HDQRS. DEPT. OF VIRGINIA, ARMY OF THE JAMES,
Richmond, Va., April 26, 1865.

Brevet Major-General TURNER,
Commanding Twenty-fourth Corps:

I am instructed by the major-general commanding to direct you to detail from General Devens' division one full regiment of infantry under an efficient commander to proceed to Charlottesville, Va., on the 28th instant; a detail of two companies of cavalry will accompany them. The commanding officer will report to these headquarters at 10 a. m. to-morrow for instructions.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

H. B. SCOTT,
Major Fourth Massachusetts Cavalry and Actg. Asst. Adjt. General.

GENERAL ORDERS, No. 56.

HDQRS. DEPT. OF WASHINGTON,
TWENTY-SECOND ARMY CORPS,
April 26, 1865.

I. The following organization of districts within this department is announced for the information and guidance of all concerned:

1. District of Alexandria, to embrace that portion of the Department of Washington, and all troops serving therein, lying south of the Potomac, except the "Northern Neck," south of the railroad from Fredericksburg and Aquia Creek Landing, with headquarters at Alexandria, Va., to be commanded by Maj. Gen. John G. Parke, U. S. Volunteers.

2. District of Washington, to embrace that portion of the Department of Washington north of the Potomac, and all troops serving therein, excepting the city of Washington and the country between the Potomac and Patuxent Rivers, south of the Piscataway, with headquarters in Washington, D. C., to be commanded by Bvt. Maj. Gen. O. B. Willcox, U. S. Volunteers.

3. District of the Patuxent, to embrace the country between the Potomac and the Patuxent Rivers and south of the Piscataway, and all troops serving therein, except Point Lookout and immediate vicinity, with headquarters at or near Port Tobacco, Col. H. H. Wells, Twenty-sixth Michigan Volunteers, temporarily in charge.

4. District of "Northern Neck," to embrace the country between the Potomac and Rappahannock Rivers, south of the Fredericksburg and Aquia Creek Railroad, and all troops serving therein, Col. N. B. Sweitzer, Sixteenth New York Cavalry, temporarily in charge, with headquarters at such point as he may select.

II. The District of St. Mary's is hereby discontinued. The commander of Point Lookout will report direct to these headquarters.

III. Commanding officers will report disposition and post of troops within their respective districts with as little delay as practicable, furnishing lists of brigades, regiments, and batteries, with names of commanders.

By command of Maj. Gen. C. C. Augur:

J. H. TAYLOR,
Chief of Staff and Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. REMOUNT CAMP, CAVALRY, MIDDLE MIL. DIV.,
Pleasant Valley, Md., April 26, 1865.

Brevet Major-General TORBERT, *Comdg. Army of the Shenandoah:*

SIR: There are 1,250 men and 12 officers, under command of Major Herkness, Sixth Pennsylvania Cavalry, all belonging to Reserve Brigade, First Division, now on cars and will start at once. There are also 921 men and 12 officers, under command of Captain Flesher, Third West Virginia Cavalry, and about 1,100 of the train, all under command of Major Hyde, Fifteenth New York Cavalry, now starting with the wagons, which are following the artillery. Total numbers sent this morning, 3,271 men and 25 officers. All the sick belonging to Reno's command have been sent to general hospital in Harper's Ferry. There will be no chance of sending any more men off to-day, as there are no cars at the Ferry. They have been telegraphed for to Baltimore, and will in all probability be up to-night.

Very respectfully,

H. H. GOLDSMITH,
Lieutenant and Aide-de-Camp.

HEADQUARTERS FIRST SEPARATE BRIGADE,
DEPARTMENT OF WEST VIRGINIA,
Charleston, W. Va., April 26, 1865.

Maj. E. B. BLUNDON, *Guyandotte, W. Va.:*

As muster day is so near, monthly returns to come in, and other reasons, I do not wish any expeditions sent out until after May 1. I will arrange and order then co-operative expeditions from all the posts to cover the whole country between the Kanawha and the Kentucky line. You will circulate the information that all rebel soldiers must report to take the oath or be paroled. They can be paroled only by Major Gramm. Captain Rife is now at Lewisburg paroling all the forces in my front. Stationery was forgotten. Acknowledge receipt.

JOHN H. OLEY,
Colonel, Commanding.

