

CHAPTER XIV.

We will turn our attention for a time from the crowds of people, and view the preparations for this reception. For ten days a large number of men and women worked almost night and day in decorating the State House. The whole building was draped in mourning on the exterior ; and the rotunda and Representatives' Hall on the interior, and the entrance to the Governor's room, the rooms of the Secretary of State, Auditor of State and Superintendent of Public Instruction. Part of the time there were one hundred and fifty persons at work. The ladies of Springfield bore their full share in these arduous labors. I have been furnished with the following figures by a prominent citizen of this city, who prepared some of the designs for decorations. I shall not attempt a description of the ornamental work, but will give a few facts by which some idea of their gorgeous beauty may be conveyed. About fifteen hundred yards of black and white goods were used in the decorations, exclusive of the catafalque. In its construction and decoration, black cloth, black velvet, black, blue and white silk and crape, with silver stars and silver lace and fringe, were used in the greatest profusion. The canopy of the catafalque was made of velvet, festooned with satin and silver fringe. It was lined on the under side with blue silk, studded with silver stars. Three hundred yards of velvet and mourning goods, and three hundred yards of silver lace and fringe, besides a vast quantity of other materials, were used in its construction. Each of the six columns was surmounted with a rich plume.

Evergreens and flowers interwoven with crape, hung in festoons from capitals, columns and cornices in all parts of the building. Two hundred vases of natural flowers in full bloom, emitted their fragrance throughout the edifice. Nearly all of them were furnished free of cost by Michael Doyle, horticulturist, of Springfield. Mottoes and inscriptions were displayed at various places about the hall, but I can only give place to two of them :

“Washington the Father, Lincoln the Saviour.”

“Rather than surrender that principle I would be assassinated on this spot.”

The Governor's mansion, the old Lincoln residence, the military headquarters of Gen. Cook and Gen. Oakes, were decorated, externally, similar to the State House. Of the twenty thousand dollars appropriated by the City Council of Springfield, to be expended in preparations for the funeral, less than fifteen thousand were used. Part of it was expended in building the temporary vault on the new State House grounds, paying railroad charges on some carriages from Jacksonville, the hearse from St. Louis, and the expenses of musicians and the orator ; but much the largest portion of the whole amount was laid out in decorating the buildings above named. This, however, was only a small part of the money thus expended, for the whole city was draped in mourning, business houses, private residences and all, and in many instances they were as richly decorated as the public buildings.

It was well known that the hotels could not accommodate a tithe of the strangers who would be in attendance, and private families who could do so, made preparations and invited to their houses such as could not otherwise be provided for. The six organizations of Free Masons in Springfield, viz. : four lodges, one

chapter and one commandery, made equal appropriations from their several treasuries, procured one of the largest halls in the city, filled it with tables, and kept them supplied with well cooked food prepared by the families of their members. This dining hall was intended to be free to masons only who should be in attendance, but many others partook of their bounty also. As for sleeping, there was not much of that done in Springfield on the night the remains of Abraham Lincoln were exposed to view.

Strangers who were in the city on this occasion for the first time, almost invariably visited the former residence of Abraham Lincoln, at the north east corner of Eighth and Jackson streets. As already stated, it was elaborately and tastefully decorated with the national colors and the insignia of sorrow. The committee of escort from Chicago, numbering one hundred—although business engagements prevented part of their number visiting Springfield—assembled near the residence and had their photographs taken in a group, in connection with the house, to be preserved as a memorial of their mournful visit. The photograph was by an artist from Chicago, who accompanied the escort to Springfield for the purpose of taking views of the State House, the closing scenes at Oak Ridge, and other objects of interest.

From the time the coffin was opened, at ten o'clock on the morning of May third, there was no cessation of visitors. All through the still hours of the night, no human voices were heard except in subdued tones; but the tramp, tramp, of busy feet, as men and women filed through the State House, up one flight of stairs, through the hall, and down another stairway, testified the love and veneration for Abraham Lincoln in the hearts of his old friends and neighbors. While the closing scenes were being enacted, a choir of two hundred and fifty singers, accompanied by Lebrun's Washington band, of twenty performers, from St. Louis, assembled

on the steps of the Capitol, and, under the direction of Professor Meissner, sang

“Peace, troubled soul.”

