

PLAY BILLS

DRAWER 13A

FORDS THEATRE

713009 085 13305

The Assassination of Abraham Lincoln

Ford's Theatre Play Bills

Excerpts from newspapers and other
sources

From the files of the
Lincoln Financial Foundation Collection

Ford Theatre Playbills

#1 Perfect E copy - 4955 nights, Harvard.

#2 Song Copy - August E, 490, 5 nights. The same, revised printing.

✓ #3 Matted E copy - called Buckingham. Best copy of #1.

✓ #4 This Evening (Polish) newly set, different type. (no paper)

#5 Benefit (no exclamation mark) follow. Brown copy from #4.

#6 Snow in front copies from #3. Sold by Green.

#7 No. 129 undated. " " #3 #129 printed at 300.

#8 June Enlargement. Made from #4 (slightly larger than copy)

#9 Ford Harbor. Reduced from #4

Ford's Theatre Blueprints

Chicago Historical Society on wall outside replica of room in which Lincoln died.

Feb 3 1891

on the above charts. Peter Harn made affidavit that the bill (mentioned above) had been in his possession since the day of the assassination. The bill is identical to the one owned by the Lincoln National Life Foundation with the broken letters.

R. O. Polkyngher the printer also affirms that "the accompanying program is one of the original programs used on the occasion of the assassination of Abraham

Funder - - - The defect in the letter E.
in Miss Keen's name was caused by the
bite of one of the galleys on the Taylor cylinder
press. Mr Peter Hass was foreman of the office

signed by Polkyns

Compilation of Reprints.

- 1 ORIGINAL FIRST EDITION. See description
- 2 ORIGINAL SECOND EDITION. See description
- 3 REPRINT - PRESIDENT EDITION (Barnes Impart) under the title *Trilogy Evening*
April 14th 1865. ~~Three~~ Lines appear

THIS EVENING
The performance will be known by the presence of
PRESIDENT LINCOLN
- 4 REPRINT - PRESIDENT EDITION (POLKINHORN Impart)
same as above except imprint
- 5 Reprint - PRESIDENT

1. Morning Edition.

Wilson - page 92 (Palmerham Imprint)
(Likely Best original)

2. Evening Edition

a. Foundation Display Broadside

b. Tarbell - p. 32. - vol IV - Life of Lincoln
(facsimile of Lincoln's copy - Case copy)

c. Mcalay + Hay - History - Century Magazine p 435

(facsimile of Lincoln's copy - Emerson copy)

(Bourcicault spelled incorrectly)

3. Lincoln Edition

Broadside - Chicago Historical Society copy
(Polkinhorn Imprint)

Loughlin - page 78
(L. Brown Imprint)

Broadside (variant of Loughlin copy)
(L. Brown Imprint)
(Bourcault's spelled incorrectly)

4. Variant Editions

- a. variant edition taken from the book "The Life
of Laura Keane" (Bourcault spelled incorrectly)
Clark, Allen C. p. 96

Admiral Porter, in his second article in Belford's Magazine for October, relating to President Lincoln's entry into Richmond, states the following incident:

"We were all sitting on the upper deck about 8 o'clock that evening, when a man came down to the landing and hailed the *Malvern* (the vessel had come to off the city during the day), saying that he had dispatches for the president.

"I told the captain to send a boat to the shore to bring off the dispatches, but not to bring the bearer. The boat returned with neither dispatches nor man. The boat officer said the man would not deliver the dispatches to anyone but the president himself.

"'Let him come on board,' said the president.

" 'Don't you think we should be careful whom we admit after dark, sir?' I said.

"Well, yes," he replied, "but these dispatches may be from General Grant, and the man may be only obeying his orders literally".

"I ordered the boat to go back and bring the man on board, determined to stand near the president when the dispatches were delivered. I knew that General Grant would send dispatches only by an officer, and the midshipman in the boat told me this was not one. When the boat returned to the shore, the man was gone."

"As I suspected, he was a bogus dispatch bearer. The circumstance was very suspicious."

"Inquired about the appearance of the person when seen by the officer of the boat. 'He was a tall man with a black moustache, wore a slouch hat and a long cloak, a regular theatrical villain—one of the stereotyped play robbers.'

"That man was without doubt Wilkes Booth, who sought the president's life. It would have suited Booth's tragical spirit to slay him on such an occasion; it would have added greatly to the scenic effect."

J. R. P.

In this connection we quote from the article by the Ex-Confederate General Longstreet in THE CENTURY for July, 1885: "Without doubt the greatest man of rebellion times, the one matchless among forty millions for the peculiar difficulties of the period, was Abraham Lincoln."—EDITOR. *General*

FACSIMILE OF THE PROGRAMME USED
BY PRESIDENT LINCOLN ON THE
NIGHT OF HIS ASSASSINATION

The original (now owned by J. S. Case of Brooklyn) was found by J. T. Ford, proprietor of the theater, beside the chair in which the President sat at the time of the tragedy.

"J. B. C. writes to THE GLOBE and says: 'In HOWARD's letter last Sunday he mentions several coincidences that relate to his framed bill of an entertainment given on Friday night, April 14, 1865, in Ford's Theatre.' He quotes from this bill the following phrase: 'This evening the performance will be honored by the presence of President LINCOLN.'" This programme was not the one used at the theatre on the night the president was assassinated. In the original bill no mention was made of LINCOLN's presence at the performance, but after the tragedy a bill with the item about LINCOLN inserted was printed and sold as the one used April 14, "and this bogus bill may be found in many collections whose owners suppose it genuine."

Boston Globe 9-12-1890

THAT BLOODY PROGRAMME.

The Fords, Proprietors of the Theater Where Lincoln Was Shot. Give Interesting Facts.

BALTIMORE, Md., April 16.—Mr. James R. Ford and Mr. John T. Ford were each shown the story in a New York paper that a Mr. J. S. Case of Brooklyn had in his possession a blood-stained programme that was in the hands of President Lincoln at the time of his assassination. 4.17.1882

An affidavit purporting to be signed by Mr. John T. Ford and witnessed by a notary public, was included. This article stated that the affidavit was signed by Mr. Ford on his deathbed in November, 1890. Mr. John T. Ford is a very much alive gentleman and commenting on the publications said:

"This is a rare bit of humor. Lincoln was shot on Good Friday, and I was in Washington at the time. The only programme of 'Our American Cousin' for the benefit of Laura Keane that I saw afterward was a few days ago, and which I identified for a gentleman living in the North. I can say most emphatically that it had no blood stains on it. Now, here is something that has never been in print: At my house is the picture of George Washington, hung outside of the private box which Lincoln occupied, and it was the frame of this picture which caught Booth's spurs, causing him to fall and break his leg. The frame still bears the impress of the spur. I have also in my possession the original door through which Booth passed before he mounted his horse. Mr. Lincoln was a spare-built man, and but little blood escaped from the wound in the neck—not enough to soak his clothes—before he was removed from the theater."

James B. Ford's comments were: "Not a word of truth in it. I had gone to Baltimore that afternoon, but I returned to Washington in the evening. I saw them carrying Mr. Lincoln out wounded. I did not think he was seriously hurt. I went to a private box Mr. Lincoln had occupied and picked up from the floor the programme he had held when shot. I handed that and a pistol, presumably Booth's, to someone, I think the Superintendent of Police."

Playbill performance on night Lincoln was shot

FORD'S THEATRE

Friday Evening, April 14th, 1865
THE PRESIDENT'S BURNING

**PRESIDENT LINCOLN
BENEFIT!
LAST NIGHT.
LAURA KEENE**

MR. JOHN BYOTT
MR. HARRY HAWK

ONE THOUSAND NIGHTS
OUR AMERICAN
COUSIN

PLACEMENT TRADES
MR. LAURA KEENE
MR. JOHN BYOTT
MR. HARRY HAWK

BENEFIT of Miss JENNIE GOURLAY
**THE OXFORD
EDWIN ADAMS**

*Wesley Reserve Academy
Cleveland Ohio*

A RELIC OF LINCOLN.

A Philadelphia Woman Has the Programme He Held When Shot.

[From the Philadelphia Inquirer.]

When Abraham Lincoln fell forward, gasping and dying, in his box at Ford's Theater, Washington, on the night of July 14, 1865, a programme fluttered from the stiffening hand down beside his chair. It was a trifle then, and none of the men who hurried to his side thought that one day that white scrap would be worth its weight in gold a hundred times and that it was destined to prove a prize to its owner. No such thought impelled Sergt. Noble McClintock, Company C, 24th Veteran Reserve Corps, to secure it. It was a relic only, but now, after the passage of years, the growth of Lincoln's glory has almost sanctified it.

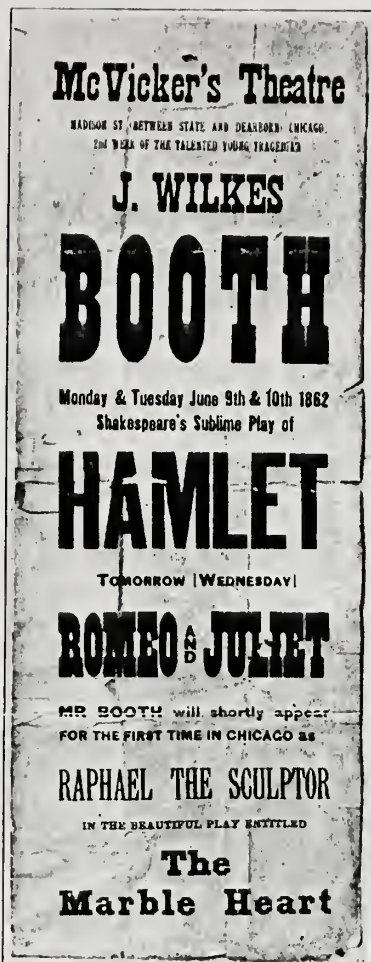
Mr. McClintock is now living in Frankford, and not long since he was astonished to see that the Chicago Fair managers had offered \$3000 for that programme. He had given it to his daughter, and for years it has been displayed to hundreds of friends, and efforts have been made by several to secure it through purchase. One acquaintance of Miss McClintock's in Kentucky has offered \$500, but the big sum tendered by the Exposition managers has induced Miss McClintock to submit her proofs and accept the offer.

Mr. McClintock was at the time of the President's death First Sergeant of Company K, and was stationed with his corps at Seventh and N streets. With others he was detailed for duty at the theater as a guard to Mr. Lincoln. The President himself had little fear of death at the hands of an assassin, but those about him considered protection an imperative necessity. Immediately after the shooting Sergeant McClintock entered the box and picked up the programme.

It is in perfect condition, except for a crease in the center produced by folding. Yellow with age, the cast of Our American Cousin, and the synopsis of action are clear and distinct. There will, undoubtedly, be a number of claims of the possession of the original programme. Miss McClintock will enlist all the proof possible, and expects the statements of those associated with her father at Washington to prove her claim beyond the possibility of doubt.

Mr. McClintock never attained any higher rank than sergeant, but he made a good record, and secured a pension. He talks frequently of his experience in securing the programme.

1892



Courtesy Chicago Historical Society, Photo, Benm
A Hand-Bill Printed in 1862

The hand-bill reproduced on this page, which is in the possession of the Chicago Historical Society, was printed in 1862.

This interesting historic relic not only tells something about the theatre in Chicago in the sixties, but also recalls a method of advertising employed extensively in earlier days by theatrical companies.

*Has Program of Play at
Which Lincoln Was Shot*

Special to Newark News.

CALIFON—One of the original programs of "Our American Cousin," dated April 14, 1865, at the performance of which President Lincoln was assassinated, is owned by Neigh Bros. of Califon. Besides the play bill the Neighs possess a piece of the lace curtain and fringe which, they declare, draped the box in Ford's Theater occupied by Lincoln. Mrs. Mary E. Peck, the brothers' grandmother, gave them to her son, Almyer Neigh, the Neigh boys' father. The elder Neigh was one of the youngest drummer boys in the Civil War. He was stationed at Gettysburg with the 153d Pennsylvania Regiment when Lincoln reviewed the soldiers there.

Neigh Bros. Califon

she having performed

FORD'S THEATRE
157th Street, 49th St.
MARCH 12 1905 WEEK END NIGHT OF
FRIDAY EVENING APRIL 14th 1905

BENEFIT!
LAST NIGHT
OF MISS
LAURA KEENE

MR. JOHN DUFFY
AND
MR. HARRY HAWK.
THE FORD'S THEATRE'S ELABORATE PRODUCTION
OF THE ASSASSINATION OF PRESIDENT LINCOLN

ONE THOUSAND NIGHTS.
OUR AMERICAN
COUSIN

BENEFIT OF MISS JENNIE GOURLAY
THE OCTOBER
EDWIN ADAMS

THE PRICES OF ADMISSION:
Box Seats 50c, 40c, 30c, 20c, 10c, 5c
Balcony Seats 25c, 15c, 10c, 5c
Orchestra Seats 10c, 5c, 2c, 1c
Children 5c, 2c, 1c
Free for the Poor

PLAY BILL USED AT FORD'S
THEATER ON THE NIGHT
OF THE ASSASSINATION.

Fatal Program — Reproduction
of program scheduled for
Ford's Opera House the night
Lincoln was assassinated.
The President was shot as he
viewed the performance from
a box.

James 11/12/25

april - 1952

153. LINCOLN (ABRAHAM). Original Playbill of the Performance of "OUR AMERICAN COUSIN," at Ford's Theatre, April 14th, 1865—the evening of the assassination of President Lincoln. Size: height, 18¾ inches; width, 5⅞ inches. Washington: L. Brown (1865). Brought \$20.

This is an original copy of the playbill as first prepared and printed when Lincoln accepted the invitation to attend Ford's Theatre on April 14, 1865. There are, also, three later issues of this playbill, of which probably two were used at the performance. According to H. Clay Ford, son of the treasurer of Ford's Theatre in 1865, this copy offered here is the one originally prepared. When doubt arose as to Lincoln's appearance, a rush order was given to another printer, H. Polkinghorn & Son, in which a patriotic passage replaced the announcement of the President's appearance. When circumstances made it possible for Lincoln to follow his original plans and attend the performance, both of these programmes were undoubtedly used. Of the other two issues, both were probably printed after the assassination due to public demand for copies. One of these later issues contains the announcement of Lincoln's attendance printed in four lines, compared to a three-line set-up used in the original; while the other of the later issues neither makes such a reference nor contains the patriotic passage. SCARCE.

J. RENWICK THOMPSON
COUNSELOR AT LAW
NEWBURGH, N.Y.
58 SECOND STREET

May 27, 1932.

Mr. J. I. Holcomb,
C/o Manufacturing Co.,
Indianapolis, Ind.

Dear Sir:

A client of mine is the owner of the original theatre program dated Friday evening, April 14, 1865 of the performance "Our American Cousin" and it states it is the last night of Laura Keane at Fords Theatre, Washington, D. C. and at the bottom is the following note: This evening the performance will be honored by the presence of President Lincoln.

Will you please inform me whether this has any value to you and if so what you are willing to pay for same.

Very truly yours,

J. R. Thompson

6/7/32
Dr Warren
Dear Doctor
Thought this
might interest you.
Haven't answered it
J. I. Holcomb

REC'D MAY 31 1932

-4 .

J. RENWICK THOMPSON
COUNSELOR AT LAW
NEWBURGH, N.Y.
58 SECOND STREET.

41

May 27, 1932.

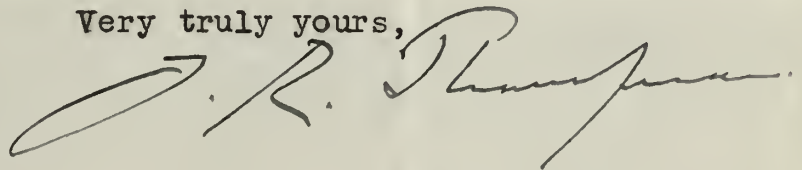
Lincoln Lore,
Fort Wayne, Indiana.

Dear Sirs:

A client of mine is the owner of the original theatre program dated Friday evening, April 14, 1865 of the performance "Our American Cousin" and it states it is the last night of Laura Keane at Fords Theatre, Washington, D. C. and at the bottom is the following note: "This evening the performance will be honored by the presence of President Lincoln."

Will you please inform me whether this has any value to you and if so what you are willing to pay for same.

Very truly yours,



May 31, 1932

Mr. J. Renwick Thompson
58 Second Street
Newburgh, New York

My dear Mr. Thompson:

Inasmuch as we have one of the Ford Theatre bills we would not be interested in the acquisition of another one.

