

PRESIDENT MCKINLEY DEAD; A NATION IN DEEP SORROW

Goes To His Reward Chanting "Nearer, My God To Thee."

BRAVE BATTLE FOR LIFE ENDED ON SATURDAY

In The Early Morning--With His Devoted Wife at His Side, William McKinley Said "Good-bye," and the Great, Benevolent Heart Was Still--His Life and Character.

A Review of the Assassination.
William McKinley, President of the United States, was shot by Leon Czolgosz on Friday, September 6, at the Pan-American Exposition, at Buffalo, New York. The President showed remarkable vitality and his condition seemed to improve rapidly, so that the country had high hopes of his recovery, until Thursday night of last week, when his symptoms became alarming. He grew steadily weaker until 2:15 a. m. Saturday, when he died peacefully, and without a struggle.

The President's Death.

President McKinley died at 2:15 o'clock Saturday morning. He had been unconscious since 7:30 p. m. His last conscious hour on earth was spent with the wife to whom he devoted a life time of care. He died unattended by a minister of the Gospel, but his last words were an humble submission to the will of the God in whom he believed. He was reconciled to the cruel fate to which an assassin's bullet had condemned him and faced death in the same spirit of calmness and poise which has marked his long and honorable career. His last conscious words reduced to writing by Dr. Mann, who stood at his bedside when they were uttered, were as follows: "Good-bye, all; good-bye! It's God's way. His will be done."

His relatives and members of the official family were at the Milburn house. Except Secretary Wilson, who did not avail himself of the opportunity, and some of his personal and political friends, took leave of him. This painful ceremony was simple. His friends came to the door of the sick room, looked at him and turned tearfully away. He was practically unconscious during this time. But the powerful heart stimulants, including oxygen, were employed to restore him to consciousness for his final parting with his wife. He asked for her and she sat at his side and held his hand. He consoled her and bade her good-bye. She went through the heart-breaking scene with the same bravery and fortitude with which she had borne the grief of the tragedy which has ended his life.

The immediate cause of the President's death is undetermined. His physicians disagree and it will possibly require an autopsy to fix the exact cause. The President's remains will be taken to Washington and there have a state funeral. Vice President Roosevelt, who now succeeds him, may take the oath of office wherever he happens to hear the news. The cabinet will, of course, resign in a body and President Roosevelt will have an opportunity of forming a new cabinet, if he so desires.

The rage of the people of Buffalo against the assassin when they learned tonight that he was dying was boundless. Thousands surrounded the jail and the entire police of the city and two regiments of militia were utilized to insure his protection.

"NEARER MY GOD TO THEE."

After they left the sick room, the physicians rallied him to consciousness and the President asked almost immediately that his wife be brought to him. The doctors fell back into the shadows of the room as Mrs. McKinley came through the doorway. The strong face of the dying man lighted up with a faint smile as their hands were clasped. She sat beside him and held his hands. Despite her physical weakness, she bore up bravely under the ordeal. The President in his last period of consciousness, which ended about 7:40 p. m., chanted the words of the hymn, "Nearer My God to Thee," and his last audible conscious words as taken down by Dr. Mann at the bedside were: "Goodbye all, goodbye! It is God's way. His will be done."

The News in Washington.

Washington, D. C., Special.—The news of the expected death of President McKinley came as a crushing blow to the nation's capital. Nowhere, perhaps, had the citizens been so full of confidence in the ultimate recovery of their beloved President and the buoyant bulletins of the past week from the sick bed had lured them into a false sense of security which made the shock terrible when the news that the Buf-

falo tragedy would have a fatal ending came to them. All day long the bulletin boards were surrounded by crowds waiting in suppressed excitement for the latest word from the Milburn house, and numerous newspaper extras were eagerly snapped up. The three cabinet officers in the capital were pictures of distress. Postmaster General Smith returned to Buffalo on the 7:15 train at night. Secretary Hay divided his time between the State Department and his home, waiting for the



Our Late President, WILLIAM MCKINLEY.

end in patient resignation, prepared for his sorrowful duty of conveying to the nations of the world in official form the news of the demise of the President. As the senior member in rank of the cabinet, upon Mr. Hay's shoulders also will rest the burden of government of the great republic in the short, but important, interval that must elapse before the Vice President, under the terms of the constitution, assumes the cares and responsibilities of the great presidential office.

At his home at Woodley, Secretary Gage awaited the close of his chief's life. During the day he had been at the Treasury Department and kept in touch with financial affairs, in order that the President's end might not cause any commercial disturbance that foresight on the part of his Department could avert. General Gillespie, Acting Secretary of War, stuck at his post in the War Department for the purpose of making such army orders as the sad event would force him to issue. He got into communication with General Miles at Seattle, and the latter notified the Department that he would return immediately.

The fact that the physicians had given up all hopes caused some discussion among the public men in the city of the probability of an extra session of Congress and of early changes in the cabinet, but the consensus of opinion was that no cabinet changes or important departures in public policy were at all likely for some time to come, and that Congress would not be assembled until its regular session, December.

