

# The Chatham Daily Planet.

VOL. X

CHATHAM, ONT., SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 14, 1901

NO. 247

## DIED WITH PRAYER UPON HIS LIPS

### William McKinley Bravely Entered the Unseen at an Early Hour.

Special To The Planet.  
Milburn House, Buffalo, Sept. 14.—6.30 a. m.—William McKinley, president of the United States, died peacefully at 2.15 this morning.

He was conscious almost to the end. His last words were addressed to his wife:

"God's will, not ours, be done."

Since midnight the solemn gathering at the bedside have awaited the end, all hope of a rally having been abandoned.

The end was perfectly peaceful, the President dying with a smile on his lips.

The hideous success of his foul act has not yet been communicated to Crogosz.

Troops were called out during the night to guard him, as there was much talk of lynching. The armories were guarded that the people might not be able to get arms.

The whole of Buffalo is in the deepest mourning and profound sorrow is universally evident.

The Pan-American Exposition is practically deserted and will probably be temporarily closed.

No arrangement as to the obsequies has yet been made.

#### FIGHT FOR LIFE

Hopeless Struggle Kept Up All Yesterday.

Milburn House, Buffalo, Sept. 14.—Before six o'clock it was clear to those at the President's bedside that he was dying, and preparations were made for the last sad offices of farewell from those who were nearest and dearest to him. Oxygen had been administered steadily, but with little effect in keeping back the approach of death. The President came out of one period of unconsciousness only to relapse into another. But in this period when his mind was partially clear occurred a series of events of profoundly touching character.

Downstairs, with strained and tear-stained faces members of the cabinet were grouped in anxious waiting. They knew the end was near and that the time had come when they must see him for the last time on earth. This was about six o'clock. One by one they ascended the stairway—Secretary Root, Secretary Hitchcock and Attorney General Knox. Secretary Wilson was also there, but he held back, not wishing to see the President in his last agony.

Final greetings of husband and wife were affecting. After friends left the sick room the physicians rallied him to consciousness and the President asked almost immediately for his wife he brought to him. The doctors fell back into the shadows of the room as Mrs. McKinley came through the doorway.

The strong face of the dying man lighted up with a faint smile as their hands were clasped. She sat beside him and held his hand. Despite her physical weakness, she bore up bravely under the ordeal.

The President, in his last period of consciousness, which ended about 7.40, chanted the words of the hymn, "Near to My God to Thee," and his last audible conscious words, as taken down by Dr. Mann at the bedside, were: "Good-bye, all good-bye. It is God's way. His will be done."

All the evening those who had hastened here as fast as steel and steam could carry them continued to arrive. They drove up in carriages at a gallop or were whisked up in automobiles all intent upon getting here before death came. One of the last to arrive was Attorney-General Knox, who reached the house at 9.30. He was permitted to go upstairs to look for the last time upon the face of his chief. Those in the house at this time were Secretaries Hitchcock, Wilson and Root, Senators Fairbanks, Hanna and Burrows, Judge Day, Col. Herrick, Alger McKinley, the president's brother, and his wife; Dr. and Mrs. Baer,

the President's niece and her husband; Mrs. Barber and Mrs. Duncan, the President's sisters; Mrs. Mary Barber, Mrs. McWilliams, Mrs. McKinley's cousin; the physicians, including Dr. McBurney, who arrived after 8 o'clock; John G. Milburn, John N. Scattergood, Harry Hamilton, all of this city; Secretary Cortelyou and a number of others.

Rev. C. D. Wilson, a Methodist minister of Tonawanda, N. Y., who was the President's pastor for three years at Canton, called at the residence to inquire whether his services were needed, but did not enter the house. Another Methodist minister, who has a church nearby, remained at the Milburn residence for two hours in the belief that his services might be desired.

At 9.37 Secretary Cortelyou, who had been much of the time with the dying chief, sent out formal notification that the President was dying. But the President lingered on, his pulse growing fainter and fainter.

Secretary Root and Secretary Wilson came from the house about midnight and paced up and down the sidewalk. All that Secretary Root said was:

"The night has not come yet."

