

LINCOLN

The death of the President was, indeed, the most tragic event of modern times. It was vastly more important than the assassination of Julius Cæsar in the old Roman time. In a few hours a thrill of horror reached every part of the continent. There was no ocean cable then to carry the news. In seven days after it reached England. The whole British nation was aroused. It created a profound sensation among the masses, while Her Majesty, the Queen, within a few minutes after the receipt of the intelligence, with her own hand wrote a tender, affectionate and sympathetic letter of condolence to Mrs. Lincoln, the haste being in order to secure the conveyance of the letter to America by the first returning steamer.

The House of Lords, the most august legislative body in the world, passed an address of condolence; while the House of Commons, powerful, far-reaching, enlightened and independent, without delay passed a most complimentary address to the American nation, and sympathy with it in the loss of the President.

The whole world was awe-stricken at the dreadful crime. The United States, North and South, with horror exclaimed against it. All business stood still; sorrow and mourning marked the village and the great city alike. The highways and byways, from Washington to New York, Detroit to Chicago, and on to Springfield, the burial place, formed an impressive funeral pageant, in extent and magnificence