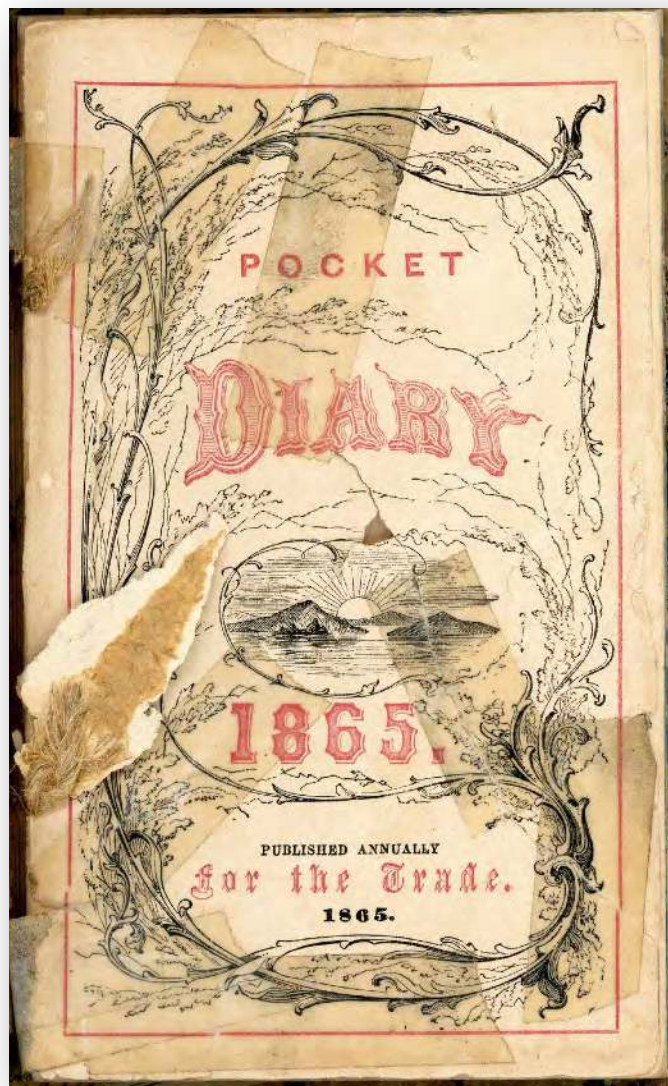


## The Diary of an Eastman Business College Student in Poughkeepsie at the Time of the Assassination of President Lincoln



**Friday, April 7, 1865**

Rainy, went to school. Received news that Lee's whole Army had been captured, we think it hardly credible as it is not official. Walked out into the city in the evening. Prof. Eastman was on the streets with his band. The streets were glittering in all directions with torch lights and fireworks of various descriptions, glorious news if only true. If not true already, we trust it will be, ere long.

**Sunday, April 9, 1865**

Attended Divine worship at the Presbyterian Church at 11 a.m. Temperance lecture by Rev. Dr. Babkok at M. E. Church on Cannon Street at 2 p.m. Nothing of unusual interest occurred at Poughkeepsie during the day. News received late in the evening of the surrender of

Lee's army, official, the report is this time true. The flower of the Southern Army obliged to surrender to General Grant. We think the so-called Confederacy must by this time see the hopelessness of their cause also the Folly of their ways.

### **Friday, April 14, 1865**

Considerably Better Health, attended school. No news of interest from the Army or head of Government.

### **Saturday, April 15, 1865**

This morning we received the awful news of the assassination of President Lincoln and Secretary Seward, and others.

A great national calamity. God help the country, for we deeply feel the loss of one at the head of the nation, the people's choice, who has so

steadily guided our ship of state almost (we trust) through the storm. Cause traitors to pay the debt they owe their country with their unprofitable lives. Strike them, as it were, to atoms with one single blow. May the people justly retaliate.

### **Sunday, April 16, 1865**

Pleasant nearly all day. Clouds overshadow the evening sky, remind us of the cause of our gloom. As the sun shone forth in splendor during the day, and in the eve was shut out from earth by dark and misty clouds, so has our light in the hope of a speedy restoration of the Union based upon principles which would ensure a lasting peace, been overclouded with a great national calamity. One single stroke which has caused the heart of the nation to weep, yet may we trust in the all-wise purpose of the supreme Ruler of the universe.