This Foundation received inquiries about Lincoln items and we will be glad to put on file the information we have relative to the broadside in your possession.

If your client cares to place a price on it we will be glad also to attach such a memorandum to the information we already have.

Very sincerely yours,

Director
Lincoln Historical Research Foundation

LAW:EB

J. RENWICK THOMPSON
COUNSELOR AT LAW
NEWBURGH, N.Y.
58 SECOND STREET

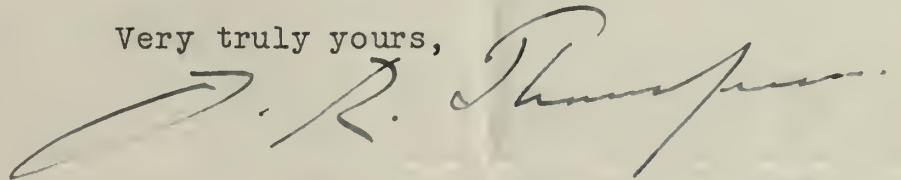
June 7, 1932.

Lincoln Historical Research Foundation,
Fort Wayne, Indiana.

My dear Mr. Warren:

Please accept my thanks for your letter of May 31st. My client has no idea what would be a fair price for the Ford Theatre bill and I would greatly appreciate it if you would inform me what you think she should receive for it and I enclose stamped envelope for reply.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "J. R. Thompson". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long, sweeping underline that extends to the right.

ELC

June 10, 1932

Mr. J. Renwick Thompson
58 Second Street
Newburgh, New York

My dear Mr. Thompson:

The letter attached to this reply will explain why it is impossible for us to make appraisal of Lincoln items. In the case of the Ford Theatre bill it is especially difficult to even suggest a price, inasmuch as there have been so many reprints, some of them made immediately after the original printing.

The first thing to decide would be whether or not your client has an original print, and I suspect from the wording on the bottom of your bill that she does not have an original but a reprint of the original, which would make it of very little value.

The original did not have "This evening the performance will be honored by the President, President Lincoln." Those two lines were put on reprinted bills after the President's assassination.

Very sincerely yours,

Director
Lincoln Historical Research Foundation

RAW:EB
Enc. (1)

7.
W. G. HEATHFIELD
901 TENTH STREET
CORONADO, CALIFORNIA

April 25/33

Mr H. G. Everett.

Los Angeles. Calif.

Dear Sir

I read in the L.A. Examiner.
that you exhibited on April 13-14, a number
of articles relative to the assassination of Pres.
Lincoln, and wondered if you would care to
add to this collection, if we could agree
as to its price - When it was learned that
Pres. Lincoln was to, attend, a special program
was printed, bearing the notation, "This evening
the performance will be honored by the presence
of President Lincoln" This program was given
me either in 1875 or '76 by a member of the
cast, Miss Jennie Gourlay (Mrs. R. Struthers) who
took it from her dressing room that night.
Dr. A.S.W. Rosenbach, of New York made an
Exhibit (Apr 14) of his collection, and valued
them at a million. - I have been solicited by
Historical Societies to donate this Program, but
to be honest, I cannot afford to, Having reached
the age of 77. I have decided to sell it if
can do so. Awaiting your reply.

Yours truly
W. G. Heathfield
3

Director
Lincoln Historical Research Foundation

Rev Thomas W Swatch
Hobbes Inn.

He has a Soldier's copy of
First Theater Play. Bill

May 3 4

LINCOLN LORE

Bulletin of the Lincoln National Life Foundation - - - - - Dr. Louis A. Warren, Editor.
Published each week by The Lincoln National Life Insurance Company, of Fort Wayne, Indiana.

No. 318

FORT WAYNE, INDIANA

May 13, 1935

FORD'S THEATRE PLAY BILLS

Inasmuch as the program giving the cast of characters for "Our American Cousin" was probably the last printed announcement which Lincoln held in his hand, it has had an unusual sentimental value.

Every collector of Lincolniana has hoped that at some time he might own a copy of a Ford's Theatre play bill distributed on the day of the President's assassination. An attempt to satisfy this desire has been made at various times by the printing of facsimiles which in many instances have been accepted as authentic.

Many years ago *The Boston Transcript*, desiring to advise people that many of the copies of the play bills looked upon as original were but facsimiles, attempted to draw certain marks of distinction between the originals and the facsimiles. This article seemed to be such an important contribution that it was reprinted by *The Magazine of History* in their Rare Lincolniana Issue No. 3.

Many who read the article, after checking up on their copies of the play bill, were surprised to find that, according to the description given, what they had supposed to be one of the originals was but a facsimile. Apparently the deductions of the contributor of the article were never questioned and the cherished relic was laid aside as undesirable.

The Lincoln National Life Foundation owns a play bill which it has every reason to believe is an original edition but which is classified by the *Transcript* article as an early reprint. This difference of opinion as to the peculiarities of the original copy is responsible for the conclusions presented.

The First Edition

The Ford's Theatre play bill for "Friday Evening, April 14, 1865," announced the "Benefit and Last Night of Miss Laura Keene," who would appear in "Tom Taylor's Celebrated Eccentric Comedy Our American Cousin." The bill was printed as usual on poor paper with no special attention given to discarding worn type.

In the printing of the bills, apparently in an attempt to get the proper adjustment for the gauge pins in the process of printing, the type was flattened at both places where it came in contact with the pins. In the third line of type the final figure was made indiscernible, the end of the rule under it was shortened and the two last letters in the word "manager," in the fifth line, were also crushed in the same process.

The mutilation at the other point in the type where the gauge pin made contact is found in the printed cast of players. It flattened the final letter "e" in the name Keene, the final "t" in the name Dyott just under it, the letter "k" in the name Hawk, and also the letter "y" in the name Gourlay.

There was also one other very noticeable defect in the printing which was evidently due to worn type. In the name Laura Keene which reached across the sheet the down stroke of the final capital "E" failed to print clearly. The mutilations at all of these points were allowed to go without changing the type.

At the foot of the bill there appeared five lines as follows:

THE PRICES OF ADMISSION

Orchestra	\$1.00
Dress Circle and Parquette.....	.75
Family Circle25
Private Boxes	\$6 and \$10

J. R. FORD, Business Manager

H. Polkinhorn, Printers, D. Street
near 7th, Washington, D. C.

The Second Edition

Some time during the morning of April 14, after the regular bills had been printed, it was learned that President Lincoln and his wife would attend the performance that night and that they would probably be accompanied by General Grant and his wife.

General Grant had appeared before few Washington audiences and his late victories which had closed the war made him a favorite with the people. It was undoubtedly due to the announcement that he would likely be present that the management of the theatre decided to strike off another bill largely in his honor. The form which had been used for printing the regular bill was still standing and it was decided to eliminate some unnecessary lines and include a "Patriotic Song and Chorus" entitled "Honor to our Soldiers."

The eliminating and condensing of type in the standing form made necessary by this inclusion of the poem caused the names of "Mr. John Dyott" and "Mr. Harry Hawk" which had occupied three lines in the original copy to be reduced to one line by leaving out the "Mr." before each name and eliminating all unnecessary space. In the cast of characters the name "Rasper, a groom" was eliminated altogether. The lines giving the price of admission at the bottom of the bill and the manager's name which fol-

lowed were omitted, but the printer saw to it that his line remained in the copy.

The soldier's song was inserted directly under the cast of characters. The mutilated letters in the third and fifth lines of the bill were allowed to remain, but the damaged type in the printing of the cast of characters was replaced as well as the large worn final "E" in the name Keene.

This second edition is the one used on the night of the performance but many of the first edition had been distributed so that there were two different bills in the hands of the guests of the theatre that night.

Reprints

If any reprints were made the next day, as has often been alleged, it is likely that the type already set containing the soldier's song would be used for that purpose but it is difficult to identify such reprints and it is very doubtful if such copies were made. It is quite likely that some of the earlier first edition prints were available after the second edition had been printed and used the night before and these might have been distributed on April 15.

One of the most widely circulated reprints inserts immediately under the line "Friday Evening, April 14, 1865," these words in three lines:

THIS EVENING

The Performance will be honored by
the presence of

PRESIDENT LINCOLN

This insertion was made in order that the bill might be associated directly with Lincoln but there is no good evidence that it was printed until sometime after the assassination of the President.

With the exception of the notice about the President, the bill is copied from the first edition but in the line containing the words "Boucicault's Sensational Drama" two changes in spelling are noted: "Boucicault's Sensation Drama." The printer in some instances is L. Brown; and there is also one similar to it by H. Polkinhorn & Son, who do not make the mistakes in spelling but reproduce the line mentioned above as it appears in the original.

This is not an attempt to list the very many facsimiles which have been printed from the first and second editions but will allow one to identify either original copy as well as reprints of the two used on April 14, 1865.

Playbills and History

Ford's Theater, Friday Evening, April 14, 1865 . . . By John Beaufort

A strange story—connected with a bizarre tragedy in United States history—surrounds the rare Ford's Theater program reproduced in the adjoining column. The story was told to me the other day by Dr. William B. Van Lennep, curator of the Theater Collection in the college library at Harvard University. Dr. Van Lennep's detective work a few years ago identified the two authentic programs printed for the night of April 14, 1865, when Laura Keene ("the distinguished manageress, authoress and actress") played Tom Taylor's "Our American Cousin" and John Wilkes Booth ended the performance by assassinating Abraham Lincoln.

Meticulous study of all the programs he could lay his hands on—plus the aid of a written statement by James H. Brown, owner of a set of Ford's Theater programs for the final season—convinced Dr. Van Lennep that there were actually two genuine programs printed for the occasion.

According to Brown's written statement:

"Both Bills are genuine Bills used on that night. The facts concerning them as narrated to and as written to me by John B. Wright . . . who was the Stage Manager at the time and who witnessed the deed are these:

"Early in the forenoon of that day learning that the President intended visiting the Theatre that evening Mr. Wright went, personally, to Polkinghorn, the Printer, and ordered the insertion in the Bills for that night of this stanza 'Honor to Our Soldiers,' intending to have the song sung that night, although it was originally intended to have it sung on the next night, which was to have been for the Benefit of Miss Jennie Gourlay: Polkinghorn stopped the press (which was engaged in printing the Bills without the stanza) made the necessary alterations in the form and printed the remainder of the Bills with the stanza in: but, having already printed a few without the stanza and not desiring to lose them he included them in those sent to the Theatre and both kinds were used and here are both, probably nowhere else to be found together."

Polkinghorn, as well as other printers, issued piracies of the assassination night program. Some were deceptively like one or other of the genuine originals—with perhaps only a slight adjustment in the spacing of letters or type alignment. Others were transparent fakes. Yet, perhaps partly because of the curious circumstances referred to above, many still pass today as authentic.

The most obvious piracies were the programs which carried a prominent announcement such as the following:

THIS EVENING

The Performance will be honored by the presence of
PRESIDENT LINCOLN

Printers of such programs either did not know or deliberately ignored what went on in the Polkinghorn establishment on the morning of April 14.

The only difference between the program reproduced here and the other authentic playbill is that the second one does not contain the patriotic verse:

Honor to our soldiers,
Our nation's greatest pride,
Who, neath our Starry Banner's folds,
Have fought, have bled and died;
They're nature's noblest handiwork—
No King so proud as they.
God bless the heroes of the land,
And cheer them on their way.

Cruelly and criminally tragic as it was for a war-shaken United States, Lincoln's assassination on that spring night had incidental unhappy results in the American Theater of the time. Edwin Booth, so strongly pro-Lincoln that he had forbidden his house to his deluded brother long before the plot, and who knew nothing of it, nevertheless, was arrested briefly on suspicion. A year passed before he could be prevailed on to act again. So great was the stigma on those with any connection, however unwitting, to the tragedy, that Asa Booth, sister of Edwin and John Wilkes, left America and went to live in England.

Ford's Theater closed forever as a playhouse. When it opened again, it was as a museum devoted to memorabilia associated with the assassination. It has remained so to the present day.

FORD'S THEATRE

TENTH STREET, ABOVE E

SEASON II. . . . WEEK XXXI. . . . NIGHT 190
WEEK NUMBER OF NIGHT, 61

JOHN T. FORD PROPRIETOR AND MANAGER
(Also of Building No. 10, Theatre, Baltimore, and Academy of Music, Phila.)
Stage Manager J. V. WRIGHT
Theatrical H. CLAY FORD

Friday Evening, April 14th, 1865

BENEFIT!

—AND—

LAST NIGHT OF MISS

LAURA KEENE

THE DISTINGUISHED MANAGERESS, AUTHORESS AND ACTRESS,
Supported by

JOHN DYOTT AND HARRY HAWK.

TOM TAYLOR'S CELEBRATED ECCENTRIC COMEDY,

As originally produced in America by Miss Keene, and performed by her pupils of

ONE THOUSAND NIGHTS,
ENTIRE

OUR AMERICAN

COUSIN

FLORENCE TRENCHARD MISS LAURA KEENE
(Her original character.)

Abol Marcott, Clerk to Attorney John Dyott
Asa Trenchard Harry Hawk
Edward Trenchard Harry Hawk
Edw. Trenchard Harry Hawk
Mr. Caryl, Attorney J. C. WRIGHT
Isaacson, Vernon, R. N. J. MATTHEWS
Capt. P. Wood W. J. FLEMING
Edw. Trenchard J. C. WRIGHT
Buddick, a rebel J. C. WRIGHT
John Walker, a guest of J. C. WRIGHT
Harry Trenchard J. C. WRIGHT
Mrs. March, bewitched J. C. WRIGHT
Angela J. C. WRIGHT
Georgiana J. C. WRIGHT
Edw. Trenchard J. C. WRIGHT
Edw. Trenchard J. C. WRIGHT
Edw. Trenchard J. C. WRIGHT
Edw. Trenchard J. C. WRIGHT

PATRIOTIC SONG AND CHORUS "HONOR TO OUR SOLDIERS."

Refined to our lives,
Our nation's greatest pride,
Who, neath our Starry Banner's folds,
Have fought, have bled and died;
They're nature's noblest handiwork—
No King so proud as they.
God bless the heroes of the land,
And cheer them on their way.

Words by M. B. Phillips; Music Composed and Arranged by Prof. William Withers, Jr.; Solo by Miss M. Mart. H. B. Phillips and George M. Ark, and the Ladies and Gentlemen of the Company.