The coffin was closed at ten o'clock on the morning of May 4th, and while it was being conveyed to the hearse the choir sang Pleyel's Hymn :

“Children of the Heavenly King.”

The funeral procession was then formed in the following order, under the immediate direction of Major General Joseph Hooker, Marshal-in-Chief:

Brig. Gen. John Cook and staff.
Brig. Gen. James Oakes and staff.
Military.
Funeral Escort.

First Division. Col. C. M. Prevost, 16th Reg. V. R. C., Marshal. Aids: Lieut. Thomas B. Beach, A. A. A. Gen.; Maj. Horace Holt, 1st Mass. Heavy Artillery; Capt. J. C. Rennison, 15th N. Y. Cavalry; Capt. E. C. Raymond, 124th Ill. Inf.; Capt. Eddy, 95th Ill. Inf.; Lieut. H. N. Schlick, 1st N. Y. Dragoons.

This division consisted entirely of Infantry, Cavalry and Artillery.

Second Division. Maj. F. Bridgman, Pay Department, U. S. Army, Marshal. Aids: Maj. R. W. McClaughry and Maj. W. W. White.

This division was composed of officers and enlisted men of the Army and Navy, not otherwise assigned, officers in uniform and side arms.

Maj. Gen. John A. McClernand was the chief marshal of the civic department of the procession. Aids: Lieut. Col. Schwartz, Capt. Henry Jayne, Capt. R. Rudolph, Capt. Benjamin Ferguson, Hon. Charles Keys, W. M. Springer, E. E. Myers, Ed. L. Merritt, N. Higgins.

The command of Gen. McClernand commenced with the

Third Division. Col. Dudley Wickersham, of the 1st Army Corps, Marshal. AIDs: Joshua Rogers, Isaac A. Hawley, W. F. Kimber, J. B. Perkins.

Marshals of Sections—Col. W. S. Barnum, Capt. A. J. Allen, Col. S. N. Hitt, Clinton L. Conkling, Robert P. Officer, W. Smith and Capt. T. G. Barnes.

Orator of the Day and Officiating Clergymen—Rev. Dr. Simpson, Bishop of the M. E. Church and Orator of the Day; Rev. Dr. Gurley; Rev. Dr. N. W. Miner; Rev. Dr. Harkey; Rev. Albert Hale; Rev. A. C. Hubbard, and others.

Surgeons and Physicians of the Deceased.

PALL BEARERS.

Hon. Jesse K. Dubois,
Hon. S. T. Logan,
Hon. Gustavus Kœrner,
James L. Lamb, Esq.
Hon. S. H. Treat,
Col. John Williams,

HEARSE.

PALL BEARERS.

Erastus Wright, Esq.
Hon. J. N. Brown,
Jacob Bunn, Esq.
C. W. Matheny, Esq.
Elijah Iles, Esq.
Hon. John T. Stuart.

“Old Bob.” or “Robin,” the old horse formerly ridden by Abraham Lincoln in his political campaigns and law practice, off the lines of railroad. He was about sixteen years old, and was led by two colored grooms.

Guard of Honor, in carriages, as follows: Brevet Brig. Gen. E. D. Townsend; Brevet Brig. Gen. Charles Thomas; Brig. Gen. A. B. Eaton; Brevet Maj. Gen. J. G. Barnard; Brig. Gen. G. D. Ramsay; Brig. Gen. A. P. Howe; Brevet Brig. Gen. D. C. McCallum; Maj. Gen. D. Hunter; Brig. Gen. J. C. Caldwell; Brig. Gen. Elkin; Rear Admiral C. H. Davis; Capt. W. R. Taylor, U. S. Navy; Maj. T. H. Field, U. S. Marine Corps.

Relatives and Family Friends, in Carriages.

Fourth Division. Col. Speed Butler, Marshal. AIDs: Maj. Robert Allen, Capt. Louis Rosette and Capt. Albert Williams.