### **Monday, April 17, 1865**

At School. At 11 am, Prof. Hutson entered the building, as we supposed, to give instructions, as usual, upon writing. But said he did not feel like work, delivered an address to the school, dwelt upon the nation's troubles. He spoke very effectively. While we trust in an almighty God, believing all for the best, our hearts are filled with sorrow and grief, bereaved of one who with his noble, honest heart, filled with almost unbounded mercy, has become the nation's idol, unable to express our sympathy for an afflicted family, whose pride and hope were centered in the noble, generous hearted Abraham Lincoln. May God bear them up.

### **Wednesday, April 19, 1865**

Funeral day of President Lincoln. No session of school. All about the city presents an indication of sorrow. Attended the Old Dutch Church at

noon, about 300 students in attendance, each wearing a badge of mourning.

We have, as a nation, been called upon to make a great sacrifice indeed.

President Lincoln. Noblest specimen of man. Father of his country in its trials. Author of freedom in America. Abraham Lincoln, who by his unbounded intellect, untiring energy and industry, together with his mild temperament, warm and generous heart and love of country and right, has risen from the humblest walks of life to the highest position in the gift of the people, and has there piloted the ship of state, thus far, safely through the storm; stricken down in an instant by the hand of an ignominious person, one vile traitor!

An offering for his country; may we hope that a circle of white robed angels are gathering around to conduct his spirit to the better world; and may the Almighty, in his unbounded love

and mercy, bind up the wounded hearts of an afflicted and bereaved family, called to consign the remains of a noble father and husband to the tomb.

Marched with a procession in the pm. Heard an address by A. Anthony.

### **Tuesday, April 23, 1865**

At school. Cool day. The remains of President Lincoln passed through in the evening.

Numerous crowds of people at the Depot. Train remained about 30 minutes to allow the escort and friends time for refreshments. A number of the students went to Albany where the coffin was opened. The Band accompanied escort from New York to Albany

### **Thursday, April 27, 1865**

At school. Very warm but pleasant day.

Band played in the college in the pm.

Received official intelligence of the death of J. Wilkes Booth, assassin of the President, well-deserved an ignominious death as all traitors deserve whether North or South.

It is a satisfaction to know that this vile traitor and assassin lives no more, yet will not compensate the loss felt by all truly loyal hearts.



THURSDAY, APRIL 6, 1865.

Cloudy and drizzling rain  
all day. After School went to  
Mr. Patrick's.

FRIDAY, APRIL 7, 1865.

Rainy. went to school.  
Received news that Lee's whole  
Army had been captured, we  
think it hardly creditable as it  
is not official. Walked out  
into the City in the evening.  
Prof. Eastman was on the  
streets with his band. The  
streets were glittering in all  
directions with torch lights  
and fire works of various  
descriptions. glorious news  
if only true, if not true al-  
ready, we trust it will be, ere  
long.



SATURDAY, APRIL 8, 1865.

A nice day. went to school in the morning. Had some photographs taken in the afternoon, wrote a letter to Theodore and I walked out some distance into the country in the evening, returned at about 8 1/2 o'clock at our place of boarding, Mr. Patrick's.

SUNDAY, APRIL 9, 1865.

Attended Divine worship at the Presbyterian Church at 11 A.M. Temperance lecture by Rev. W. Babcock at M. E. Church on Carson st. at 2 P.M. Nothing of unusual interest occurred at Poughkeepsie during this day. News received late in the evening of the surrender of Lee's Army, official, the report is this time true. The flower of the Southern Army obliged to surrender to Gen. Grant. We think the so called Confederacy must by this time see the hopelessness of their cause, also the folly of their ways.



FRIDAY, APRIL 14, 1865.

Considerably better health,  
attended school, no news of  
interest from the Army  
or head of Government.

SATURDAY, APRIL 15, 1865.