Death Caused By Gangrene.

Milburn House, Buffalo, N. Y., Special.—The following report of the autopsy upon the remains of President McKinley was issued at 5 o'clock.

The bullet which struck over the breastbone did not pass through the skin and did little harm. The other bullet passed through both walls of the stomach near its lower border.

Both holes were found to be perfectly closed by the stitches, but the tissue around each hole had become gangrenous. After passing through the stomach the bullet passed into the back walls of the abdomen, hitting and tearing the upper end of the kidney. This portion of the bullet track was also gangrenous, the gangrene involving the pancreas. The bullet has not been found. There was no sign of peritonitis or diseases of other organs. The heart walls were very thin. There was no evidence of any attempt to repair on the part of nature and death resulted from the gangrene which affected the stomach around the bullet wounds as well as the tissues around the further course of the bullet. Death was unavoidable by any surgical or medical treatment and was the direct result of the bullet wound.

(Signed)
"HARVEY D. GAYLORD, M. D.
"HERMAN G. MATZINGER, M. D.
"P. M. RIXEY, M. D.
"MATTHEW D. MANN, M. D.
"HERMAN MYNTER, M. D.
"ROSWELL PARK, M. D.
"ENGEL WASHIN, M. D.
"CHAS. G. STOCKTON, M. D.
"W. D. JOHNSON, M. M.
"W. P. KENDALL,
Surgeon U. S. Army.
"CHARLES L. MUNSON,
Asst. Surgeon U. S. Army.
"HERMANUE L. BAER, M. D."

A City of Mourning.

Buffalo, Special.—Buffalo Sunday became a city of mourning. The gay and flaming decorations of the Pan American Exposition gave way to the symbol of sorrow. The black drapery of the city's streets muffled the tolling bells of the churches. Bits of crepe appeared on every sleeve. The sorrow was everywhere apparent. In the morning a simple service took place at the residence on Delaware avenue.

IMPRESSIVE CEREMONIES.

Religious Exercises Over The Dead President Sunday.

The religious service over the remains was simple and impressive. The pastor was at the door leading into the hall, a station whence his words could be heard at the head of the stairs. The signal was given and there welled out from the hall the beautiful words of "Lead, Kindly Light," sung by a quartette. It was McKinley's favorite hymn. Every one within sound of the music knew it and half of those in the room put their faces in their hands to hide their tears. Comptroller Dawes leaned against a bookcase and wept. President Roosevelt seemed to be swaying to and fro as if his footing were insecure. When the singing ended the clergyman read from the words of the fifteenth chapter of the First Corinthians. All had risen as he began and remained standing throughout the remainder of the service. Again the voices rose with the words of "Nearer, My God, to Thee," the very words President McKinley had repeated at intervals of consciousness during the day of agony before he died. As the music died away, the pastor spoke again, "Let us pray," he said and every head fell upon its breast. He began his invocation with a stanza from a hymn sung in the Methodist church. His prayer was as follows:

A BEAUTIFUL PRAYER.

"O, God, our help in ages past,
Our hope for years to come,
Our shelter from the stormy blast,
And our eternal home."
"We, Thy servants, humbly beseech Thee for manifestations of Thy favor as we come into Thy presence. We laud and magnify Thy holy name and praise Thee for all Thy goodness. Be merciful unto us and bless us, as stricken with overwhelming sorrow we come to Thee. Forgive us for our doubts and fears and faltering faith, pardon all our sins and shortcomings and help us to say, 'Thy will be done.' In this dark night of grief abide with us till the dawning. Speak to our troubled souls, O God, and give to us this hour of unutterable grief the peace and quiet which Thy presence only can afford. We thank Thee that Thou answerest the sobbing sigh of the heart and dost answer us that if a man die he shall live again. We praise Thee for Jesus Christ, Thy son, our Savior and elder brother, that He came to bring life and immortality to light and because He lives we shall live also. We thank Thee that death is victory that to die is gain. Have mercy upon us in this dispensation of Thy Providence, we believe in Thee—we trust Thee, our God of Love, the same yesterday, today and forever.

"We thank Thee for the unsullied life of Thy servant, our martyred President, whom Thou has taken to his coronation, and we pray for the final triumph of all the divine principles of pure character and free government for which he stood while he lived and which were baptized by his blood in his death.

"Hear our prayer for blessings of consolation upon all those who were associated with him in the administration of the affairs of the government, and especially vouchsafe Thy presence to Thy servant who has been suddenly called to assume the holy responsibility of our Chief Magistrate. O, God, bless our dear nation and guide the ship of State through stormy seas. Help Thy people to be brave to fight the battles of the Lord and wise to solve all the problems of freedom. Graciously hear us for comforting blessings to rest upon the family circle of our departed friend. Tenderly sustain Thine handmaiden upon whom the blow of this sorrow most heavily falls. Accompany her, O God, as Thou hast promised, through this dark valley and shadow, and may she fear no evil, because Thou art with her. All these things we ask in the name of Jesus Christ, our Lord, who has taught us when we pray, to say, 'Our Father Who art in Heaven, hallowed by Thy Name, Thy Kingdom come. Thy will be done on earth as it is in Heaven. Give us this day our daily bread and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil, for Thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.'