Marshals of Sections—William Bennett, H. W. Ives, Philip C. Latham, William V. Roll, K. H. Richardson, J. E. Williams and J. D. Crabb.

Congressional Committee or Delegation.

Senate—Hon. Messrs. James W. Nye of Nevada, George H. Williams of Oregon, Henry S. Lane of Indiana, John B. Henderson of Missouri, Lyman Trumbull and Richard Yates of Illinois, Howe and Doolittle of Wisconsin, Foote of Vermont, Chandler of Michigan, and George T. Brown, Sergeant-at-arms of the U. S. Senate.

House of Representatives—Hon. Schuyler Colfax, Speaker; Hon. Messrs. Pike of Maine, Rollins of New Hampshire, Baxter of Connecticut, Harris of New York, Cowan of Pennsylvania, Farnsworth, Washburn, Cook, Norton and Arnold, of Illinois, Morehead and Bailey of Pennsylvania, Sloan of Wisconsin, Wilson of Iowa, Farquhar of Indiana, Clarke of Kansas, Shannon of California, Phelps of Maryland, Hooper of Massachusetts, Ferry of Michigan, Newell of New Jersey, Whaley of West Virginia, Schenck of Ohio, Smith of Kentucky, Ramsay of Minnesota, Hitchcock of Nebraska, and S. G. Ordway, Sergeant-at-arms of the U. S. House of Representatives.

Territorial Representatives—Hon. Messrs. Bradford, of Colorado, and Weed, of Dacotah.

A portion of those who are named among the Congressional Delegation did not attend, but of those who were certainly with the funeral cortege from the beginning to the end of the journey, were the Hon. Messrs. Williams, of Oregon, Nye, of Nevada, Washburn, of Illinois, Morehead, of Pennsylvania, Hooper, of Massachusetts, and Schenck, of Ohio. Some of the Members of Congress from Illinois were in the

Illinois Delegation.

Governor R. J. Oglesby, Hons. Jesse K. Dubois, Shelby M. Cullom and D. L. Phillips, Adj. Gen. Isham N. Haynie, Col. J. H. Bowen, W. H. Hanna, E. F. Leonard, Dr. S. H. Melvin, Hon. O. M. Hatch, Col. John Williams.

Governors of States with their suites, and Governors of Territories: Oglesby, of Illinois; Branlette, of Kentucky; Morton, of Indiana; Fletcher, of Missouri; Stone, of Iowa; Pickering, of Washington Territory, and Wallace, of Idaho Territory.

Members of the Illinois Legislature.
Kentucky Delegation.

Chicago Committee of Reception and Escort.

Fifth Division. Hon. George L. Huntington, Marshal. Aids: Dr. S. Babcock, George Shepherd, Charles Ridgley, George Latham, Moses B. Condell.

This division was composed of the municipal authorities of Springfield, and other cities.

Sixth Division. Hon. W. H. Herndon, Marshal. Aids: P. P. Enos, C. S. Zane, Dr. T. W. Dresser, John T. Jones, William G. Cochrane, James Rayborne, Charles Vincent, Edward Beach, John Peters, C. W. Reardon, R. C. Huskey.

Marshals of Sections—Thomas Lyon, B. T. Hill, George Birge, Henry Yeakel, Jacob Halfen, Sweet, Dewitt C. Hartwell, Hamilton Haney, Fred. B. Smith.

The sixth division was composed of Christian, Sanitary and other kindred Commissions, Aid Societies, etc. and delegations from Universities, Colleges and other institutions of learning.

Reverend Clergy, not officiating for the day.
Members of the Legal Profession.
Members of the Medical Profession.
Representatives of the Press.

Seventh Division. Hon. Harmon G. Reynolds, Marshal. Aids: George R. Teasdale, John A. Hughes, James Smith, P. Fitzpatrick, Henry Shuck and Thomas O'Conner.

Marshals of sections—Capt. Charles Fisher, Frank W. Tracy, M. Conner, Frederick Smith, M. Armstrong, Richard Young.

