveled. I was among the first to leave the theater, but it seemed as tho the occupants of every house for a dozen blocks knew what had happened. Scarcely clad, they sat at windows or stood in doorways and asked: "Is he dead?" "Are they all killed?" What awakened the multitude at that comparatively late hour I have never been able to learn; perhaps it was a case of "spontaneous telegraphy."

Scarcely had I reached home when a messenger summoned me to the war department, and an hour later my assistants were at the printing office. We spent the night in printing supposed descriptive cards, which were promptly scattered through the army and up and down the Potomac and nearby places. On one side of each card was a "description of John Wilkes Booth," and on the other an alleged portrait from an electrotype, most of the portraits representing Booth in one of his Shakespearean characters. A few hours later it was discovered that all three Booth brothers—Edwin, Junius Brutus and John Wilkes—were represented on the cards, and that the "description" was of a composite character, being the work of Edwin M. Stanton, secretary of war, who had hurriedly interviewed different persons as to the personal appearance of "Actor Booth." The manuscript was exhibited at "Bill King's last fair," and was in the collection I lost at the Brackett block fire in 1881.

This Week a Favorite in The Selection of Birthdays



JOHN TAYLOR FRATER.



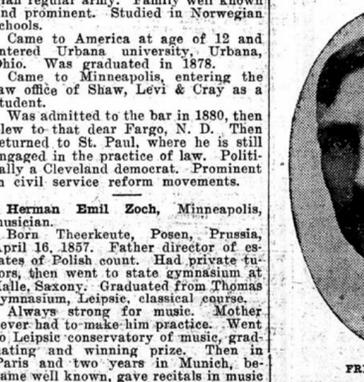
ALF E. BOYSEN.



HERMAN EMIL ZOCH.



JOSEPH ROBLETTER.



FREEMAN P. LANE.

John Taylor Frater, Brainerd, real estate and lands, newest member of the senate, 1904 to full term of late senator Ferris. Born April 19, 1848 on farm near Uniontown, Belmont county, Ohio. Scotch descent. Grandfather rector on Ohio division of the underground railway and prominent abolitionist. Educated in country schools, to Central college, Iberia, Ohio, commercial training in Pittsburgh. Got started teaching school 1870-1. Five years in grocery business in Iberia, Ohio, to Minnesota 1881; settled in Brainerd. With the Northern Pacific 1882. In business for a time, elected county treasurer in 1889, serving seven terms, fourteen years. Elected senator 1904 to full term of late senator Ferris. Prominent republican worker in northern Minnesota. Landmark at state conventions, gets there, a knowing, confidential wink of left eye. Mason, Shriner and K. P.

Herman Emil Zoch, Minneapolis, musician. Born Theerkeute, Posen, Prussia, April 16, 1857. Father director of estates of Polish count. Had private tutors, then went to state gymnasium at Halle, Saxony. Graduated from Thomas gymnasium, Leipzig, classical course. Always strong for music. Mother never had to make him practice. Went to Leipzig conservatory of music, graduating and winning prize. Then in Paris and two years in Munich, became well known, gave recitals in music centers. Came to America 1883; Minneapolis a year later. Prominent as teacher of piano. Has given 9,901 recitals in Minneapolis and made several tours to the cultured and talented east. Not afraid of the blackest music. Plays it all with one finger or ten.

Freeman P. Lane, Minneapolis, lawyer, Mainite and Excelorite. Born Eastport, Me., April 20, 1853. Of Scotch and Irish ancestry and tall but honest parents. Came to Minneapolis with parents in 1861, took a course as newsboy and bootblack, and was official bill poster from '62 to '65. Acquired a pickup education. During summers of '68 to '71 built telegraph lines thru Minnesota, Iowa and Dakota. Decided to be a lawyer and entered office of Albee Smith. Finished with two years at Albany law school and admitted to New York bar '74. Returned to Minneapolis and began practice of law with George W. Hall. A republican strong and elected to legislature in 1888. Now practicing here and becoming an expert in Minnetonka lore.

