

DETAILS OF THE VIGIL

Keeping Watch and Ward Over the President

DR. McBURNEY CALLED IN

Famous Surgeon Shares the Hopes of His Associates.

SENSATIONAL REPORTS ARE DENIED

Authenticity of the Bulletins Vouched for by Vice President and Senator Hanna—X-Ray Apparatus Not to be Used Unless Blood Poisoning Sets in—The Patient Secures Four Hours of Refreshing Sleep and a Fall in Temperature Is Noted—Mrs. McKinley Goes for a Drive, and Continues to Bear Up with Rare Fortitude—Danger Point Not Entirely Passed, but Everybody Encouraged to Believe that President's Condition Will Continue to Improve—How the Day Was Spent.

THE PRESIDENT'S CONDITION.

TIME.	Pulse.	Temp.	Resp.
Sept. 6—			
10:50 p. m. . . .	124	100.4	24
Sept. 7—			
1:00 a. m. . . .	120	100.2	24
3:00 a. m. . . .	110	101.6	24
6:00 a. m. . . .	110	102	24
9:00 a. m. . . .	146	102	24
12:00 m.	136	102	28
3:30 p. m. . . .	140	102.2	24
6:00 p. m. . . .	130	102.5	29
9:00 p. m. . . .	132	102.5	25
Sept. 8—			
3:20 a. m. . . .	122	102.4	24
9:00 a. m. . . .	132	102.8	24
12:00 m.	128	101	27
4:00 p. m. . . .	128	101	28
9:00 p. m. . . .	130	101.6	30

Buffalo, N. Y., Sept. 8—Through this quiet, peaceful Sabbath every word that came from the big vine-clad house in Delaware avenue, in which the stricken Chief Magistrate of the nation lies battling for life, was reassuring, and to-night the chances of his recovery are so greatly improved that all of those who have kept the patient vigil at his bedside feel strongly that his life will be spared.

The developments of last night and to-day were dreaded, but hour after hour passed and the distinguished patient, struggling there beneath the watchful eyes of physicians and trained nurses, showed not an unfavorable symptom. Five times during the day the eminent doctors and surgeons assembled for consultation, and each time the verdict was unanimous that what change had occurred was for the better. Not the slightest premonitory symptom of peritonitis appeared, and the fresh hope born with the morning grew stronger and stronger as the day advanced until, toward evening, the confidence expressed in the President's recovery seemed almost too sanguine.

Dr. McBurney Inspires Confidence.

Dr. Charles McBurney, the famous New York surgeon, who had been summoned in consultation, after a thorough examination, in which he said he had found not a single unfavorable symptom, joined in the last afternoon bulletin which declared that the President's condition was satisfactory to all the physicians present. It is not strange, therefore, that the Vice President, the members of the Cabinet, and other distinguished visitors who called came away with lighter hearts and buoyant tread and gave expression to the most optimistic sentiments.

The encouraging news spread over the exposition city with great rapidity, and thousands came in carriages, in street cars, and afoot to learn for themselves of the faith and confidence that existed about the Milburn house. The brightness of the day, with its cool, bracing atmosphere, only added to the general cheerfulness, and when a score of newsboys darted into the crowd about 6 o'clock shouting: "Extra; the President will live," it was with difficulty that they could suppress the shouts of thanksgiving that rose in their throats. And the newspaper men, many of whom have been at their posts for forty-eight hours continuously, remained steadfastly throughout the day in the little white-walled tents across the street from the house where the country's patient lay and flashed the news over land and sea.

Still an Element of Danger.

And yet, despite all this optimism, the President is by no means out of danger. Not one of his physicians; not one of his advisers who is admitted to the inner councils, has the temerity to go so far as to declare that he is. But if he continues

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to improve for one more day the danger of peritonitis, which is most dreaded, will have practically disappeared.

Yesterday one of the doctors thought forty-eight hours would be the limit of the danger from that source, but his more conservative colleagues believe at least twenty-four more hours, possibly thirty-six, from this time must elapse before the possibility of peritonitis shall have vanished. That disposed of, still other complications may arise. Blood poisoning might set in or an abscess form where the bullet is imbedded in the muscles of the back.

Thus far the ball of the assassin, which is still in the body, gives the physicians no anxiety. But if the slightest inflammation appears in the region of the lead it will be immediately extracted. No difficulty is anticipated in this regard. One of Edison's best X-ray machines and his most skillful and trusted operator, Dr. H. A. Knolls, arrived to-day. The batteries were charged and the machine is ready for instant use. With it the physicians say there is not the slightest doubt that the ball can be located perfectly for an operation. They do not deem it advisable to sap any of the President's strength at this time. All his reserve force is needed now to resist the danger of peritonitis and septic poisoning. Besides, if inflammation does not set in around the bullet, it will soon become encysted.

Four Hours of Natural Sleep.