Despite the fact that vitality continued to ebb as midnight approached no efforts were spared to keep the spark of life glowing. Dr. Janeway, of New York City, arrived at the Buffalo depot at 11.40 o'clock. George Urban was waiting for him and they drove at a breakneck pace to the Milburn house. He was shown to the President's room at once and began an examination of the almost inanimate form.

Secretary of the Navy Long arrived at the Milburn house at 12.06. This was his first visit to the city and he had the extreme satisfaction of seeing the President alive, even though he was not conscious of his visitor's presence. Secretary Long was visibly affected.

Vice President Roosevelt had been notified early in the day of the critical state of affairs. There was no longer a doubt that in the approaching death of the President a complete change in the executive administration of government would ensue. When Mr. Roosevelt would take the oath of office was wholly a matter of conjecture.

#### LAST HOURS

Relatives and Friends Waited at the Bed side for the Dread Summons.

Milburn House, Buffalo, Sept. 14.—President McKinley died at 2.15 a. m. He had been unconscious since 7.50. His last conscious hour on earth was spent with the wife to whom he devoted a lifetime of care. He died unattended by a minister of the Gospel, but his last words were a humble submission to God in whom he believed. He was reconciled to the cruel fate to which an assassin's bullet had condemned him and faced death in the same spirit of calmness which has marked his long and honorable career. His last conscious words, reduced to writing by Dr. Mann, who stood at his bedside, when they were uttered, were as follows: "Good-bye. All good-bye. It is God's way. His will be done."

His relatives and the members of his official family were at the Milburn House, except Secretary Wilson who did not avail himself of the opportunity, and some of his personal and political friends took leave of him. This painful ceremony was simple. His friends came to the door of the sick room, took a longing glance at him and turned tearfully away.

### PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES SUCCOMBS TO THE BULLETS OF THE ASSASSIN.



THE LATE WILLIAM MCKINLEY.

#### PRACTICALLY UNCONSCIOUS.

He was practically unconscious during this time. But the powerful stimulants, including oxygen, were employed to restore him to consciousness for his final parting with his wife.

He asked for her and she sat at his side and held his hand. He consoled her and bade her good-bye. She went through the heart-breaking scene with the same bravery and fortitude with which she has borne the grief of the tragedy that ended his life.

The immediate cause of the President's death is unknown. His doctors disagree and it will possibly require an autopsy to fix the exact cause. The President's remains will be taken to Washington and there will be a state funeral. Vice-President Roosevelt, who now succeeds to the presidency, may take the oath wherever he happens to hear the news. The cabinet will, of course, resign in a body, and President Roosevelt will have an opportunity of forming a new cabinet if he so desires.

#### AFFECTING FAREWELL

Mrs. McKinley Bravely Faced the Ordeal of the Last Sad Moments.

Milburn House, Buffalo, Sept. 13.—Before 6 o'clock it was clear to those at the President's bedside that he was dying, and preparations were made for the last sad offices of farewell from those who were nearest and dearest to him. Oxygen had been administered steadily, but with little effect in keeping back the approach of death. The President came out of one period of unconsciousness only to relapse into another. But in this period, when his mind

#### Maple City's Tribute.

Chatham, Ont., Sept. 14, 1901.

THE SECRETARY OF STATE,  
WASHINGTON, D.C.

The citizens of Chatham desire to express through you, to the people of the United States, our sincere sympathy in the loss of your chief executive. The Canadians in this district look upon McKinley as the noblest and most fairminded statesman that your great Republic has ever produced.

G. W. SULMAN,  
Mayor.

was partially clear, occurred a series of events, of profoundly touching character. Downstairs, with strained and tear-stained faces, members of the cabinet were grouped in anxious waiting. They knew the end was near, and that the time had come when they must see him for the last time on earth. This was about six o'clock. One by one they ascended the stairway—Secretary Root, Secretary Hitchcock and Atty-Gen. Knox. Secretary Wilson was also there, but he held back, not wishing to see his President in his last agony. There was only a momentary stay of the cabinet officers at the threshold of the death chamber. Then they withdrew the tears streaming down their faces and the words of intense grief choking their throats.