This division was composed of the various bodies of Free Masons, Odd Fellows and other kindred fraternities, and the Firemen.

Eighth Division. Hon. John W. Smith, Marshal. Aids: Capt. Isaac Keys, S. H. Jones, Hon. John W. Priest, O. A. Abel, Maj. H. N. Alden, Wm. P. Crafton, G. A. Kimber, John W. Poorman, Henry Ridgley, J. H. Crow, John W. Davis, Presco Wright, N.

V. Hunt, George Dalby, Alfred A. North, Hon. J. S. Bradford, Samuel P. Townsend.

This division was composed of citizens generally, and all who had not been assigned to some other place in the procession, bringing up the rear with the colored people.

The procession thus formed received the corpse at the north gate of the State House square, and moved east on Washington street to Eighth, south on Eighth—passing the Lincoln residence at the corner of Jackson and Eighth—to Cook, west on Cook to Fourth, north on Fourth, passing between the Governor's mansion—then the home of Governor Oglesby—and the fine residence of ex-Governor Matteson, to Union, west on Union to Third, north on Third to the eastern entrance to Oak Ridge Cemetery, one and a half miles from the State House.

On arriving at the cemetery, the remains were placed in the receiving tomb. The choir then sang the Dead March in Saul:

“Unveil thy bosom, faithful tomb,
Take this new treasure to thy trust,” etc.

Rev. Albert Hale, Pastor of the Second Presbyterian Church, of Springfield, then offered a fervent and appropriate prayer, after which the choir sang a dirge composed for the occasion by L. W. Dawes, music by George F. Root:

“Farewell, Father, Friend and Guardian.”

A portion of scripture was then read by Rev. N. W. Miner, and the choir sang

“To Thee, O, Lord, I yield my spirit.”

President Lincoln's Inaugural Address of March 4, 1865, was then read by Rev. A. C. Hubbard. A dirge was performed by the choir, and then followed the Funeral Oration by Rev. Dr. Simpson, Bishop of the

Methodist Episcopal Church. It was a review of the life of Abraham Lincoln, more particularly that part from the time he left Springfield, Feb. 11, 1861, until his death. In drawing the contrast between his departure and return, the Bishop said :

“Such a scene as his return to you was never known among the events of history. There was one for the Patriarch Jacob which come up from Egypt, and the Egyptians wondered at the evidences of reverence and filial affection which came up from the hearts of the Israelites. There was mourning when Moses fell upon the heights of Pisgah, and was hid from human view. There has been mourning in the kingdoms of the earth when kings and princes have fallen, but never was there in the history of man such mourning as that which accompanied this funeral procession.

“Far more eyes have gazed upon the face of the departed than ever looked upon the face of any other departed man. More eyes have looked upon the procession for sixteen hundred miles and more, by night and by day, by sunlight, dawn, twilight, and by torchlight, than ever before watched the progress of a procession.”

In illustration of the universal feeling of sorrow, the orator said :

“Nor is this mourning confined to any one class, or to any district or country. Men of all political parties and of all religious creeds, have united in paying this mournful tribute. The archbishop of the Roman Catholic Church in New York and a Protestant minister walked side by side in the sad procession. A Jewish Rabbi performed part of the solemn services.

“But the great cause of this mourning is found in the man himself. Mr. Lincoln was no ordinary man; and I believe the conviction has been growing on the nation’s mind, as it certainly has been on mine, especially in the last years of his administration, that by the hand of God he was especially singled out to guide our government in these troubled times. And it seems to me that the hand of God may be traced in many of the events connected with his history.

