

Washington City D.C. ✓  
April 15, 1865. —

Sir:

Abraham Lincoln, President of the  
United States, was shot by an assassin  
~~this~~ evening, at Ford's Theatre in this  
City and died at the hour of 22 <sup>o'clock</sup> ~~minutes~~ <sup>of the evening</sup>.

About the same time at which the  
President was shot, an assassin entered  
the sick chamber of the Hon<sup>ble</sup> W. M. Seward,  
Secretary of State, and stabbed him in  
several places, in the throat, neck, and  
face, ~~in several places~~ <sup>severely</sup> mortally wounding him.  
Other members of the Secretary's family  
were dangerously wounded by the assassin  
while making his escape. By the death

of President Lincoln, the office of President  
has devolved under the Constitution upon You.

The emergency of the government demands  
that you should immediately qualify, according  
to the requirements of the Constitution, and enter  
upon the duties of ~~the~~ President of the  
United States. If you will please  
make known your pleasure, such

W. M. Seward.  
Secretary of State.

arrangements as you deem proper will  
be made.

Your Obedient Servants

Hugh S. Linn, Secy of the Treasury

Edwin M. Stanton Secy of War

Gideon Welles Secy of Navy

W. D. Deming Postmaster General

A. A. Phelps Secy of the Interior

James Speed Attorney General

Hugh S. Linn Secy of the Treasury

To

Andrew Johnson

Vice President of the United States

Ms. No. 0  
See

Washington City.

Oct 15, 1865.

Member of the Cabinet  
informing the Vice Pres-  
ident of the administration  
of the President, &c.

Washington City Oct 15, 1865

Respectfully referred to  
the State Department, with  
the request that this be  
put in records and files.  
Spencer Johnson