NATURAL EVENING, APRIL 15,

BENEFIT of Miss JENNIE GOURLAY

Which will be presented SOLELY for the Benefit of

THE OCTOBER

Patron Meeting April 15, 1865, at 10 P.M. (SUNDAY) in the Theatre,

EDWIN ADAMS

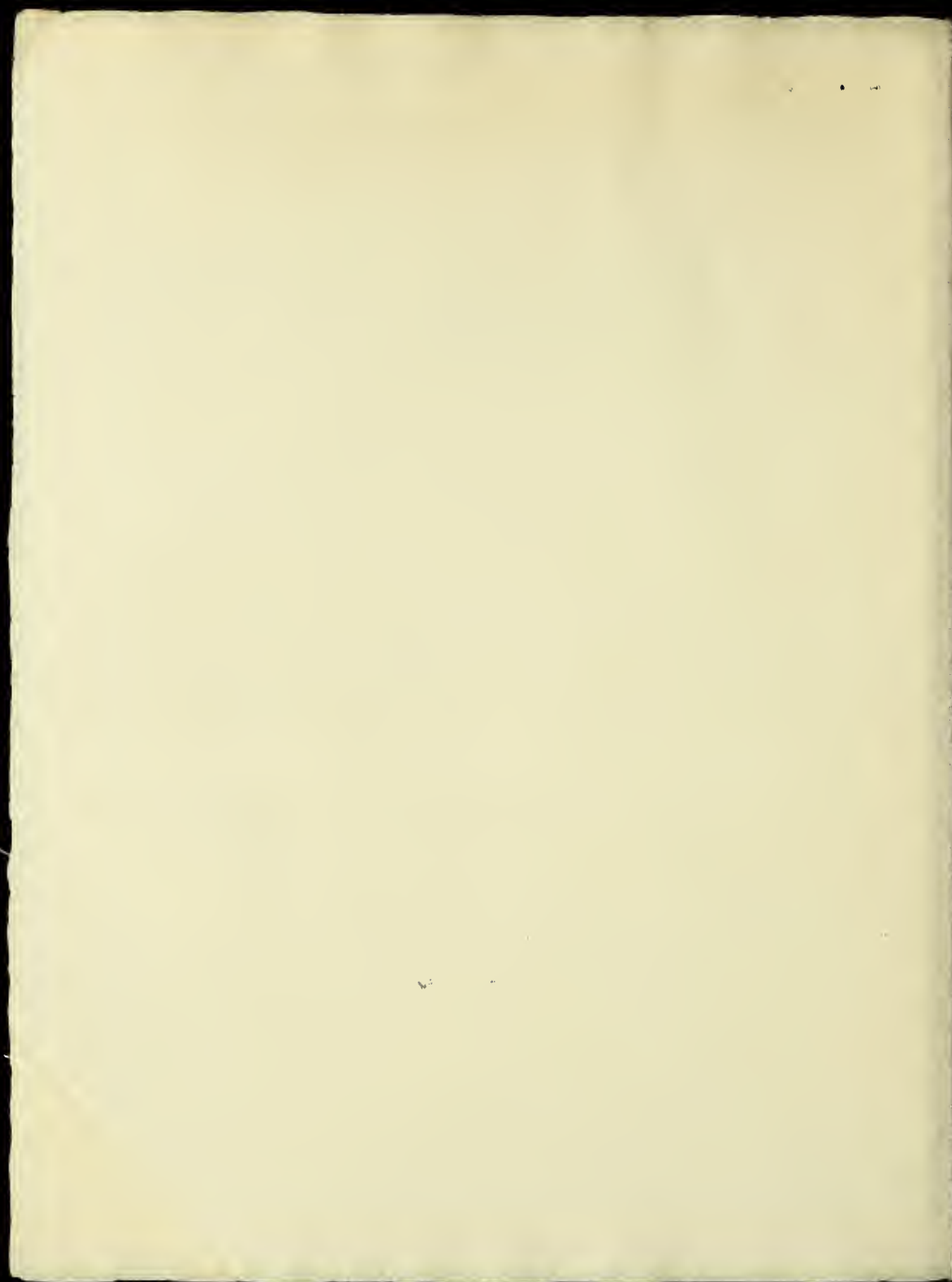
7...

71-Mt. Hermon Way -
Ocean Grove - N. J.

Dr. Lewis Warren -

Dear Sir -

I have been informed you might be interested in a Lincoln memento which I have. It is his program - which he had the night he was shot. With a clot of his blood and some blood stains on it. I am enclosing a news paper clipping which the Newark Evening News printed a few years ago - I have never offered this for sale before but would like to sell it now if possible. I do not know the value of this but would be willing to accept any reasonable offer for it. If you are not interested in buying the program - Could you refer me to some one who might



Re. 7 This has been in my family since the night Gen. Colu was shot and is in a very good state of preservation.

Thanking you in advance for any aid you might be able to give me.

Yours -

Sincerely yours

Mrs. Samuel Day -

P.S. Clipping is only part of the program. I have the entire program -
S.D.



Old Theatrical Program Recalls Tragic Fate of Abraham Lincoln

As the annual observance of Lincoln's birthday anniversary approaches Mrs. Samuel Day of 45 Nelson place, Newark, is reminded that she owns such a souvenir of the tragedy that cut short the career of the great emancipator and plunged a nation into grief as collectors of Lincolniana might prize. It is one of the programs distributed in Ford's Theater in Washington Friday night, April 15, 1865, when the President, accompanied by Mrs. Lincoln and a few friends, attended a performance of Tom Taylor's comedy, "Our American

Cousin," by Laura Keene and her company, and was shot and killed by John Wilkes Booth, the actor, driven to assassination by brooding over the defeat of the Confederacy.

The playbill came into Mrs. Day's possession, she says, from her maternal grandfather, Alfred Hunter, who conducted two book stores in Washington at the time of the tragedy and bought the program from a man claiming to have been present at the performance and to have snatched it from the floor of the box occupied by Lincoln and his party after the assassin's victim, in a dying condition, had been carried from the theater. Mr. Hunter either did not get the man's name or forgot to leave a record of it.

Yellowed by age and bearing several stains, one of them believed to have been made by a clot of blood from the President's fatal wound, the program, though a gruesome relic, is significant as showing Lincoln's liking for plays of a humorous character and his patronage of them as a means of relaxation from the burdens of his high office.

Miss Keene Died in Montclair.

On that fatal night, Miss Keene, who was one of the most noted dramatic stars of her time, and died in Montclair November 14, 1873, was "taking her benefit," as the theatrical phrase goes, and ending her engagement at Ford's. "Our American Cousin" was the most popular of the numerous plays she had produced and in the first representations of it in New York Joseph Jefferson, to become famous later as Rip VanWinkle, appeared as Asa Trenchard, and Edwin A. Sothern in the minor role of Lord Dundreary, a part he so amplified that he starred during many later years in a comedy in which that character dominated.

Supporting Miss Keene in the performance so abruptly halted by the tragedy was the following cast.

Abel Murcott	John Deott
Florence Trenchard	Miss Laura Keene
Asa Trenchard	Harry Hawk
Sir Edward Trenchard	T. C. Gourlay
Lord Dundreary	E. A. Emerson
Mr. Coyle, attorney	J. Matthews
Lieutenant Vernon, R. N.	W. J. Ferguson
Captain Dr. Boots	C. Brown
Blaney	G. G. Spear
Buddicomb, a valet	J. E. Evans
John Whicker, a gardener	J. L. DeBonay
Raper, a groom	
Nailite	G. A. Parkhurst and L. Johnson

Mary Trenchard	Miss J. Gourlay
Mrs. Mountchessington	Mrs. H. Muzzy
Augusta	Miss H. Trueman
Georgiana	Miss M. Hart
Skillet	Mrs. J. E. Evans

The last survivor of that company was William J. Ferguson, who passed away in his home in Pikesville, a suburb of Baltimore, Sunday, May 4, 1930. A youthful player then, he became one of the finer character actors on the American stage and appeared prominently in various productions by A. M. Palmer, Charles Frohman and others. He often spoke of the tragedy,

saying he was the call boy in the company and had just given the signal for ringing down the curtain as Booth leaped from the President's box to the stage, fell on one knee, quickly jumped up, and brushing by him and Miss Keene, who were standing in the wings, escaped.

FORD'S

FIFTH STAGE

SEASON II. WEEK

WORK NUMBER

1000 x 1000

Also of H. H. Day in the "Theater" and his
other works.

Friday Evening, April 14th.

BENEFIT

— AND —

LAST NIGHT

OF MISS

LADDA KEENE

MR. JOHN D. OTT

AND
MR. HARRY HAWK.

SELECT INVESTMENTS IN REAL ESTATE AND MORTGAGES

REAL ESTATE FINANCE CORPORATION

H. L. DENOON,
GENERAL MANAGER

301 MAYO BUILDING

RICHMOND, VA. April 27th. 1935.

RECEIVED
MAIL DEPARTMENT
APR 30 1935
LIFE INSURANCE CO
PHONE DIAL
3-7563

Lincoln Nat. Life Ins. Co.
Indianapolis, Ind.

Dear Sirs:-

I learn that you have in your offices many mementoes of President Lincoln and would consider the purchase of others.

I have an original program of the play given at Ford's Theatre, Washington, D. C. the night of the President's assassination.

This relict was obtained by my Mother at the Theatre and has hung, framed in our library for nearly seventy years.

She always esteemed it as a valuable memento of the last days of Mr. Lincoln.

So far as I am aware this is the only print of it now in existence and it is in a perfect state of preservation.

Mr. Lincoln's presence at the Theatre is prominently noted on the program.

Would you be interested in this?

Yours very truly

Wm J. Bassett

314 Travelers Building,
Richmond, Virginia.

REAL ESTATE FINANCE CORPORATION

H. L. DENOON,
GENERAL MANAGER

301 MAYO BUILDING

RICHMOND, VA. May 14th. 1935.

PHONE DIAL
3-7563

Mr. R. Gerald McMurtry
Librarian Lincoln National Life Foundation,
Fort Wayne, Indiana.

Dear Sir:-

Replying to your favor of the 8th. instant,
I wish to say that the "Lincoln Programme" about which I
wrote you was printed by " L. Brown, Printer, Washington
D. C. " and measures $6\frac{1}{4}$ X $18\frac{1}{4}$ inches.

I am willing to sell this print for Five Hundred
Dollars. I was offered this amount for it several years
ago but was then in more affluent circumstances and did
not wish to part with it.

As before stated, this is an original print and has
been in possession of my family since the night of Pres-
ident Lincoln's assassination .

Thanking you for your letter, I am

Yours very truly,

Address: William T. Bassett
314 Travelers Building,
Richmond, Virginia.

William T. Bassett

May 16, 1935

Mr. William T. Bassett
314 Travelers Building
Richmond, Virginia.

Dear Mr. Bassett:

I was very glad to receive your letter concerning a description of your Ford's Theatre Play Bill. We are acquainted with this edition of the playbill and have several reprints of it. We also have an original program containing a different printer than the one mentioned in your letter.

While we would like very much to own a play bill with the L. Brown reprint we do not feel at this time that we would care to put such money into such an item.

We thank you for bringing this matter to our attention.

Yours Very Truly

A. Sarah Lowmtry Librarian
Lincoln National Life Foundation

SELECT INVESTMENTS IN REAL ESTATE AND MORTGAGES

REAL ESTATE FINANCE CORPORATION

H. L. DENOON,
GENERAL MANAGER

301 MAYO BUILDING

RICHMOND, VA. May 18th. 1935.

PHONE DIAL
3-7563

Mr. R. Gerald McMurry, Librarian
Lincoln National Life Foundation,
Fort Wayne, Indiana.

Dear Sir:-

Thank you for your letter of the 16th. instant.

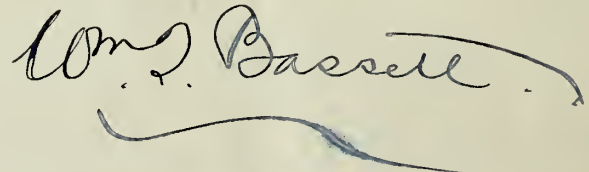
I am writing to inquire if you would like to make me an offer for the "Lincoln Program" print, about which we have been in correspondence.

I have no doubt but that it would make an interesting addition to your collection.

While this print shows age, it is without blemish and in perfect condition.

I shall be pleased to hear further from you.

Yours very truly,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, reading "Wm. T. Bassett". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

William T. Bassett
314 Travelers Building,
Richmond, Virginia.

May 30, 1938

Mr. William T. Bassett
514 Staroborn Building
Richmond, Virginia.

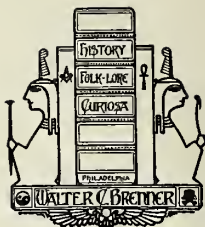
Dear Mr. Bassett:

At this time I do not think we would be interested in acquiring your Ford Theatre Play Bill. We of course would like to have such an item to place with our other copies but at this time we will not be interested in purchase of same.

You will find enclosed a bulletin concerning Ford Theatre Play Bill which I am sure will interest you.

Yours Very Truly

R. Gerald McIntire Librarian
Lincoln National Life Foundation



July 5, 1935.

Dr. Louis A. Warren,
Lincoln National Life Foundation,
Fort Wayne, Indiana.

Dear Sir:

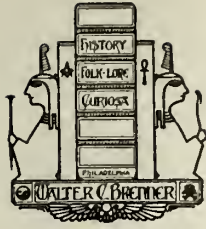
For some months before Bulletin No. 318, of the Lincoln Lore was issued, I made a rather thorough study of the issues of Ford's Theatre Play Bills of April 14, 1865, and it soon was discovered very little was in print and that little of a controversial nature. Inquiries helped a great deal and when the Bulletin fell into my hands it aided greatly in clearing up some loose ends until now the writer believes he has most of the known facts in hand and about all that is needed is analysis.

I am almost sure that you are as interested in this subject as I am but have refrained coming to you until I have the matter well in hand. I still need to know what information the Lincoln Memorial of Springfield, and what other information you have besides what is in Bulletin 318 and as the U.S. Department of Interior has a policy of not giving out information relating to Government collections, I do not know what is in the collection at Washington. Your Bulletin states, for instance, that "the Lincoln Life Foundation owns a play bill which it has every reason to believe is an original edition," and also at the end mentions facsimilies with which I am not familiar. What I need to know, and I believe you have all or most of this information, is what is in these various collections, the characteristics of the facsimilies and what other proof the Lincoln Life has to believe its own playbill is original. It would also be interesting to know what comment came to your attention through the issuing of Bulletin 318.

I may here also state that from my present information I believe you have an original "first edition" or morning bill, but what I want to do is to present proof of an unmistakable kind. It is my thought to state and analyze in the form of a brochure, or, if satisfactory to you, ~~to~~ it could be used in an issue of Lincoln Lore without pecuniary strain upon myself and in a most desirable form. I will greatly appreciate any information you can give and thoughts you express about the subject.

Yours truly,

Walter C. Brenner
Walter C. Brenner
675 City Hall



July 13, 1935.

Dear Dr. Warren:

Since writing the foregoing I have been in New York checking up some photostats of the playbill which were sent to me from there. They were photostats of facsimilies and worthless as such, but on the back of one was some interesting information tending to confirm the "first edition." Some weeks from now I intend to visit the Harvard Library to check over their material and that will clean up all my leads. Any further moves will depend a lot on your reply to this communication.

I know the location of but ~~four~~ five "first" and one "second" edition copies, the New York and Philadelphia libraries have nothing but facsimilies. I would also appreciate the names and addresses of such private collectors you know to have copies, so that I may get in touch with them.

Yours truly

W.C. Brenner
W.C. Brenner

July 18, 1935

Mr. Walter C. Brenner
675 City Hall
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

My dear Mr. Brenner:

We are very glad indeed to learn of your contemplated brochure on the Ford Theatre Play Bills and take pleasure in enclosing some photostat copies of originals and photographs which we have used in our production.

You will find an extra copy of Lincoln Lore marked to compare with the photostats, also on the back of the photostats the place where the originals or photographs may be found.

Aside from the two original copies and the two reprints containing the statement that Abraham Lincoln would attend the performance, we have made little investigation. You will, however, find a copy of one of each included. If we can be of further assistance to you do not fail to call upon us.

Very truly yours,

LAW:LE
Enc.

Director

Southern Pines, N. C.
November 3, 1935

Lincoln National Life Foundation,
Fort Wayne, Indiana

Dear Sirs:

Through the Library of Congress I have received your name as one who might be interested in acquiring an original program of the Ford Theatre, on the night President Lincoln was assassinated.

This is in a state of almost perfect preservation, having been framed and highly prized. It was given to my mother by a friend who attended the performance.

If you are not interested in acquiring this perhaps you might refer me to someone else. I have little idea of its value but wish to realize something on it for educational purposes.

Yours truly

(Mrs J. B.) Rebecca A. Swett

Lincoln National Life Foundation
Delivered to
NOV 6 1935
Insured
LIFE INSURANCE CO.

November 7, 1935

Mrs. J. B. Swett
Southern Pines, North Carolina

My dear Madam:

Your letter with reference to the program of Ford's Theatre has been called to my attention. You will please find enclosed a bulletin in which we have tried to designate the various original and reprint issues of the program.

If you will kindly make comparisons between the one in your possession and the information available in this bulletin and will advise us which one you have, we would let you know whether or not we would be interested in its acquisition.

We also have a very strict rule in this Foundation that no appraisals shall be made by us, so if you care to dispose of the item it would be necessary for you to place a price upon it.

Yours very truly,

LAW:LH

Director

6

MARY SWETT
SOUTHERN PINES
NORTH CAROLINA

LINCOLN NATIONAL

November 13, 1935

Referred to

REC'D NOV 18 1935 W

Approved

LIFE INSURANCE CO.

Mr Louis A. Warren
Lincoln National Life Foundation
Fort Wayne, Indiana

Dear Sir;

According to your bulletin the Ford Theatre program which I wrote you about is a reprint. It was printed by H. Polkinhorn & Son but has the lines concerning President Lincoln's attendance—

I am greatly disappointed for I had always been led to suppose that it was an original. It bears a note on the back from the donor to my mother. A collector once offered \$50 for it and said that he had

seen one exactly like it sell for \$100. I
had hoped that it might be worth at least
\$25.

If you were interested in its acquisition.
where might one have it appraised?