“I recognize this in his physical education, which prepared him for enduring herculean labors. In the toils of his boyhood and

the labors of his manhood, God was giving him an iron frame. Next to this was his identification with the heart of the great people, understanding their feelings because he was one of them, and connected with them in their movements and life. His education was simple. A few months spent in the school house gave him the elements of an education. He read Bunyan's *Pilgrim's Progress*, Æsop's *Fables* and the life of Washington, which were his favorites. In these we recognize the marks which gave the bias to his character, and which partly moulded his style. His early life, with its varied struggles, joined him indissolubly to the working masses, and no elevation in society diminished his respect for the sons of toil. He knew what it was to fell the tall trees of the forest, and to stem the current of the broad Mississippi. His home was in the growing West—the heart of the Republic—and invigorated by the winds that swept over its prairies, he learned lessons of self reliance that sustained him in scenes of adversity. His genius was soon recognized, as true genius always will be, and he was placed in the legislature of his adopted State. Already acquainted with the principles of law, he devoted his thoughts to matters of public interest, and began to be looked upon as the 'coming statesman.' As early as 1839 he presented resolutions in the legislature asking for emancipation in the District of Columbia, while, with but rare exceptions, the whole popular mind of his State was opposed to the measure. From that hour he was a steady and uniform friend of humanity, and was preparing for the conflict of later years.

"It was not, however, chiefly by his mental faculties that he gained such control over mankind. His moral power gave him pre-eminence. The convictions of men that Abraham Lincoln was an honest man, led them to yield to his guidance. As has been said of Cobden, whom he greatly resembled, he made all men feel a kind of sense of himself—a recognized individuality—a self relying power. They saw in him a man whom they believed would do what was right, regardless of consequences. It was this moral feeling which gave him the greatest hold upon the people, and made his utterances almost oracular.

"But the great act of the mighty chieftain, on which his power shall rest long after his frame shall moulder away, is giving freedom to a race. We have all been taught to revere the sacred

scriptures. We have thought of Moses; of his power, and the prominence he gave to the moral law; how it lasts, and how his name towers high among the names in heaven, and how he delivered those millions of his kindred out of bondage. And yet we may assert that Abraham Lincoln, by his proclamation, liberated more enslaved people than ever Moses set free—and those not of his kindred. God has seldom given such power or such an opportunity to man. When other events shall have been forgotten; when this world shall have become a network of republics; when every throne shall be swept from the face of the earth; when literature shall enlighten all minds; when the claims of humanity shall be recognized everywhere, this act shall still be conspicuous on the pages of history. And we are thankful that God gave to Abraham Lincoln the decision and wisdom and grace to issue that proclamation, which stands high above all other papers which have been penned by uninspired men.

“Look over all his speeches—listen to his utterances—he never spoke unkindly of any man. Even the rebels received no words of anger from him, and the last day of his life illustrated, in a remarkable manner, his forgiving disposition. A dispatch was received that afternoon that Thompson and Tucker were trying to escape through Maine, and it was proposed to arrest them. Mr. Lincoln, however, preferred to let them quietly escape. He was seeking to save the very men who had been plotting his destruction; and this morning we read a proclamation offering \$25,000 for the arrest of these men as aiders and abettors of his assassination; so that, in his expiring acts, he was saying, ‘Father forgive them, they know not what they do.’ As a ruler, I doubt if any president ever showed such trust in God, or, in public documents, so frequently referred to Divine aid. Often did he remark to friends and delegations that his hope for our success rested in his conviction that God would bless our efforts because we were trying to do right. To the address of a large religious body he replied, ‘Thanks be unto God who, in our national trials, giveth us the churches.’ To a minister who said he ‘hoped the Lord was on our side,’ he replied that it ‘gave him no concern whether the Lord was on our side or not,’ and then added, ‘for I know the Lord is always on the side of right,’ and with deep feeling continued: ‘But God is my witness that it is my constant

anxiety and prayer that both myself and this nation should be on the Lord's side.'"

After the oration or eulogy, a requiem was performed by the choir, a prayer offered by the Rev. Dr. Harkey, followed by the singing of

"Peace, troubled soul."

Rev. Dr. P. D. Gurley then arose, made a few remarks and the closing prayer, after which the following funeral hymn, composed by him for the occasion, was sung :

Rest, noble martyr! rest in peace;
Rest with the true and brave
Who, like thee, fell in freedom's cause,
The nation's life to save.

Thy name shall live while time endures,
And men shall say of thee,
He saved his country from its foes,
And bade the slave be free.

These deeds shall be thy monument,
Better than brass or stone;
They leave thy fame in glory's light
Unrivalled and alone.

