Circular

No. 1352

Department of State.
Washington, 17th April 1865

Sir:

The melancholy duty devolves upon me officially to apprise you of the assassination of the President at Ford's Theatre in this city on the evening of the 14th instant. He died the next morning from the effects of the wound.

About the same time an attempt was made to assassinate the Secretary of State in his own house where he was in bed and suffering from the effects of the late accident. The attempt failed, but Mr. Seward was perversely cut on the face especially it is supposed with a toxic knife. Mr. S. W. Seward was filled by a horror thru on the head, from the aspafson, and for some time afterwards was apparsently (unconscious)

Charles Francis Adams, Esquire.
unconscious. Both the Secretary and Assistant Secretary are better especially the former.
Andrew Johnson has formally entered upon the duties of President.

I have been authorized to temporarily to act as Secretary of State.

Yours obediently,

[Signature]

Acting Secretary