Thanking you for your kind interest. I am

yours truly

(Mrs J B) Rebecca A. Swett

November 20, 1935

Mrs. J. B. Swett
Southern Pines,
North Carolina

My dear Madam:

I regret very much that the play bill which you have in your possession does not appear to us to be an original and I believe that most of the Lincoln authorities are agreed with us that the one without the inscription appearing on yours is in reality the original edition.

There are those, however, who still contend that the edition of which you have a copy was the first edition, so I would not wish to have you depend entirely upon our authority; however we believe we are correct in our deduction.

If we learn of anyone who would care to have your copy, we will be pleased to advise them of your address.

Very truly yours,

LAW:LH

Director

July 7, 1936

Rev. Thos. W. Smith
Hibbing, Minnesota

My dear Rev. Smith:

It was a pleasure to visit with you in Hibbing and I promised while there I would send you a photograph of the Lincoln theatre program such as we have here in our collection, which we call the early morning edition, yours being the evening edition.

If at any time you care to dispose of your bulletin or Lincoln letters, we will be very glad indeed to have you advise us.

Very truly yours

LAW:LH

Director

Sac. Calif. Aug 25th 1936
Lincoln Historical Research
Foundation. Fort Wayne Ind.
Gentlemen.

I have in my possession a
program from Fords Theatre
at Washington dated April 14th
1865 featuring Laura Keane.
And Announcing the presence
of President Lincoln. I have
been told by several this
program is valuable on account
of age and the disaster of that
evening. Let me know what
its value is; and if you are
in the Market for an antique

of this discription.
If you do not buy them
let me know with whom
I may communicate to
find a market.
An early reply will be
appreciated.

Yours Very Truly,
D. L. Himm an.
3760- H St. Sac.
Calif.

September 1, 1936

Mr. D. L. Hinman
3760 H. Street
Sacramento, California

Dear Mr. Hinman:

Enclosed you will please find a bulletin which describes the various printings of the Ford Theatre play bill.

We have one original and several reprints but we are always interested in other copies, although I regret to say we will not be able to appraise yours as we are prohibited from doing that in this Foundation.

We would be pleased, however, to have you compare yours with those which are described on this bulletin and let us know which edition you have and if you can come to some decision about what you want for the bulletin, we will let you know whether or not we care to acquire it.

Very truly yours

LAW:LH
Enc.

Director

JOHN HOWELL
BOOKS



CABLE ADDRESS, "BOOKMAN"

TELEPHONE SUTTER 3268

434 POST STREET • SAN FRANCISCO
(OPPOSITE ST. FRANCIS HOTEL)

April 24, 1937

Dr. Louis A. Warren
The Lincoln National Life Insurance Company
Fort Wayne, Indiana

Dear Dr. Warren:

I would be glad to know if you have heard of or seen the article in an eastern magazine by William Hinckley Taylor, referring to Lincoln's assassination in Ford's Theater.

I have, from Mr. Taylor's daughter, a copy of the first printed program which is said to be stained with some of the blood of the martyred President. Mr. Taylor's daughter has forgotten the name of the magazine which contained the article written by her father, and would be delighted to know if you could help her out.

I hope to hear from you soon.

With kindest regards, I am

Sincerely and fraternally,

JH:TP



LINCOLN NATIONAL LIFE FOUNDATION

LOUIS A. WARREN
DIRECTOR

FORT WAYNE, INDIANA

April 29, 1937

RESEARCH BUREAU

INTERPRETS THE LIFE OF LINCOLN
AS REVEALED IN AUTHORIZED PUBLIC REC-
ORDS AND ORIGINAL MANUSCRIPTS.

LIBRARY BUREAU

GATHERS AND CATALOGUES ALL
CLASSES OF LINCOLN LITERATURE FOR
ITS REFERENCE LIBRARY.

PUBLICATION BUREAU

ISSUES A WEEKLY BULLETIN LIN-
COLN LORE AND PREPARES HISTORICAL
DATA FOR RELEASE IN BOOKS, PAM-
PHLETS, MAGAZINES, AND NEWSPAPERS.

INFORMATION BUREAU

COMPILES, INDEXES, AND MAKES A-
VAILABLE, INFORMATION BEARING ON THE
SUBJECT OF LINCOLNIANA.

EXHIBIT BUREAU

COLLECTS AND DISPLAYS IN ITS MU-
SEUM: MANUSCRIPTS, PORTRAITS, CURIOS,
AND SOUVENIRS, ASSOCIATED WITH LIN-
COLN.

SPEAKERS BUREAU

PROVIDES SPEAKERS FOR MEETINGS
OF CIVIC CLUBS, SCHOOL GROUPS, CHURCH
ORGANIZATIONS, ETC.

EDUCATIONAL BUREAU

PROMOTES ESSAY CONTESTS, AR-
RANGES PROGRAMS, AND STIMULATES AN
INTEREST IN THE STUDY OF LINCOLN'S
LIFE.

MEMORIAL BUREAU

MARKS SITES OF HISTORICAL SIG-
NIFICANCE, AND EMPHASIZES ANNIVER-
SARY OCCASIONS ASSOCIATED WITH LIN-
COLN.

Mr. John Howell
434 Post Street
San Francisco, California

My dear Mr. Howell:

Although we have more than 3,000 magazine articles
on Lincoln, we do not find one written by Mr. Taylor.

I am wondering if he could have been interviewed by
some other writer and the writer of course would be given credit
in our indexing for the article. You might inquire of your
clients whether this might be true.

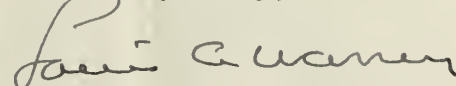
There is an interesting brochure just out discussing
the Lincoln playbill and which rather takes issue with our
Lincoln Lore in which we have attempted to identify the original
edition. It appears now as if the author may be correct and
that we have possibly made a mistake in the exact identification
of the first edition.

He seems to feel that the original edition has a final e
in Keene which is not mutilated, whereas we have argued that the
final e is mutilated and also other words where the gauge pins
had cut into the type.

His argument seems pretty good.

If you will let me know further about the Taylor article
I will do my best to discover it.

Yours very truly,



Director

LAW:EB

JOHN HOWELL
BOOKS



CABLE ADDRESS, "BOOKMAN"

TELEPHONE SUTTER 3268

434 POST STREET • SAN FRANCISCO
(OPPOSITE ST. FRANCIS HOTEL)

May 8, 1937

Dr. Louis A. Warren
Lincoln National Life Foundation
Fort Wayne, Indiana

Dear Dr. Warren:

Thank you for your letters of April 29 and
May 4.

I would like to have the copy of the brochure
telling of the Lincoln playbill. I find that
our copy of the original has a fairly perfect
"e" in "Keene," though the upper part is
slightly ragged, not from mutilation but as a
sign of wear. I will send you a photostat of
this later, with the permission of the owner.

I will try to find out from the owner whether
the magazine article was written by her
father or about her father; the latter seems
more likely.

Very truly yours,

JH:TP

May 17, 1937

Mr. John Howell
434 Post Street
San Francisco, California

My dear Mr. Howell:

The book of which I spoke is a limited edition indeed and whether or not we can secure a copy for you, I do not know. They were not printed for sale but only for distribution among the author's friends.

If you come across any further information about the originality of the bills at Ford's Theatre, we would like very much to have it.

Very truly yours

LAW:AAM

Director

*The Hayes Memorial Library
Fremont Ohio*

Twain, and others, make up an interesting literary case. Our series of President's autographs is nearly complete, and never cease to attract. The latest one, from President Franklin D. Roosevelt to Commander Webb C. Hayes indicates the President's interest in historical research. An exhibit of unusual interest is that revolving about the charge of Lieutenant Colonel Hayes with the 23rd Ohio Infantry at South Mountain, Maryland, September 14, 1862. He was wounded in that engagement.

A George Washington mourning ring, containing a lock of Washington's hair, was loaned to the National Museum for exhibition, commencing February 22, 1938. Washington gave this lock of his hair to Mrs. Alexander Hamilton, from whom it passed to her son, Hon. James Hamilton. He in turn bestowed it on John Hay, who presented the relic to President-elect Hayes as an augury of a successful administration on February 22, 1877. John Hay was assistant Secretary of State in Hayes' Administration.

Another unusual exhibit with the Lincoln mementoes is the Lincoln Assassination Playbill, said by Mr. Walter C. Brenner of Philadelphia, the authority on the subject, to be one of only four, or possibly five known originals. There were two editions printed before the play, and this is the second. Originals of both editions can be seen in the Ford Theatre Museum in the Oldroyd collection. The playbill in the Hayes Memorial is authenticated.

The Director of Research made trips to Philadelphia and Indianapolis to attend historical society meetings, and to Washington, Baltimore, and also centers of learning within short radius of Fremont to get opinions on the projection of the work. Field trips were made to various parts of Ohio. To Dr. H. C. Shetrone, Director, and Dr. Harlow Lindley, Secretary of the Ohio State Archaeological and Historical Society and their courteous assistants, our most cordial thanks are due for encouragement, advice, and cooperation. Here we wish to acknowledge also our great debt to Dr. C. C. Kohl, head of the

*Annual Report
1937 1938*

2/16-38

Dear Sir:-

Vj, I have a program - of
Ford Theatre, right of
Abraham Lincoln's
assassination. My father
had them he was in the
theatrical business all his
life as also, others, my uncle
acted with Booth & my sister.

Are you interested, and
what is it worth etc.
I question if it is an imi-
tation, tho, have no way to
know it.

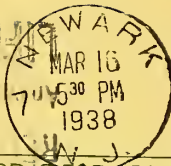
Very truly
Louis Popper
15 Lee Place Newark N.J.

THE LIFE INSURANCE CO.

D

MAR 17 1938

THIS SIDE OF CARD IS FOR ADDRESS



Referred to
LINCOLN NATIONAL Insurance Co
Fort Wayne
Ind.

March 18, 1938

Mr. Louis Popper
15 Lew Place
Newark, New Jersey

Dear Mr. Popper:

Your card of March 16 to the Lincoln National Life Insurance Company has been forwarded on to this department.

We are very much interested in any of the Ford Theatre play bills of April 14, 1865; however, it is impossible for us to appraise any Lincoln items and thus if you care to have us consider its purchase it would be necessary for you to place a price on it before submitting it to us.

If you wish to comply with the above we would be very much interested in hearing from you and would be very glad to consider the purchase of the item.

Yours very truly,

MAC:MB
M.A. Cook

Librarian

Newark NJ, March 22, 38

Lincoln National Life Foundation
Fort Wayne,
Ind.

Dear Sirs;

Thanks for your letter 19th. I can only state that my father, as a matter of record here, with newspaper item at death, the theatrical mens mutual association, that he was 45 to 50 years ago, with the Grand Opera House, in Newark. They had financial trouble, and he as Treasurer, with E.H. Stetson, operated it as stock. EH. Stetson and his wife taking leading parts. I assume, as they were old troupers, he may have obtained same from him.

Later, he was with the Newark Theatre, then and until death, with the Shubert of Newark. Altho, my mother's uncle, acted in the cast with Ed Booth, Mojeska and others; lived at the Lambs Club in NYC 25 years, I am convinced he obtained it from EH Stetson, or one of the actors of that day;

That's all I know of it's possible genuineness.

As to price, I am not a collector of Lincoln, or other items, that in itself is a luxury. I do not know it's full value, and can only say, that as it is now 75 years old, it ought to be worth a dollar of each year, or at least fifty cents of each year.

Therefore, I can only leave it to your judgement, which price it may be worth. I assume, if I wanted to purchase such an item I may have a "Time to find it", and may find it impossible; likely those that have them, if many, would not sell at any price. It has been in the family 50 years about, and only now have I written letters offering it.

So whatever you think, 75.00 or half that amount; just as I say, it may be worth many times that, something I do not know. I cannot appraise it myself, so leave the two prices for you. That seems fair.

Very truly,

Louis Popper

15 Leo Place

Ford Theatre Play Bill

March 29, 1938

Mr. Louis Popper
15 Leo Place
Newark, New Jersey

My dear Mr. Popper:

We thank you for your further information about the Ford Theatre playbill which you have, but inasmuch as there is much discussion over which was the original bill, we must ask you to further identify it.

You will please find enclosed three photostat copies.

Will you please advise us which one of these is like the copy which you have; also please tell us what the name of the publisher on the bill, or the printer of the bill which appears at the bottom of the broadside. With this identification we will let you know whether or not we care to acquire the item you have.

Very truly yours,

LAW:EB
Encs.

Director

Lincoln National Foundation,
Fort Wayne, Ind.

Dear Sirs;

Your letter to hand. The playbill is dated,

Friday evening, April 14, 1865

Benefit and Last Night

of Miss Laura Keene,

Supported by John Dyott and Harry Hawk

Ton Taylor's celebrated Eccentric Comedy

One Thousand Nights

entitled

Our American Cousin

Florence Trenchard --- Miss Laura Keene

It states "Patriotic Song and Chorus
AMERICA

My Country tis of thee etc,

Saturday April 15,

Benefit of Miss Jennie Gourlay

in

The Octoroon

Edwin Adams.

Ofcourse, I am not in a position to state its value, except that the age of same, makes some things very valuable. I would like to get 25.00 for it. Might add the program is a rather drab color, paper no doubt used at the time, very cheap paper, which after age turns brownish.

Unfortunately I did not ask for some information, from my Uncle, who died short time ago, at the Lambs Club, New York. He was in the cast with Edwin Booth, Clara Morris, Mojeska, and while he was past 85 or much more, he retained a splendid memory, and still played Shakesperian parts, at the club benefits.

However, no doubt, you are well posted on these things.

Thanking you, I am,

Very truly,
Louis Popper

15 Leoflace

P S IN event you purchase it, shall I send registered mail?

April 25, 1938

Mr. Louis Popper
15 Leo Place

My dear Mr. Popper:

Thank you very much for your further information about the Ford Theatre playbill which you have, but it is evidently a facsimile and not an original, as the original did not have the song America printed upon it but another song especially written for the occasion.

Thank you very much for your trouble.

Yours very truly,

LAW:EB

Director

Long Lake Pa 4-23rd 1938
Mr. Hart Blumenthal"
Rittenhouse Plaza
Phila Pa

Dear Sir:-

I am inclosing a clipping
from a Newspaper that speaks
for itself. If you are interested
please advise and will arrange
to let you see the same. I might
add that your name was given to
me by the Library of Congress
Washington D.C.

Very truly yours
Chas. E. ...
306 Green St. ... PA

N. Y. City World

\$37.50 FOR LINCOLN MEMENTO

A program of Ford's Theater, Washington, dated April 14, 1865, the day President Lincoln was fatally shot there, and bearing a printed notice of the President's attendance, was sold for \$37.50 yesterday at the second day of the auction sale of the William Faversham art collection. Proceeds for the day were \$4,817, making the two-day total \$8,071. The auction continues today at the Day Galleries, 16 East 60th Street.

SUNBURY FINDS OLD THEATRICAL HANDBILL

**Circular Advertised Production
Which Lincoln Attended When
Assassinated**

An original handbill advertising the theatrical performance at which Abraham Lincoln was assassinated has been discovered at the home of Orris R. Sunbury, 306 Green street, Lansdale.

It was found in a yellowed old Common Prayer Book of the English Church, which had been among the possessions of the late Charles H. Grandville, the father of Mr. Sunbury's wife, Irene.

Mr. Grandville was a resident of Philadelphia at the time of his death, but he had told his daughter years ago that he was at Ford's Theatre in Washington, D. C., the night Lincoln was shot.

Several of Mr. Grandville's old books came into Mrs. Sunbury's possession at the time of his death and most of these remained stored away, unopened, until Mr. Sunbury began idly looking through them.

In the old prayer book, which itself dated back to the middle of the last century, he found the folded handbill.

It carries the date of April 14, 1865, which was when the assassination occurred, and lists the cast for the production of "Our American Cousin," starring Miss Laura Keane, John Dyott and Harry Hawk.

In large type across the broadside was printed the fact that President Lincoln would be a guest at the performance. It was apparently from some such handbill that John Wilkes Booth was inspired with his plan to take the president's life in spectacular fashion, before a large audience.

The broadside was apparently printed on the back of some other published material, possibly to save paper. There is printed matter on the reverse side of the handbill, but the column-rules do not correspond with the edges of the bill, indicating clearly that it was not clipped from a newspaper of the day.

It is much watched, having broken where it was creased for placing in someone's pocket, nearly three-quarters of a century ago.

