CLEVELAND HERALD December 4, 1863

We intended to have made a somewhat extended notice of Mr. Booth's first appearance in the character of "Iago" on Wednesday evening, but the sudden pressure on our column has prevented it, and we must now content ourselves with a few words. The character of "Iago" is one of great difficulty, and few actors properly enter into the spirit of the parts as drawn by Shakespeare. "Iago" is the most thorough villain in the range of the drama. There is not a redeeming touch about him. He loves villianry, lust, ambition, revenge, are but the incidental motives of his actions, not the prime causes. But "Iago" is not the conventioned villain. He does not stalk about with hat slouched over his eyes, breathing fire and vengeance. He is a human devil - so to speak - and knows better than to betray the cloven foot to all the world. He is the wily, supple smiling, tempting demon, able to suit himself to all dispositions, but ever luring his victims to madness and ruin. It is only when alone that he unmasks, and then he glories in his villainy and his power for evil. Generally this character of "Iago" was rightly conceived and expressed by Mr. Booth. The scheming, plotting villain was never confounded with the vulgar, ruffian.o The actor recognized the fact that "Iago's" career was a triumph of an evil brain over unsuspecting honesty and foolish vice. To the nice observer his rendition of the part was therefore an interesting study, although some of the more delicate touches were not grasped by the mere play goer. We have rarely been more gratified by a dramatic study, and hope before long to have another opportunity of seeing Mr. Booth's "Iago".

CLEVELAND PLAIN DEALER November 30, 1863

The announcement that John Wilkes Booth was to play Richard III on Saturday evening attracted a fine audience to the Academy of Music, upon which occasion Mr. Booth's personation of that character was artistic and faultless, and elicited warmest applause from his audience. He appears this evening in the Marble Heart.

CLEVELAND PLAIN DEALER November 30, 1863

MR BOOTH MEETS WITH AN ACCIDENT During the performance of Richard III at the Theatre on Saturday evening, Mr. Booth was seriously cut upon one of his eye-lids during a sword combat with Mr. McCollom.

CLEVELAND LEADER -November 23, 1863

John Wilkes Booth, the celebrated actor, and Colonel Humphreys of the U.S. Army are at the American House which is now doing a deservedly big business.