This consecrated spot shall be
To freedom ever dear;
And freedom's sons of every race
Shall weep and worship here.

O, God, before whom we, in tears,
Our fallen chief deplore,
Grant that the cause for which he died,
May live forever more.

The services closed by the choir singing the doxology, and the benediction by Dr. Gurley, when the vast multitude melted away and sought the railroad depots, from

which the trains bore them to their homes in all parts of the nation—east, west, north and south. Thus ended the most grand and sublime funeral pageant the world ever saw. The injunction so often repeated on the way—

“Bear him gently to his rest”—

was reverently obeyed, and Mr. Lincoln’s own words, “The heart of the nation throbs heavily at the portals of the tomb,” were realized with a force of which he little thought at the time they were spoken.

In the largest number of places where the escort stopped to give an opportunity for public honors, the local authorities provided guards to relieve the Guard of Honor detailed by the Secretary of War, but in no instance did they all leave the remains. They were acting under orders to guard the body of Abraham Lincoln until it should be deposited in its final resting place at Springfield, Illinois, and during all the journey there was not a moment but one or more of these veteran officers, with bronzed visages and gray hairs, could be seen near the body.

According to the special order issued from the War Department, April 18, 1865, all arrangements by State or municipal authorities for doing honor to the remains, were to be under the direction of the military commander of the division, department or district in which the proposed demonstrations were to take place. In order to see that the provisions of this order were carried out, Major General Cadwallader, commander of the department of Pennsylvania, joined the cortege at the State line between Maryland and Pennsylvania. He continued with the funeral party until it reached Jersey City, when he was relieved by Major General John A. Dix, commander of the department of New York. Gen. Dix traveled with the cortege through New York and across the northern end of Pennsylvania. Major General Joseph Hooker, commander of the

department of the Ohio, relieved Gen. Dix at Wickliffe, Ohio. General Hooker continued with the funeral cortege until the closing ceremonies at Springfield, Illinois.

I have omitted to mention the estimates given in the papers of the numbers who viewed the remains at different points; but summing them all up at the close, I feel justified in saying that more than *one million men and women* must have looked upon the dead face of Abraham Lincoln; an event which has no parallel in the history of the world.

In the course of the entire journey, there can not be a line or even a word found on record, urging the people to turn out in honor of the deceased. The assembling of such multitudes was, in all cases, spontaneous. Day and night, cold or warm, rain or shine, for twelve long days and nights, it was only necessary for the people to know the time the cortege was expected to arrive at any given point, to bring them together in great numbers.

The annexed table will exhibit the distance traveled by the funeral train that bore the remains of Abraham Lincoln from Washington city to Springfield, Illinois. The distance is also given between the different points at which the remains were taken from the train, in compliance with the desire of the people to do honor to the memory of the martyred President:

	MILES.
From Washington to Baltimore.....	40
“ Baltimore <i>via</i> York to Harrisburg.....	84
“ Harrisburg to Philadelphia.....	107
“ Philadelphia <i>via</i> Trenton to New York... ..	87
“ New York to Albany	142
“ Albany <i>via</i> Schnectady, Utica, Syracuse, Rochester and Batavia to Buffalo.....	296
“ Buffalo <i>via</i> Dunkirk and Erie to Cleveland.....	183
“ Cleveland <i>via</i> Crestline and Delaware to Columbus..	138

	MILES.
From Columbus <i>via</i> Urbana, Piqua, Greenville, Richmond and Knightstown to Indianapolis.....	188
“ Indianapolis <i>via</i> Lafayette and Michigan City to Chi- cago.....	212
“ Chicago <i>via</i> Joliet, Chenoa and Bloomington to Spring- field.....	185
Total.....	1662

It is but natural to expect that the very best that could be written would appear in those papers of Mr. Lincoln's own way of thinking in politics, and I have not thought it expedient to occupy much space with extracts from them; but some of the finest articles appeared in papers that had always been opposed to him politically. In order to illustrate the feelings of men who did all they could to defeat his election, had always been opposed to his policy of administering the government, and yet were on terms of personal friendship with him, I give a few extracts from the Springfield Daily *Register*. It is an evening paper, and in its issue of April 15, 1865, after relating the news of the assassination, proceeds to say:

