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# The Journal of Charles Rawn

April 15 to 16 and 21 to 23, 1865 (Book 28)

Edited by Rebecca Jean Hershner

## Introduction

This section of the journals covers the return of Abraham Lincoln's remains through Harrisburg enroute to Illinois in April, 1865. Rawn is too sickly to view the funeral train. He writes, "Cannon are Firing and bells are tolling – solemn, solemn, scene!! But God makes and directs and this solemn death is a part of his mysterious ways past our finding out - We bow in strong Faith."

## The Journal

15-7 Clear. Fine. Fresh. Coolish. Windy. Called on Dr. Taylor the Prest. of the school after breakfast at 9am. Rec<sup>d</sup> the news there through a gentleman communicating to Dr. Taylor in Front of his door just as we were starting away together, that President had been [basely?] assassinated at the theatre at Washington, by shooting, last Ev[enin]g. The appalling intelligence threw a deep gloom over all. [Illegible phrase]. It was about 9 o clock the said news was thus communicated to Dr. Taylor in my presence by a young gentleman of his acquaintance. Jno Calvin myself were just going to Mrs. Chiever's Boarding house near the doctors - we called there - found her an agreeable ladylike woman asking \$6 per week for Boarders occupying single rooms and \$5 ½ each when two should room together. Mr. Bromell asks \$8 per week but his house is very Inferior in every way – I did not go any further to inquire – as for several

considerations I began before dinner to think seriously that I had get entirely out of the old School [?] jurisdiction – we [?] of letter to my son Chas dated 23 inst but herein found his hasty but extended opinion of the place & [?] copy in favor of my next page [illegible phrase] at our Boarding House and to bed 8 to 9 P.M.

16-1 Clear. Fine. Windy. [?]. Coolish. We all of our House went to what is called the “Old South Church” Congregationalist at 10 ½ a.m. Rev Mr. Smith preacher. Mr. Bromell, wife and daughter and a young man from Reading Pa. a Boarder and pupil named Jameson from company [?] Jn°. Calvin and myself. We sat in Mr. B’s pew church draped in mourning and services appropriate to the occasion of the President’s death...We dined at 12 ½ P.M. and spent afternoon chiefly at quarters and Jn°. Calvin and self wrote to his mother - and I walked a mile or more after tea to put letter in P.O. I walked in all before and after tea three to four miles but did not seem to derive much benefit from the exercise. To bed 8 to 9 P.M.

21-6 Windy. Rain – very disagreeable all day. I am exceedingly unwell in my chest-liver-stomach-kidneys. Dr. Charlton called to see me 2 pm. Daughter Fanny and wife went to Mr. Calvin Edge Hill.

Rec? of Mr Parton & Mary his wife of this place and Maria Brenneman wife of Henry of Ohio and mother of Kate V [Ragan?] said to have been married to Dick Haldeman in the matter of the charge of a conspiracy by said Dick against them on the 31<sup>st</sup> [?] – and this day \$10 & \$15 = [?] \$25.00.

pd 3 lbs brown sugar 51      1 lb white 20    sugars 10      } =    \$1.20

2 oz fine aloes – 20                      syrup sarsaparilla 25

pd bill on statement as here attached to wife for sundry marketing [?], get by her during my late absence. [Grocery list glued to page.]                      \$ 9.20

I spent day at home and Evg also except being at Gross' after tea for said tincture [?]. Cousin Hannah Waldron daughter of Deborah of Halifax here to tea and to stay all night. The body of Pres<sup>l</sup> Lincoln arrived here under Heavy escort at 8 P.M. to remain until tomorrow and to be seen at the State Capitol. Wife and Daughter have gone out but I am entirely too unwell [?]  
—raining at this noting at 8 ¼ to 8 ½ P.M. extremely hard. Cannon are Firing and bells are tolling – solemn, solemn, scene!! But God makes and directs and this solemn death is a part of his mysterious ways past our finding out - We bow in strong Faith. To bed 9 ½ to 10.

22-7 Rain in night and this morning to 9 am [?]. Clear after 10 to 11 am. Great crowd and great arrangements in reference to the Pres[ident]ts Remains. They lie at the Capitol - were to be seen last night up to midnight and this morning from 7 to 9 am and by others to 10am – an Extremely large procession military and civic conducted the remains from the Capitol between 10 & 11 ¾ am to the Depot where they were embarked for Phil<sup>a</sup> ab 12 (noon) I was not out except on our verandah as it was somewhat blustery and I was not very well. Mrs. Rawn and Self went in the afternoon to the Capitol to look at the draping of the Hall of H. of Rep. where he lay – we returned home 4 pm.

Mrs. Rawn at Market [vpo?]

[?] 15...1 lb butter 50. 7 lbs mutton and beef \$1.25 – ½ Peck apples 20 \$2.10

Spent evening at home and to bed 9 ½ to 10.

23-1 Clear and cloudy and cold. Wife and daughter at church. I was not there on a/c of unsuitable health. Wrote letter to son Charles Fort Schuyler, of Calvin's, and my trip, to [illegible phrase] Princeton and Kept copy. Spent rest of day & Evg home to bed 9 1/2.