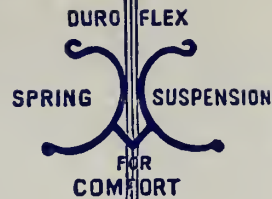
DURO-FLEX CO.

MANUFACTURERS OF

DISTINCTIVE FURNITURE

IN THE

MODERN STYLE



Box 512

ROCKVILLE CENTRE 5007

LYNBROOK, N. Y.

March 28th, 1942

Mr. M. A. Cook,
Lincoln National Life Foundation,
Fort Wayne, Indiana.

Dear Mr. Cook;

In response to your letter of March 18th, 1942, enclosed is a photostat of "Our American Cousin" program. Should you compare this with the few actual originals extant you will appreciate its authenticity.

This piece came into my possession circuitously from a relative whom it so happens was an employee of Ford's Theatre on that eventful night, making this the actual box office bill. However, except for the Booth photograph affixed to it, it bears no substantiating ear marks, which I can find, other than the condition of the back board and nails in the frame.

In view of its condition, history, and authenticity, I feel it to be worth at least \$125.00.

Appreciating your interest and looking forward to your further comments, I am

Yours very truly,

EP/DW

Elmore Pettit

PIECES FOR THE

DISPLAY ROOM

OFFICE

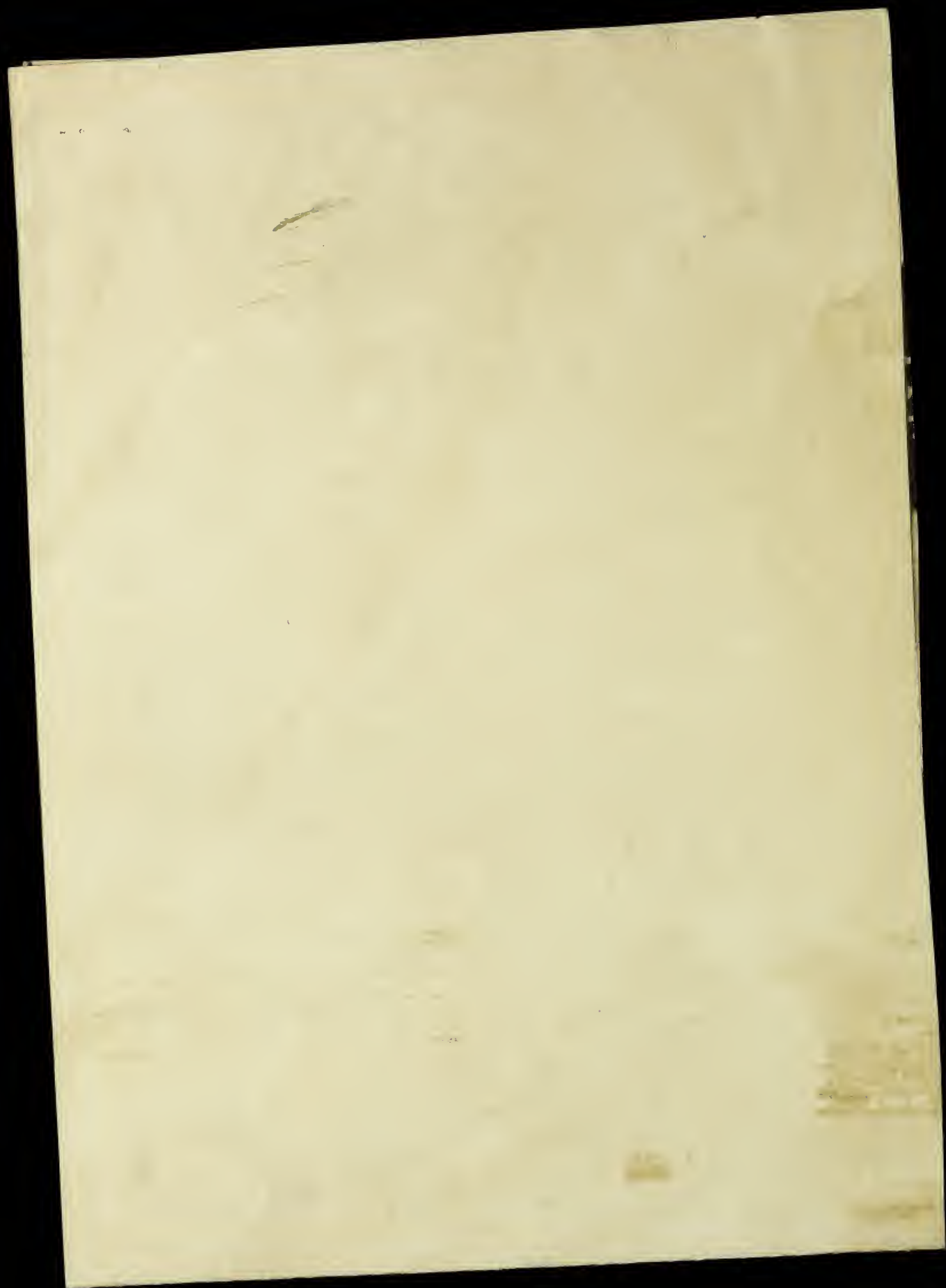
LOBBY

LOUNGE

LIVING ROOM

TERRACE

SOLARIUM



April 2, 1942

Mr. Ellmore Pettit
Duro-Flex Company
Box 512
Lynbrook, N. Y.

Dear Mr. Pettit:

I do appreciate your prompt answer to my letter regarding the play bill from Ford's Theatre giving the mention on this bill that the President would be in attendance.

We are holding the photostat hoping that we might be able to find someone who would be interested in acquiring it; however, if you desire the photostat returned to you we will be happy to do so and close our file as we do not feel that we care to acquire this item for our collection in that we already have one similar to the one which you mention.

Yours very truly,

MAC:MBS
M.A.Cook

Librarian

April 2, 1942

Mr. Elmore Pettit
Duro-Flex Company
Box 512
Lynbrook, N. Y.

Dear Mr. Pettit:

I do appreciate your prompt answer to my letter regarding the play bill from Ford's Theatre giving the mention on this bill that the President would be in attendance.

We are holding the photostat hoping that we might be able to find someone who would be interested in acquiring it; however, if you desire the photostat returned to you we will be happy to do so and close our file as we do not feel that we care to acquire this item for our collection in that we already have one similar to the one which you mention.

Yours very truly,

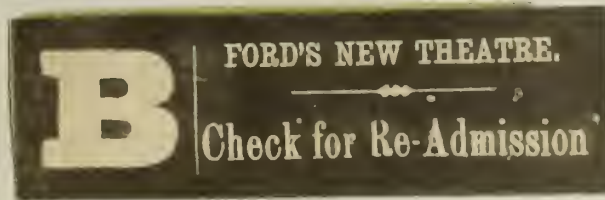
MAC:MBS
M.A.Cook

Librarian

G - Genuine playbills of Ford's Theatre the night of Lincoln's assassination are occasionally obtainable for \$30 up. Only be sure that yours is genuine. According to that eminent authority, the late Herbert S. Renton, there are two kinds of right bills. The regular bill has a damaged E in Laura Keane - the large name, and the first three names in the cast have a broken last letter. Pulkinhorn is the printer's name. Genuine bill number two was issued as an afterthought when it was understood that General Grant, who could not come, was to be a patron that awful evening. That bill has the broken ends of the actors' names corrected, and a patriotic verse of a song the audience was invited to sing was printed on some few extra bills. So a bill with a stanza is right, if Pulkinhorn did not run off a lot of them afterward, which is not likely.

Collectors Guide

(9-7)-18. 1942



PHOTOSTAT OF ORIGINAL (See Back) stamped

The readmission check from Ford's Theater was a gift to my father from an old soldier who was on duty at the theater the night of the assassination. Loan of Dwight W. Barber, 117 Romney Road, Lexington, Ky.
11/27/45 - From the Jacob Silas Barber Collection.

1 Prospect Street
South Orange, New Jersey
March 29, 1947

Mr. Lewis A. Haven
Lincoln National Life Foundation
Fort Wayne, Indiana

Dear Sir:

The Keeper of Manuscripts of the New York Public Library, Mr. Robert W. Hill, suggested that I write to you in regard to a program from Ford's Theatre, Washington, D.C., dated April 14, 1865, the night of Lincoln's assassination. According to family tradition, this program was taken from Lincoln's box. My grandfather, who owned it, was connected with the Brooklyn Daily Eagle at that time.

Mr. Hill and I examined Bulletin #318, dated May 13, 1935, setting forth several claims of authenticity. My program seems to meet the description of the one you believe to be the true one.

The "Price of Admission" is punctuated by a "Colon" (:).

It lacks the word "CHAIR" after "Orchestra".

The top of the letter "E" does not come down.

"Proprietor and Manager" is broken off in middle of last "E" and lacks the letter "R."

I shall be glad to hear from you if you are interested:

Very truly yours,
Eugene S. Nostrand.

March 31, 1947

Mr. Eugene S. Nostrand
1 Prospect Street
South Orange, New Jersey

Dear Mr. Nostrand:

Thanks very much for calling to attention the program for
Ford's Theatre for April 14, 1865.

Inasmuch as we have one identical to yours I do not think
we would care to acquire another one.

Very truly yours,

LAW:JT
L.A. Warren

Director

Framingham Mass - Feb - 12 -

Belmont Mass - Dear Sir -

While making my Boston Post.

I was greatly interested in the
article about Abraham Lincoln.

Also very much interested to know

you are a Worcester Mass boy -

and you went to the Lincoln Co.

school - Now I may have sent

a few years before but I tell my

friends all I know I learned

at Belmont St School corner

I don't know H. Pittman St.

I tell you are old friends to

start with - Now I am sure

you will be interested in what

I am going to tell you regarding

Abraham Lincoln -

My father Thomas D. Ball was

Abraham Lincoln's "Body Guard"

in Washington - H.E.

of the "Great³" program and I
doubt if there is another with
his life blood unless the other
part of the program is in existence
It can't be doubted it is the truth
It has the Lord printed on it
I have often thought it should
be put in a safe place like
the Smithsonian Institute -
I also have a very old album
with Lincoln's picture and his wife
original" my father was
mail messenger at the White House
until his health failed him &
I have his badge he once says
President's Escort. U. L. G. C.

belonged to a picked Company
called the Union Light Guards
and was stationed in Camp on
the Capital grounds and my mother
was there with him - and did
things needed for the boys in camp
The night Abraham Lincoln
was assassinated some of his
body guards were present -

The people present took their
handkerchiefs & wiped his blood
A soldier had no handkerchief
& took his theater program &
stained it with Lincoln's blood
My mother tore off a corner of the
program and I have in
my possession that corner

Since I have confidence in you
as you are from Worcester
and you could give me some
advice - If it is any value
in money it would be a great
help - I am in my 79th year
and still at work in the best
of health - It would please
me very much to get a
reply Yours faithfully -

Mrs Emma (Ball) Hingham
#202 Irving St
Hingham
Mass

February 24, 1948

Mrs. Emma Upham
202 Irving Street
Framingham, Mass.

Dear Madam:

Thank you kindly for your very interesting letter relating the story of your father, Thomas B. Ball's association as Lincoln's "Body Guard" and of the Lincoln treasures you have in your possession.

Dr. Warren, I am sure, will be pleased to receive your letter and I will bring it to his attention upon his return to the office. He is now on the Pacific coast on a speaking tour and will return about the middle of next month.

Very truly yours,

Margaret Moellering
Secretary to Dr. Warren

mm

Enclosure

March 17, 1948

Mrs. Emma Upham
202 Irving Street
Framingham, Mass.

My dear Madam:

It was a pleasure indeed to hear from you and I recall quite vividly attending Central Congregational Church at Worcester where Miss Upham was my Sunday School teacher.

Thank you for telling me about your father and we are pleased to have the information for our files.

With respect to the little piece of the program you have in your possession, I doubt whether it would be of any special value because the blood shed in the box that night was not Lincoln's blood but the blood of Major Rathburn who was stabbed by Booth and bled profusely. Mr. Lincoln is not known to have bled any from his bullet wound so I could not honestly confirm that it is Lincoln's blood on the piece of paper you have. Thank you, nevertheless

Very truly yours,

Director

LAW:CM
L.A. Warren

~~2749 First Avenue North~~

~~St. Petersburg 6, Florida~~

907 Woodland Avenue

April 4th, 1949

Dr. Louis A. Warren,
Lincoln Nat'l Life Association
Fort Wayne, Ind.

San Carlos, Calif.

Dear Mr. Warren:- Thank you for the letter of March 29th, regarding the Herndon's "Lincoln". My difficulty is that I know of no Lincoln specialist to whom I could write.

I have another question. Egbert Fairchild Van Eyck was an actor who knew Wilkes Booth personally. That fatal night he was one who trooped through the box from which Mr. Lincoln had been carried. He picked up one of the playbills on which there was a spot of Lincoln's blood. Mr. Van Eyck's widow married a second time and in 1909 I waited upon her husband when he was sick, during my New York pastorate. Her husband suggested that she give me that playbill in token of my service. I have kept it ever since. I understand that the very playbill held by Mr. Lincoln the night of the tragedy is in the collection kept in the Lincoln monument in Springfield. It is certified to by the signatures of some people who were in the box with Mr. Lincoln. I inclose a clipping which shows there is a third playbill claiming to hold a spot of Lincoln's blood. Is it possible that when Booth struck Lieut. Rathbone's left arm with his dagger, it bled so that Rathbone's blood stained some of the playbills? I suppose you can not answer this question. I have the testimony of a man who actually there shortly after the tragedy.

Very sincerely yours

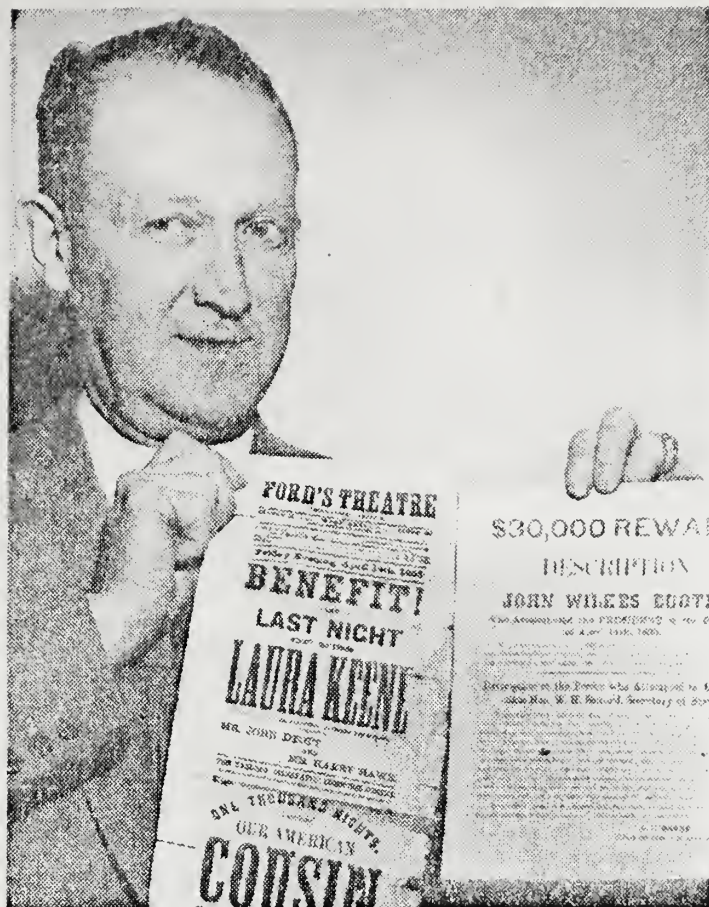
Thos W Smith

Historical



Among the quarter-million-dollar collection of American historical documents, manuscripts and books on display today and tomorrow in I. Magnin's gift shop is the theater program held by Abraham Lincoln when he was shot. Here, Philip Rosenbach, one of the owners of the collection, points to what is believed to be a spot of President Lincoln's blood.

Top. News - 12-54



Memories of Lincoln

FRANKFORT, Ind.—William Goodwin holds a replica of the poster advertising the play Lincoln was attending the night he was shot and a sign offering a reward for his assassin. The reward poster is one of two known remaining copies, the others being recalled when the reward was increased. The items are part of a collection which Goodwin makes available to pupils.—The News Photo, George Tilford.

THE ULTIMATE LINCOLN BROADSIDE!!