All the effects of the ether which was administered when the operation was performed on the President at the exposition grounds had disappeared this morning, and the President's mind was perfectly clear during the time that he was awake to-day. To-day for the first time he enjoyed natural sleep. While he was still more or less under the influence of an anaesthetic, his slumber was restless and disturbed and did him little real good. To-day between 9 and 4 o'clock he had the solace of natural slumber for about four hours, and the physicians stated unofficially that his sleep had been "quiet and reposeful" and had helped the sufferer a great deal. To-day, also, for the first time, nourishment was administered. It was liquid in form and was injected hypodermically to avoid the possibility of irritating the walls of the stomach. The exterior wound was dressed this morning and is progressing satisfactorily.

All day the members of the Cabinet and the others associated with the President in public life came solicitously and went away almost jubilantly, and all reflecting the hopeful outlook at the Milburn house. Vice President Roosevelt received the earlier bulletins, and after going to church hurried to the residence. There he was joined by Senator Hanna. They came away together and gave expression to the most confident and encouraging sentiments. The Vice President not only shared the cheerful feeling, but was extremely optimistic.

Senator Hanna Encouraged.

Senator Hanna said of the 4 o'clock bulletin:

"I want to be conservative, but this bulletin simply adds to my encouragement. If this continues twenty-four hours longer, I think we will have something very satisfactory from the physicians and as definite as human agency can devise. Those four hours of restful sleep the President has had is an evidence of almost normal conditions. His mind is clear and his disposition cheerful."

He took occasion to denounce in unmeasured terms the statements gaining circulation in some quarters that the doctors were not frank in their communications to the public. He maintained that the President's favorable condition was even understated by the physicians, through motives of conservatism, during the seveny-two-hour period. "It is outrageous that such stories should be circulated," said Mr. Hanna. "The physicians are giving the facts to the public."

At this point Vice President Roosevelt, with great earnestness, laid his hand upon the Senator's arm.

"Senator, let me put it this way," he said. "The doctors' bulletins are made with a scrupulous understatement of the favorableness of conditions, a scrupulously understatement," he repeated emphatically, adding emphasis with his uplifted gloves.

"That expresses it well," said Senator Hanna.

"Yes," continued Mr. Roosevelt, "if anything, the doctors understate the hopefulness of the situation."

Not Voicing the Doctors.

Mr. Hanna again assented to this statement. He added that it took from forty-eight to seventy-two hours for conclusions to be reached of an absolutely conclusive character, and no physician, pending such a period, would state absolutely final conclusions, but for the present the doctors were inspired by the sincerest effort to give the best judgment which medical science could render.

Later, Secretary Cortelyou took occasion to emphasize this very point by issuing an official statement assuring the public of the complete trustworthiness of the bulletins sent out by the physicians.

Senator Hanna came again during the afternoon, and was seldom far removed from the Milburn house. Secretary Root has taken up quarters immediately next door, and was in frequent consultation with those inside. He and Secretary Gage, Secretary Hitchcock, and Attorney General Knox called together about noon, and, indeed, there was no time during the day when some member of the Cabinet was not in the house where his stricken chief lay. Even those most prominent in public life did not see him, as the doctors would not relax the ironclad rule they have laid

down to prevent the least drain upon his energies and vitality. Those who came and went moved silently and reverently, receiving the latest statements from the doctors and departing.

All of the members of the Cabinet are now here except Secretaries Hay and Long. The former telegraphed to-day that he would start from Newberry, N. H., to-morrow, probably in time to be here to-morrow night. Secretary Long also signified by wire that he was coming, but did not specify the time.

No Formal Cabinet Meeting.

The Cabinet officers feel it to be their duty to be here in this crisis to meet any emergency. They are holding no formal meetings, although there are some matters of public business which they daily discuss informally, and the possible contingencies should the President grow worse are also thoroughly canvassed. They do not believe that there is the most remote possibility that Vice President Roosevelt will be called upon to exercise the functions of Chief Magistrate under the disability clause of the constitution while the President lives.

Vice President Roosevelt would not hear of such a course. Still, in the event of grave international complications, an emergency might occur, and the question has arisen in their minds as to who should proclaim the disability provided for by the constitution. That instrument is silent on the subject. There is no precedent to follow. During the protracted illness of President Garfield before his death Vice President Arthur was not called upon to act. The consensus of opinion among members of the Cabinet is that should the occasion arise they themselves would have to decide and proclaim the existence of the disability. The Supreme Court, they say, could not do so, as there would be no way in which the question could be raised before that tribunal.

The members of the Cabinet are making their headquarters at the Buffalo Club, and there their interchanges take place. They are to remain here for the present, and the plans of departure are indefinite and not even thought of while the President is not entirely out of danger. If he should pass the danger point, however, they will return at once to Washington.

Vice President Goes to Church.