OFFICE OF THE PROVOST-MARSHAL-GENERAL
FOR THE STATE OF MARYLAND,
Baltimore, April 26, 1865.

Hon. E. M. STANTON,
Secretary of War, Washington, D. C.:

SIR: The following marks are upon the person of Booth by which he may be recognized: On his right arm are the initials of his name, and on his left hand, between the forefinger and thumb, a small cross, and across the same hand several spots, all in India ink.

J. L. McPHAIL.
Provost-Marshal-General, State of Maryland.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF WASHINGTON,
TWENTY-SECOND ARMY CORPS,
April 26, 1865.

COMMANDING OFFICER DISMOUNTED CAVALRY
EN ROUTE FROM REMOUNT CAMP:

SIR: Transportation will be ready for your command at 8 a. m., the 27th instant, at Sixth Street Wharf, at which hour the major-general

commanding directs that you proceed to Chapel Point, Md. Upon arriving at the point indicated you will encamp your men in such camps as may be indicated by Col. J. Ford Kent, assistant inspector-general, and will report as soon as practicable to Colonel Wells, near Bryantown, taking your future instructions from him.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

A. E. KING,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF WASHINGTON,
TWENTY-SECOND ARMY CORPS,
April 26, 1865.

COMMANDING OFFICER GUARD SHIP,
Alexandria, Va.:

SIR: I am instructed by the major-general commanding to request that you will consult your own discretion in permitting licensed fishermen and their employés in passing up and down the Potomac in pursuit of their avocation, as guaranteed them by the licenses in their possession. He desires that no one be permitted to pass or land who cannot establish a record or character satisfactory to you.

I am, very respectfully, sir, your most obedient servant,

J. H. TAYLOR,
Chief of Staff and Assistant Adjutant-General.

PORT TOBACCO, *April 26, 1865—1.30 a. m.*
(Received 8 a. m.)

Maj. T. T. ECKERT:

Immediately after reporting to you to-day I proceeded with Major O'Beirne to Bryantown, thence to Turner's house, where Booth and Herold were seen by two servants to inquire for food, then enter pine thicket about twenty rods distant from house and two miles north from Bryantown. Parties on the ground had been through, losing the track and accomplishing nothing. We at once penetrated the thicket and deployed. After following probable routes I struck the crutch track, and we followed it in a direction circling around toward the piece of timber from which they first issued far enough to justify the belief they are still in same vicinity from which they started, and that while the troops were searching the thicket where they were last seen, they, by taking course above described, gained time enough to temporarily conceal themselves again. It appears to us from all we can learn that troops have not been pushed through with much system. The colored troops, while deployed and advancing, upon hearing shout on one part line, made rush in that direction, leaving considerable space uncovered. Cavalry has been operating, and to-night has strong line of pickets around timber. I made map to-day for immediate use, but it would have assisted much if we had a county survey map and a compass. I left Major O'Beirne at Bryantown, where he was preparing to co-operate with others and make an early and systematic scouring.

S. H. BECKWITH.

ALBANY, N. Y., *April 26, 1865.*
(Received 10.40 a. m.)

Hon. E. M. STANTON,
Secretary of War:

Your dispatch of this date is received.* The photograph was taken while I was present, Admiral Davis being the officer immediately in charge, but it would have been my part to stop the proceedings. I regret your disapproval, but it did not strike me as objectionable under the circumstances as it was done. I have telegraphed General Dix your orders about seizing the plates. To whom shall I turn over the special charge given me in order to execute your instructions to relieve the officer responsible, and shall Admiral Davis be relieved? He was not accountable.

E. D. TOWNSEND,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

WAR DEPARTMENT,
Washington City, April 26, 1865—12.30 p. m.

Brig. Gen. E. D. TOWNSEND,
Adjutant-General, Albany:

As Admiral Davis was not responsible there is no occasion to find fault with him. You being in charge, and present at the time, the sole responsibility rests upon you; but having no other officer of the Adjutant-General's Department that can relieve you and take your place you will continue in charge of the remains under your instructions until they are finally interred. The taking of a photograph was expressly forbidden by Mrs. Lincoln, and I am apprehensive that her feelings and the feelings of her family will be greatly wounded.

EDWIN M. STANTON,
Secretary of War.

ALBANY, *April 26, 1865.* (Received 6 p. m.)