- 50C. ORIGINAL FORD'S THEATRE BROADSIDE FOR THE FATAL NIGHT OF APRIL 14, 1865.
Brown, printer, Washington. Large size 18"x5". Old 19th century identified paper mat accompanying. Some marginal tears, one stain, and 2 creases, rebaked at weak spots. But absolutely no loss of text. Tremendous character and ageing. The original "Our American Cousin" broadside has always been considered the ultimate rarity to any serious Lincoln collector. There were two versions printed. The first one does not mention Lincoln planning to attend. Only 3 copies have been located. They have sold in excess of \$3,500. The second version, printed the afternoon of April 14th, states "This evening, the performance will be honored by the presence of PRESIDENT LINCOLN". This is the only known copy of the second version!! Obviously the more important and desirable form. This is the version that Booth read which caused him to plan the assassination of Lincoln. The "Our American Cousin" broadside is so excessively rare that the Library of Congress, Smithsonian Institute, Chicago Historical Society, Illinois Historical Library and all other major public Institutional Lincoln collections are lacking it. Even more amazing, the Ford's Theatre Museum in Washington does not own a copy either! This is the chance of a life time. Missing this one will be like missing the Oliver Barrett sale all over again. (Photo pg. 11).....(\$5000-\$7500)

Auction No 58
Sept. 20, 1974

Americana Mail Auction
Dec. M. Rinsland 4015 Kulmer Ave. Allentown, Pa

524 LINCOLN, A.: An A.E.S., Feb. 28, 1865. "Let this man Polk Walters, take the oath of Dec. 8, 1863 & be discharged. A. Lincoln"; written on the remaining portion of the integral leaf of an A.L.S. from Gen. Thomas Wood to Gen. Burnside, Feb. 15, 1865. In this letter, Wood introduces a Mr. Murray who apparently initiated the discharge of Walters. (Fold lines to letter, age toning to endorsement), otherwise very fine. Both Wood and Burnside were distinguished C.W. Generals. (Est. 1,200-1,800)

"FORD'S THEATRE PLAYBILL"

525 (LINCOLN, A.): The Ford's Theatre playbill for Friday evening, April 14, 1865. "Benefit and Last Night of Miss Laura Keane"... "Our American Cousin", "Patriotic Song and Chorus"; "Honor to our Soldiers"; H. Polkinhorn and Son printers; D. St., near 7th, Washington, D.C.; 18½ x 5½. (Top trimmed ¼ into title of Ford's Theatre", minor fold weakness and soiling), but a fine example of one of the two versions printed for April 14, 1865. This version was amended as soon as it was known that the President was to attend that evening. (See Mary Benjamin's Autographs, A Key to Collecting, plate III, variant B.) Included in this lot is another playbill for the same day, a "Buckingham" copy or type (reproduction). Buckingham was the doorman at the theatre, and at a later date printed these copies; excellent. A total of two items. (Est. 2,500-3,500)

526 (LINCOLN, A.): "Ford's Theatre" ticket for the "Orchestra, Reserved Chair--Friday"; "Jas. R. Ford, Business Manager". A fine ticket on yellow stock paper; circular stampo, "Ford's Theatre April 14, 1865, This night only; section and no. not filled in. Verso note, in ink, "I certify that this is an original ticket for the evening that President Lincoln was assassinated April 14, 1865 and was presented to me by James R. Ford. John W. Haseltine, July 14, 1865". In excellent condition; 1 3/4 x 4½. (Est. 2,500-3,500)

527 (LINCOLN, A.): A large lock of Lincoln's hair, with a period letter to Mrs. Joseph Story, with what seems to be a private carrier's cancellation, "Reynolds and Cushman, New York, Aug. 19, 1865", and another dated on letter "May 5, 1865". The note states, "This hair cut from the head of Abraham Lincoln by Dr. L.B. Todd, cousin of Mrs. Lincoln - Taken with blood upon it. Mr. Swift, Brother-in-law of Todd gave it to J.A. Dodge April 15, from him to A.O. Bailey, his Brother-in-law, and from him to J.G.S. (Joseph Story)". (Est. 700-900)

RARE "REWARD" BROADSIDE

528 (LINCOLN, A.): Booth Reward Broadside. "War Department, Washington, April 20, 1865, \$100,000 Reward! The murderer of our late beloved President, Abraham Lincoln, is still at large... Edwin M. Stanton, Sec. of War." Gives description of Booth, Surrat and Herold. A variant issue, without the three photo's; 24 x 13. (Mounted on linen, a few stains, mostly upper left corner; tear and fold lines mended). Fine and very rare. (Est. 3,500-4,500)

"SEARCH FOR BOOTH"

529 (LINCOLN, A.): A diary, written by Gen. James Rowan O'Beirne, Provost Marshal of the District of Columbia, being a first-hand account of the search for Booth and Herold, following the assassination of the President. Included in the fourteen pages concerning O'Beirne's pursuit of the assassins, are many intriguing entries, of which the following are but a sample - "Watch the woman of Atzarodt (sic) at her house overnight."; "Mudd near Bryantown, son of Wm. A. Mudd a wild rabid man... is (a) black hearted man & possibly a conspirator see after him..."; "Pope's Creek, has been a crossing the conspirators are there if they have not crossed over..."; "Herold was coming backwards & forwards to visit the dissipated set at Port Tobacco even just after his father's death...". He gives a description of Atzarodt: "Medium height, black hair, ... looks like a German, a smiling man, ordinary."; "Mr. Brawner on the road that leads to Marbry's Wharf, arrest him"; "Apl 19th 7 o'clock, met Mr. Fellows of Col. Baker's force..."; "Send the men over to Mattox Creek to work their way up & arrest Jones (who was later jailed, but released for lack of evidence; years later he admitted hiding and feeding Booth for six days)...". "Mr. Wills tells me that old

man Claggett had a conversation with the two men who went over the river on Sunday... (relates information)"; "Apl 22/65, 4:15 p.m., Learned from a colored man at White Point, Va. that... two men with black whiskers... landed a boat & left it hastily... got the boat & a pair of suspenders."; "Saml. Cox (at Scotia Swamp)- his mill servant stated... that Cox had been cooking provisions late & carrying it to persons down in the swamp..."; "Jordan Middleton, a smooth, oily, deceitful man, his wife is the sister of Dr. Sam. Mudd..."; "Apl 25/65, Three rebel soldiers were arrested at this (Middleton's) house."; "Apl 25/65, Herold & Booth came out of a belt of cedars within 150 yards of Turner's house on the morning of Apl. 25th between hours of 6 and 7. Spoke to a colored girl at Turner's house asked for food... one on a crutch, they asked if there was anyone in the house & if they could get some water they were told to come up to the house but did not do so, the last seen of them was tending in an easterly direction... today shows that they have made a circuit ... in which they were & are not 5 miles distant. The two men are Booth & Herold beyond doubt.". Diary is leather bound (covers somewhat scuffed), written in pencil and ink; 8vo; (some minor water stains to edge of paper, not affecting entries. Beautifully housed in leather and cloth bound slip-case. A rare and historically important piece, documenting the man-hunt for the assassins of the President. (Est. 5,500-6,500)

"Without any personal regard for Mr. Lincoln, I considered him a kind-hearted man... nothing could have made me willing to adopt assassination..."

530 DAVIS, JEFFERSON: An A.L.S., 7 pp., 8vo, 33 Camp Street N(ew) O(rleans), 11 May 1876; to Col. C. J. Wright. "My dear Crafts, I have received your two very welcome letters... it is very painful for me to realize, as I must, in discussing questions of the sectional war, that my early and ever dear friend, is not in accord with me. My father was a revolutionary soldier, and as you see by the name he gave me, a friend of Thomas Jefferson, and an adherent to the states rights doctrine. I grew up in that faith, and could no more conscientiously (sic) have abandoned it, than I could have deserted a friend when surrounded by foes."... "The diary of one Jones (see previous lot) I have not seen, but suppose the poor devil after having fed on the Confederacy until it went down, then framed his story anew so as to gain admission to other pastures."... "little credibility is to be given to his tale of the proposition to assassinate Presdt. Lincoln. Would anyone... send it through the Adj. Genls. Dept., where he (Jones) only could have seen it. If so sent, it would not have been referred to me, but to the Secty. of War. Would any man who ever filled that office, have sent it to me. Yet these are the preliminaries to his falsehood, that I returned it without rebuke."... "Col. Alston... at the time when it was attempted to implicate me in the murder of Mr. Lincoln, published a statement... to this effect, that an officer... had sent to me... a letter offering his services to go secretly and assassinate Mr. Lincoln, and that I... (ordered) the officer to be arrested, and brought before a court Martial."... "The other story of what I said to Breckenridge on receipt of the news of Lincoln's death is an equally bald falsehood. Breckenridge was not with me, but... sent me the telegram announcing the death of Mr. L. The news was to me very sad, for I felt that Mr. Johnson was a malignant man, and without the power, or generosity which I believed Mr. Lincoln possessed."... "One who was there present... says that when I handed the telegram to Mr. Johnson (a eminent citizen of Charleston), that I remarked this is sad news, and that the crowd called for the reading of the telegram, that when it was read, someone shouted and that I checked it, with remarks of sadness. The fact was, that without any personal regard for Mr. Lincoln, I considered him a kind hearted man, and very much preferred by us to his successor, Mr. Johnson; but had it been otherwise nothing could have made me willing to adopt assassination as a means to be employed."... "Though several attempts were made to assassinate me during the War... neither I, or those associated with me, believed Mr. Lincoln to be participants criminis."... "Jefferson Davis". (Fold lines, evidence of mounting, minor soiling), otherwise very fine. (Ex-Oliver Barrett Collection, see Parke-Bernet Sale, lot #777; also see Sandburg's Lincoln Collector, pp. 292-293.) An important letter. (Est. 3,000-4,000)

ROBERT L. EXUM

947 S. Lake Summit Drive
Anaheim, CA 92807-4540
714-281-1529

September 30, 1993

Ford's Theater Museum Bookshop
P. O. Box 40060
Washington, DC 20016

Attention: Mr. John Houde
Manager

Dear Mr. Houde:

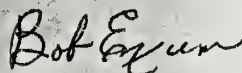
While on vacation last month, I visited the Ford Theater and discussed with you a Ford Theater ticket dated April 14, 1865, the night of the Lincoln assassination. I said that I would be interested in selling the ticket if the price was right. I do believe that the Ford Theater is where it deserves to be.

I bought it many years ago as I am an avid Lincoln buff. It is encased in glass 3/4" thick. Enclosed you will find two copies that I had made for your inspection. I do not believe that this is a reproduction as the ink writing is by Mr. J. L. Roos, the date and the seat numbers appear to be written in ink. The back appears to be a separate piece of paper attached to the ticket. I do believe it is genuine.

It indeed would be interesting to find out who and what Mr. J. L. Roos was.

After you have had a chance to review this matter, I will be looking forward to hearing from you.

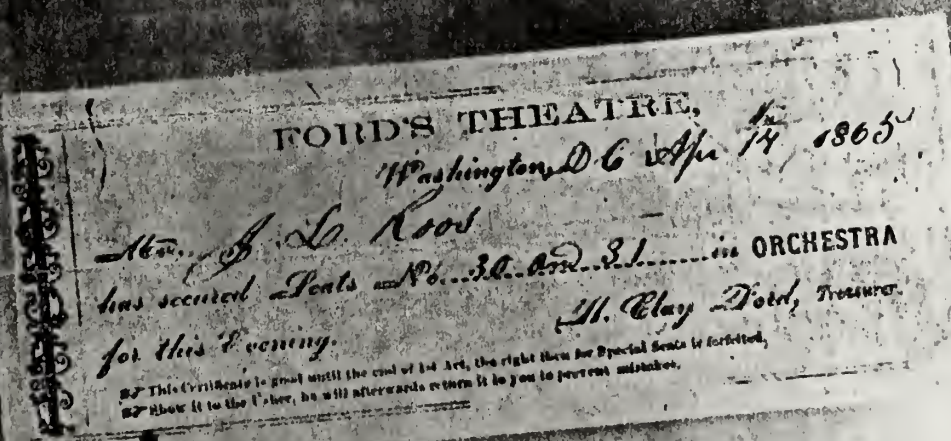
Sincerely,



Robert L. Exum

hb
Enc.

Sent
info from
vertical file
"Play bills, tickets,
programs -
Ford's Theatre
RC
10/27/93



THE ASSASSINATION OF ABRAHAM LINCOLN

On the evening of April 14, 1865, President Abraham Lincoln attended a performance of "Our American Cousin" at Ford's Theatre in Washington. A few minutes after 10 O'clock, a shot rang out. John Wilkes Booth had shot the President in the head from the rear of the unprotected Presidential Box. The mortally wounded President was carried out of the theatre, across 10th street, to the house of William Petersen; where, at 7:22 the next morning, the 16th President of the United States succumbed.

This ticket enabled J.L. Roos to be an eyewitness to history, the night Lincoln was assassinated.

And the very playbill that Lincoln was holding, that tragic day that he was shot, may be seen hanging just inside the door of Keen's English Chop House. 72 West 36th Street, N. Y.





And the very playbill that Lincoln was holding, that tragic day that he was shot, may be seen hanging just inside the door of Keen's English Chop House. 72 West 36th Street, N. Y.



FORD'S THEATRE

TENTH STREET, ABOVE N.

SEASON II. WEEK XXXI. NIGHT 181
WHOLE NUMBER OF NIGHTS, 450.

JOHN T. FORD, PROPRIETOR AND MANAGER
Also of Holiday St. Theatre, Baltimore, and Academy of Music, Phila.
Music Manager, J. B. WEIGHT
Treasurer, H. CLAY FORD

Friday Evening, April 14th, 1865

THIS EVENING,

The Performance will be honored by the presence of

PRESIDENT LINCOLN

BENEFIT!

—AND—

LAST NIGHT

OF MISS

LAURA KEENE

THE DISTINGUISHED MANAGERS, AUTHORS AND ACTRESS,

Supported by

MR. JOHN DYOTT

AND

MR. HARRY HAWK

TOM TAYLOR'S CELEBRATED ECCENTRIC COMEDY

As originally produced in America by Miss Keene, and performed by her upwards of

ONE THOUSAND NIGHTS,
ENTITLED
OUR AMERICAN
COUSIN

FLORENCE TRENCHARD.....MISS LAURA KEENE
(Her Original Character)

Abel Hurcott, Clerk to Attorney.....	John Dyott
Ann Trenchard.....	Harry Hawk
Sir Edward Trenchard.....	T. C. GOURLAY
Lord Dunsbury.....	R. A. SEEDON
Mr. Coyle, Attorney.....	J. MATTHEWS
Lieutenant Vernon, R. N.....	W. J. FERGUSON
Captain De Boote.....	C. STANES
Slaney.....	G. O. SPEAR
Huddicomb, a Valet.....	J. H. EVANS
John Whicker, a gardener.....	J. L. DONAY
Rasper, a groom.....	
Belliss.....	O. A. FAIRHURST and L. JOHNSON
Mary Trenchard.....	Miss J. GOURLAY
Mrs. Mountchensington.....	Mrs. H. MUZZY
Augusta.....	Miss R. TRUMAN
Georgiana.....	Miss M. RAY
Sharpe.....	Mrs. J. M. EVANS
Shillet.....	Miss M. GOURLAY

SATURDAY EVENING, APRIL 15,

BENEFIT of Miss JENNIE GOURLAY

When will be presented BOURCICAULT'S Great Sensational Drama,

THE OCTOROON

Reater Monday, April 17, Engagement of the YOUNG AMERICAN TRAGEDIAN,

EDWIN ADAMS

FOR TWELVE NIGHTS ONLY.

THE PRICES OF ADMISSION:

Orchestra.....	\$1.00
Dress Circle and Parquette.....	75
Family Circle.....	25
Private Boxes.....	\$6 and \$10

J. B. FORD, Business Manager.

H. Folchhorn & Son, Printers, Detroit near 10th W. Washington, D. C.

This is a facsimile of an original program issued by the FORD'S Theatre the night of President LINCOLN'S assassination. The original from which this copy was made is in the possession of the Chicago Historical Society.

Courtesy of the
FORT DEARBORN PHOTO CO.
56 E. Randolph St. Chicago
"FACSIMILE COPIES OF ALL DESCRIPTION"



FORD'S THEATRE

FIFTH STREET, ABOVE E.

SEASON II.....WEEK XXXI.....NIGHT 181
WHOLE NUMBER OF NIGHTS, 495.