"May the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, the Father, and communion of the Holy Spirit be with us all, evermore. Amen."

TAKING THE BODY AWAY.

All present joined in the Lord's Prayer as the minister repeated it. President Roosevelt's voice being audible at the back of the room. The service concluded with a simple benediction. The funeral director was about to step forward to place the cover on the casket when suddenly there was a movement behind Governor Odell. Senator Hanna, who had risen saw that the last opportunity to look into the countenance of his dead friend had come. Pressing forward in an instant he was at the side of the casket and bending over and looking down into it. Almost two minutes passed and then he turned away and the coffin was closed. Colonel Bingham signalled the body-bearers. Four sailors, two infantry sergeants bore the casket aloft and out of the house. The President, cabinet and the others followed it. Mrs. McKinley and the members of the family remained. The widow had passed through the ordeal bravely and without breaking down. The trained nurses and the personal attendants of the President gathered

on the side of the porch to see the body taken away.

THE CORTEGE MOVES.

It was within a minute of 11:30 o'clock when three long rolls of a muffled drum told those outside of the house that the funeral cortege was about to appear. From the darkened rooms the assemblage began to file out to the street. Soon the walks and lawns were again covered with the silent throng, with heads bared. At the moment the casket appeared, "Nearer, My God, to Thee," ascended in subdued strains from one of the military bands. Tenderly the bearers lowered the casket from their shoulders and placed it in the hearse. The notes of Chopin's funeral dirge succeeded the strains of the hymn. The soldiers and sailors swung into long columns, and took up the march southward toward the city hall.

Sketch of William McKinley.

William McKinley, twenty-fifth president of the United States, was born on January 29, 1843, in Niles, O. He received his higher education at Allegheny College and taught school for a while. In 1861 he entered the army as a volunteer in the Twenty-third Ohio Regiment, was continuously promoted till he became captain and was brevetted major in the United States volunteers by President Lincoln for gallantry in battle March 13, 1865.

After the war Maj. McKinley studied law and began its practice in 1867 at Canton, O., and there has home has been ever since. He served a term as prosecuting attorney of Stark county. Beginning in 1876 he represented the district of which his county was a part for 14 years in the national House of Representatives. As chairman of the ways and means committee he reported the tariff law of 1890. In November of that year he was defeated for Congress, his district having been gerrymandered, but he reduced the usual adverse majority of 3,000 to 300. In 1891 and again in 1893 he was elected Governor of his native State, in the first election by a plurality of 21,511 and in the second by a plurality of 80,995.

At the St. Louis national Republican convention on June 18, 1896, Mr. McKinley was nominated for President, receiving 661 out of a total of 905 votes. He was elected in the following November, receiving 271 electoral votes as against 176 for William J. Bryan.

At the Philadelphia national convention of his party in 1900, President McKinley was re-nominated, was again elected President in November of that year and was inaugurated at Washington with imposing ceremonies on the 4th of March of this year.

THEODORE ROOSEVELT.

Sketch of the Man Who Succeeds to the Presidency.

Our government is perpetual; the President being merely an incident—merely an administrative officer. In the history of the country many men have occupied the executive chair; men of different creeds of political belief, of differing degrees of ability.

Twice before has the President been shot down by an assassin. Twice also has natural death bereft the nation of its head. But there is, under our magnificent governmental system, always a man in reserve to assume the important duties of Chief Magistrate. The lapse of time between the death of a President and the qualification of his successor is not a lapse in the government, for all the administrative functions are carried on with the same regularity by the subordinate officers under the law of the land.

On the death of President McKinley the succession to his high office falls to Theodore Roosevelt by virtue of his election to the vice-presidency. But he was not President immediately upon the death of Mr. McKinley, and only when he assumed the oath of office could he become President.

Theodore Roosevelt is a native of New York, of Dutch ancestry. His life has been one marked by strong characteristics. His habits have always been temperate and he is a fine specimen of vigorous manhood both of body and mind. He has seen a great deal of public service in his native State and city. He has served on the national civil service commission, and been governor of the State of New York.

He served in the Spanish-American war as commander of the "Rough Riders" and did good fighting at San Juan.

He comes to the Presidency with the best wishes of a nation that he may discharge his new and important duties in a just, important and statesmanlike manner.

Longshoremen Strike.

New Orleans, Special.—The business of the port of New Orleans is tied up on account of the strike of longshoremen. The shipping agents refused to grant the demands for higher wages and this morning about 1,700 of the cargo handlers failed to return to work. The men demand an increase from 40 cents an hour straight to 60 cents for night work, and 80 cents for Sunday work. In the case of grain, the demand was for 30 cents for ordinary work, 75 cents for night work and \$1 for Sunday work.