“Just in the hour when the crowning triumph of his life awaited him; when the result for which he had labored and prayed for four years with incessant toil, stood almost accomplished; when he could begin clearly to see the promised land of his longings—the restored Union—even as Moses, from the top of Pisgah, looked forth upon the Canaan he had for forty years been striving to attain, the assassin's hand at once puts a rude period to his life and to his hopes. As Moses of old, who had led God's people through the gloom and danger of the wilderness, died when on the eve of realizing all that his hopes had pictured, so Lincoln is cut off just as the white wing of peace begins to reflect its silvery radiance over the red billows of war. It is hard for a great man to die, but doubly cruel that he should be cut off after such a career as that of him we mourn to-day.

“Under the frown of the death angel, all evil passions and all party strife disappears. It is the President of the United States that is suddenly cut down; it is the whole people of the nation who are now bereaved. We forget the points of difference of the four years past, and think only of Abraham Lincoln, the kindly and indulgent man, beloved of his neighbors, and of the chief magistrate who has honestly followed the path that seemed to him best for the welfare of the people. We seek in vain the motives which actuated the perpetration of this hideous crime. If a rebel, where will rebels look for a man who will judge them with more leniency, whose treatment will be more kindly, or who will receive them with a more catholic and forgiving spirit? What living brain so thoroughly comprehends the present state of affairs, and is so well prepared for future exigencies as that which the bullet of the murderer has forever stilled? * * * * *

“The effect of this terrible blow can not now be estimated. Just when the nation seemed about to emerge from the gloom and disorder which for four dreadful years—on the very anniversary of the day which commenced the civil war, we are suddenly plunged into chaos again. We need not inquire whether another hand may at once be found to grasp the helm and steer the ship of State steadily and safely through the dangers that again thicken about her prow; we all know that to no eye save his was the chart he had mapped out in his own mind so clear, to no hands, however tried and skillful, can the management of our national vessel be thus suddenly entrusted with undoubting confidence. Lincoln had piloted her through the fiercest fury of the storm; no new pilot can now guide the ark of our hopes so clearly, even through the smooth waters of approaching peace.

“No national calamity so serious as his death could have befallen us. The bitterest and most radical opponent of his administration can not fail to recognize, in the mere political bearing of the event, the terrible solemnity of the blow we have received. While we mourn the loss of the genial and kindly neighbor we knew so well, and mingle our tears and sympathies with those of his bereaved family, we all feel alike keenly the fresh perils to which the nation is subjected. But tears and regrets are alike unavailing, and the crushing sense of this great sorrow is all we can now distinctly feel. We realize that the great Douglas has now a com-

panion in immortality, and that when the roll of statesmen whose genius has left its impress upon the destiny of the country shall be complete, no names will stand higher, or shine with purer lustre, than the two which blaze upon the escutcheon of Illinois. * *

“The immediate effect of this appalling calamity upon the country is sufficiently evident from the feeling in this city. Like a family whose head has been suddenly stricken down, the people of the Union are knit together by their common bereavement, and past discord and differences are instantly forgotten in the presence of this great sorrow. There is nothing that so smoothes down the asperities of our nature—nothing that so quickly obliterates the petty strife and ill feelings that are so often engendered among men as the grief occasioned by a great calamity such as this.”

The *Register* of April 18, says :

“History has recorded no such scene of bloody terror. The murder of monarchs has been written. Cæsar was slain in the Senate Chamber; Gustavus was butchered in the ball room; but these were usurpers and tyrants, not the chosen heads of a people, empowered to select their rulers. And, O horrible! that he should have been assassinated when his best efforts to tranquilize the fears and fury of his people were so nearly realized. We are dumb with sorrow.

“As is known, President Lincoln was not our first choice; but we have watched his recent course and are convinced that his energies were given to restore peace to the country and union to the nation. This beneficent conduct toward the South assures us that the southern people had no better friend in the north than the lamented Lincoln.