JOHN T. FORD.....PROPRIETOR AND MANAGER
(Also of Holliday St. Theatre, Baltimore, and Academy of Music, Phil'a.)
Stage Manager.....J. B. WRIGHT
Treasurer.....M. CLAY FORD

Friday Evening, April 14th, 1865

THIS EVENING,

The Performance will be honored by the presence of

PRESIDENT LINCOLN

BENEFIT!

—AND—

**LAST NIGHT
OF MISS
LAURA KEENE**

THE DISTINGUISHED MANAGERESS, AUTHORESS AND ACTRESS,
Supported by

MR. JOHN DYOTT

AND

MR. HARRY HAWK

TOM TAYLOR'S CELEBRATED ECCENTRIC COMEDY

As originally produced in America by Miss Keene, and performed by her upwards of

ONE THOUSAND NIGHTS
ENTITLED
OUR AMERICAN
NOTABLES

FORD'S THEATRE

TENTH STREET, ABOVE E.

SEASON II. WEEK XXXI. NIGHT 15
WHOLE NUMBER OF NIGHTS, 694.

JOHN T. FORD PROPRIETOR AND MANAGER
(Also of Holiday St. Theatre, Baltimore, and Academy of Music, Phil'a.)
Stage Manager J. B. WRIGHT
Treasurer H. CLAY FORD

Friday Evening, April 14th, 1865

BENEFIT!

—AND—

LAST NIGHT

OF MISS

LAURA KEENE

THE DISTINGUISHED MANAGERESS, AUTHOR AND ACTRESS.

Supported by

MR. JOHN D'OTT

AND

MR. HARRY HAWK.

TOM TAYLOR'S CELEBRATED ECCENTRIC COMEDY.

As originally produced in America by Miss Keene, and by Mr. D'ott.

ONE THOUSAND NIGHTS, ENTITLED OUR AMERICAN COUSIN

FLORENCE TRENCHARD. MISS LAURA KEENE
(Her original character.)

Abel Murcott, Clerk to Attorney. John D'ott
Aaa Trenchard. Harry Hawk
Sir Edward Trenchard. T. C. GOURLAY
Lord Dundreary. E. A. EMERSON
Mr. Coyle, Attorney. J. MATTHEWS
Lieutenant Vernon, R. N. W. J. FERGUSON
Captain De Boets. C. BYRNES
Hinney. G. G. SPRUE
Beddisonb, a Valet. J. H. EVANS
John Whicker, a gardener. J. L. DeBONAY
Rasper, a groom.
Ballin. G. A. PARKHURST and L. JOHNSON
Mary Trenchard. Miss J. GOURLAY
Mrs. Montchesington. Mrs. H. MUEZZ
Augusta. Miss H. TREKMAN
Georgiana. Miss M. HART
Sharpe. Mrs. J. M. EVANS
Shillet. Miss M. GOURLAY

SATURDAY EVENING, APRIL 15,

BENEFIT of Miss JENNIE GOURLAY

When will be presented BOURCICAULT'S Great Sensational Drama,

THE OCTOROON

Revised Monday, April 17, Engagement of the YOUNG AMERICAN TRAGEDIAN,

EDWIN ADAMS

FOR TWELVE NIGHTS ONLY

THE PRICES OF ADMISSION:

Orchestra. \$1.00
Dress Circle and Parquette. 75
Family Circle. 25
Private Boxes. \$6 and \$10

J. B. FORD, Business Manager.

H. Folklings & Son, Printers, D Street, near 7th, Washington, D. C.

FORD'S THEATRE

FIFTH STREET, ABOVE E.

SEASON II.....WEEK XXXI.....NIGHT 101
WHOLE NUMBER OF NIGHTS, 432.

JOHN T. FORD,.....PROPRIETOR AND MANAGER
"Also of Holiday St. Theatre, Baltimore, and Academy of Music, Phila.)
"Manager.....J. B. WRIGHT
"Theatrical Agent.....M. CLAY FORD

Friday Evening, April 14th, 1865

THIS EVENING,

The Performance will be honored by the presence of

PRESIDENT LINCOLN

BENEFIT!

—AND—

LAST NIGHT

OF MISS

LAURA KEENE

THE DISTINGUISHED MANAGERESS, AUTHORESS AND ACTRESS,
Supported by

MR. JOHN DYOTT

AND

MR. HARRY HAWK

TOM TAYLOR'S CELEBRATED ECCENTRIC COMEDY

As originally produced in America by Miss Keene, and performed by her upwards of

ONE THOUSAND NIGHTS
ENTITLED
OUR AMERICAN
COUSIN

FLORENCE TRENCHARD.....MISS LAURA KEENE
(Her Original Character.)

Abel Harroett, Clerk to Attorney.....	John Dyott
And Trenchard.....	Harry Hawk
Mr. Edward Trenchard.....	T. C. GOURLAY
Lord Dunsany.....	B. A. RHEBSON
Mr. Coyle, Attorney.....	J. MATTHEWS
Lieutenant Vernon, R. N.....	W. J. FERGUSON
Captain De Roze.....	C. STANNE
Blaisy.....	G. G. SPEAR
Suddicomb, a Valet.....	J. H. EVANS
John Wilcher, a gardener.....	J. L. DeDONAY
Rasper, a groom.....	
Ballie.....	G. A. PARKHURST and L. JOHNSON
Mary Trenchard.....	Miss J. GOURLAY
Mrs. Mountchouglton.....	Mrs. H. MUZZY
Augusta.....	Miss H. TRUEMAN
Georgiana.....	Miss M. HART
Sharp.....	Mrs. J. H. EVANS
Willie.....	Miss M. GOURLAY

SATURDAY EVENING, APRIL 15,

BENEFIT of Miss JENNIE GOURLAY

When will be presented BOURCICAULT'S Great Sensational Drama,

THE OCTOBEROON

Reiter Monday, April 17, Engagement of the YOUNG AMERICAN TRAGEDIAN,

EDWIN ADAMS

FOR TWELVE NIGHTS ONLY.

THE PRICES OF ADMISSION:

Orchestra.....	\$1.00
Dress Circle and Parquette.....	75
Family Circle.....	50
Private Boxes.....	\$6 and \$10

J. B. FORD, Business Manager.

H. Polkirk & Son, Printers, D Street, near 7th, Washington, D. C.

This facsimile of Ford's Theatre Playbill of April 14, 1865 furnished through the courtesy of the Lincoln Museum of The Lincoln National Life Insurance Company, Fort Wayne, Indiana.



FORD'S THEATRE

THEATRE OF THE CITY

FRIDAY EVENING, APRIL 16TH, 1944

Friday Evening, April 16th, 1944

BENEFIT!

LAST NIGHT

OF MISS

LAURA KEENE

MR. JOHN DUFFY

MR. HARRY BAWL

THE 1000 NIGHTS OF THE DUFFY

ONE THOUSAND NIGHTS

OUR AMERICAN

COUSIN

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FORD'S THEATRE

TENTH STREET, ABOVE E.

SEASON II.....WEEK XXXI.....NIGHT 184
WHOLE NUMBER OF NIGHTS, 492.

JOHN T. FORD.....PROPRIETOR AND MANAGER
(Also of Holiday St. Theatre, Baltimore, and Academy of Music, Phila.)
Hence Manager.....J. R. WRIGHT
Treasurer.....M. CLAY FORD

Friday Evening, April 14th, 1865

THIS EVENING,

The Performance will be honored by the presence of

PRESIDENT LINCOLN

BENEFIT!

—AND—

**LAST NIGHT
OF MISS**

LAURA KEENE

THE DISTINGUISHED MANAGER, AUTHOR, AND ACTRESS.

Supported by

MR. JOHN DYOTT

AND

MR. HARRY HAWK

TOM TAYLOR'S CELEBRATED ECCENTRIC COMEDY

As originally produced in America by Miss Keene, and performed by her upwards of

ONE THOUSAND NIGHTS
ENTITLED
OUR AMERICAN
COUSIN

FLORENCE TRENCHARD.....MISS LAURA KEENE
(Her Original Character.)

Abel Hurcott, Clerk to Attorney	John Dyott
Acta Trenchard	Harry Hawk
Mr. Edward Trenchard	T. C. GOURLAY
Lord Dunsbury	B. A. EMMERSON
Mr. Coyle, Attorney	J. MATTHEWS
Lieutenant Vernon, R. N.	W. J. FERGUSON
Captain De Boer	C. STANES
Blacey	G. G. SPEAR
Suddicomb, a Valet	J. H. EVANS
John Whicker, a gardener	J. L. DEBONAY
Keeper, a groom	
Smith	G. A. PARKHURST and L. JOHNSON
Mary Trenchard	Miss J. GOURLAY
Mrs. Munchingstone	Mrs. M. MUZZY
Augusta	Miss E. TRUMAN
Georgiana	Miss M. RANT
Charles	Mrs. J. E. EVANS
Child	Miss M. GOURLAY

SATURDAY EVENING, APRIL 15,

BENEFIT of Miss JENNIE GOURLAY

When will be presented BOURCAULT'S Great Sensational Drama,

THE OCTOBEROON

Enter M.-day, April 17, Engagement of the YOUNG AMERICAN TRAGEDIAN,

EDWIN ADAMS

FOR TWELVE NIGHTS ONLY.

THE PRICES OF ADMISSION:

Orchestra	\$1.00
Dress Circle and Parquette	75
Family Circle	50
Private Boxes	50 and \$1.00

J. R. FORD, Business Manager.

R. Folger & Co., Printers, D street, near 7th, Washington, D. C.


EDWIN ADAMS

PICTORIAL SUPPLEMENT

WINTER GARDEN.

MANAGER, MR. W. STUART.
SCENE MANAGER, MR. J. O. HANLY.

BOOTH BENEFIT



FOR THE
SHAKESPEARE STATUE FUND

Mr. Stuart has pleasure in announcing that, owing to the generous aid and untiring devotion of Mr. Edwin Booth, a performance will be given at this Theatre, on

FRIDAY EVENING, NOV. 25,

(Mr. J. R. Cassara having kindly volunteered that evening for the benefit of the Fund to raise a Statue to Shakespeare in the Central Park, being the second benefit for that object at this Theatre.)

The evening will be made memorable by the appearance in the same piece of the three sons of the great Booth.

**JUNIUS BRUTUS
EDWIN AND
JOHN WILKES**

"FILIUS PATRI DIGNO DIGNIORES"

Who have come forward with cheerful alacrity to do honor to the illustrious name, from whose words the genius of their father caught its inspiration, and of whom the greatest creation he was the last and noblest flower of the stage has ever seen.

The play selected for the occasion is the tragedy of

Julius Cæsar

**JUNIUS BRUTUS BOOTH as CASSIUS
EDWIN BOOTH as BRUTUS
JOHN WILKES BOOTH as MARC ANTHONY**

Julius Cæsar, 1st appearance	Mr. E. Vassar
Cassius, 1st appearance	Mr. C. Kemble-Mason
Octavius Cæsar	Mr. C. Walcott, Jr.
Trebonius	Mr. C. K. Chester
Decius	Mr. J. W. Burgess
Metellus	Mr. T. S. Chase
Tullius	Mr. U. S. Thomas
Cinna	Mr. J. Durill
Vatso	Mr. D. Johnston
Plutarchus	Mr. E. Post
Boothmeyer	Mr. P. Evans
Popilius Lenax	Mr. N. Decker
Servius	Mr. W. F. Burroughs
Flavius	Mr. P. Williams
Lucius	Miss Fanny Prestige
1st Plebeian	E. A. Eberle
2nd "	O. S. Fawcett
3rd "	A. E. Anderson
4th "	S. F. Oliver
Portia	Mrs. F. O. Chaudron
Calpurnia	Mrs. C. Walcott, Jr.

Guards, Lictors, Matrons, Virgins and Soldiers.

Mr. Stuart trusts that of the public who have paid high prices for their seats will remember that in addition to the value they receive in intellectual enjoyment they are contributing to a great national work, and not to the personal advantage of any individual.

The following, under the direction of Mr. Robert Hoppell, will perform:

Octavius, "SEMPER PARATUS," Soliloquy from "LA CIEIRA," Italy.
"SEMPER PARATUS," Soliloquy from "LA CIEIRA," Italy.
"SEMPER PARATUS," Soliloquy from "LA CIEIRA," Italy.
"SEMPER PARATUS," Soliloquy from "LA CIEIRA," Italy.

SATURDAY, Nov. 26, OPENING NIGHT of the engagement of EDWIN BOOTH.

Mr. Stuart hopes to announce that on Saturday Evening, Nov. 26th, Mr. EDWIN BOOTH will make his first regular appearance at this Theatre in the play of **HAMLET.**

The piece will be played on the stage under the immediate direction of Mr. Booth, by Mr. J. O. Hanly, stage manager, in a style, it is to be hoped, combining splendor of production with strict historical correctness. The play has been in active preparation for the last three months, and an extensive effort has been spared in the endeavor, by a carefully selected and carefully arranged company of actors, and by the ability and superior execution of the several scenes of scenic design to carry out the spirit of the play into the most minute details, and thus advance the drama to a branch of national honor and art. The scenery, music, costumes, properties and machinery will be entirely new and to give a perfect completeness to the work, arrangements have been made with Mr. J. W. Wallace, Jr., one of the most gifted artists who ever graced the stage. Mr. EDWIN BOOTH, Mr. CHARLES KEMBLE, and the eminent comedienne, MRS. THOMAS PLACIDE, all of whom will make their first regular appearance for many years on the New York stage on this occasion.

Seats may now be secured for Saturday and every evening.

SALES & OFFICE, PRINCE ST. 1 DOOR FROM N. Y.

FORD'S THEATRE

TENTH STREET, ABOVE E.
SEASON II. WEEK XXXI. NIGHT 191
WHOLE NUMBER OF NIGHTS, 486

JOHN T. FORD, PROPRIETOR AND MANAGER
(Line of Exhibits, St. Louis, Baltimore, and Academy of Music, Phila.)
Stage Manager, J. H. WRIGHT
Treasurer, R. OLAT FORD

Friday Evening April 14th, 1886.

THIS EVENING.

The Performance will be honored by the presence of
PRESIDENT LINCOLN.

BENEFIT

—AND—
LAST NIGHT

OF MISS LAURA KEENE

THE DISTINGUISHED MARVELOUS AUTHOR, AND ACTRESS,

Supported by
MR. JOHN DYOTT
AND
MR. HARRY HAWK

TOM TAYLOR'S CELEBRATED ECCENTRIC COMEDY
As originally produced in America by Miss Keene, and performed by her up to date of

ONE THOUSAND NIGHTS, OUR AMERICAN COUSIN

FLORENCE TRENCHARD (Her Original Character) **MISS LAURA KEENE**
Abel Marcott, Clerk to Attorney John Dyott
Ann Trenchard Harry Hawk
Dr. Edward Trenchard T. C. GOURLAY
Lord Dunsany E. A. EMERSON
Mr. Goye, Attorney J. MATTHEWS
Lionel Vernon, B. N. W. J. FERRIS
Ophelia De Boer C. BYRNES
Bobby G. O. SPEAR
Buddelohm, a Valet J. H. EVANS
John Whistler, a Gardener J. L. D'ARONAT
Ranger, a Green G. A. PARKHURST and L. JOHNSON
Bullfinch Miss J. GOURLAY
Mary Trenchard Mrs. H. MURRY
Mrs. H. M. M. Miss H. TREEMAN
Augusta Miss M. HART
George Mrs. J. E. FAYE
Charles Miss M. GOURLAY

SATURDAY EVENING, APRIL 15.
BENEFIT of Miss JENNIE GOURLAY

Which will be preceded by **BOOTH'S ADULTS** Great Scenic Drama.

THE OCTOBER.

Under Monday, April 17, Engagement of the **YOUNG AMERICAN**

EDWIN ADAMS

FOR TWELVE NIGHTS ONLY

THE PRICES OF ADMISSION:
Orchestra \$1.00
Dress Circle and Parquet 75
Family Circle 50
Private Boxes 25 and \$10
J. E. FORD Business Manager.

L. Brown, Printer, Washington, D. C.

Facsimile of Program Used the Night
of the Assassination of President
Lincoln, Friday, April 14th, 1865

FORD'S THEATRE

TENTH STREET ABOVE L.
SEASON II WEEK XXXI. NIGHT 191
WHOLE NUMBER OF NIGHTS 425

JOHN T. FORD PROPRIETOR AND MANAGER
Alec of Holliday St Theatre, Baltimore and Academy of Music, Phila.
Stage Manager J. B. WRIGHT
Treasurer M. J. FAY BIRD

Friday Evening April 14th. 1865.

