[illegible] from Dr George B. [illegible] [illegible]

Montauk Montauk

"Montauk" Montauk.
April 30. 65
Navy Yard Wash D.C. 34
April 15th 1865. 9 P.M.

Dear Bro. The few hours that have intervened since that most Terrible tragedy, of last night have served to give me a little clearer brain, and I believe I am now able to give you a clear account upto this hour. Yesterday about 3 P.M. the President and wife drove down to the Navy Yard and paid our ship a visit, going all over her, accompanied by us all. He seemed very happy, and so [illegible] themselves, glad that this war [illegible] over, or so near its end. And then drove back to the White House.

In the evening, nearly [illegible] [illegible] to Fords theatre. I was very early, and got a seat very near the Presidents private box, as we heard [illegible] was to be there. About half past [illegible] he came in, with his wife, a Miss Harris and Major Leathburn, and was cheered by every one. As soon as there was [illegible] silence, the play went on, and [illegible] could see that the "Pres" seemed to enjoy it very much. About 10.25 P.M. a man came in, and walked slowly along the side on which the "Pres" box was and I herdrd a man say "there Booth" and I turned my head to look at him. He was still walking very slow, and was near the box door, when he stopped took a card from his pocket wrote something on it, and gave it to the Usher, who took it to the box. In a minute the door

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was opened and he walked in
to sooner had the door closed, than
I heard the report of a pistol, and
in the instant, Booth jumped
out of the box onto the stage, holding
in his hand a large knife, and
shouted so as to be heard all
over the house. "Sic Semper Tyrannis"
(so always with tyrants) and fled
behind the scenes. I attempted to
get to the box, but I could not, and
in an instant, the cry was raised
"The President is assassinated".
Such a scene I never saw before
The cry spread to the street, only to
be met by another. "So is Mr Seward"
Soldiers, sailors, police, all started in
every direction but the assassin had
gone. Some General handed me a note
and bid me go to the nearest Telegraph

office and assure the nation.
I ran with all my speed, and
in ten minutes the sad news
was all over the country.
Today all the city is in mourning
nearly every house being in black
and I have not seen a smile,
no business, and many a strong
man I [illegible] in tears.
Some reports say Booth is a
prisoner, others that he has made
his escape — but from orders
received here, I believe he is
taken, and during the night
will be put on a Monitor for safe
keeping — as a mob once raised now
would know no end — I will not
seal this until morning, and I
may have some more news —

April 24th 1865 1865

I have had no time to write
until now, as I have been a
detective. We have now 7 that
are implicated, [illegible]
[illegible]

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