Vice President Roosevelt's attendance at the morning service of the First Presbyterian Church gave occasion for a heartfelt expression of sorrow universally felt over the calamity and the detestation of the assassin's methods. A fervid prayer by the pastor, Dr. Mitchell, invoked the sternest reprobation of anarchy, and asked that the temple of public life be scourged of men willing to temporize with the madness of anarchy.

The interest in the President's condition was such across the Canadian border that the Associated Press was asked to furnish a bulletin this morning to be read in the churches in Quebec and Montreal, and many requests of a similar character came direct to Secretary Cortelyou from different parts of the United States.

The messages of sympathy from all over the United States, and from all over the world, in fact, have fairly overwhelmed Secretary Cortelyou. Two more White House stencigraphers have been sent for, and upon their arrival, perhaps to-morrow, some of the more important messages will be made public. Almost every government in the world has been heard from, most of the crowned heads of Europe sending personal messages. Among the latter are King Edward VII, Emperor William, the kings of Portugal, Italy, and Sweden, and the Sultan of Turkey. President Loubet, of the Republic of France, has also cabled his sympathy direct. One of the most touching messages thus far received was from Mme. Labori, the wife of Maitre Labori, who defended Dreyfus in his famous trial at Rennes.

Mrs. McKinley Goes for a Drive.

Mrs. McKinley continues to bear up bravely, and her fortitude under the circumstances, is regarded as remarkable. One of her dearest and closest friends, Mrs. Rand, of Washington, has arrived here, and will probably remain with her during this trying period.

At 2:30 this afternoon Mrs. McKinley went out for a drive. A closed carriage drew up to the side entrance. Mrs. McKinley was assisted into the carriage by Secretary Cortelyou. Mrs. Lafayette McWilliams, of Chicago, accompanied her. They drove out Delaware avenue toward the park.

Mrs. McKinley returned from the drive at 3:20, having been out in the sunshine for about an hour. She seemed refreshed, and needed but slight assistance from Mr. Milburn to alight.

Secretary Cortelyou, in whose hands the management of everything seems to be, was able to take some rest this morning for the first time since the tragedy. The great confidence which the President has in his secretary could not have been more strikingly illustrated than at the exposition hospital when he was about to be placed upon the operating table. The President realized that the sooner the operation was performed the better and he was perfectly willing to submit himself to the knife. His only solicitude was as to the competency of the surgeons who were to perform the operation. Just before he was placed upon the table he called Secretary Cortelyou to him and asked whether the surgeons were all right. Mr. Cortelyou assured him that he had made inquiries, and that they were reputed to be among the most skillful in their profession. The President accepted the assurance instantly and immediately announced that he was ready.

As to Removing the President.

There has yet been little discussion of the place to which President McKinley will be removed in the event of his convalescence. The prevailing impression seems to be that if he could be moved shortly that he would be taken to Canton instead of Washington. But if his convalescence were delayed until cooler weather set in he probably would be taken to the White House. The opinion of the physicians would probably govern, however.

After 5 o'clock there was a period of comparative quiet about the Milburn house. The members of the Cabinet and other distinguished officials who had been coming and going throughout the day now withdrew, as it was understood no further bulletin would be issued until 9 p. m. As the twilight deepened into darkness the lights appeared in the upper chambers of the Milburn house and the eyes of the watchers outside were turned with anxious interest to these shimmering tokens of the watch in and about the sick room. All through the day great crowds had gathered on the streets converging at the Milburn house. But as darkness came they gradually disappeared. A steady line of men and women came up to the ropes to make anxious inquiries. Shortly before 8 o'clock Vice President Roosevelt, accompanied by Mr. Wilcox, of Buffalo, called at the Milburn residence and remained for a short time in conversation with Secretary Cortelyou and those near the President. There was little additional information to give them beyond the 4 o'clock bulletin, and they came away with the same hopeful and confident expressions as those earlier in the day.

Holding His Own Last Night.

To-night is included within the time crisis to the President. He is holding his own, as Secretary Cortelyou expressed it, and if he successfully passes the night, without loss of strength or the intervention of threatening conditions, his ultimate chances of recovery will be increased. He was seen to-night by all of the physicians and surgeons who are treating him, and their opinion, as expressed by the night bulletin, was favorable. They found his general condition to be unchanged, and their examination did not disclose anything of an unfavorable nature. They believe that the President is in a serious condition, and that the crisis will not be passed for another forty-eight hours. The professional men and officials hope for the best, but until the case has run through the doubtful days, they will not be reassuring.

The Milburn house was very quiet to-night, and there were few callers. Among those who came were Vice President Roosevelt, Secretary Root, Secretary Wilson, Secretary Hitchcock, Senator Hanna, and Capt. McWilliams, of Chicago. None of the callers remained very long. The night, like its predecessor, was very cold. The weather conditions are regarded as very favorable for the President.