After they left the sick room the physicians rallied him to consciousness and the President asked almost immediately that his wife be brought to him. The doctors fell back into the shadows of the room as Mrs. McKinley came through the doorway. The strong face of the dying man lighted up with a faint smile as their hands were clasped. She sat beside him and held his hand. Despite her physical weakness she bore up bravely under her trial.

Then his mind began to wander and soon afterward he completely lost consciousness. His life was prolonged for hours by the administration of oxygen, and the President finally expressed a desire to be allowed to die. About 8.30 the administration of oxygen ceased and the pulse grew fainter and fainter. He was sinking gradually, like a child into the eternal slumber.

#### PULSE COULDN'T BE FELT.

By ten o'clock the pulse could no longer be felt in his extremities and they grew cold. Below stairs the grief-stricken gathering waited sadly for the end.

There was no need for official bulletins after this. Those who came from the house at intervals told the same story—that the President was dying and the end might come at any time. His tremendous vitality was the only remaining factor in the result, and this gave hope only of brief postponement of the end. Dr. Mynter thought he might last until 2 a. m. Dr. Mann said at 11 that the President was still alive and probably would live an hour. Thus minutes, lengthened to hours, and midnight came with the President still battling against death.

At this midnight hour the Milburn house was the centre of a scene as animated as though it were mid-day, although a solemn hush hung over the great crowd of watchers. The entire lower part of the house was aglow with light and the many attendants, friends and relatives could be seen within moving about and occasionally coming in groups to the front doorway for a breath of air. In the upper front chambers the lights were low, and around on the north side, where the chamber of death is located there were fitful lights, some burning brightly and then turned low.

#### INCREASING EFFECTS.

Despite the fact that vitality continued to ebb as midnight approached, no efforts were spared to keep the spark of life glowing. Dr. Janeway of New York City arrived at the Buffalo depot at 11.40 o'clock. George Urban was waiting for him and they drove at a breakneck pace to the Milburn house. He was shown to the President's room at once and began an examination of the almost inanimate form.

Secretary of the Navy Long arrived at the Milburn house at 12.06. This was his first visit to the city, and he had the extreme satisfaction of seeing the President alive, even though he was not conscious of his visitor's presence. Secretary Long was visibly affected. Shortly after midnight the Pres-

ident's breathing was barely perceptible. His pulse had practically ceased and the extremities were cold. It was recognized that nothing remained but the last struggle, and some of the friends of the family who had remained through the day began to leave the house, not caring to be present at the final scene.

Such an intense state of anxiety existed among the watchers that rumors gained frequent circulation that death had already actually occurred. The arrival of the coroner gave rise to one such rumor, and a flood of groundless dispatches were sent, saying that the end had come. These were speedily set at rest, by an official statement from within the house that the reports of death were groundless and the President still lived.

#### CORONER ARRIVED.

Coroner Wilson said he had been ordered by the district attorney of the county to go to the Milburn house as soon as possible after the announcement of death.

He had seen a reputable local paper issued, with the announcement that the President died at 11.06 and had hurried up so that there would be no delay in removing the body. He was very much chagrined when Dr. Mann met him at the door and told him that his services were not required and that he would be notified when he was wanted. Dr. Mann said the President was still alive and that Dr. Janeway was examining the heart action. There was no hope, but they did not desire gruesome anticipation.

#### WORKINGS OF LAW

Constitutional Provision for Succession of Vice-President Roosevelt.

Theodore Roosevelt's succession to the presidency is different from that of Chester A. Arthur. Owing to the long illness of President Garfield Mr. Arthur was placed in a delicate position and the question as to whether the cabinet or the vice-president should carry on the duties of the President during his illness was not settled.

James G. Blaine, at a meeting of the cabinet, suggested that Mr. Arthur be called upon to assume the office of the president so as to act in case an extraordinary emergency arose. No action was taken on that suggestion and fortunately no such emergency arose. Hardly had President Garfield breathed his last when Mr. Arthur took the oath of office as President of the United States at his residence in New York City; Judge Brady, of the New York supreme court officiating.