Hon. E. M. STANTON:

Your dispatch just received. I was not aware of Mrs. Lincoln's wishes, or the picture would not have been taken with the knowledge of any officer of the escort. It seemed to me the picture would be gratifying, a grand view of what thousands saw and thousands could not see. Leave here punctually at 4 p. m.

E. D. TOWNSEND,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

ALBANY, N. Y., *April 26, 1865.*

Hon. E. M. STANTON:

General Dix, who is here, suggests that I should explain to you how the photograph was taken. The remains had just been arranged in state in the City Hall, at the head of the stairway, where the people would ascend on one side and descend on the other. The body lay in an alcove, draped in black, and just at the edge of a rotunda formed of American flags and mourning drapery. The photographer was in a

*See 11.40 p. m., 25th, p. 952.

gallery twenty feet higher than the body, and at least forty distant from it. Admiral Davis stood at the head and I at the foot of the coffin. No one else was in view. The effect of the picture would be general, taking in the whole scene, but not giving the features of the corpse.

E. D. TOWNSEND,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

Answer before General Dix leaves Albany this p. m.

NEW YORK, *April 26, 1865.*
(Received 7.10 p. m.)

Hon. E. M. STANTON:

Messrs. Gurney, photographers, wish me to ask you to so far modify your order to General Dix respecting the negatives taken of President Lincoln as to order him to hold them without breaking until Gurney can present to you the facts in the case. They do not intend to have the face represented.

HENRY WARD BEECHER.

Get answer before 9 o'clock.

NEW YORK, *April 26, 1865.*
(Received 8.40 p. m.)

Hon. EDWIN M. STANTON,
Secretary of War:

I respectfully join in Mr. Beecher's request that General Dix may postpone destroying the negatives of President Lincoln taken by Gurney & Son till they can see you.

H. J. RAYMOND.

NEW YORK, *April 26, 1865.*

Hon. CHARLES A. DANA,
Assistant Secretary of War:

SIR: A dispatch to General Dix directs the seizure and destruction of the photographs taken by us of President's remains. We have obtained delay until 10 o'clock in hopes of securing a revocation of the order. We shall see Mr. Beecher and Mr. Raymond, and hope the Secretary will see the propriety of waiting until all the facts are in his possession. In the meantime can you not assist us?

T. GURNEY & SON,
707 Broadway.

WAR DEPARTMENT,
Washington City, April 26, 1865.

T. GURNEY & SON,
707 Broadway, New York:

The Secretary of War is of opinion that photographs of the President's remains should not have been taken without the consent of his family. In that view he ordered the plates to be seized and destroyed.

He has no objection to suspending the order for their destruction until further order upon their being turned over to General Dix to abide such order as may be made.

JAS. A. HARDIE,
Brevet Brigadier-General and Inspector-General.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE EAST,
New York City, April 26, 1865.

General ROBINSON:

Reliable information has been communicated to the War Department that the rebels in Canada are again plotting against the frontier towns. Instructions to the commanding officers of posts on the frontier will be sent to keep a good guard.

By command of General Peck:

D. T. VAN BUREN,
Colonel and Assistant Adjutant-General.

WAR DEPARTMENT,
April 27, 1865—10 a. m.

Major-General HALLECK,
Richmond:

Generals Canby and Thomas were notified some days ago that Sherman's arrangement with Johnston was disapproved by the President, and they were instructed to disregard it and push the enemy in every direction. Your own action is cordially approved. Booth was killed by Colonel Baker's men yesterday at Garrett's farm, three miles from Port Royal, on the Rappahannock, in the effort to arrest him. His body is here. Herold, his companion, was taken.

EDWIN M. STANTON,
Secretary of War.

WAR DEPARTMENT,
Washington City, April 27, 1865—9.50 p. m.

Major-General HALLECK,
Richmond:

A rebel officer named Willie Jett conveyed Booth from the Potomac across the Rappahannock. He has gone to Richmond. Please have him looked up, arrested, ironed, and sent here.

EDWIN M. STANTON,
Secretary of War.

HEADQUARTERS MILITARY DIVISION OF THE JAMES,
Richmond, Va., April 27, 1865.

Major-General MEADE,
Army of the Potomac:

Please have railroad to Lynchburg examined and report the probable time and cost of repairs, the army doing the work. The assassins, Booth and Herold, were captured yesterday on the Rappahannock. The former was killed in resisting arrest.

H. W. HALLECK,
Major-General, Commanding.