Sale of seeds.

Flower and Plant Dept.

MAY'S Northern Green Seeds—the most hardy and productive. Fresh stock; large assortments Flowers and Vegetables. Monday 12 pkts for 10c special. Sweet Peas; choice mixture, large blossom, special Monday, ounce, 5c. Nasturtium, large flowering variety, per ounce, 10c. Lawn Seed, in 1/4, 1/2 and 1-lb. packets.

Nicollet ave. First ave. so. Fifth street. MINNEAPOLIS.

Photo special

Studio, Fourth Floor.

ALL this week—ending Saturday evening, April 21—we will make a dozen of our "ARLINGTON FOLDERS," in Platinum finish,—our regular price \$3.50—for

\$1.75

Take Main Elevators.

Fourth great annual sale silverware;

prices one-third to one-half under regular.

EACH year these annual sales increase in interest. Each year we are forced to greater efforts to surpass the previous year's record. For this sale it pleases us much to state that enormous purchases enable us to quote values such as we have never known before—knowing well you will appreciate the savings. All the beautiful new 1906 patterns shown in splendid varieties. The selections are numerous, giving all a rare opportunity to buy wedding gifts, birthday remembrances, ware for your own use, and for any other purpose at liberal reductions—"nothing cheap but the price"—the qualities are unquestioned. A point we cannot emphasize too strongly is, these goods are not one of the many so-styled "Rogers" lines, but

the genuine Wm. A. Roger's ware. The sale begins Monday morning, April 16. Several groups arranged for easy choosing.

<p>Group One—Consisting of quadruple plated, satin finished or burnished Berry Dishes, Sugar Bowls, Bread Trays, Syrup Pitchers, Bon Bon Dishes, Card Receivers, Pickle Casters, Fruit Dishes. Regular prices \$1.50 to \$2—sale price, choice of lot... 98c</p>	<p>Group Two—Consisting of quadruple plated Cake Baskets, Berry Bowls, (Imported glass), Nut Bowls, Chocolate Pots, Bread Trays, Butter Dishes, Water Pitchers. Regular prices, \$3.50 to \$4.50. Sale, choice... \$2.48</p>	<p>Group Three—Consisting of quadruple plated 4-piece Tea Sets—butler, bright burnished or satin engraved. Regular prices \$10.00 to \$12.50 set—sale price, choice... \$8.48</p>	<p>Group Four—Consisting of Fruit Dishes, Salad Bowls, Baking Dishes, Butter Dishes, Nut Bowls, Water Pitchers, Cake Baskets. Regular price \$5. Sale price, choice of lot... \$3.48</p>	<p>Group Five—Consisting of Baking Dishes, Berry Dishes, Fruit Dishes, Salad Bowls, Cake Baskets, Bread Trays. Regular price \$6.50—sale price choice of lot... \$4.48</p>	<p>Group Six—Consisting of 2-piece Tea Sets, in assorted patterns. Regular prices \$3.95 to \$5.00 set—sale price, choice... \$2.98</p>	<p>Group Seven—Consisting of Cake Baskets, Sugar Bowls, Butter Dishes, Bread Trays, Crumb Trays, Cracker Bowls, Nut Bowls, etc. Regular prices \$2.00 to \$2.50—sale price, choice of lot... \$1.48</p>
<h3>Candelabras</h3> <p>Candelabras—like cut—beautiful new designs in French gray and bright burnished finish. Regular prices \$5.75 and \$6.50—sale price, choice... \$4.25</p>						
<h3>Roger's flat-ware</h3> <p>Wm. A. Rogers 12-Dwt. Knives and Forks. Regular price \$3 set of 12 pieces, sale price, set... \$2.25</p> <p>Roger's Tea Spoons—Regular price 69c set—sale price... 39c</p> <p>Roger's Soup Spoons—Regular price \$1.25 set—sale price... 85c</p>						