

#112

Headquarters 4th Division 15th A. C.
Morrisville A. C. April 17th 1865.

The following Dispatch was received by Genl Sherman
from Secy Stanton, & is furnished for the information of
Brig Genl. C. W. Rice.

* "President Lincoln was murdered at 10 o'clock last night in his
private box at Ford's Theatre in this city, by an assassin who shot him
through the head with a pistol ball. About the same time Mr Seward's
house was entered by another assassin, who stabbed the Secretary ⁱⁿ several
places, but it is thought he may possibly recover; but his son Fred will
probably die of wounds received from the assassin. The assassin of the
President, leaped from the box, brandishing a dagger, exclaiming, "Eic
Semper Tyrannis" and that "Virginia was revenged". Mr Lincoln
fell senseless from his seat ^{and} continued in that state until 22nd after 7
o'clock, at which time he breathed his last. Genl Grant was published
to be at the Theatre, but he did not go. - Vice President Johnson now becomes
President ^{and} will take the oath of office ^{and} assume the duties today. I have
no time to add more than to say that I find evidence that an assassin
is also on your track ^{and} I beseech you to be more heedful than Mr
Lincoln was of such knowledge.

(over)

(Lgd) Edwin M. Stanton,
Sec'y of War.

Washington April 12 - 12 - P. M.

By order of Brigadier General J. M. Corse.
L. H. Curtis
Act. Adj. Genl.