The next day but one, as soon as Mr. Arthur could reach Washington, the oath was again administered at the capitol by Chief Justice Waite of the United States supreme court. The ceremony took place in the senate chamber. In his first message to congress President Arthur recommended that congress take action on the succession to the presidency. The senate ordered its judiciary committee to ascertain what, if further, legislation was necessary. A bill to meet the case was introduced by Senator Garland of Arkansas. The matter was briefly debated in both houses of congress for a number of years, but no legislation was passed until January, 1886, when the forty-ninth congress passed a law based on Senator Garland's draft.

It made no provision for the taking up of the duties of president by the vice-president during the partial inability of the executive, but provided that if the presidency and vice-presidency are both vacant the presidency passes to the members of the cabinet in the historical order of the establishment beginning with the secretary of state. If he dies, is impeached or disabled, the secretary of the treasury becomes president, to be succeeded in a like crisis by the secretary of war, he by the attorney-general, he by the postmaster-general, he by the secretary of the navy, he by the secretary of the interior, and he by the secretary of agriculture.

#### MUCH MOVED

McKinley's Political Rival Suffered Intense Emotion at the News.

Chicago, Sept. 13.—Of the sorrowful tidings of the President's demise, Col. Wm. J. Bryan said to-night to a

The whole Dominion will extend sincere sympathy with the neighboring republic in the bereavement suffered by the demise of its noble President.

The wide-spread interest which is universally felt is well evidenced by the pulse of the Maple City.

The first local news of the fatal outcome of the assassin's attack was given by The Planet at 6.30 this morning by window bulletin. This was followed by a brief Planet extra at seven o'clock, which was scattered through the streets and at the factories.

At 8.30 The Planet issued a second extra giving further details of the last hours and the end.

The news cast a gloom over the entire community. Few rulers held the international admiration accorded to William McKinley and few have been so genuinely mourned. Many flags were at once placed at half-mast and several establishments were fittingly draped.

representative of the Associated Press:

"I cannot believe the President's life is to end this way. It seems impossible. I simply will not believe that he can die from an assassin's bullet until I hear that he has breathed his last. While there's life there's hope." Col. Bryan arrived here from Lincoln, Neb., at 8.50 p. m. over the Burlington road and was driven at once to the Sherman House. He was to have addressed a democratic meeting to-morrow, but when he heard the news from Buffalo he said he would in all probability leave for Lincoln to-morrow morning. While Col. Bryan was talking, his head was bowed and he appeared to be greatly dejected. Over and over again he repeated the words: "I cannot believe his life is to end this way."

"I have already spoken of the horror of which I regard the assassin's crime. I have already spoken of the high personal esteem in which I hold Mr. McKinley. In this moment of sorrow, I cannot add anything to either."

#### ASKED FOR THE NEWS.

Mr. Bryan asked for the later news from the President's bedside and added: "In the event of his death, I shall have something more to say."

Later when the committee of Carter Harrison's league at whose picnic, Col. Bryan was to have spoken to-morrow, announced that the demonstration had been abandoned, Col. Bryan, in a voice that shook with emotion, read the following:

"I most cordially commend your action in abandoning the contemplated demonstration. We are all oppressed by the grief which has fallen upon the nation. We have no spirit for a partisan meeting at this time for partisan feeling is swallowed up in an universal sorrow. Political controversies, and the disappointments which attend them dwindle into insignificance when we stand in the presence of the tragedy which seems likely to rob the nation of its chief executive."

"We all feel the humiliation that our country has suffered and our hearts are with the lovely woman from whom foul and brutal assassination is taking one of the most faithful and tender of husbands. Whether the heroic struggle ends fatally, as we now fear, or in his restoration to health as we pray it will, you have acted wisely."

#### WAS DEEPLY MOVED.

When Col. Bryan ceased reading his face was grave. He was shown the latest Associated Press bulletins which he read carefully and with downcast head and when he looked up tears stood in his eyes. In a voice that broke, he indicated the bulletin where in the dying President was said to be murmuring: "Nearer My God to Thee," and said: "Isn't that pitiful— isn't it too pitiful?"

"God's will, not ours, be done," he read in another bulletin giving the President's last words to Mrs. McKinley, and again Mr. Bryan was deeply moved. He made no comment.

Continued on Eighth Page.