This morning we receive the  
atoful news of the assassination  
of President Lincoln and  
secretary Seward & others,  
A great national calamity:  
God help the country, for we  
deeply feel the loss of one  
at the head of the nation, the  
people's choice, who has so  
steadily guided our ship of state  
almost (we trust) through  
the storm. Cursed traitors  
to pay the debt they owe  
their country with their  
unprofitable lives. Strike  
them as it were, to atoms with  
one single blow. May the  
people justly retaliate.



SUNDAY, APRIL 16, 1865.

Pleasant nearly all day, clouds overshadow the evening sky, reminds us of the cause of our gloom. As the sun shone forth in splendor during the day and in the eve, was shut out from earth by dark & misty clouds, so has our light in the hope of a speedy restoration of the Union, based upon principles which would insure a lasting peace, been overclouded with a great national calamity. One single stroke which has caused the heart of the nation to weep, yet may we trust in the allwise purposes of the supreme Ruler of the universe.

MONDAY, APRIL 17, 1865.

At School. At 11 A.M. Prof. Hudson entered the building as we supposed, to give instructions as usual upon writing, but said he did not feel like work, delivered an address to the school, dwelt upon the nation's troubles &c. spoke very affectingly. While we trust in our almighty God, believing all for the best, Our hearts are filled with sorrow and grief. Beweaved of one who with his noble, honest heart, filled with almost unbounded mercy, has become the nation's idol, unable to express our sympathy for an afflicted family whose pride and hope were centered in the noble generous hearted, Abraham Lincoln, May God bear them up.



TUESDAY, APRIL 18, 1865.

Attended School, Had my Books for 2<sup>d</sup> set. Examined, passed with a very respectable grade, received some complimentary remarks from the teacher. Met at Pine Hall with Students and Faculty at 4 P.M. to arrange for the morrow, funeral day of the President. Resolutions were drawn and adopted by the College. Can we think of the calamity which has befallen the country, through the hand of one vile traitor, wretched being! without feeling renewed indignation toward the enemies of the Country. Yet mingled with this, is a deep settled grief in the heart of every true American Citizen. Sorrow irrepressible!

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 19, 1865.

Funeral day of President Lincoln, no session of School, all about the city presents an indication of sorrow. Attended the 1<sup>st</sup> Dutch Church at noon, about 300 students in attendance, each wearing a badge of mourning. We have as a nation been called upon to make a great sacrifice indeed of man. Father of his country in its trials. Author of freedom in America. Abraham Lincoln, who by his unbounded intellect, untiring energy and industry, together with his mild temperment, warm and generous heart and love of country and right has risen from the humblest walks of life to the highest position in the gift of the people, and has there piloted the ship of state thus far safely through the storm; stricken down in an instant by the hand of an ignominious villain; one vile traitor! An offering for his country; man will indulge the hope that a circle of white robed angels are gathering around to conduct his spirit to the better world; and may the Almighty in his unbounded love and mercy bind up the wounded hearts of an afflicted and bereaved family, called to consign <sup>the</sup> their remains of a noble father and husband to the tomb.

Marched with the procession, in P.M. and address by A. Anthony.



MONDAY, APRIL 24, 1865.

At School. quite a cold  
day. went to Ornamental  
at night

TUESDAY, APRIL 25, 1865.

At School. cool day.  
The remains of President  
Lincoln passed through  
in the evening. immense  
crowds of people at the  
Depot. Train remained  
about thirty minutes  
to allow the escort and  
friends time for refres-  
hments. A number of  
the students went to  
Albany. where the coffin  
was opened. The Band  
accompanied escort from  
New York to Albany.



WEDNESDAY, APRIL 26, 1865.

At school. quite a  
warm day.

THURSDAY, APRIL 27, 1865.

At school very warm  
but pleasant day.

Board played in the  
College in the P.M.

Received official intel-  
ligence of the death of  
J. Attilus Boothe, assassin  
of the President, well  
deserved an ignomin-  
ious death <sup>at</sup> and all tra-  
itors deserve whether  
north or south.

It is a satisfaction to  
know that this vile traitor  
and assassin lives no more  
yet will not compensate  
the loss felt by all truly  
loyal hearts.