

George N. Black on the Inauguration.

(Interview Oct. 22, 1898.)

Mr. George N. Black, of Springfield, Ill., says:

"I went to Washington with about half a dozen other Springfield merchants, arriving, I think, the day before the inauguration. At the inaugural ceremony, I stood almost in front of Lincoln, within fifty or sixty feet of him. The crowd listened attentively and was evidently much impressed. There was, however, a prevalent belief that Lincoln was incapable of producing so great a state paper; and several times I heard the remark, 'that's Seward's!', as the new President gave utterance to something especially impressive.

"After Lincoln went to the White House, our little party called on him. He received us cordially and then called to Seward: 'Come out here, Seward; I want to introduce some of my fellow-townsmen.' Seward came out and we were presented.

"While I was in Washington--I think on the day of the inauguration--I saw Lincoln in a carriage, with Senator Douglas and Senator Edward D. Baker of Oregon riding down Pennsylvania avenue."

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J. McCann Davis.