THIS EVENING

The Performance will be honored by the presence of

PRESIDENT LINCOLN.

BENEFIT

—AND—

LAST NIGHT

OF MISS

LAURA KEENE

THE DISTINGUISHED MANAGERESS, AUTHORESS AND ACTRESS.

MR. JOHN DYOTT

AND

MR. HARRY HAWK

TOM TAYLOR'S CELEBRATED ECCENTRIC COMEDY

As originally produced in America by Miss Keene and performed by her up
to date troupe of

ONE THOUSAND NIGHTS.
ENTITLED
OUR AMERICAN

COUSIN

FLORENCE TRENCHARD MISS LAURA KEENE

Abel Marrott Clerk to Attorney John Dyott
Alec Trenchard Harry Hawk
Sir Edward Trenchard T. C. GOURLAY
Lord Dundreagh F. A. EMERSON
Mr. Gyle Attorney J. MATTHEWS
Lieutenant Wilson, R. N. W. J. PROCTOR
Captain De Brie C. DYER
Bridget J. G. STEAR
Buddreagh a Vallet J. H. STAN
John Winder a Gardiner J. L. DEBONAT
Barrow a Green
Billie G. A. FARMHURST and L. JOHNSON
Mary Trenchard Mrs. T. GOURLAY
Mrs. Macintosh Mrs. R. WILLY
Augusta Miss H. TILLYMAN
Georgina Miss M. HART
Clara Mrs. J. H. STAN
Sally Miss M. GOURLAY

SATURDAY EVENING, APRIL 15.

BENEFIT of Miss JENNIE GOURLAY

Which will be presented BY THEATRICALS Great Sensational Drama.

THE OCTOBER 31.

Earlier Monday, April 15. Engagement of the YOUNG AMERICAN
TRUPEE.

EDWIN ADAMS

FOR TWELVE NIGHTS ONLY

THE PRICES OF ADMISSION:

Orchestra \$1.00
Dress Circle and Parquette 75
Family Circle 25
Private Boxes 50 and 100

J. T. FORD, Manager.

L. Brown, Printer, Washington B.C.

PRESENTED BY THE BROADWAY
TO MARK THE 68th ANNIVERSARY
OF PRESIDENT LINCOLN'S DEATH

Mrs. Bertha Kent
4471 Gabenwald
Chicago Ill.
(15)

*Theater Program
on the Fatal Night*

FORD'S THEATRE

TENTH STREET ABOVE B

SEASON II WEEK XXIX. NIGHT 191

WHOLE SUMMER OF MONTHS 400

JORDY T. FORD PROPRIETOR AND MANAGER
JAMES OF BOSTON'S 1st Theatre, Baltimore, and Academy of Music, Phila.
Stage Manager J. W. WILSON
Producers J. W. WILSON
S. CLAY FORD

Friday Evening, April 14th, 1865

THIS EVENING

The Performance will be honored by the presence of
PRESIDENT LINCOLN

BENEFIT

LAST NIGHT
OF MISS

LAURA KEENE

THE DISTINGUISHED MRS. A. KEENE'S STRENGTH AND COURAGE

MR. JOHN DYOTT

MR. HARRY HAWK

TOM TAYLOR'S CELEBRATED ECCENTRIC COMEDY

originally composed in America by Miss Keene and performed by her

company of

ONE THOUSAND NIGHTS
ENTITLED
OUR AMERICAN

COUSIN

FLORENCE TRESCHEARD, MISS LAURA KEENE

Abel Marrobert Clark to Address John Dyott
Am. Tresehard Harry Hawk
R. Edward Tresehard T. G. GOURLAY
Love Dumberry E. A. BENTON
Mr. Oyle, Attorney J. MATTHEWS
Lawrence Vernon, R. N. W. A. FERGUSON
Captain De Bore G. STELLER
Benny A. S. STALLS
Budding a Vain I. DORRIS
John Warden a Gardener L. DORRIS
Ranger a Green G. A. PARKER and L. JORDON
Buddie John J. GOURLAY
Marty Tresehard Mrs. E. HURRY
Mrs. Montebankton Mrs. E. TRUMAN
A. G. M. HART
Overman Mrs. J. E. STALLS
George Mrs. M. GOURLAY
Buddie

SATURDAY EVENING, APRIL 15

BENEFIT OF MISS JENNE GOURLAY

THE OCTOBER.

When will be presented BOUTEGAU'S Great Dramatic Drama.

EDWIN ADAMS

FOR TWELVE NIGHTS ONLY

THE PRICES OF ADMISSION

Orchestra 50
Dress Circle and Parquet 25
Family Circle 10
Private Boxes 50 and 100

J. H. FORD, Business Manager

Above is a reproduction of the program for "Our American Cousin," played at Ford's theater in Washington the night of April 14, 1865, when John Wilkes Booth assassinated President Lincoln. The original bill is owned in Denver.

FORD'S THEATRE

TENTH STREET, ABOVE E.

SEASON II WEEK XXII NIGHT 186
WHOLE PURCHASE OF SEVENTEEN DAYS.

JOHN T. FORD FRANKLIN AND MANAGER
(Late of Broadway St. Theatre, Baltimore, and Academy of Music, Phila.)
Stage Manager J. S. WEIDY
Prompter H. CLAY FORD

Friday Evening, April 14th, 1865

BENEFIT!

LAST NIGHT
OF MISS

LAURA KEENE

THE FETTERED MANAGER, OUTRAGED AND ACCUSED,
Represented by
MR. JOHN DYOTT

AND
MR. HARRY HAWK.

TOM TAYLOR'S CELEBRATED ECCENTRIC COMEDY.

As originally produced in America by Miss Keene and performed by her company of

ONE THOUSAND NIGHTS,
OF THE

OUR AMERICAN

COUSIN

FLORENCE TALCHARD, MISS LAURA ALLEN
(the original character)

Abel Marshall, Clerk to Attorney John Dyott
Ann Trumbull Harry Hawk
Dr. James Trumbull F. C. GOURLAY
Lord Dunsany E. A. SHERMAN
Mr. Cray, Attorney J. BATTEN
Lithuanian Yarns, N. A. W. A. FERGUSON
Captain De Bree C. STYVEN
Malley G. O'FARL
Squire, a Yankee H. BYARD
John Winder, a gardener A. L. DUBOIS
Knap, a groom
Belle G. A. PARKER and L. JOHNSON
Mary Trumbull Miss J. GOURLAY
Mrs. Blumhagen Mrs. H. BULEY
Angela Miss M. TRUBB
Overlook, owner of Miss M. BART
Marjorie Mrs. J. H. B. AND
Stella Miss M. GOURLAY

OF THE

BENEFIT of Miss JENNIE GOURLAY

Who will so graciously donate her own beautiful dress.

THE OCTOBER

Same Monday April 17th Representation of the 200th AMERICAN TROOP

EDWIN ADAMS

FOR TWELVE NIGHTS ONLY

DYED WITH LINCOLN'S BLOOD.

[The programme found in President Lincoln's box after his assassination. It is stained with his blood, as shown in the cut just above the word "Laura."]

The original (now owned by J. S. Case of Brooklyn) was found by J. T. Ford, proprietor of the theater, beside the chair in which the President sat at the time of the tragedy.

FORD'S THEATRE

SEASON 11 WEEK 1151 NIGHT 125
WEEKLY THEATRE OF THEATRE, AND

JOHN T. FORD, MANAGER AND MANAGER
J. A. FORD, MANAGER AND MANAGER
J. A. FORD, MANAGER AND MANAGER

Friday Evening, April 14th, 1888.

WILLIS WYNNING
The Performance will be limited by the presence of
PRESIDENT LINCOLN

BENEFIT LAST NIGHT OF MISS LAURA KEENE

THE DISTINGUISHED MANAGER, AUTHOR, AND ACTRESS

MR. JOHN DYOTT

AND
MR. HARRY HAWK

THE TAYLOR'S CELEBRATED ROBERTSON COMEDY
Originally produced in America by Miss Keene and performed by her

ONE THOUSAND NIGHTS ENTITLED OUR AMERICAN COUSIN

FLORENCE TRENCHARD, MISS LAURA KEENE

Alfred Marston, Clerk by Attorney John Dyott
Ass. Trenchard Harry Hawk
The Edward Trenchard T. G. GOURLAY
Lord Trenchard E. A. AMERSON
Mr. Outh. Attorney J. MATTHEWS
Lancaster Vernon, R. H. W. J. FERGUSON
Captain By Smith C. F. FLEMING
Buckingham, a Trenchard R. A. SPAN
John Williams, a Trenchard J. E. EVANS
Trenchard, a Trenchard J. DODGWAY
Trenchard, a Trenchard J. JOHNSON
Trenchard, a Trenchard J. GOURLAY
Trenchard, a Trenchard J. MURPHY
Trenchard, a Trenchard J. TRIMMER
Trenchard, a Trenchard J. H. TAYLOR
Trenchard, a Trenchard J. E. EVANS
Trenchard, a Trenchard J. GOURLAY

ENTITLED

BENEFIT OF MISS KEENE GOURLAY

Which will be performed on the following

THE OCTOBER.

Under the management of the Young American

THEATREMAN.

EDWIN ADAMS

FOR TWENTY NIGHTS ONLY

THE PRICES OF ADMISSION:

Orchestra \$1.00
Dress Circle and Parquet 75
Family Circle 50
Private Boxes \$5 and \$10

J. A. FORD, Manager, N.Y.

and afterwards wild with excitement and horror, two or three men jumped upon the stage in pursuit of the flying assassin; but he ran through the familiar passages, leaped upon his horse, which was in waiting in the alley behind, rewarded with a kick and a curse the call-boy who had held him, and rode rapidly away in the light of the just risen moon.

The President scarcely moved; his head drooped forward slightly, his eyes closed. Colonel Rathbone, at first not regarding his own grievous hurt, rushed to the door of the box to summon aid. He found it barred, and on the outside some one was beating and clamoring for entrance. He opened the door; a young officer named Crawford entered; one or two army surgeons soon followed, who hastily examined the wound. It was at once seen to be mortal. It was afterwards ascertained that a large derringer bullet had entered the back of the head on the left side, and, passing through the brain, had lodged just behind the left eye. By direction of Rathbone and Crawford, the President was carried to a house across the street and laid upon a bed in a small room at the rear of the hall, on the ground floor. Mrs. Lincoln followed, half distracted, tenderly cared for by Miss Harris. Rathbone, exhausted by loss of blood, fainted, and was carried home. Messengers were sent for the members of the Cabinet, for the Surgeon-General, for Dr. Stone, the President's family physician; a crowd of people rushed instinctively to the White House and, bursting through the doors, shouted the dreadful news to Robert Lincoln and Major Hay, who sat gossiping in an upper room. They ran downstairs. Finding a carriage at the door, they entered it to go to Tenth street. As they were driving away, a friend came up and told them that Mr. Seward and most of the Cabinet had been murdered. The news was all so improbable that they could not help hoping it was all untrue. But when they got to Tenth street and found every thoroughfare blocked by the swiftly gathering thousands, agitated by tumultuous excitement, they were prepared for the worst. In a few minutes all who had been sent for, and many others, were gathered in the little chamber where the Chief of the State lay in his agony. His son was met at the door by Dr. Stone, who with grave tenderness informed him that there was no hope. After a natural outburst of grief young Lincoln devoted himself the rest of the night to soothing and comforting his mother.

The President had been shot a few minutes past ten. The wound would have brought in-

treacherously killed his cousin, Alexander de Medicie, who was, in reality a tyrant, and left in writing near the body the line of Virgil on Brutus: *Vincet Amor patrie*

FORD'S THEATRE

TENTH STREET, ABOVE E.

SEASON II WEEK XXXI NIGHT 196
WHOLE NUMBER OF NIGHTS, 485.

JOHN T. FORD FETTERMASTER AND MANAGER
(Also of Holiday St. Theatre, Baltimore, and Academy of Music, Phila.)
Stage Manager J. D. WRIGHT
Timpanist H. CLAY FORD

Friday Evening, April 14th, 1865

BENEFIT!

—AND—
LAST NIGHT
OF MISS

LAURA KEENE

THE DISTINGUISHED MANAGERESS, ACTRESS AND ACTRESS,

Supported by
MR. JOHN DYOTT

AND

MR. HARRY HAWK.

TOM TAYLOR'S CELEBRATED ECCENTRIC COMEDY,
As originally produced in America by Miss Keene, and performed by her upwards of

ONE THOUSAND NIGHTS,
ENTITLED

OUR AMERICAN

COUSIN

FLORENCE TRENCHARD MISS LAURA KEENE
(Her original character)

Abel Marcott, Clerk to Attorney John Dyott
Asa Trenchard Harry Hawk
Sir Edward Trenchard T. G. GOURLAY
Lord Dandynary E. A. EMERSON
Mr. Coyle, Attorney J. MATTHEWS
Lieutenant Vernon, R. N. W. J. FERGUSON
Captain De Boots C. BYRNES
Blinny G. G. SPEAR
Buddicombe, a valet J. H. EVANS
John Whicker, a gardener J. L. DEBONAY
Rasper, a groom
Duffies G. A. PARKHURST and L. JOHNSON
Mary Trenchard Miss J. GOURLAY
Mrs. Mountchensington Mrs. H. MUZZY
Augusta Miss H. TRUMAN
Georgiana Miss M. HART
Elphie Mrs. J. H. EVANS
Bullock Miss M. GOURLAY

SATURDAY EVENING, APRIL 15.

BENEFIT of Miss JENNIE GOURLAY

When will be presented DOUGLASS'S Great Sensation Drama.

THE OCTOBEROON

Entered Monday, April 17. Engagement of the YOUNG AMERICAN TRAGEDIAN,

EDWIN ADAMS

FOR TWELVE NIGHTS ONLY.

IS A SIMILE OF A PLAY-BILL FOUND IN PRESIDENT LINCOLN'S BOX AFTER THE ASSASSINATION. THE ORIGINAL IS OWNED BY E. A. EMERSON, OF LYNCHBURG, VA.

J. A. Case, of Brooklyn, also has a play-bill, given to A. K. Brown by John T. Ford, the proprietor of Ford's Opera House in Washington, who noted on it that it was found under President Lincoln's chair.—EDITOR.

Indumque immensa Cupido. It was the thirst of fame which was the real incentive to these savage deeds." [Gazette de France, April 30, 1865.]

McCalay & Hay - Page 435

The Century Mag. Life

ABRAHAM LINCOLN

(Recommence of Theatrical programme for the night of President Lincoln's Assassination.)

FORD'S THEATRE

Tenth Street, Washington, D. C.

Friday Even'g, April 14, 1865

THIS EVENING

The performance will be honored by the presence of

PRESIDENT LINCOLN.

BENEFIT AND LAST NIGHT

OF MISS

LAURA KEENE

The Distinguished Manageress, Authoress, and Actress, supported by

MR. JOHN DYOTT, and MR. HARRY HAWK.

Tom Taylor's Celebrated Ecceusis Comedy as originally produced in America by Miss Keene, and performed by her upwards of

ONE THOUSAND NIGHTS

entitled

Our American Cousin.

Florence Trenchard, Miss Laura Keene

Ann, Menocory, John Dyott

Ada Trenchard, Harry Hawk

Mr. Edward Trenchard, T. C. Gourlay

Lord Dundreary, E. A. Emerson

Mr. Coyle, Attorney, J. Matthews

Haut, Vernon, R. N., W. J. Ferguson

Captain De Boots, C. Byrnes

Binnay, G. G. Spear

Bedlam, a Valet, J. H. Evans

John Whisker, a gardener, J. L. DeDonay

Harper, a groom, G. A. Parkhurst and L. Johnson

Malinda, Mrs. J. Gourlay

Mary Trenchard, Mrs. H. Mussey

Mrs. Mountchomington, Miss H. Truman

Agusta, Miss M. Hart

Conquiana, Mrs. J. H. Evans

B. Tr., Miss M. Gourlay

Shiloh,

THE PRICES OF ADMISSION:

Orchestra, \$1.00 Dress Circle and Parquette, 75

Family Circle, 25 Private Boxes, \$5 and \$10

J. R. FORD, Business Manager.

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Aged 56 Yrs, 2 Ms, 3 Days

Always Cherish the Memory of

Born Feb. 12, 1809, Died April 15, '65

