

A

Tribute of Respect

BY

THE CITIZENS OF TROY,

TO THE

Memory

OF

ABRAHAM LINCOLN.



TROY, N. Y.:

YOUNG & BENSON, 8 & 9 FIRST STREET.

1865.

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Lincoln Room

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THE NATIONAL CALAMITY AND HUMILIATION.

BY F. B. JUBBELL.

All public interest to-day mournfully centres upon the tragic death of the President of the United States by the hands of an assassin! What words to write! What a sentence to burst upon the public ear, so recently filled with rejoicings of the populace, whose heart beat quicker because the nation was emerging from scenes of blood and carnage to enjoy once more the blessings of an honored and bravely won peace, and because the flag of the union was once more to float over an undivided country!

President Lincoln expired at twenty minutes past seven o'clock this morning, April 15, 1865. He died in the service of a grateful country, while yet his brow was freshly crowned with the highest honors the republic could bestow. His name is given immortality, and to-day is enshrined in the hearts of millions who in his life dissented from his policy and denied him their suffrages.

Under such a calamity, words are feeble, and seem idle. The suddenness of the shock well nigh palsies the powers of speech and thought. Men, friends, pass each other on the street, without the usual recognition, because the mind is too busy with itself, and silence is the natural language of sorrow.

Until this deplorable event, for weeks the prospects

of the country had been gradually brightening. Foremost in the heaven-blessed work of peace and conciliation, had been President Lincoln. Already had the fruits of his policy, during his brief visit to Richmond, began to reveal themselves in the important appeal made to the Virginia legislature by the leading men of that state. Disregarding all appeals to return to Washington, heeding not for a moment suggestions of personal danger, he remained in the late rebel capital, simply because he believed his presence and influence there could aid an honorable and speedy close of the war: and every day's developments plainly demonstrated that he judged rightly. Upon no class in the country does this calamity fall with more crushing weight than upon the union men of the south, who had justly and naturally come to look to President Lincoln as the pilot who was to bring the nation safely through all dangers.

This hope is now gone, and clouds loom up in the future. "New masters, new laws." The President had adopted a policy which was becoming well understood, and which was rapidly receiving the unanimous favor of the best minds of men of all parties north and south. The hopes built upon this happily changing feature in our affairs disappears. What was reasonable certainty now becomes the greatest uncertainty. The rolling, boisterous sea is before us, and the ship is in the hands of untried mariners.

From the time it was known Mr. Lincoln was

elected for the second term, party opposition to him, or his administration, was modified to a degree never known on the accession of a president to office. The terrible crisis the country had passed through had softened asperities, and men began to consider their duties in the higher relations to country—to saving the republic from utter ruin. Day by day this modified sentiment was growing stronger. While some of the President's early and hitherto most steadfast friends felt impelled to differ with his views and withhold approval of some of his acts, the party which had opposed the President gave unerring signs of a disposition cordially to sustain him.

Humanly speaking, we believe the lives of Abraham Lincoln and William H. Seward were of more value to this country, in the crisis we are passing through, than the lives of any two men in the world. Their experience during the past four years, their familiarity with all questions—domestic and foreign—the anxious desire of both to see the great internal controversy closed, their ability to rise above small to grasp and make secure great interests, and the fact that both had the confidence of the country, and that to both was assigned the helm for four years to come, made them the nation's hope, as far as men confide in men. But God is over all. The devisings of mortals are nothing. For some inscrutably wise purpose, the Almighty afflicts this people.—*Troy Daily Press.*

Resolved, That in the assassination of our beloved President, the late Abraham Lincoln, we see the last dying relic of a fell spirit which, subdued on the battle field, seeks to gain its end by means at which the spirit of the age must shudder. And yet in the universal execration with which the deed has been received, we recognize the impulse of a virtuous manhood which time cannot lessen, nor barbarism destroy.

Resolved, That in the spread of free institutions, and in the increase of societies such as ours, we shall find the surest guaranties of peace, order and happiness, amid which, society, created anew, shall never more know a parricidal deed. Then shall this tragic blot upon America's fair fame be succeeded by unending years of tranquility, till the present generation passes from the stage of action, and the oblivion of the future swallows the very names of the assassins of to-day.

FRIDAY, APRIL 28TH, 1865.

DECLINE OF AMUSEMENTS.

BY F. S. HUBBELL.

Since the death of the President, public amusements have been at a discount. In New York the theatres have reopened, but the audiences have been very slim. Traveling bands of minstrels, concert people, etc., etc., say they never experienced such a lack of patronage, and it seems impossible for them to

reëstablish their old-time magnetism with the great public. * In this city—not by any means backward, usually, in patronizing amusements—the halls heretofore nightly filled and often crowded, are well nigh deserted, no matter what the attraction.

This is to be taken as an evidence of the real soberness of the public mind at the present juncture. Men and women feel the country is under a deep cloud. The future is dark and uncertain. In place of craving diversion, there is a proneness to reflection, quiet consultation with friends, and even absolute seclusion. We shall doubtless soon recover from all this. Our people are so volatile and recuperative, it would be strange if we did not—unless indeed fresh sources of sorrow are opened. These, if not really anticipated, are more or less apprehended.

There has been a great deal of ostentation, a great deal of affected grief, over the national calamity; but it is doubtless true that the event, more than any other known to our national history, has caused deep, heartfelt and abiding sorrow, and it is a sorrow which as yet refuses to be comforted.—*Troy Daily Press.*

SATURDAY, APRIL 29TH, 1865.

PROCLAMATION BY THE PRESIDENT.

Whereas, By my proclamation of the twenty-fifth inst., Thursday, the twenty-fifth day of the next month, was recommended as a day for special humiliation and