J.T. May, Physician,
June 24, 1867.

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Testified that about a year and a half before the assassination that John Wilkes Booth came to him and desired his opinion about a tumor on his neck, which he advised him to have removed.

Quoting Dr May: "I was a little reluctant about removing this timor, because he was playing an engagement here in the city, and I told him so; I told him that he was liable to have the wound torn open. He was very urgent to have it taken out, and promised to moderate himself in his playing if I would remove it. Finally I consented to take it out, on condition that he would be careful. The wound united very closely by what we call adhesion, or union by the first intention. He came to my office every day to have it dressed. Some days after the wound had united- perhaps four or five days- he called with the wound torn widely open. He stated that in some part of the play of the evening before, Miss Cushman had struck him on the neck, and had torn the wound open. I will state that when a wound of that kind is once torn open, it has to unite by a different process than adhesion. It has to unite by a granulating process, which generally leaves considerable of a scar. It had left in his case a scar, such as I would have expected from a gap that had been made to fill up by granulation:whereas, if it had united by first intention, it would have left only a slight seam.

A. It was a scar of some width-such a scar as would not have been made by a surgical operation if the wound had united by adhesion, but it had been torn open by this blow. After being torn apart it left, when healed, a broad, ugly-looking scar, produced by the granulating process of which I have spoken, which is usually the case with wounds which unite the second time after being torn open.

A. At first it is of a red color, but in course of time the cicatrix becomes rather whiter and more dense.

Q. State when and where you last saw the body of Booth.

A. The last time I saw the body was on board the monitor, at the navy yard. I cannot specify the day. It was some days after he was reported to have been killed; a day or two, perhaps, after that.

Q. You identified the body?

A. I did.

Q. Did you observe this scar?

A. I observed a scar on the neck. In fact, I told the Surgeon General where the scar was, and what its appearance was, before I examined it.

Dr May then states that he saw the body of Booth on board the Monitor at the Navy Yard and identified it from this scar.