

From Life of Schuyler Colfax by Hollister, page 253.

He believed there could be no peace or order with the leading rebels in the country, and proposed to have our generals "skeer them out by intimating to them that they would not be pursued, but would be punished for their crimes if they remained. "Then we can be magnanimous to the rest, and have peace and quiet in the whole land."

From "Life of Schuyler Colfax,"

Upon the 14th of April, Mr. Colfax was in Washington. He called early in the morning upon the President. Mr. Lincoln spent over an hour with him conversing in regard to the future, and explaining how he hoped to heal the wounds of the war, and build upon a sure foundation the great Republic. He also received from Mr. Lincoln a message for the miners of the far West. In the early evening, Mr. Colfax in company with Mr. George Ashmun of Massachusetts, who had presided over the Chicago Convention that nominated Mr. Lincoln for President, again called upon him. Amidst the rejoicings in Washington that day, on account of the successive national victories, it had been announced by the papers of the day, that General Grant, who had just returned to Washington from his final victory over Lee, and the President, would be at Ford's theatre that night. General Grant had an engagement which prevented him from attending. The President was reluctant upon that occasion to attend, but was persuaded to go, that the people might not be disappointed. Mr. Colfax walked from the parlor to the door with the President, and at the door bade him "good-bye," declining an invitation to accompany him to the theatre, on account of his own engagements that evening. It was doubtless the last good-bye ever uttered by the President. It was the fatal night of the assassination.